

openGlobalRights Submission Guidelines

(Last updated, February 24, 2015)

openGlobalRights (oGR) is funded by the Ford Foundation, University of Minnesota, and University of Ottawa. We have no particular ideological orientation, and welcome submissions from anyone interested or active in human rights struggles and/or organizations worldwide. Our goal is to publish short articles on human rights strategies, dilemmas, and issues.

Please keep your submission to 700-1000 words. Since we often translate, please keep your sentences short and clear. Unless otherwise specified, we prefer articles that dialogue, implicitly or explicitly, with previously published oGR material. You can either respond to one of our ongoing debates, or pitch your article for our “openPage,” which covers all manner of strategic issues. Please start by sending us a preliminary paragraph describing your article, so that we can ensure that it fits our mandate.

Submission Languages

Our main operating language is English, but we accept submissions in any other language. It helps, however, if authors can correspond with us, and read our edits, in English. If you submit in a language we can't read, we will find someone to describe the piece to us, so that we can decide whether it fits our mission. If it does fit, we'll either edit an English-translated version and then back-translate, or work directly in your submission language, when possible.

Writing Guidelines

oGR content is aimed at a general and global audience.

Please **use a minimum of technical, academic or legal jargon**; write simply and directly; use short sentences, whenever possible; and consider the needs of readers and translators working in other languages. Please use the **active voice** whenever possible.

Please provide background information for key political events, personalities, and so forth. Don't assume readers know very much about your country or topic.

Please use embedded hyperlinks to sources, data, events, and issues. Whenever possible, link to open sources available in English, or another widely spoken international language. **We cannot publish pieces with footnotes or endnotes.**

If possible, please refer to previous oGR content in your article. We think of our webpage as an extended international discussion. Please link the previous piece's English-language URL, which will then have links to the relevant translations.

All submissions must include:

1. A short, but intriguing, suggested title;

2. A 20-30 word summary, designed to draw readers in;
3. A short author biography. Please include **only** your most important titles and affiliations, country of residence, and hyperlink to your organization, personal website, or recent published works, if any.

The Submission and Editing Process

Please submit your piece to the editor who initially solicited your participation or to:
openglobalrights@opendemocracy.net

The editor will give your piece a quick read to see if it fits our mission. If yes, we'll let you know, and begin the editing process.

Within a few weeks (depending on how timely the piece is), we'll return an edited version with comments, requests, and suggestions.

Please return the next draft to us as quickly as possible with changes tracked. We may send another version back, as we take the writing and editing process very seriously. Please bear with us! The more time we spend on editing, the broader the audience will likely be.

We'll schedule publication as soon as possible, once editing is complete. We typically publish three or four articles per week, and vary the topics and countries of author origin.

Article Dissemination

When your piece is published, we'll notify you and ask you to disseminate through your own networks and social media. We'll do the same through our multi-lingual Facebook and Twitter channels as well as by email.

Cross Publishing

oGR articles are published under a Creative Commons license. Once your piece appears on our website, you are welcome to publish elsewhere, provided that the other venue provides a hyperlink back to us, and notes that "this piece was originally published on [date] in openGlobalRights." Please let us know about the cross publishing, so that we can track this for our funders.