

# Ritsumeikan Journal of Asia Pacific Studies

The Ritsumeikan Journal of Asia Pacific Studies (RCAPS Journal) is an academic journal of the Ritsumeikan Center for Asia Pacific Studies (RCAPS), Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU). Articles published in the journal are reviewed by anonymous referees. Established in 1998, it aims to publish high quality, theoretical, and empirical papers which covers the societies, cultures and institutions relating to the Asia Pacific region. The journal accepts contributions from affiliates of the members of the Ritsumeikan Trust and scholars in the world.

## Publishing Guidelines

### Editorial Policies

In line with the objectives of the RCAPS Journals, we invite the following research work for submission and peer review:

*Theoretical research* are studies that define, validate or falsify theories and provide deeper insights on theory building.

*Empirical research* are pioneering facts-finding studies with examinations of data and those with new experimental designs.

*Case studies* illustrate single best practices, cross-comparative, and or multiple case studies that test or set theoretical propositions.

*Policy research* involves studies to examine effects of policies on communities, economies, countries, and regions.

*Methodological research* presents new approaches to analyze modern day research problems.

*Review articles* critically revisit articles, journals, books, academic theories, and other pertinent academic literature with value adding contributions that qualify as research.

With general themes on the Asia Pacific region, the RCAPS Journal accepts multi-disciplinary works as well as multiple and mixed research methods that support hypotheses. Research papers, critiques, short notes, or comments on previously published articles and consequently rejoinders from the authors of these articles are also acceptable. Short articles which are not full-length research papers, but the contents of which adds new insights into or knowledge to their respective fields, may be considered.

## **Peer Review Process**

Our double blind peer-review process is composed of faculty members from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University and worldwide experts. The editors determine the peer reviewers based on their expertise on the topic.

Presenters at the Asia Pacific Conference of the RCAPS are encouraged to submit the article to this journal. Outstanding papers presented by graduate students at the AP Conference may be invited for submission to the peer review process.

Papers are initially reviewed by the editors. Short listed works are then sent to peer reviewers who are experts in their fields of research. These are graded as clean pass, moderate pass with minor revisions, resubmit after major revisions, or cannot be published in its current form. Authors will be notified in writing of the status and decision on the paper submitted.

## **Manuscript Submission**

Submitted manuscript should have never been published or accepted for publication in other journals. Authors may e-mail their works to the editor at [rjaps@apu.ac.jp](mailto:rjaps@apu.ac.jp).

Send manuscripts in MS Word format, A4 sized document, double-spaced and APA style compliant. Include all figures and tables in gray scale, a 300 word abstract and 4 to 6 keywords. Papers should be written in English. As a general guide, the manuscript must be around 8,000 words in length. Please prepare your manuscript in a concise manner. Footnotes should be kept to a minimum and observe and use a sequential order with superscript numbers at the bottom of the page. Only cited works should be completely included in the references section.

Authors are responsible for preparing any figures, diagrams, tables, etc. in a form that is ready to be printed. Non-native English writers are required to have their work professionally edited before submission. The RCAPS journal also accepts a limited number of Japanese works.

After the peer review and upon acceptance of the manuscript that is ready for publication, we will document the publishing agreement and copyright permission.

## **Publishing Agreement**

A publishing agreement will be signed and submitted by the authors with the following salient provisions:

- The RCAPS Journal reserves the right to make editorial changes suitable to publication.
- The author(s) attest to the originality of their work and take full responsibility for inquiries, complaints or disputes. Multiple co-authorships, contributors and research assistants are clarified in the order of contributions (first author, co-authors, and the research assistants in the acknowledgement)

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