

## *Journal of Fair Trade*

**Action ≈ Learning ≈ Theory ≈ Justice**

### **Guidelines for Contributors**

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To write for the *Journal of Fair Trade* you do not have to be well known, but you must know a lot about the subject you're writing about. You need to prove to your readers that your article is backed by facts and primary sources with references/adequate graphs/drawings, etc. Your contribution must be original and not published elsewhere. You will be answerable if somebody challenges your work for plagiarism.

We particularly look to engage with contributors who can explain the thought process, learnings and actions of their subject matter in detail, so that the reader understands how to apply the innovation in a real situation. Articles should aim to describe realities and experiences that are replicable and scalable, as these are likely to be widely read, debated and taken forward by others. We fully welcome critique and reflection on lessons learned from the Fair Trade movement and how these lessons and the relevance of core concepts of Fair Trade apply in a period of Just Transition.

#### **Aims and scope**

The *Journal of Fair Trade* provides a much-needed independent space in which to discuss the ever-changing practical and theoretical approaches to making the world a more just place through business and trade. The term 'Fair Trade' includes certification systems and all efforts to ensure trade is fair for all. Unafraid to be outspoken, the goal of the Journal is to catalyse significant improvements in the way all types of trade deliver social and environmental justice.

The Journal and the Fair Trade Society publish independent academic work, briefings and articles. They promote new voices and experiences from cooperatives, producer organisations and practitioners, as well as Fair Trade businesses and corporations striving to be responsible global citizens. The founders of this Journal want to encompass the full range of interests and voices that need to be heard on these issues.

#### **Article types**

##### *Fair Trade Futures*

Editorial/conceptual/polemic/debate pieces of no more than 2,000 words in length. Written by one or more members of the *Journal of Fair Trade* Advisory/Editorial Boards only, with the exception of commissioned guest editorials.

### *Full length articles*

Full research pieces of minimum 3,000 and maximum 5,000 words in length. Longer articles may be agreed at the point at which they are commissioned or prior to submission. Shorter articles and essays (2,000 words) will also be considered, particularly those focusing on case studies.

### *Collective article sets*

A themed set of articles of minimum 3,000 and maximum 5,000 words in length (preferred length 3,000 words, maximum total set length 15,000 words) on a common topic or theme (e.g. 'Chocolate challenges'), to be edited and published as a set.

### *Review essays*

Descriptions and critiques of recently published books, with a maximum 2,000 words in length are welcome. Review essays should act as a springboard for thoughtful discussion and exploration of topics. Where not published in the Journal, review essays may be published on the Publications pages of the *Journal of Fair Trade* website.

*Note that, from time to time, the Journal commissions collections, essays and articles with set lengths and formats that may vary from those outlined above.*

### **Word count**

Note that all stated word counts are inclusive of abstract, references and any notes.

### **Language**

The working language for the *Journal of Fair Trade* is English. Where possible, contributors should provide an English translation of their article. Some support may be available for translation. Please apply for support prior to submission.

### **Style**

Articles must be rigorous, relevant and balanced. The Journal is aimed at a wide readership, so academic or specialist terminology must be explained or kept to a minimum. Local names and contextual information may be included, but we recommend an explanation within the text to make reading easier, or a short and educational glossary at the bottom of the article. Acronyms should be spelled out in full when used for the first time. Short notes and footnotes are welcomed as endnotes (numbered consecutively). Bibliographical and other references and citations must be presented accurately and in full. Please refer where possible to primary rather than to secondary sources, and give all direct quotations in single quotation marks.

### **Format**

Contributions should be word-processed in a standard, legible font using 1.5 spacing and an A4 format. Note that the manuscript file should be saved in the native format of the word processor used (Microsoft Word files are preferred). If a submission includes illustrations, photography or other images, these should be

submitted as separate, high-resolution image files. The contributor is responsible for securing formal permission for their reproduction.

### **Title/Abstract/Keywords**

The article title and an abstract of 150 words should accompany the submission. Keywords (up to 10) may be suggested.

### **Biographical information**

Separately or at the end of the article please supply a short biographical note (maximum 50 words). Please include details of any recent publications or publications relating to the article, together with current interests or website links.

### **Photographs/Artwork**

All photographs/artwork should be sequentially numbered as Figure 1, Figure 2, etc. and should be referenced as such when they are referred to within the text. Please supply a caption for each figure. All photographs/artwork should be supplied as individual source files rather than (or as well as) being embedded within the manuscript. Images should be supplied in one of the following file formats and at a minimum resolution of 300 dpi (for photographs) or 500 dpi (for line drawings): JPG, TIFF, EPS, PDF. Credit information should be supplied for each submitted photograph/artwork.

### **Tables**

All tables should be sequentially numbered as Table 1, Table 2, etc. and should be referenced as such when they are referred to within the text. Please supply a caption for each table. Tables should be supplied in editable text format rather than as image files.

### **Peer review**

All articles will be subject to single-blind peer review (the identities of the reviewers are concealed from the contributors). The *Journal of Fair Trade* invites content from both academics and practitioners, so reviewers will be asked to factor in who is writing the piece. You may be asked to undertake multiple rounds of revisions. Your article may be subject to rewriting and title changes may be proposed on the advice of the Editorial Board to suit your article and to make it attractive to readers.

### **Proofs**

The Editors reserve the right to copyedit all articles. A PDF proof of the typeset article will be issued for approval after acceptance. The purpose of this proof is to enable you to check the typesetting, editing, completeness and correctness of the article. Significant changes to the accepted article will be considered only at the Editor's discretion. Please ensure that all corrections are returned at once after a careful check of the proof, as further corrections may not be possible.

### **Post-publication corrections**

If errors are identified within a published article we will investigate and, if necessary, correct the article by means of an erratum or, if required, by retracting the article.

All authors will be informed and their consent obtained (where possible) before any changes are made.

### **Copyright**

The journal is published online and is open access (from January 2021). Author(s) will retain copyright and, by agreement delivered electronically, will grant the Journal of Fair Trade and its publisher (Pluto Journals) the rights to publish under a Creative Commons Attribution License agreement (CC-BY). A copy of this agreement is available via the Submissions page of the *Journal of Fair Trade* (<https://www.joft.org.uk/submissions/>).

### **Publishing ethics**

The journal adheres to the ethical standards endorsed by the Committee on Publication Ethics (<https://publicationethics.org/>). In particular:

- We expect all authors to state in their article if they have a conflict of interest that could potentially bias their opinions (e.g. funding or employment).
- All named authors on the articles should confirm that they have jointly participated in the research and writing of the article, and that no author has been omitted from the list of authors.
- We require authors to warrant that their articles are original, have not been previously published, and do not plagiarise or otherwise copy someone else's work without attribution. If the article is a translation, we are happy to consider this for publication, but the authors must inform the Editors on submission.
- We also require authors to warrant that their article does not defame, libel, or bring another person into disrepute, and neither does it contain anything illegal (e.g. copyright-infringing).

### **Page charges**

There are no submission or publication charges for authors publishing in this journal.

### **Submissions**

The Journal welcomes all submissions and enquiries. Please email the Editor-in-Chief and/or the Journal Manager as follows:

Editor-in-Chief:     paulinetiffen@joft.org.uk  
Journal Manager:    sallyjennings@joft.org.uk