This View of Life Peer-Reviewed Journal Submission Guidelines and Process Overview

This document outlines the submission requirements and editorial process for *This View of Life* (TVOL), a peer-reviewed journal dedicated to publishing high-quality, interdisciplinary research dedicated to exploring the application of evolutionary science across all aspects of human life.. Our goal is to facilitate rigorous scholarly communication while remaining accessible to readers across academic disciplines and beyond.

Authors submitting to TVOL are expected to adhere to the formatting and structural guidelines provided herein to ensure a smooth editorial workflow. These guidelines cover all aspects of manuscript preparation, from file format and reference style to figure submission and supporting materials. Additionally, this document details the step-by-step editorial process, from initial submission to final publication, including expectations for reviewers and authors.

Whether you are a first-time contributor or a returning author, this guide serves as a comprehensive resource to help you prepare your manuscript in accordance with TVOL's standards and navigate the peer-review process effectively.

If you have any questions please contact tvol@prosocial.world.

Submission Guidelines

File Format: Manuscripts should be submitted in DOC, DOCX, or RTF format. Microsoft Word documents must not be locked or protected.

Length: Manuscript length is flexible, with no restrictions on word count, figures, or supporting information. However, concise presentation and discussion of findings are encouraged.

Font: Standard font and size should be used, excluding "Symbol." Insert symbols using the word processor's Symbol function or appropriate Unicode characters.

Layout and Spacing: Manuscript text should be double-spaced, avoiding multiple columns.

Page and Line Numbers: Include page numbers in the manuscript file.

Footnotes: Footnotes should be used sparingly.

Language: Manuscripts must be in English. Translations or abstracts in other languages may be submitted as supporting information.

Abbreviations: Define abbreviations upon first use, avoiding non-standard abbreviations unless repeated at least three times.

Reference Style: TVOL follows APA style for references. (See APA Style Reference Examples)

Equations: Use MathType or Equation Editor for equations. Avoid mixing equation tools or inserting single variables, symbols, or operators within running text.

Nomenclature, Units of Measurement, and Species Names: Use correct nomenclature. Utilize SI units; provide SI values in parentheses if using other units. Italicize species names (e.g., *Homo sapiens*). Use full genus and species on first mention, followed by abbreviated forms (e.g., *H. sapiens*).

Copyediting Manuscripts: Authors should consider professional editing before submission to meet language standards.

Manuscript Organization: Authors should organize their manuscripts as follows:

Beginning Section

- **Title Page**
    - List title, authors, and affiliations as first page of the manuscript.
    - Titles must be 250 characters or less. Titles should be specific, descriptive, concise, and comprehensible to readers outside the field.
    - Include Short Titles of 100 characters or less as page headers.
- **Abstract**
    - Must not exceed 300 characters.
    - Should describe the main objective(s) of the study and explain how the study was done.
    - Summarize the most important results and their significance.
    - Abstracts should not include citations or abbreviations.
- **Introduction**
    - Provide background that puts the manuscript into context and allows readers outside the field to understand the purpose and significance of the study.
    - Define the problem addressed and why it is important.

- Include a brief review of the key literature.
- Note any relevant controversies or disagreements in the field.

Middle Section (can be rearranged and renamed as necessary)

- Materials and Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusions (optional)

Ending Section

- Acknowledgments
  - Those who contributed to the work but do not meet authorship criteria should be listed in the Acknowledgments with a description of the contribution.
  - Authors are responsible for ensuring that anyone named in the Acknowledgments agrees to be named.
- References
  - Must be cited in [APA format](#).
- Supporting Information (if applicable)
  - Authors can submit essential supporting files and multimedia files along with their manuscripts.
  - All supporting information will be subject to peer review.
  - All file types can be submitted, but files must be smaller than 20 MB in size.
  - Authors may use almost any description as the item name for a supporting information file as long as it contains an "S" and number. For example, "S1 Appendix" and "S2 Appendix," "S1 Figure" and "S2 Figure," and so forth.
  - Supporting information files are published exactly as provided, and are not copyedited.

Other Elements

- Figures and Tables should be submitted as separate high-quality files (JPG, PNG, or TIFF).

Process Overview

1. Paper Submission

Authors submit an abstract or cover letter to the Managing Editor. If a full submission is invited, authors then submit their paper via email. At this time, authors may also include the names of five scholars in their field who would be appropriate reviewers.

2. Editorial Office Review

The Editorial Office ensures the submission complies with the journal's Submission Guidelines. Initial assessment focuses on adherence rather than quality.

3. Editor-in-Chief Assessment (EIC)

The EIC evaluates the paper based on its relevance, originality, and overall merit. Rejection may occur at this stage.

4. Reviewer Invitation

The handling editor invites suitable reviewers. Additional invitations are sent until the required number, typically three, is secured.

5. Reviewer Response

Potential reviewers assess their expertise, conflicts, and availability before accepting or declining the invitation. Suggestions for alternative reviewers may be provided if declining.

Reviewers are typically given 3-4 weeks to assess the paper using the following questions as guidelines:

- *What is the central focus of the research, and is it both relevant and captivating?*
- *Assess the novelty of the chosen topic; how does it contribute to the existing body of knowledge in comparison to other published works?*
- *Evaluate the overall quality of the paper's writing, ensuring clarity and readability.*
- *Examine whether the conclusions align with the provided evidence and arguments, effectively addressing the primary research question.*

- *If the author challenges the prevailing academic consensus, assess the strength of their argument. If lacking, identify what would be necessary to bolster their credibility.*
- *Scrutinize any tables or figures included in the paper, determining their contribution to comprehension. Are they genuinely informative, or do they seem extraneous?*
- *If you have any specific suggestions for remedying flaws, these are certainly welcome.*

6. Review Process

Reviewers dedicate time to thoroughly examine the paper, forming initial impressions and conducting detailed evaluations. Feedback, along with recommendations (e.g., Full Accept, Accept with Minor Revisions, Accept with Major Revisions, Reject), is submitted to the journal.

7. Review Evaluation

The handling editor considers all reviews, seeking additional opinions if there are significant discrepancies.

8. Decision Communication

The editor notifies the author of the decision and provides reviewer feedback. Reviewer identities remain anonymous.

9. Review Response

The authors consider all reviews and revise their paper as appropriate within 45 days. In the case of Accept with Major Revisions, reviewers may offer another round of peer review unless they decline. Minor revisions may be managed by the handling editor. The authors may then write a public response to their anonymous reviewers.

10. Next Steps

Accepted papers proceed to production. The paper, anonymous reviews, and author response will then be published promptly.