



Common Law Review

Frequently Asked Questions

(Revised as of 10 March 2008 for Environmental Law Issue of Review)

Do I have to choose a title from those in the Call for Papers?

No. You are free to choose a topic we haven't included in the Call for Papers. The Editorial Board of the Common Law Review ("**Review**") will have to approve it at its regular monthly meeting though.

What is the style and citation methods I should use to write an article for Review?

Use the [Publication Guidelines](#) ("*Publikační pokyny*") of the Review as a reference. They are published on our website in the section "[Call for Papers \(ENVIRONMENTAL LAW\)](#)". Apart from this, have a look at a sample article which will be published in the section "[Call for Papers \(ENVIRONMENTAL LAW\)](#)" soon. You could also consult any of the past issues of the Review in your library or at our [website](#), although beware that citation methods of some of the past issues of the Review varied from the current Publication Guidelines.

What is the procedure for completing an article (TEN STEPS TO FAME)?

- Step 1: Contact Petr Zákoucký or Margarita Kukharchuk at commonlawreview@gmail.com
- Step 2: Petr or Margarita will send you a confirmation email, reserving you the topic you've chosen from the Call for Papers or by yourself (in the latter case, they will also approve your own topic, sometimes proposing changes to it).
- Step 3: Petr or Margarita will allocate you a staff editor which will assist you from this step onwards. That's your new best buddy at the Review; a person that will be in direct contact with you during the process of the article creation. You'll direct all the questions you have to him/her, while cc-ing commonlawreview@gmail.com.
- Step 4: With the help of the staff editor, you'll produce draft article and send it to him or her on or before Thursday 10 April 2008.
- Step 5: With the help of the staff editor, you'll produce the final article and send it to him or her on or before Thursday 1 May 2008.
- Step 6: We'll forward your article to selected distinguished academics at the Law Faculty of the University of Cambridge. Approximately in June/July 2008, we will get your article back from Cambridge with extensive comments regarding the content.
- Step 7: In case the comments from Cambridge require your action, your staff editor will ask you to do that. Approximately in July 2008, you'll submit the final version of the article to your staff editor, having incorporated the comments/remarks received from Cambridge.
- Step 8: Approximately in August/September 2008, we'll forward the article to native speakers in the U.S. (John Marshall Law School in Chicago and University of Texas Law School in Houston) who will be proofreading your article. Within September/October 2008, you'll get it back with corrections to make sure that they have not changed the meaning of your words.

- Step 9: In October 2008, you'll send the final version of the article to your staff editor.
- Step 10: Ideally, in October to December 2008, your article should be published in the Review in a printed form and it will be also published in an electronic form at the website of the Review!

Do I get any help in the process?

Yes. In different stages, you'll be assisted by your staff editor who is normally a student or a junior lawyer in Prague; by a University of Cambridge academic; and by a US editor or proof-reader with background in law who is an English native speaker.

How can I do my research for the article?

That's mostly up to you in collaboration with your staff editor. The starting point are the textbooks, you can find them at the libraries (at the Law Faculties, CEELI Institute in Prague, etc). Then, search through databases for most recent common law articles and case law, such as the ones available at the library of the Law Faculty in Prague. In databases such as WestLaw, Kluwer Law International, Hein, Oxford Journal Online and EBSCO (for example, all accessible from the [Library in Prague](#)), you can find over 2,000 law journals in a full text form, all US case law reaching back to 1790' and UK case law reaching back to 1865. Obviously, you could also search in public sources, such as SSRN at <http://www.ssrn.com/> For Czech case law and articles, search ASPI and Lexdata or websites of the relevant courts. Let us know if we can be of any assistance to you.

How long should my article be?

Articles published in the Review are generally between 2,000 and 3,000 words long (including footnotes). You should aim at 2,500 words (including footnotes) unless there are significant reasons why your article should be shorter or longer. Please let your staff editor know of these reasons as soon as possible.

What are the deadlines?

Please prepare a draft article and send it to your staff editor on or before Thursday 10 April 2008. You'll produce the final article and send it to him or her on or before Thursday 1 May 2008.

Can I compare my own legal system to common law, or do I have to write about Czech law?

The articles in the Common Law Review should be comparing any law of the country in the Central or Eastern Europe with common law (English, US or any other common law). In doing this, EU law and international law may also be addressed. Although the topics in the Call for Papers were drafted with Czech law in mind, you are welcomed to use your own legal system as a frame of reference, covering Slovak/Polish/Hungarian/etc. legal issues. Please let us know if you are unsure about the meaning of specific Czech legal concepts that might be of interest to you. However, at this point, we would have difficulties to help you with any other law in the Central and Eastern Europe other than Czech law (this is a future challenge for us, to create a network of academics which may advise our authors on other than Czech law).

Can I write an article outside of the area indicated in the Call for Papers, i.e. environmental law?

The answer is generally no. The most recent issues of the Review have been confined each to a specific area and we would like to follow this tradition; however, it may well be that the following issue will cover your favourite field of law. Let us know of your preferences. Exceptionally, the Editorial Board may decide on publishing a non-related article of an outstanding quality and relevance.

How do I contact you guys?

Whenever you need to contact the Review regarding your article, please refer to your staff editor. If s/he is not of help for any reason, do not hesitate to contact straight Petr Zákoucký or Margarita Kukharchuk at commonlawreview@gmail.com (the Editor-in-chief of Review for the period from Oct 2007 to Oct 2008 is Petr Zakoucky).