

Guidelines for Authors of RphZ Articles

As at: July 2026

Submission of Manuscripts

Manuscripts should be prepared in a print-ready format. They are to be submitted to Professor Dr. Andreas Funke via email at rphz@nomos-journals.de. By submitting their contribution, the author agrees to potential editorial changes.

Transfer of Rights

Only original contributions, for which third parties have no usage rights, may be submitted. By submitting their manuscript, authors also agree to transfer all usage rights to the Nomos Verlag Baden-Baden in the event of the manuscript's acceptance for publication. Any other complete or partial publication of the contribution may only occur with attribution and permission from the publisher.

Ethical Publication Practices

RphZ supports and follows the guidelines of the *Committee on Publication Ethics* ([COPE](#)). The following principles should be highlighted:

1. The complete or partial adoption of another's text or idea must be appropriately acknowledged, such as through footnotes, ensuring that the source is precisely cited for verification. This applies to the use of so-called Artificial Intelligence accordingly.
2. Publishing a text authored by others under one's own name with their consent is also academically dishonest. It is also dishonest to have drafts prepared by one's own staff and published under one's own name as the sole author. Such support does not negate co-authorship unless it is limited to mere assistance such as research, data collection, work on footnotes, and similar routine tasks, which should be acknowledged in a footnote.
3. Intellectual contributions of others essential to a text should be appropriately acknowledged. Mere linguistic revisions do not remove authorship of the person who drafted the original. Whether someone can claim co-authorship depends on whether that person has made a qualitative or quantitative significant contribution.
4. The use of AI-powered tools solely for support purposes (e.g., for research, structuring, proofreading, or suggestions for wording) is permitted, provided that the work retains its character as a personal intellectual creation.

Abstract

Authors should submit their essay along with a brief summary (approximately 3 to 4 sentences) and five to ten keywords, both in English. This is intended to increase the international visibility of the journal (e. g. in databases).

Editorial Design, Citation Style, Cross-references

Please do not use macros or automatic settings, but only work with Word's default settings. The less the text is formatted, the easier the editing process is.

1. Structuring system: The structure typically follows the schema I. 1. a) aa).

2. Quotations: Direct quotations of a foreign text or part thereof should be indicated by quotation marks. Longer passages (from 3 lines onwards) should be indented. The double quotation marks shall be used ("..."), for quotations within the quotation the single quotation mark ('...').

3. Citation Styles: References are made through footnotes. Footnote markers are placed after the punctuation mark. Footnotes themselves begin with a capital letter and end with a period.

Author names are italicized, whereas editor names (for better distinction) are in normal font. No “p.” before a page number.

a) Journal Articles

Author in italics, Title of the article, Journal (choose abbreviation for well-known journals, spell out names for less popular ones), Year, Page number (without “p.”) of the start of the article (page number of the specific reference)

Example: *Olivet*, Überpositivität des Rechts heute, NJW 1989, 3187 (3189)

For archived journals, the year should be in parentheses after the issue number:

Example: *Rödl*, Das Erbe des Philosophen, Philosophische Rundschau 54 (2007), 123

From the second citation onwards, the title of the article and the starting page should be omitted.

Example: *Olivet*, NJW 1989, 3189

b) Books

Author in italics, Title of the book (no short titles), Edition Year, Page number (without “p.”) or other structural feature (e. g., Chapter, Paragraph, Marginal Number)

Examples: *Habermas*, Theorie und Praxis, 4. Aufl. 1971, 118

Naucke, Strafrecht , 9. Aufl. 2000, § 7 Rn. 31

From the second citation onwards, a short quotation should be used, with author, book title, and page number.

Example: *Habermas*, Theorie und Praxis, 118

c) Contributions to Anthologies, Handbooks, *Festschriften* etc.

Author in italics, Title of the contribution, Editors of the anthology, Title of the anthology, Year, Page number (without “p.”) of the start of the article (page number of the specific reference)

Example: *Schefczyk*, Rede- und Meinungsfreiheit, in: Fest (Ed.), Handbuch Liberalismus, 2021, 191 (195)

From the second citation onwards, a short quotation should be used, with author, information about the anthology and page number.

Example: *Schefczyk*, in: Fest (Ed.), Handbuch Liberalismus, 195

d) Court Decisions

If the decision is published in the official collection (e. g., BVerfGE, BVerwGE, BGHZ, BGHSt, etc.) or in a professional journal (e. g., NJW, NStZ, StV, GA, EuGRZ, etc.), it should be cited. The date of the decision and the file number need only be provided for unpublished court decisions.

Example: BGH, 19.5.2009 – VI ZR 56/08

For decisions of international courts, the date, file number, and the name of the plaintiff/appellant should be provided throughout.

Examples:

EGMR, 7.7.1989 – 14038/88 (Soering gegen Großbritannien), § 100 = NJW 1990, 2183 (2186).

EuGH, 4.9.2014 – C-327/13 (Burgo Group SpA/Illochroma SA in Liquidation) = NZI 2014, 964.

e) Laws, Paragraphs, and Articles

Paragraphs (§) and Articles (Art.) are cited in full using the abbreviations “Art.”, “Abs.”, “UAbs.”, “S.”, “Hs.”, “Buchst.”, “lit.”, “Nr.”, “Alt.”, “Var.”:

Examples: § 5 Nr. 8 lit. a StGB, Art. 127 Abs. 2 UAbs. 2 dritter Gedankenstrich ABCG, § 812 Abs. 1 Alt. 1 BGB, § 8 Abs. 1 S. 2 Hs. 1 Var. 3 ABCG

“Letter paragraphs” should be written without spaces: § 17a (not § 17 a).

4. When citing a work multiple times, the abbreviation “Ibid.” should be used if the reference pertains to a *directly* preceding citation.

5. Internal cross-references within the contribution should only refer to structural points, not page numbers.

6. Emphases in the text are only possible in italics. Other styles (e. g., bold, underline) are excluded. Author names are not italicized in the text.

7. Dashes and Hyphens are to be distinguished (–/–).

The en dash shall be used for text inserts and the like (with a space before and after each one; see the example in the following sentence), the hyphen for word combinations (“one- or two-stage”) and number data (“45-47”). The em dash – which is longer than the en dash – is not needed.

En dashes are generated by the key combination “CTRL+Minus sign on the numeric keypad.” The “normal hyphen” is only suitable when used at the end of a word (“one- or two-stage”). If it is at the beginning of a word (“Bundesrat and -regierung”), a protected hyphen is better, which can be generated by “CTRL+SHIFT+Hyphen.” For this to work correctly, in MS Word, in the autocorrect options, both under “AutoFormat” and under “AutoFormat during typing,” the option “Replace hyphens with em dashes” should be deactivated. This is recommended anyway.

8. Protected spaces: Finally, the use of protected spaces after paragraph marks and abbreviations (“Abs.”, “Art.”, “S.”) is helpful. A protected space should also be used in abbreviations such as “e. g.” In MS Word, protected spaces are generated by the key combination “CTRL+SHIFT+Space.”