



OÑATI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

—
INSTITUTO INTERNACIONAL
DE SOCIOLOGÍA JURÍDICA DE OÑATI

ABOUT “SORTUZ”

Focus and Scope

Sortuz: Oñati Journal of Emergent Socio-Legal Studies (<http://opo.iisj.net/index.php/sortuz/index>) is an Open Access journal of the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law (IISL), established by the Research Committee of Sociology of Law (RCSL) of the International Sociological Association (ISA), and the government of the Basque Country through the University of the Basque Country (UPV).

The IISL has become a major academic space not only for scholars specialized in relations between law and society, but also for researchers, scholars and students from other disciplines such as Political Science, Anthropology, History and Psychology, who are interested in the legal side of their specific traditions. Scholars, both young and consolidated, across countries and disciplines find in Oñati a privileged space to work in their research interests.

This journal seeks to create a virtual, but real space, that strengthens the emerging community around the relations between law and society through the publication of quality research. Indeed, the community of emergent scholars that year by year meet, discuss and grow in IISL facilities, especially on the IISL's International Master's Programme, may find in this journal an additional chance to publish their first research articles.

Sortuz, which means "creation" in euskera, seeks to promote quality, original and emergent socio-legal research among different spaces of knowledge production through its four sections:

- Articles: for non-published work in socio-legal research, including working papers, elaborated drafts, and tesinas. Submissions are done through this website, and articles can be written in any of the IISL official languages, English, Spanish, Euskera, French, plus Portuguese. This is the central axis of *Sortuz*, which aims to be a platform for young, emergent or junior scholars with little previous experience in publishing to become acquainted with the publishing schemes and, simultaneously, to hone their skills in writing academic articles, without relinquishing the level of demand for quality and proper formal requirements. Well-established, senior scholars are also always welcome to submit their articles.

- Translations: articles with an established relevance in the socio-legal field can be considered for translation. This section is meant to increase the communication among different knowledge production spheres. Articles in this section are selected by the Editors, with the advice of the Editorial Board. However, nominations can be send to: sortuz@iisj.es



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- Book reviews. Especially welcome are reviews of documents that have recently become part of the [IISL's Library](#) Catalogue. The recommended length for book reviews is between 2,000 and 3,000 words. These submissions are not sent out to peer review; instead, they are screened by the permanent editorial team, who may give comments to the author.

- Interviews. To socio-legal scholars from all over the world.

As an effort to collaborate to the knowledge dissemination across different production spheres, the Translations section will present translations of already relevant socio-legal articles.

The articles are selected by the Editors of the Journal; however, suggestions from our readers are most welcome.

Review policy

Original articles go through an editorial pre-review and double blind peer review. Book reviews and translations go through an editorial review.

Reviewers are asked to comment on the following aspects:

1. Is the paper well organised and structured, does the argument flow well?
2. Are sources adequately and properly cited, and are the language and expression clear, adequate and appropriate?
3. Is the paper of sufficient interest and originality to be published in the Series?
4. Do you have suggestions for revision of the paper:
 - o (i) parts which could be shortened or deleted,
 - o (ii) arguments or points that need clarification, expansion or development,
 - o (iii) important and relevant views or work which the author should take into account, or
 - o (iv) for reorganisation of the paper?
5. Please state whether your suggestions are
 - o (i) advice to the author and the paper could be published without checking the revised version
 - o (ii) you have suggested specific changes which must be made but a non-specialist could check before publication that the changes have been made;
 - o (iii) the paper should not be published unless the revised version is approved by you (or if you are not able or willing to read a revised version, please if possible suggest someone who could); or
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Open Access Policy

Sortuz: Oñati Journal of Emergent Socio-Legal Studies is a Diamond Open Access publication and provides immediate open access to all its content on the principle that

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making research freely available to the public supports a greater global exchange of knowledge.

Publication Charges

In line with our open policy, *Sortuz* does not have article processing charges or submission charges of any kind.

Archiving and indexing services

This journal utilizes the PKP Preservation Network (PKP PN) plugin, developed by PKP to digitally preserve OJS journals. The PKP PN ensures that journals that are not part of any other digital preservation service (such as CLOCKSS or Portico) can be preserved for long-term access.

Sortuz is included in the following Abstracting and Indexing services:

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Ethical issues to consider

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- Originality and plagiarism: Authors must ensure that their work is original and entirely written by them. Where the works or words of others or of their own published writing have been used, the sources must be clearly cited or quoted, following the [style guidelines](#) recommended by *Sortuz*, or appropriately acknowledged, and appropriate permission must be obtained where necessary.

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If elements of a work have been previously published, including publication in *Sortuz*, the authors are required to acknowledge the earlier work, giving details of each publication, and to indicate how the work submitted to *Sortuz* differs and builds upon the research and conclusions contained in the previous work. Therefore, the authors'



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submission should not cite their own work literally, and in addition to this, it should also be significantly different from these previously published works.

- Research Ethics: Authors should ensure that research presented in their manuscripts has been conducted in accordance with ethical guidelines widely accepted in socio-legal scholarship, provided by either their home institutions or scientific organizations of reference. *Sortuz* and the IISL endorse SLISA's Principles of Ethical Research Practice and recommend following these principles (<https://www.slsa.ac.uk/images/slsadownloads/ethicalstatement/slsa%20ethics%20statement%20final%5b1%5d.pdf>). In case of conflict or in order to establish the ethical nature of the research reflected in any particular work, *Sortuz* may request the author(s) to ensure and express that they have followed these or other relevant ethic codes to conduct their research, and include a general disclaimer on behalf of the IISL.
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- Presentation of research: Research methods should be described clearly and unambiguously so that findings can be confirmed by others.
- Disclosure and conflicts of interest: Any real or apparent conflicting or competing interest must be clearly stated in the paper, including sources of funding or other support for the research.
- Significant errors in published works: If an author subsequently discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in his/her own published work, it is the author's obligation to [contact the Journal](#) to identify and correct the error or inaccuracy, and cooperate with the Journal to retract or correct the paper.
- Authorship of the paper must be accurately represented, so that all individuals that participated in the actual authorship of the work, and only those persons, are properly credited as authors, and that all who participated have given consent for publication and representation as authors.

Submissions from authors who have been published by the journal within the previous natural year will not be considered, unless the returning author is a co-author of a paper for which they are not the first author.

Reviewers must:

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- Immediately [alert the Journal](#) of any real or potential competing interest that could affect the impartiality of their reviewing and decline to review where appropriate.
- Conduct themselves fairly and impartially.



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- Write their reviews in a courteous manner, avoiding the use of inappropriate or potentially offensive language, both in the review and in the confidential comments to the editor(s) that they may make.
- *Sortuz* encourages use of gender-neutral language, which has been proposed to reduce both discrimination and gender stereotyping. When in doubt, reviewers are invited to refer to the editor.

Issue Editors must:

- Maintain and promote consistent ethical policies for their journal issue.
- Oversee and act to enforce those policies as needed in a fair and consistent manner.
- Exercise the highest standards of personal integrity in their work as editor of the journal, recognising and planning for instances where they could have a competing interest or the appearance of a competing interest.

Submission Guidelines

Sortuz: Oñati Journal of Emergent Socio-Legal Studies holds a permanent call for papers.

Authors interested are welcome to submit their unpublished articles through this website. Each author must guarantee that his/her article is also not submitted simultaneously for publication in another journal or book.

Articles should be no longer than 8,000 words, and can be written in any of the official languages of the Oñati IISL (English, French, Spanish, Basque), or in Portuguese. However, the submission must also include an abstract of 150 words in English and 5 keywords. In addition, no reference should be made that unveils the identity of the author through the peer-review process. We recommend structuring the articles in headings and subheadings marked with numbers, separated by full stops (i.e. 1.; 1.2.; 1.2.1.), with no more than three numbers.

Articles should use the Author-Date system of citation, and include a full Bibliography. [Please use the citation style of the *International Review of Sociology*](#). Where an item is available electronically (not in a closed database) please supply the URL link. We do not prescribe particular spelling conventions, but ask you to choose one you consider appropriate and follow it consistently.

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