Journal of Critical Infrastructure Policy

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The *Journal of Critical Infrastructure Policy* (JCIP) is committed to publishing and disseminating high-quality content. JCIP editorial operations are based on ethical standards that are both transparent and fair. We recognize that the scholarly publishing ecosystem is complex and includes editors, authors, reviewers, and the publisher. Our expectation is that all involved have a shared understanding and acceptance of our ethics and malpractice standards.

# Aims and Scope

The *Journal of Critical Infrastructure Policy* (JCIP) is a peer-reviewed journal whose mission is to accelerate the improvement of critical infrastructure and community resilience. Our aspiration is to impact the development of policy and targeted strategies that – by scope and scale – are capable of addressing the serious challenges facing critical infrastructures on which society depends.

JCIP provides a platform for researchers, policymakers, and a range of professional groups and practitioners. We recognize that building critical infrastructure and community resiliency requires cross-disciplinary and scientifically valid approaches. Published articles seek to share innovative ideas, research, conceptual advances, strategic approaches, and practical applications in areas of interest to the Journal.

In order to efficiently disseminate JCIP to multiple constituencies — academic researchers, infrastructure professionals, policymakers, public administrators, emergency managers, infrastructure owners-operators, and others -- JCIP is configured as both a digital and print open access publication.

JCIP is published by the Policy Studies Organization (PSO) in Washington DC. PSO advances policy analysis and policy development in multiple fields through the publication of peer-reviewed journals, books, and book series. It was founded as an outgrowth of the American Political Science Association (APSA) in 1972 and produces over 20 national and international policy journals. JCIP is based at Texas State University.​

JCIP is interested in addressing the security and resiliency threats faced by US critical infrastructure (CI) sectors and the corresponding resiliency challenges of jurisdictions that rely on these infrastructures. In addition to cross-sector functions, these CI sectors include Energy and Power, Information and Cyber Technology, Transportation Systems, Communications, Healthcare, and Public Health, Financial Services, Critical Manufacturing, Emergency Services, Food and Agriculture, Water and Wastewater Systems, Nuclear Reactors, Chemical Facilities, Dams, Government Facilities, Commercial Facilities, and the Defense Industrial Base. Each sector is considered so vital that its incapacitation would have a debilitating effect on the country’s security, economic viability, public health, and safety or other adverse outcomes.

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Befitting its scope, JCIP is methodologically pluralistic. We encourage thought-provoking articles presented in accessible language. Based on JCIP’s broad readership, contributors should consider the technical content included in submissions. Authors should assume that many readers in their primary discipline will read their article. However, there will also be many readers requiring further explanation in order to grasp an article’s findings. This can also facilitate the ability to apply the article’s content in other disciplinary and professional settings.

# Ownership and Management

As noted above, JCIP is published by the Policy Studies Organization (PSO) in Washington DC. PSO advances policy analysis and policy development in multiple fields through the publication of peer-reviewed journals, books, and book series. It was founded as an outgrowth of the American Political Science Association (APSA) in 1972 and produces over 20 national and international policy journals. JCIP’s academic home is Texas State University.​

# Business Model

Fees are not charged for the Journal. The Policy Studies Organization (PSO) is a not-for-profit organization and does not charge membership fees.

All submissions and article publications are free of charge. No fees are charged by the Journal, including for submission, article review, processing, and publication.

# Publishing Schedule

The *Journal of Critical Infrastructure Policy* is committed to publishing bi-annually, the first being a Fall/Winter Issue, followed by a Spring/Summer Issue. Our publishing schedule is listed below:

Fall/Winter Edition: Published in February

Spring/Summer Edition: Published in August

# Journal Copyright and Licensing

The Journal of Critical Infrastructure Policy (JCIP) is an open-access journal. This allows for immediate free access to the work and permits any user to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose. This is under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-No-Derivatives 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0)

# Authorship

Authorship is limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the article. Individuals who have made significant contributions should be listed as co-authors. Others who have participated in certain substantive aspects of the research project should be acknowledged or listed as contributors. The corresponding author should ensure that all appropriate co-authors and no inappropriate co-authors are included in the paper and that all co-authors have seen and approved the final version of the paper and have agreed to its submission for publication.

## Author Copyright Policy

You retain ownership of the copyright to your Article, but grant PSO the non-exclusive right to publish it in PSO’s Journal of Critical Infrastructure Policy (JCIP) - [www.jcip1.org](http://www.jcip1.org) - as well as in any other publication that may be directly derived from this journal, such as print and digital books owned and published by PSO.

## Conflicts of Interest

All authors should disclose in their manuscript any financial or other substantive conflicts of interest that might be construed to influence the results or interpretation of their manuscript. All sources of financial support for the project should be disclosed. Examples of potential conflicts of interest which should be disclosed include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. Potential conflicts of interest should be disclosed to the Editor-in-Chief at the earliest stage possible.

## Citations

In general, articles should have no more than 40 references carefully selected by the author(s). The individual reference format should follow the style guide of the Chicago Manual of Style:

<http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-2.html>

The inclusion of a hyperlink to the web-based article is encouraged if that is possible for a reference and practice for the author.

## Originality, Plagiarism, and Acknowledgement of Sources

Authors will submit original works and will appropriately cite or quote the work and words of others. Publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the reported work should also be cited.

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​Authors of research reports should present an accurate account of the work performed as well as an objective discussion of research significance. Underlying data should be represented accurately in the article. In any data analytic research, the article should contain sufficient detail and references to permit others to replicate the research. Fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements constitute unethical behavior and are unacceptable.

## Errors in Published Works

If an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in their published work, the author is obligated to notify the Editor-in-Chief, Richard Krieg (rmkrieg@gmail.com) as soon as possible. From that point, the author and the editorial board will work together to either correct or retract the published work in question (See the Corrections and Retractions section below).

# Responsibility of the Reviewers

Reviewers should strive to be objective in their assessments. Reviewers’ comments should be clearly expressed and supported by data or arguments. Personal criticism of the author(s) is not appropriate.

​Manuscripts for review must be considered confidential documents. Information concerning the manuscripts should not be discussed with others without the approval of the Editor-in-Chief. Reviewers will not use unpublished information disclosed in a submitted manuscript for their research purposes without the author(s)’ explicit written consent. Reviewers will recuse themselves from reviewing manuscripts in which they have conflicts of interest relating to the reviewed article’s subject matter. Based on the journal’s double-blind peer review process, reviewers will notify the Editor-in-Chief at the earliest point where they have conflicts of interest resulting from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships/connections with any of the authors, companies, or institutions connected to the articles.

# Peer Review Process

1. Initial screening is performed to determine if the article is suitable for JCIP and meets minimal submission requirements. The editor-in-chief (EIC) may involve an associate editor or editorial board member.
2. An article may be rejected or returned to the author with comments e.g., requirements to re-submit.
3. JCIP conducts double-blind, and on occasion, single-blind peer reviews.​ For eligible manuscripts, two peer reviewers are typically identified, on occasion with an associate editor or editorial board member involvement. Peer reviewers are sought who are experts in the relevant discipline or sub-discipline. Each makes an individual determination regarding publication and provides general and specific comments.
4. Based on submission guidelines, manuscripts are submitted with a separate cover page containing author identification and institutional affiliation - manuscripts are submitted to potential peer reviewers absent author-specific information.
5. Peer reviewers submit their reviews to the editor-in-chief who assesses the reviews.
6. The EIC transfers their reviews to the corresponding author anonymously after the second peer review has been received. The EIC uses a consolidated peer review format for author ease of use.

# Responsibility of the Editor-in-Chief

The Editor-in-Chief’s key responsibility is to determine which submissions to the journal will be published. Decisions are made based on a manuscript’s perceived merit. The Editor-in-Chief will also oversee any discussion related to academic debate, appeals, corrections, and retractions, as explained in the following sections. Furthermore, the Editor-in-Chief will continuously work to create a fully inclusive environment for authors, readers, and reviewers alike.

# Academic Debate

The Journal of Critical Infrastructure Policy encourages academic debate over the articles published. Constructive comments, complaints, and criticisms should be directed to the Editor-in-Chief, Richard Krieg (rmkrieg@gmail.com), as well as the author(s) of the article in question. Upon receipt of such comments, the journal will follow the COPE “Handling of post-publication critiques” Flowchart, [linked here](https://publicationethics.org/resources/flowcharts/handling-post-publication-critiques). If corrections or retractions are necessary, the Journal will follow our guidelines, as explained in the “Corrections and Retractions” section.

# Appeals

Authors looking to appeal decisions made by the editorial board and/or peer reviewers should contact the Editor-in-Chief, Richard Krieg (rmkrieg@gmail.com). To maintain the double-blind peer review process, all communication between the Author and Reviewer will be mediated by the Editor-in-Chief. Any editorial decisions concerning the matter are final.

# Corrections and Retractions

## Corrections

Readers are encouraged to contact the Editor-in-Chief, Richard Krieg (rmkrieg@gmail.com) should they find any errors within any article published under JCIP. In the event of an error, the Editor will work with the author(s) and the publisher to correct the identified error. If the identified error is found to invalidate the article in question, editors will consider a retraction of the article.

Any corrections made to an article will be recorded, and a log of corrections will be made readily available to readers. Articles will be updated on every applicable part of the website as soon as corrections have been approved, as well as an update to the journal's print version.

## Retractions

The journal is committed to maintaining the highest level of integrity in the articles published. Therefore, articles with severe errors and/or unreliable findings may be eligible for retractions. Such scenarios for retraction include:

* Plagiarism
* Unauthorized data usage
* Copyright infringement
* Failure to disclose conflicts of interest
* Major miscalculations
* Data fabrication
* Falsification of Materials
* Other serious matters, as deemed by the Editorial Board

Upon notice of a possible retraction, the journal will follow the guidance of the COPE Retraction Guidelines, [linked here](https://publicationethics.org/retraction-guidelines).

In the event of a retraction, the Journal will promptly identify the retracted article on the JCIP website ([www.jcip1.org](http://www.jcip1.org)). In this identification, the Journal will include a date of retraction, the issuer of the retraction, and detailed reasoning for the retraction.

# Inclusivity and Impartiality

The Journal is dedicated to creating a completely inclusive space for critical infrastructure discussions. This includes cultivating a welcoming environment for authors, reviewers, and readers alike. To create such an environment, discriminatory and bias-related language will not be tolerated. This includes language concerning any party’s race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, and political beliefs.

JCIP’s double-blind peer review process helps to alleviate concerns of discrimination or favor on the part of the reviewer. The Editor-in-chief will choose the best reviewer to impartially review the article in question. Care will be taken in ensuring that the reviewer has no conflict of interest in the article’s subject matter and that any judgment is impartial. The Editor-in-chief will also work to eliminate any identifiable information from the article that would result in a partial review.

# Bias-Free Language

The Editorial Board will ensure that all articles use appropriate terminology and avoid bias-related language, to create a welcoming environment for any reader. This includes, but is not limited to, the language concerning race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, and political beliefs. Wherever possible, Authors shall avoid using any derogatory descriptions or offensive language, unless the descriptions are integral to the article in question (e.g. direct quotes).

Any concerns about Inclusivity, Bias, and/or Discrimination should be directed to the Editor-in-Chief, Richard Krieg (rmkrieg@gmail.com).

# Borders and Territories

Since critical infrastructure is a topic that may intertwine with geopolitics; border disputes and ongoing regional disputes may play a factor in published articles. To minimize unnecessary controversy, the Editor-in-chief may have a discussion with the author(s) if references to a disputed territory are considered inappropriate. Ultimately, matters will be handled on a case-by-case basis, at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief.