

UNITED NATIONS PEACE AND PROGRESS (UPP)
POSTGRADUATE JOURNAL

CHARTER

TEXT

SECTION 1:

PURPOSE

Article 1:

- (1) United Nations University *Peace and Progress* (heretofore, 'UPP') is a peer-reviewed journal operated by the postgraduate students of the United Nations University (heretofore, 'UNU') established in the spirit and values of the UNU Charter and the United Nations at large.

Article 2:

- (2) All operations of the UPP with the exception of peer reviewing shall be conducted by select students who will represent the Editorial Board (heretofore, 'Board') of the UPP.

Article 3:

- (3) UPP shall publish student-produced research and commentary relevant to the working areas of the UNU and the UNU Thematic Clusters and in general alignment with the '10 Principles' of the United Nations Academic Impact.

Article 4:

- (4) Submissions shall be accepted from currently enrolled postgraduate students as well as the alumni of any UNU degree or non-degree programme (heretofore, 'Authors').

Article 5:

- (5) Submissions to the UPP by Authors shall generally undergo at least one blind editorial and/or peer review based on the nature of the Submission to select those appropriate for publication (heretofore, 'Review Process').
 - (a) All those involved in the Review Process must remain completely anonymous until the publication of the work in question to all except for and to the Editor-in-Chief.
 - (b) The peer review is conducted by individuals selected by the Board or the

Editor-in-Chief based on relevant expertise (heretofore, 'Peer').

Article 6:

- (6) The Review Process, any acts of publication the interaction between UPP and Authors are conducted in full compliance with the 'Submission Disclaimer,' 'Publishing Agreement,' the present document and the articles therein.

Article 7:

- (7) The content produced in the UPP does not represent the views of the UNU, the United Nations or any affiliated organization, institution, project, policy or activity.

SECTION II:

EDITORIAL BOARD

Article 1:

- (8) The Board shall consist of at least six students, three from different years, *viz.* grades, of any UNU postgraduate degree-granting programmes, i.e., MSc and PhD programmes.
 - (a) All members of the Board shall maintain and preserve the integrity of the anonymous nature of the Review Process
 - (b) All members of the Board pledge to try their utmost to ensure the successful continuation and expansion of the UPP, such as attending meetings of the Board as well as meaningful contribution.
 - (c) All members of the Board must act on behalf of the Board and its interests within reason on all matters relevant to the UPP.
 - (d) All members of the Board shall try their utmost to operate and maintain the UPP, its various channels and the Board in a way that reflects the goals, spirit and values of the UNU and its Charter.
 - (e) All members of the Board shall try their utmost to meet deadlines assigned by the Editor-in-Chief and in all ways possible respect the timely nature the UPP and serial publications in general.

Article 2:

- (9) The responsibilities of the Board shall comprise of reviewing submissions by Authors as well as the operation of the UPP and all of its associated channels such as, *inter alia*, its website, <http://upp.unu.edu/>

Article 3:

- (10) The composition and number of students to sit on the Board may be modified to meet the circumstances of the UPP in compliance with *Section II Articles 5, 6 and 7*

Article 4:

- (11) The selection of the Board members shall be through blind review without exception, which consists of a writing sample, editing sample, and application form prepared and reviewed by the current members of the Board.

Article 5:

- (12) Changes to any matter regarding the Board or the UPP may only take effect through majority vote of the Board members.

Article 6:

- (13) Should an addendum be raised that requires a vote in accordance in *Section II Article 5*, all current members of the Board are required to vote by submitting a ballot. The ballot may be transmitted to the Board in any way but should any ballot not be rendered within 24 hours from the commencement of the vote, the respective Board member's vote is considered wilfully abstained.

Article 7:

- (14) Any motions raised to be decided by vote must be communicated to all current members of the Board without delay or lack of exhausting all possible means of communicating with the Board.

Article 8:

- (15) Should any member of the Board fail to meet the obligations defined in *Section II Article 1*, they will be issued a private initial warning by the Editor-in-Chief. Should the underperformance continue within a time that Editor-in-Chief deems appropriate, the Editor-in-Chief will issue a second warning, shared with all members of the Board, calling for the voluntary abstention of their place on the Board. Should the Board member in question refuse to abstain their position in spite of continued underperformance, the Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to remove the Board member in question.
 - (a) Any step in the process defined in *Section II Article 8* may be contested by the remaining members of the Board by writing in a timely fashion.
 - (b) Should a contestation be raised, the Board will decide on the matter by vote excluding the member whose interest and/or performance is in question.

- (c) Should a contestation be raised, the member of the Board whose interests and/or performance is in question may choose to prepare a statement in writing in defence of their interests to remain on the Board.
- (d) Should the contestation lack majority consensus through vote, the Board may bring the matter up for general vote by the UNU student body at large.

SECTION III:

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Article 1:

- (16) The Editor-in-Chief shall oversee all operations of the Board and the UPP, produce an Editorial for each issue of the UPP, ensure the anonymity of the Review Process and strive to maintain and progress the goals and values of the UPP as defined in *Section I*.
 - (a) The Editor-in-Chief shall maintain and preserve the integrity of the anonymous nature of the Review Process
 - (b) The Editor-in-Chief pledges to try their utmost to ensure the successful continuation and expansion of the UPP.
 - (c) The Editor-in-Chief must act on behalf of the Board and its interests within reason on all matters relevant to the UPP.
 - (d) The Editor-in-Chief shall try their utmost to operate and maintain the UPP, its various channels and the Board in a way that reflects the goals, spirit and values of the UNU and its Charter.

Article 2:

- (17) The Editor-in-Chief is selected from amongst the students of the Board who have served for at least one year as an Editor.

Article 3:

- (18) The term of the Editor-in-Chief is conditionally limited to one academic year.

Article 4:

- (19) After the end of the term defined in *Section III Article 3*, the Editorial Board shall collectively vote for the next Editor-in-Chief.

Article 5:

- (20) Should the voting process in *Section III Article 4* be unable to produce an Editor-in-

Chief or should the Board member selected be unable or unwilling to fulfil the obligations of the Editor-in-Chief as defined in *Section III Article 1*, the current Editor-in-Chief shall remain until the next Editor-in-Chief is selected.

Article 6:

- (21) The Editor-in-Chief reserves the exclusive right to call meetings with the Board, receive all submissions from Authors for anonymous distribution and assignment to the Board and Peers, and carry out the process defined in *Section II Article 3*.

Article 7:

- (22) Should the Editor-in-Chief fail to carry out the obligations defined in *Section II Article 1*, the Board must exhaust all possible means of communicating this underperformance to the Editor-in-Chief. Should this underperformance continue in a timeframe that the Board deems reasonable, the Board may choose to issue an official warning to the Editor-in-Chief. Should the underperformance continue with no or lacking response from the Editor-in-Chief, the Board may choose to bring the matter to majority election by the UNU student body.
- (a) Should the Editor-in-Chief be removed through the above process, the UPP will temporarily cease its operations until a new Editor-in-Chief is selected through the process defined in *Section III Article 4*.
 - (b) All communication with the Editor-in-Chief in the above process must be done in a way that is deemed to have exhausted all possible means of communication.
 - (c) The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to defend their interests and/or performance in their position through writing.

SECTION IV

ON MATTERS OF REVIEW

Article 1:

- (23) All those involved in the Review Process must uphold objectivity, herein defined as practicing no prejudice in the selection of articles for publication, and a strict guarantee of high quality expected of any industry publication.

Article 2:

- (24) The Review Process shall be conducted in a systematic, procedural fashion. That consists of the following procedures:

- (a) Receipt of all submissions from Authors by the Editor-in-Chief at submissions.upp@unu.edu,
- (b) distribution of submissions by Editor-in-Chief for blind review by the Board,
- (c) pending the decisions made the pertinent Board member a second level of review by at least two Peers,
- (d) revisions made by the Author and a final evaluation by the Board before publication.

Article 3:

- (25) The decisions and opinions rendered by the Review Process may not be contested by the Author, but the Author is not obliged to comply with the said decisions and opinions within reason defined throughout the requirements of all Submissions.

Article 4:

- (26) The style requirements of the UPP are defined by the United Nations Editorial Manual, which is available at <http://upp.unu.edu/submit/>, but are subject to change or alteration by matter of general election in accordance to Section II, Article 5.

Article 5:

- (27) Should any step in the Review Process be delayed to an extent that challenges the ideal operation of the UPP, the Editor-in-Chief maintains the right to reassign and/or expedite the procedure within reason.