

EWIS 2020: Global Affairs' Academic Writing Workshop

Workshop Convenor: Knud Erik Jørgensen

The editors of *Global Affairs* are often asked what we seek in an article. In the process of editing the journal, we also give a lot of advice on organizing and presenting an argument for publication. For a hybrid journal such as *Global Affairs* what we seek in a contribution crucially depends on the format of the contribution. Is it a research article, a commentary, a review article, a blog? In this fashion, the workshop will have a point of departure with *Global Affairs*.

However, the workshop aims at addressing wider issues reaching beyond the journal. Thus, most academics have limited experience in writing Policy Briefs yet are frequently requested to write them (the dissemination imperative that is part of much project funding). Moreover, many academics are tempted to write op-eds yet also deterred from doing so, without the parade of footnotes and what the existing literature says, they feel naked and exposed to a potentially large readership. Workshop participants will be introduced to and encouraged to engage in as well as share “behind the scenes” thinking about how contributions, differentiated along genres, are selected and prepared for publication. Given that the standards, rules and norms for writing articles and other written material vary greatly across Europe, the workshop will function as a venue at which these features can be made explicit, shared or possibly negotiated. In this fashion, deliberations about the ‘rules of the game’ enable the creation of a more inclusive environment and thus improved access to publication especially for those who experience various road blocks to both publication and career.

In order to achieve its aims, the workshop will feature introductions from peers who are very familiar with the different genres of writing, an editors’ roundtable and, in a genuine workshop style, be a forum for exercises in the different formats. However, the workshop will not only benefit participants. The outcome of the workshop will be a collection of writing guides that will be very valuable for the wider IR community and especially early career scholars.

Finally, the workshop will benefit *Global Affairs*, in the first place by extending knowledge about the journal and its profile as well as, secondly, generating more and higher quality manuscript submissions. As a colleague wrote recently, “great to see that *Global Affairs* is growing into a not-to-be ignored publication for European foreign policy scholars (and students!)”. This is the kind of feedback we would like to receive also from scholars who in their research focus on other parts of the world.

Possible paper topics include (but are not limited to):

- Writing a research article
- Writing a review essay
- Writing a policy brief
- Writing a case study
- Writing a review report on an article or book manuscript
- Writing a field studies report
- Writing a policy memo
- Writing an op-ed
- Writing a blog