

Guidelines for the contributing authors of the special issue of
Social Sciences by MDPI on

Synergies in Intercultural Communication: Languages, Professions and Heritages

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This is a specific guideline for our contributors to draft your papers for this special issue.

There are three sections in this guideline: 1. The guideline on the text style; 2. Guideline for the manuscript components in this issue; and 3. The time schedule for this issue.

1. Guidelines on the text style, format and references in this issue

- A minimum word count of **4,000** words should be provided for your article excluding Front matter and Back matter.
- Research manuscripts should comprise (more details are in the weblink provided below):
 - **Front matter:** Title, Author list, Affiliations, Abstract (200 words maximum), Keywords (3-10 keywords).
 - **Research manuscript sections:** Introduction, Theoretical Framework and Literature Review, Research Questions, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions.
 - **Back matter:** Supplementary Materials (optional), Author Contributions, Conflicts of Interest, References.
- The full information link for the publishing format is:
<https://www.mdpi.com/journal/socsci/instructions#preparation>. Authors are strongly recommended to follow the instructions given in the link provided here.
- Writing style:
 - Please write clearly and concisely, stating your objectives clearly and defining your terms. Your arguments should be substantiated with well reasoned supporting evidence.
 - In writing your paper, you are encouraged to review articles in the area you are addressing which have been previously published in the Journal, and where you feel appropriate, to reference them. This will enhance context, coherence, and continuity for readers.
 - For all manuscripts, gender-, race-, and region -inclusive language is mandatory; i.e. avoid using biased and controversial language expressions.
 - Ethics of Experimentation: submissions to the Journal are required to have followed the procedures in force in their countries which govern the ethics of work done with human subjects. If you have obtained any ethical approval from your workplace, please mention this in your article.
 - The Reference list should include the full title as recommended by the Chicago style guide.

2. Guidelines for the manuscript components of your article (more details are in the webpage link provided above)

Title Page. This should contain the article title, a running head not exceeding 50 characters (including spaces); author(s) names, full contact and affiliation details of the authors (including emails).

Abstract: The abstract should be a total of about 200 words maximum. The abstract should be a single paragraph and should follow the style of structured abstracts, but without headings: 1) Background: Place the question addressed in a broad context and highlight the purpose of the study; 2) Methods: Describe briefly the main methods or treatments applied. Include any relevant preregistration numbers, and species and strains of any animals used. 3) Results: Summarize the article's main findings; and 4) Conclusion: Indicate the main conclusions or interpretations. The abstract should be an objective representation of the article: it must not contain results which are not presented and substantiated in the main text and should not exaggerate the main conclusions.

Keywords: Three to ten pertinent keywords need to be added after the abstract. We recommend that the keywords are specific to the article, yet reasonably common within the subject discipline.

Introduction: The introduction should briefly place the study in a broad context and highlight why it is important. It should define the purpose of the work and its significance, including specific hypotheses being tested.

Literature review: The current state of the research field should be reviewed carefully and key publications cited. Please highlight controversial and diverging hypotheses when necessary. Finally, briefly mention the main aim and research questions of the work and highlight the main conclusions. Keep the introduction comprehensible to scientists working outside the topic of the paper.

Materials and Methods: They should be described with sufficient detail to allow others to replicate and build on published results. New methods and protocols should be described in detail while well-established methods can be briefly described and appropriately cited. Give the name and version of any software used and make clear whether computer code used is available. Include any pre-registration codes.

Results: Provide a concise and precise description of the experimental results, their interpretation as well as the experimental conclusions that can be drawn.

Discussion: Authors should discuss the results and how they can be interpreted in perspective of previous studies and of the working hypotheses. The findings and their implications should be discussed in the broadest context possible and limitations of the work highlighted. Future research directions may also be mentioned. This section may be combined with Results.

Conclusions: State the basic conclusions and implications of the study. State, clearly and usefully, if there are implications for future study of the topic.

3. The time schedule for your submission and revision

We aim to send the complete final version by 10- Sept 2023 in order to send the final draft of the collection to the external reviewers. The following is a plan to achieve this. This is a tentative schedule subject to some modification if needed.

Date	Task	Note
20-4-2023	A draft of the full paper submitting to the designated conference weblink	
20-5-2023	SI editors' initial feedback to authors after the selection of the papers which are provisionally accepted	
20-7-2023	A revised draft of the full paper submitting to the designated conference weblink	
31-8-2023	Selected final full paper submission to the journal weblink	
31-10-2023	Peer reviews arranged by the journal and feedback to authors	
31-12-2023	Completion of the collection	