# The Impact of Language on Law-Making and Norm-Making
## — JLL Call for Papers (Deadline 31 July 2019)

*Aleksandar Trklja**

## Abstract

The constitutive role of language in law-making and norm-making has been largely neglected in previous legal studies. Many of these studies were concerned with the legal and historical aspects of law-making and norm-making, and regarded language mainly as an assisting device or a neutral medium of communication, rather than as a mechanism that can influence the production of law and norms and thus shape the content of jurisprudence. The present issue of JLL aims to address the latter issue. We welcome papers that investigate empirically or theoretically the impact of language on the law-making process and the development of norms. This call for papers is open until 31 July 2019 (extensions possible upon request), authors should submit through the journal website at languageandlaw.eu/jll/login, or send an electronic copy of their submission to editor@languageandlaw.eu.

---

* *Trklja*: University of Vienna; Managing Editor of JLL, editor@languageandlaw.eu.

## 1. Language in Law-Making and Norm-Making

The constitutive role of language in law-making and norm-making has been largely neglected in previous legal studies. Many of these studies were concerned with the legal and historical aspects of law-making and norm-making, and regarded language mainly as an assisting device or a neutral medium of communication, rather than as a mechanism that can influence the production of law and norms and thus shape the content of jurisprudence. The present issue of JLL aims to address the latter issue. We welcome papers that investigate empirically or theoretically the impact of language on the law-making process and the development of norms.

The papers should address this topic either from a synchronic and/or a diachronic perspective. Synchronic studies are expected to address institutionalized practices such as drafting procedures and strategies, language regimes, the process of translation in multilingual settings, the use of technology or the impact of media and public opinion. Diachronic studies are expected to examine how language influences the changes, transformations and modifications of legislation and norms over time, across legal systems, legal domains, and areas of law.

We welcome both studies that focus on specific linguistic sub-systems such as lexis, syntax, semantics or pragmatics and studies that regard language as a social practice and that examine relations between discourse, ideologies and law.

In particular, topics to be addressed include but are not limited to:

 – Discursive and hegemonic construction of jurisprudence;
 – Societal normalization of norms;
 – Social actors, public opinion, media and law or norm-making;
 – The scope of normative texts and entailment relations;
 – The impact of translation on the shape and transformation of legislation and norms;
 – Technology-based law drafting;
 – Relations between legal genres and interaction between different genre colonies;
 – Speech acts and types of norms;
 – Intertextual relations in law-making and norm-making;
 – Plain language and readability of legislation and norms;
 – Linguistic changes at the syntactic, lexico-semantic and pragmatic level;
 – The change of argumentation patterns.

## 2. About the Journal (JLL)

Journal of Language & Law (JLL) is the official journal of The International Language and Law Association (ILLA). In November 2018, JLL was selected as one of only three humanities journals (along with Glossa and Laboratory Phonology) to join the Free Journal Network (FJN), a scholarly initiative to promote Open Access publishing with strict best

practice requirements. JLL invites scholarly contributions from all academic disciplines related to the study of language and law including linguistics, law, philosophy, media studies, communication studies, psychology and history. Submissions that cross traditional disciplinary boundaries in either themes or methods are especially encouraged. Papers should provide a substantial novel contribution to the field of language and law and should be no longer than 10,000 words. Articles are judged on the merits of their methodological soundness, credibility and the plausibility of their results.

JLL satisfies the Fair Open Access Principles, which means that it is entirely free of charge to both authors and readers, that it lets authors retain copyright for their contributions, and that it provides immediate open access following the idea that freely available research contributes to the global exchange of knowledge.

JLL subscribes to the principles of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE). It aspires to select and publish highest-quality research through a thorough and fair peer-review process. The journal expects its authors and reviewers to honour scientific integrity as a basic requirement of any well-functioning academic system. As part of this expectation, JLL requires both authors and reviewers to declare competing interests if they should have any.

## 3. Submission of Papers

This call for papers is open until 31 July 2019 (extensions possible upon request), authors should either submit through the journal website at languageandlaw.eu/jll/login, or send an electronic copy of their submission to editor@languageandlaw.eu.

As part of the submission process, authors are required to check off their submission's compliance with all of the following items, and submissions may be returned to authors that do not adhere to these guidelines.

1. The submission has not been previously published and adheres to all of JLL's standards of Scientific Integrity (see above 2.).

2. Authors pledge to publish with JLL should their submission be accepted. If it is simultaneously considered by another outlet, this is explained in the "Comments to the Editor" below.

3. The submission is in .pdf format suitable for peer review, meaning any identifying personal information and metadata have been removed. It either adheres to the JLL template or will be reformatted accordingly upon acceptance.

4. The supplementary files contain the non-anonymized version of the submission, in a common word processor format (such as .doc, .docx, .rtf or .odt) suitable for editorial processing.