

Special Issues

Social & Legal Studies welcomes proposals for special issues, however we receive many more of these than we are able to accept. A proposal is more likely to be accepted if:

- It deals with a topic of general interest to the journal's international readership.
- It takes an approach that fits within the journal's commitment to theoretically informed, feminist, anti-colonial and / or socialist economic perspectives to the study of law.
- It includes contributions from earlier career researchers and scholars from a range of countries. We particularly welcome the inclusion of non-western voices.

Guest editors are also asked to bear in mind that the norm has been for special issues to be in the region of 60-70,000 words (typically five or six papers with a short introduction).

The application process

Applications should be sent by e-mail to the General Editor, Professor Carl Stychin (carl.stychin@sas.ac.uk). They should include:

- A brief (one or two page) rationale for the special issue, explaining why it will be of interest to our readership and what original contribution it makes to a topic of pressing concern.
- The names of guest editor/s and authors with a short biography for each.
- A brief (one or two paragraph) synopsis of each paper.
- A proposed schedule for submitting edited papers to the journal.

The editorial process

Once a special issue has been accepted in principle, the guest editors should work with authors to ensure that all papers are of publishable quality. It is expected that papers will have been carefully edited before they are submitted to the journal.

Each author will then need to submit his or her paper individually via SageTrack. Each paper will be reviewed by two members of the SLS editorial board and will only proceed to publication if it passes the appropriate quality threshold. Authors should be warned that it is very likely that at least some, if not all, authors will be asked to make revisions at this stage.

Once all papers have been accepted as ready for publication, we then ask guest editors to submit their introduction and to suggest a running order for the issue.

Given that this process depends in large part on the speed at which the guest editors and authors work, the journal is not able to make any prediction regarding when a given special issue will appear in hard copy. However, papers will be published OnlineFirst as they become ready and we have found that, for most authors, this allays any concerns regarding the publication date of the hard copy.