

## MORAL PHILOSOPHY AND POLITICS

### Guidelines for guest-edited issues and symposia

June 2017

Moral Philosophy and Politics (MOPP) welcomes the initiative of academics of any level of seniority to volunteer to be the guest editor of a special issue (or of part of an issue, i.e. a symposium). Every paper of our guest-edited issues needs to satisfy the journal's standards of excellence. Our standard procedure for guest-edited issues is the following:

1. The potential guest editor/s (hereafter: GE) approach/es the journal with a suggested topic. This might, but need not, be at the occasion of a workshop, conference or the like that she is organising or has organised.
2. The editors determine whether the topic is in principle suitable for the journal.
3. If so, the journal asks the GE to prepare a call for papers. The deadline of the CFP should be at least six months from the date of first circulation. It will also be circulated by the journal. This step is crucial: we do not publish 'closed lists' of papers; the GE may not restrict who may submit to the proposed special issue, she may also not submit a paper herself. However, of course she is welcome to encourage particular people to submit.
4. MOPP does not commit to publishing any or all of the papers that get submitted for the special issue; the submissions undergo our normal double-blind refereeing, with the following two exceptions:
  - a. The GE may suggest a list of referees. The journal, however, does not commit to using any of referees suggested and is free to approach other referees, and so far has always done so.
  - b. The GE receives all reports (at least two per submission), anonymously, as well as the submission, also anonymously, and is expected to comment on them. She may, but need not, write a separate report on the paper herself. At the end, she supplies the editor with a recommendation: accept, reject, or reconsider after revision.
5. The editors of the journal have the final say on whether any particular paper will be included in the special issue. That is to say, any assessment of the GE may be overruled. We consider this a particularly important element of the integrity of the procedure as it means, among other things, that the GE does not incur a commitment to any particular author. Furthermore, the recommendation of the GE will not be communicated to the author.
6. Once the final versions of the papers are in, the GE is expected to write a concise introduction to the special issue.

Generally speaking, the submissions should be 6000-8000 words long. Special issues would typically contain about eight to twelve papers. If fewer papers pass the refereeing (but at least three), the journal would publish a symposium instead. Fewer than three papers would simply be published as normal papers, without guest editor.

Feel free to ask if you have any questions!