

EDITORIAL POLICY

1. Mission Statement

1. Our publication explores how the law shapes, and is shaped by, the human experience. We aim to unpack complex legal issues, examine their practical consequences on individuals and communities, and promote legal literacy. We aim to correct misinformation, challenge institutional failures, and uphold justice, transparency, and human rights.

2. Scope

1. We publish content focused on the human impact of legal systems—domestic (UK) and international. Our work includes corrective journalism, aimed at countering misinformation and sensationalism, promoting accuracy, and ensuring that legal reporting remains fair, responsible, and grounded in evidence.

3. Editorial Standards

1. All published material is reviewed by editorial staff for legal accuracy, clarity, and compliance with ethical journalism.
2. Sources must be authoritative, reliable, and appropriately cited.
3. We welcome a diversity of views but do not publish material that incites hatred, discriminates, or infringes on the rights and dignity of others, in line with the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010.
4. Authors must clearly distinguish between fact, conjecture, and opinion.
5. Anonymous sources may be used where appropriate and in the public interest, with editorial oversight and approval.

4. Terms of Use

4.1. Acceptance of Terms

1. By accessing or using our website, you agree to comply with these terms and all applicable laws of the jurisdiction of England and Wales.

4.2. Intellectual Property

1. All website content is protected by copyright and intellectual property laws. Reproduction without express permission is prohibited, except for fair dealing under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

4.3. Use of Content

1. You may read, share, and quote our articles for non-commercial use, provided proper attribution is given. Commercial use requires written consent.

4.4. User-Generated Content

1. Where enabled, users must not post material that is defamatory, unlawful, threatening, discriminatory, or breaches confidentiality. We reserve the right to moderate or remove content and retain records for accountability.

4.5. Disclaimer

1. Content is for general informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Always consult a qualified professional for legal matters.

4.6. Governing Law

1. These terms are governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of England and Wales. Any disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of its courts.

5. Privacy Policy

5.1. Data Collection

1. We collect:
 - a. IP addresses for anonymised analytics

- b. Optional email addresses for newsletters (with explicit consent)

5.2. Use of Data

1. Data is used only for:
 - a. Website performance analytics
 - b. Newsletter distribution (opt-in only)

5.3. Data Storage & Security

1. We implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect data. Data is stored securely and never sold or shared with third parties.

5.4. Your Rights

1. In accordance with the **UK GDPR**, you have the right to:
 - a. Access your personal data
 - b. Request correction or deletion
 - c. Withdraw consent at any time
 - d. Lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

5.5. Cookies

1. We use only essential cookies and anonymised analytics cookies. Cookie preferences are captured upon first visit via a compliant banner.

6. Corrections and Retractions Policy

6.1. Corrections

1. **Minor errors** (e.g., typos) will be corrected with a timestamped note.
2. **Material errors** (e.g., factual or legal inaccuracies) will be corrected with a clear editor's note.

6.2. Retractions

1. Retractions will be considered in cases where a published piece is found to be fundamentally flawed, based on misinformation, or in breach of ethical or legal standards.
2. Retracted content will remain publicly accessible, accompanied by a prominent retraction notice for transparency.

6.3. Process

1. Pre-publication:

- a. Authors may request the withdrawal of a piece before publication by contacting the editorial board in writing. Such requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The editorial board also reserves the right to revise, postpone, or reject any submissions prior to publication.

2. Post-publication:

- a. Authors who wish to request corrections, retractions, or removal of a published piece must contact the editorial board in writing. All requests will be reviewed and considered in accordance with the publication's editorial standards.

7. Contributor Guidelines

7.1. Eligibility

1. We welcome contributions from individuals of all backgrounds.
2. Given the legal focus of our publication, we prioritise submissions that demonstrate a high standard of legal and technical accuracy.
3. While we particularly encourage contributions from those with legal training or professional experience, we equally consider work from non-legal contributors who display a strong grasp of legal concepts and sound analytical reasoning, which support the mission statement of the publication.

7.2. Submission Requirements

1. Must be original, previously unpublished work.
2. Legal reasoning should be clear and well-supported with authoritative and transparent sources.
3. Word count: Up to 1,000 words for opinion articles, case summaries and interview reports (though a greater word count may be considered upon an application supported with evidence) and 500 for a 'correcting the narrative' article.
4. Citation Style: Harvard or OSCOLA.

7.3. Review Process

1. Submissions are acknowledged within 5 days and reviewed within 2–3 weeks.
2. Authors may be asked to revise their work before acceptance.

7.4. Style

1. Use plain English with legal precision.
2. Avoid legal jargon, bias, or ideological rhetoric.

7.5. Inquiry Inbox

1. For any inquiries relating to contribution, the following email address is available for sending in those inquiries: veritasvincit.lp@gmail.com.

8. Ethical Publishing Policy

8.1. Integrity

1. Contributors must declare conflicts of interest.
2. Plagiarism will result in immediate rejection and possible blacklisting.

- a. Plagiarism for the purposes of this Editorial Policy is defined as the use of another person's work, ideas, expressions, or intellectual output (published or unpublished) without proper acknowledgment or attribution, presenting it as one's own. This includes the use of AI and other generative tools.

8.2. Objectivity

1. We maintain independence from political or commercial influence and as a publication do not support any racial, political or ideological stance.
2. The work of our published authors are not representative of the views of the Veritas Vincit Legal Publication or the editorial team. The views demonstrated by the authors are solely their own.
3. All content is reviewed for fairness, balance, and transparency.

8.3. Respect for Rights

1. No content shall violate the dignity, rights, or reputations of individuals.
2. Content must not promote or condone discrimination or hatred against any protected group, per the Equality Act 2010.
3. While the editors at Veritas Vincit have every respect for the author's freedom of expression, as vested in the Human Rights Act 1998 (UK), the European Convention on Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other international treaties, this right will be balanced against the rights and freedoms of others, and subjected to the limitations listed within article 10(2) of the ECHR.
4. Any submitted work that may be reasonably considered to be in violation of this clause will not be published. Such decisions will not be subject to appeals.

8.4. Opinion Content

1. Opinion pieces are allowed if they meet editorial and ethical standards, and respect the IMPRESS Standards Code.

9. Submission Process

9.1. The Procedure

1. All authors who wish to have their work considered for publication will need to complete the 'Article Proposal' form, which can be found on the Veritas Vincit Legal Publication website.
2. Following acceptance of the proposal by the editorial team, the author will be required to sign a contract outlining the legal rights and responsibilities of the author and the publisher.
3. The author will be required to submit a first draft of the article in full, with sources cited, for editing, fact checking and verification of sources.
4. Once the article has been adequately edited and verified for accuracy, the article will be scheduled for publishing and the author will be informed.

9.2. Turnaround Time

1. Decisions are typically made within 2-3 weeks of submission.

9.3 Post-Acceptance

1. Accepted pieces undergo copyediting for accuracy, clarity, and readability.

9.4 Author Rights

1. Authors retain copyright and grant the publication an **exclusive license to publish**.

10. Right to Modify Editorial Policy

1. Veritas Vincit Legal Publication reserves the right to change, edit or modify this editorial policy at any given moment in time.

11. Compliance with Impress Standards Code

1. The Veritas Vincit Legal Publication seeks to remain compliant with the Impress Standards Code, which will govern the regulation of this publication.

12. Complaints Policy

12.1 Grounds for Complaint

1. Complaints may relate to, but are not limited to:
 - a. Inaccurate, misleading, or distorted content
 - b. Breach of privacy
 - c. Discrimination or hate speech
 - d. Failure to distinguish between fact, conjecture, and opinion
 - e. Conflicts of interest

12.2 How to Submit a Complaint

1. Complaints must:
 - a. Be submitted in writing (by email)
 - b. Include the name and contact details of the complainant
 - c. Identify the specific article or content in question (with date and link if applicable)
 - d. Clearly state the nature of the complaint.

Send your complaint to:

- veritasvincit.lp@gmail.com

12.3 Timeframe for Submission

1. Complaints must be made within **30 calendar days** of the date of publication or the date on which the complainant became aware of the material.

12.4 Our Complaints Process

1. **Acknowledgement** - We will acknowledge all complaints within 5 working days.

2. **Investigation-** The complaint will be reviewed by the editorial team. If necessary, we will consult with the author and other relevant parties.
3. **Response** -A formal response will be issued within 21 calendar days. This may include:
 - A correction or clarification
 - A right of reply
 - A retraction (with appropriate note)
 - A reasoned rejection of the complaint