

Beiträge zur Rechtsgeschichte Österreichs

General Information and Publication Ethics

A) General Information

1. *Name of the Journal:* Beiträge zur Rechtsgeschichte Österreichs – BRGÖ (Contributions to Austrian Legal History)
2. *Website:* <http://www.rechtsgeschichte.at/beitraege>
3. *Publishing schedule:* twice a year (June and December) in print and online
4. *Ownership and management:* The BRGÖ are the journal of the Commission for Austrian Legal History of the [Austrian Academy of Sciences](#). The editors are identical with the members of the commission.

[List of all editors and peers \(hyperlink\)](#)

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1. The editors of the BRGÖ will only accept original contributions that have not yet been published or accepted for print elsewhere. All editors and peers undertake to treat the articles confidentially and neither to pass them on to other persons nor to use them for their own work prior to their publication.
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3. The editors will only accept manuscripts in flawless German or English. In cases of doubt please consult the most recent editions of the Österreichisches Wörterbuch or the Pocket Oxford Dictionary, respectively. Each text should be supplemented with an abstract and keywords in English.
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6. The publisher reserves all rights regarding the reprint or translation of articles.

C) Peer Review

1. All submitted contributions are first assigned to two editors, who carry out a rough check as to whether the contribution fits into the profile of the journal or should be rejected immediately. If the contribution is considered for publication, the two editors nominate two members of the International Scientific Advisory Board of the BRGÖ as reviewers (peers). These proposals will be discussed and voted on in the editors' meeting.
2. The peer review is 'double blind': the peers receive the contributions only in anonymised form, and the author will also not know the names of the reviewers. The editors will ensure that only peers who are not biased, e.g. on the basis of a work or family relationship with one of the peer-reviewed authors, are engaged. The authors are entitled and obliged to point out conflicts of interest of which they are aware in one or more members of the advisory board. Likewise, each member of the advisory board is entitled and obliged to refuse to accept an assignment if there is a conflict of interest.
3. The reviewers shall assess whether the goals are clearly defined, whether the work has been done in a methodologically correct manner and whether it contains new findings. They should point out relevant published work which is not yet cited. It is not a criterion for the assessment that the author arrives at the same results or even the same individual views as the reviewers.
4. If both reviews are positive, the contribution will be accepted for print. If they are both negative, it will be rejected and the author will receive an anonymised copy of the reviews. If one review is negative and the other positive, a third peer will be asked to provide a review, which will then be decisive. If the contribution is accepted for print but suggestions for improvement are made, these will also be sent to the author in anonymised form and he/she will be given the opportunity to rewrite the contribution accordingly. All reviews will be archived in the BRGÖ's editorial office for internal documentation purposes.
5. Authors are obliged to participate in peer review process and to provide retractions or corrections of mistakes, pointed out by the editors or by the peers.

D) Publication Ethics

1. Anyone submitting a contribution warrants that all relevant legal provisions (e.g. archival, copyright, criminal law provisions) have been observed and that he or she will indemnify the publisher and editorial staff in the event of an infringement of rights for which he or she is responsible or liable.

2. The work must be carried out in a methodologically flawless manner and be based on the latest state of research. It should not merely reflect the current state of research, however, but should develop it further on the basis of the authors' own ideas. Personal value judgements are permitted to a limited degree but must be clearly distinguished from scholarly assertions. Polemical statements must be avoided. All scholarly assertions must be verifiable. Usually, this shall be achieved by providing adequate evidence of the relevant sources.¹

3. Each academic work cited in the footnotes shall also be listed in the bibliography. Conversely, the bibliography will contain only those titles that have already been cited in the footnotes.

4. Academic misconduct shall be deemed to have occurred especially if sources are deliberately omitted or an incorrect meaning is intentionally attributed to them.

5. It is unethical to cite certain authors, including oneself, more often or less often for unobjective (personal) reasons than would be warranted by the subject matter of the contribution.

6. Gender-sensitive language is encouraged, but not at the expense of grammar or when it would result in an unreasonable impediment to readability. Alibi references, for example in the form of a generalising footnote ("In all references to persons, the chosen form applies to both genders" or similar), are unwelcome.

7. Plagiarism is the deliberate and unlawful adoption of another's intellectual property: the author uses, in whole or in part, works by others in his or her own work without acknowledging the source. It is irrelevant whether the other person's work has been taken over verbatim or slightly altered. The following cases in particular are considered plagiarism:

(a) if another person's work is passed off as one's own with or without the consent of the actual author (ghostwriting or complete plagiarism)

(b) if a portion of another's work is taken over without an adequate reference to the source (citation without reference)

(c) if a foreign-language work is translated and reproduced without appropriate reference to the source (translation plagiarism)

8. Using special software, each contribution is checked to see if any plagiarism has occurred. If plagiarism is detected through this or any other means before publication, this leads to the immediate rejection of the contribution; the editorial board reserves the right to impose further sanctions (e.g. blocking the submission of further contributions) in particularly serious cases. If scientific misconduct is only discovered after the article has been published, the online version will be taken offline.

9. The editorial board reserves the right to publish corrections, clarifications, retractions and apologies when needed in a subsequent issue of the journal (in print and online).

¹ The term "source" is used here and in the following to refer to sources in the historiographical sense (archival, printed, material, audiovisual sources, etc.) as well as to scholarly secondary literature.