**Issues - Instructions for Guest Editors**

Special issues of *Contemporary Islam: Dynamics of Muslim Life* (COIS) may be based on a conference, workshop, or other event, where the aim of the special issue is to publish extended versions of selected papers presented at that event. Alternatively, where the aim is to give a picture of recent developments in a particular area selected experts may suggest a special issue on a focused topic. Also we accept special issue proposals based on a number of related events or a special issues based primarily on an event with additional papers from other sources, including papers submitted in response to an open call for contributions. Production of special issues is only possible with the agreement of the founding editor, Professor Gabriele Marranci, and editor, Professor Daniel Varisco.

**Proposals**

Proposals for special issues of COIS should be sent by email to either Gabriele Marranci or Daniel Varisco. A proposal does not need to be long or presented in a very polished way, but it should include the following information:

1. Information about the topic or event in question and why this is a suitable basis for a special issue of COIS.
2. Name and contact information of the guest editor(s).
Planned schedule with dates for submission of papers, notification of acceptance/rejection, submission of final versions, and when the final manuscript will be ready for printing. Please be realistic, while taking into account the importance of timely publication. 

1 Approximate number of papers and number of pages overall.

2 Information to justify an expectation that there will be sufficient high-quality papers to fill a special issue. For a special issue based on an event, this would normally be the final programme of the event in question with abstracts of accepted papers. For a special issue on a focused topic, this might include a list of authors who have tentatively agreed to contribute papers and a short (500 words) abstract.

A special issue will normally be around 50,000-60,000 words, containing perhaps 7-10 papers, and will occupy a single issue of COIS. More substantial issues may be considered but should be discussed with the editors. COIS sets no limit on the length of individual papers but the length of a paper must be justified by its contents; normally previously published paper were between 6,000 and 9000 words.

Once a proposal has been accepted

The content of special issues and management of the editorial process are the guest editor(s) responsibility. However the final decision of publishing the special issue remains solely with the editors and the publisher after they have read the reports of the peer-reviewers as well as evaluated the overall contributions.

COIS is strictly based on double-blind review procedure. Hence, the guest editor(s) are responsible for selecting not less then two peer-reviewers per paper and for asking the author to provide eventual changes to his or her paper based on the reviews. At this stage, the guest editor(s) may decide also to reject any paper which has not received a satisfactory report. Once the papers have been peer-reviewed and edited according to COIS standard and instructions, the special issue is ready to be submitted to the COIS editors, who will make the final decision regarding publication.
Completion

Once the entire process is complete, the guest editor(s) forwards the finished product by e-mail to the editors, Daniel Varisco or Gabriele Marranci.

The following is required: 1 Final versions of all the accepted contributions in and exclusively Word format.

2 In another file, named TOC, the title of the special issue, the tile of each paper in the order they should be published and finally the name and affiliation of the guest editor(s) as well as each single author.

3 In a single file, the referee reports for each accepted paper. Please supply dates of submission/revision/acceptance.

4 Number of rejected papers or other evidence that the selection process was taken seriously.

The editors will review all the document and the peer-review reports. If they deem necessary, they may select a third peer-reviewer for single papers or even for a report over the entire special guest edited issue. It is in the power of the COIS Founding editor and editor to decide, after reading the peer-reviewer reports, to reject a single paper or the entire submission of the special issue. Hence, before the special issue can enter the queue for production, the final approval of COIS editors is necessary and their decision will be announced to the guest editor(s). After the special issue has been formally accepted also by the publisher, the guest editor(s) will be told the expected publication date. For further information, please contact the editors, Daniel Varisco or Gabriele Marranci.
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