

How to publish in an international journal like **HIGHER EDUCATION**

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The Policy of HIGHER EDUCATION (1)

- HIGHER EDUCATION is an international journal in the multidisciplinary field of higher education research. Its policy is to give priority to papers that are relevant to the international higher education research and policy community.



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The Policy of HIGHER EDUCATION (2)

- “It publishes articles that represent significant advances --conceptually, theoretically or methodologically--in the international higher education literature on the topic concerned. It welcomes both empirical studies on higher education which may involve cross-national, cross-sectoral, or relatively large data-sets (e.g. draw on data from several institutions or data over an extended time-span), and smaller-scale research and scholarly papers that provide considerable insights and advancements in our understanding of higher education.”



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The Process of Review

- Electronic Manager (EM)

- Double-blinded

- The phases of the process:**

1) Submission => 2) E-i-C: decision => 70-80% assigned to 3) coordinating editors, who decide to reject or to send the submission to review process; 4) reviewers' reports => 5) coordinating editors; who reject or ask for revisions => 6) authors revise => coordinating editors: decision (15-17% rate of acceptance).



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What are interesting contributions in an international journal:

- Analyses of interesting countries => lack of knowledge: demand for historical / empirical articles
- Relating local/national topics with international themes (like NPM, BP, Globalization)
- Opening new perspectives to international topics / theoretical perspectives
- Suggesting a new conceptualization
- Fits in the policy of the journal



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Elements of a good article:

- Makes sense ...
- a contribution to the field of HE research
- relates the topic to the existing HE literature
- includes (at least some) theoretical discussion
- methodological clarity & relevance to the topic
- contextualization of a (national case) study



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Most Common Problems

- ❏ Does not fit with the policy of the journal
- ❏ Does not discuss with HE research
- ❏ Research topic and method chosen do not support each other
- ❏ No research questions defined/ no rationale for the paper discussed
- ❏ No contextualisation of the study
- ❏ Language problems



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What to do when a paper is criticized / rejected?

- ❏ CRY A WEEK?
- ❏ SEEK ANOTHER JOB?
- ❏ Think that if a reviewer misunderstands, maybe readers will also misunderstand ...
- ❏ Reflect on the comments => Improve / rewrite the paper



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