

The Rwenzori Think Tank Journal

Information for authors and subscribers

Aims the Rwenzori think tank journal

The overall aim of the journal is to publish up-to-date information on issues of pertinent to the Rwenzori region, and serve as the most reliable source of reference on regional issues.

Scope of the Rwenzori think tank journal

The Rwenzori think tank journal is a general but regional Journal. As a general journal, the Rwenzori think tank journal is multidisciplinary, broadly focused, and accepting contributions from many fields of research such as Agriculture, health, education, environment, and gender to mention a but a few. It provides coverage of a variety of topics within their broad areas of science and the humanities. Rwenzori think tank journal as a general journal is particularly useful in drawing on a wider range of authors, editors, and readers. Although the journal is broad based, its high priority is to publish articles that are specific to the Rwenzori region. However, articles presenting issues of national concern and are of benefit to the Rwenzori region will also be welcome and will be published in themed or special issues of the Rwenzori think tank journal.

Publication method Rwenzori think tank journal

Rwenzori think tank journal publishes both in print and online. The main advantage of this is that the Journal provides the familiarity and respectability often associated with print, as well as the wider reach of online.

Publication frequency of the Rwenzori think tank journal

Currently, the Rwenzori think tank journal is published annually.

Instructions to authors

General requirements

The Rwenzori Think Tank Journal publishes editorials, research papers, discussion papers on issues regarding the performance of sectors, programs, and service delivery, and book reviews. Members of the editorial board or, in the case of special issues, guest editors, write editorials. Instructions about the format and contents of an editorial can be received from the Editor. Research papers should present results that are novel and relevant for the community of researchers. Research papers can be empirical, theoretical, methods-oriented, or a mixture of these three categories. Research papers need to be scientifically sound and follow the rules of scientific publication. Generally, this means that the reported research uses methods and empirical material in a way that is accepted by the scientific community. The argumentation should be clear and consistent, and sources adequately cited. The Rwenzori Think Tank Journal requires that the content submitted by authors must not have been published before in

any refereed publication; that authorship is adequately represented; and that the authors have followed relevant legislation and ethical norms in their work.

Research papers should be no longer, than 10,000 words, references and attachments included.

Discussion papers should raise issues that are somehow new for the community of researchers. They could bring up a new topic, revive an old or neglected topic, argue for a new standpoint, or comment upon recent research in the field. Discussion papers are thus not meant to support one or the other of well-known standpoints in a debate, or to discuss a topic that has already been much discussed. Neither should they be reports from conferences or similar events. Discussion papers should follow academic convention when it comes to manner of argumentation and citation, and they should be no longer than 7,000 words, including references.

The Rwenzori think tank journal also welcomes reviews that summarize, critically assess, and provide context of topical and important books. Book review authors should provide an overview of the contents of the book, and an evaluation of its potential contribution to relevant fields. A review should not be a chapter-by-chapter description of the book, but rather a presentation of its main themes and arguments and a stimulation of debate on its key issues. Both the strengths and weaknesses of the book should be addressed.

Relevant questions to be addressed in the review include: What is the book about? Who should read it? What are the main arguments or conclusions of the author(s)? Why are these new/surprising/trivial/problematic? How does the work relate to existing discourse within that field, and how is the work relevant to the Rwenzori region? Book reviews should follow the format shown below;

At the beginning of the review, include:

Book information:

- Title of book
- Names of authors or editors (with edition if appropriate)
- Name and address of publisher
- Year of publication
- Number of pages and ISSN

Include any notes and references at the end of the review.

The text of the review should not exceed 2000 words.

The review should also contain your complete contact information including organizational affiliation and email address.

All manuscripts should be checked for language before submission. A paper with a poor quality of language cannot be reviewed in an efficient and fair way, and may therefore be rejected by the editors. Authors with English as a second language should take special notice of this instruction.

Article submissions

Contributions should be submitted electronically to thinktankjournal@gmail.com

or in print addressed to:

The Editor, Think Tank Journal
P. O Box 837, Fort-Portal,
Uganda, East Africa.

The editor and two external ‘blind’ referees will evaluate manuscripts. The anonymous comments and suggestions of the referees, as well as the editors will be sent to the authors for revisions of the manuscript.

Review Process

The editor first screens submitted manuscripts. The editor decides whether the manuscript will be sent for review or not. The author is notified by the editor responsible for his/her paper about the decision as soon as it has been made. The editor may have several reasons for rejecting the paper at this stage, such as that the research presented has substantial and obvious flaws in its design; that the argumentation is incoherent; that the paper is poorly written or has disturbing language problems; that the authors have failed to follow the instructions; or that the topic of the paper is outside the scope of this journal.

Papers that make it through the editorial screening are sent for review to two referees. Normally one of them is a member of the editorial board, while the other is external to the board. Both referees are selected based on expertise in the field of the paper. One of them is selected also to assess the relevance of the paper for that particular area of study. The Rwenzori Think Tank Journal uses double blind review, which means that referees do not know the identity of the authors and that, vice versa, authors are not informed about the identity of referees.

The referees choose one of the following recommendations:

- a) publication without revision.
- b) publication after minor textual revisions.
- c) publication only after major revision, or
- d) rejection.

They also give more detailed feedback to the paper. When the editor has received the statements of the referees, he makes a decision about the response to the manuscript. The editor takes the recommendations as a starting point for the decision. If the referee recommendations are contradictory, a third referee may be used. The author is informed about the decision as soon as it has been made.

In the case of acceptance after revisions, the author is asked to do revision according to the recommendations of the referees and the editor. The recommendations and instructions should be followed closely. The resubmission should be accompanied by a letter that the reviewers’ concerns have been addressed, and explains any deviation from the recommendations and instructions. The editors review the new version of the manuscript and make a decision about publication. If revisions are not satisfactory, the paper may be rejected. In some cases, further revisions are needed. Sometimes the editors consult the referees anew.

When the manuscript has been accepted for publication, the author will be sent a preprint (a pdf) version for a final check of the text. Authors are responsible to check for flaws in the layout or the text. The Rwenzori Think Tank Journal cannot be held responsible for flaws that have not been pointed out by the author. The author is also asked to sign an agreement for publication. This document should be read carefully before signing. After publication, the author will receive an electronic (pdf) copy of his or her contribution.

Preparation of Manuscripts

Manuscripts should be written in British English and saved in MS Word or rich text format, and NOT pdf. The text, including references, tables and figures should not exceed 10 000 words. The title of the article, authors name, address, abstract of no more than 300 words, 3 - 5 key words and acknowledgements (optional) should be included on the first page.

Please note that information about the identities of the authors should ONLY appear on the first page. If there is any information in the body of the manuscripts that could lead to the identification of the authors, it should be removed.

Tables and figures (preferably in the original format, such as .xls or tiff) should be kept at a minimum and sent together with the manuscript and not as separate documents. Tables and figures should be numbered with short descriptive titles.

Footnotes should be avoided. However, when necessary, notes should be numbered consecutively and included as endnotes. Endnotes are to be used only for substantive observations, and not for the purpose of citation.

All references to monographs, articles and statistical sources are to be identified at an appropriate point in the text by last name of author, year of publication, and pagination where appropriate, all within parentheses. There is no need for “ibid.”, “op. cit.” or “loc. cit.”; specify subsequent citations of the same source in the same as the first citation. All quotations should be in English.

Authors are responsible for obtaining permission from copyright holders for reproducing any illustrations, tables, figures or lengthy quotations previously published elsewhere. All authors will receive a PDF copy of their text.

Examples of in-text citation

If author’s name appears in the text, follow it with the year of publication in parentheses: “... Bernal (1939) has proven that...” If authors name does not appear in the text, insert at an appropriate point the family name and year, separated by comma: “...some have claimed (Andrews, 1967) that...”.

Pagination (without “p.” or “pp.”) follows year of publication, separated with a colon: “... it has been noted (Merton, 1964: 61-64) that...”. Incorporate within parentheses any brief phrase associated with reference: “... (but see Weingart, 1981: 99 for a conflicting view.)...”.

In the case of dual authorship, give both family names; for more than two, use “et. al.”. For institutional authorship supply minimum identification from the beginning of the complete citation: “...(U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1963: 117)...”.

If there is more than one reference to the same author and year, distinguish them by use of letters (a, b, c) attached to the year of publication both in the text and in the reference appendix: "...(Ziman, 1978a: 331)...".

Enclose a series of reference within a single pair of parentheses and separate the items by semicolons: "...(Bloor, 1981; Knorr, 1983; Mulkay, 1985)...".

Format of the references at the end of the text

List all items alphabetically by author and, within the publications of one author, by year of publication, in an appendix titled "References". Use no italics and no abbreviations. For typing format, see the following examples:

Browne, J. (1998) 'I Could Have Retched All Night: Charles Darwin and his Body', in C. Lawrence & S. Shapin (eds), *Science Incarnate: Historical Embodiments of Natural Knowledge* (Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press): 240-87.

Collins, H.M. (1999) 'Tantalus and the Aliens: Publications, Audiences, and the Search for Gravitational Waves', *Social Studies of Science* 29(2): 163-97.

Lawrence, C. & S. Shapin (eds) (1998) *Science Incarnate: Historical Embodiments of Natural Knowledge* (Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press).

Mullis, K. (1998) *Dancing Naked in the Mind Field* (New York: Pantheon Books). Prigogine, I. & I. Stengers (1984) *Order out of Chaos: Man's New Dialogue with Nature* (New York: Bantam Books).