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## GLES Open Science Challenge 2021 – Guidelines For Authors

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The cornerstone of the Registered Reports format is that a significant part of the manuscript will be written by authors and assessed by editors and reviewers prior to data access. In the case of the GLES Open Science Challenge, the editorial team also calls for an abstract of the manuscript prior to the Stage 1 manuscript (Stage 0). This gives authors the opportunity to receive editorial feedback on their idea early on. Based on the abstract, authors will be invited to submit the Stage 1 manuscript. Stage 1 submissions should include a description of the key research question, the theoretical argument, background literature, hypotheses, and analytical procedure. Suitable Stage 1 manuscripts will be sent out for in-depth peer review (Stage 1) by the editorial team. In exceptional cases, submission of a Stage 1 manuscript without prior abstract submission (Stage 0) might be possible (please get in touch with the editorial team as early as possible).

Following review and potential revisions, the Stage 1 manuscript will be either in-principle accepted for publication or rejected, or requested to be revised (and IPA or rejected after revision). After in-principle acceptance (IPA), the authors will proceed to conduct the study, adhering exactly to the peer-reviewed procedures as soon as the data are available. When the study is complete the authors will submit their finalized manuscript for re-review (Stage 2) and will upload their study materials and replication code to a publicly accessible file-sharing service. Pending quality checks and a sensible interpretation of the findings, the manuscript will be published regardless of the empirical results.

In general, the [submission guidelines of the German Political Science Quarterly \(PVS\)](#) apply unless otherwise specified in this document.

### 1. Stage 0 Abstract Submissions

Stage 0 Abstract submissions should contain a short description offering a general understanding of the planned study. They should include:

- Working title
- Author names and affiliations
- Contact information of the (corresponding) author
- Abstract Length: 500 Words (excl. references)

The editorial team will review the submitted abstract and give editorial feedback. Stage 1 submissions, which were not preceded by an abstract, will be only accepted in exceptional cases. Exceptions will include but are not limited to unforeseen and new developments during the election campaign which raised new research questions. If you plan to submit a Stage 1 Manuscript without having submitted an abstract in advance, please contact the editorial team ([gles-osc@gesis.org](mailto:gles-osc@gesis.org)).

Abstracts should be submitted as PDF- or Word-files via e-mail to [gles-osc@gesis.org](mailto:gles-osc@gesis.org)

**Submission deadline: July 12, 2021**

## 2. Stage 1 Submissions

Stage 1 submissions should include a brief cover letter and the manuscript.

### Cover Letter

The cover letter should contain the following parts:

- Title (Modifiable post IPA).
- Authorship (incl. corresponding author).
- A statement confirming that the authors agree to share any digital study materials and analysis code as appropriate.
- A statement confirming that following Stage 1 IPA the authors agree to register their approved protocol on the Open Science Framework or other recognized repository, either publicly or under private embargo until submission of the Stage 2 manuscript.
- A statement confirming that, if the authors later withdraw their paper, they agree to PVS/GLES publishing a summary of the pre-registered study under a section *Withdrawn Registrations*.
- Statement of integrity: Preregistration authors state that they filled out this preregistration to the best of their knowledge and that no other preregistration exists pertaining to the same hypotheses and dataset.
- Please confirm that your manuscript is not currently submitted to another journal.
- If the manuscript differs substantially from the previously submitted abstract, please include a short statement that explains the changes.

## Manuscript

In general:

- Stage 1 manuscripts are written prior to data access and therefore, include all parts of the manuscript except for result and discussion sections.
- At this stage, an emphasis lies on the specification of hypotheses, the methodological approach, and a detailed analysis plan.
- This submission should not include any code, a final syntax file is expected in Stage 2.
- Methods used should be described in the future tense.
- The word count is between 5,000-6,000 words (not including references, notes, and tables).
- Stage 1 submissions must be submitted to the editorial manager of PVS: <https://www.editorialmanager.com/povs/default.aspx>
- The analysis plan must be registered on an established and recognized public registry for pre-analysis plans (e.g.OSF)
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### Submission deadline: September 25, 2021

#### 1) Introduction

This chapter should not be modified post-IPA (except factual errors, typographic errors, altering of tense, reactions to reviewer suggestions, and the addition of recently published literature). If further modifications are deemed necessary, these modifications require explicit approval by the editorial team.

#### 2) Theoretical Argument, Literature Review, and Hypotheses

These (sub-)chapters should not be modified post-IPA (except factual errors, typographic errors, altering of tense, reactions to reviewer suggestions, and the addition of recently published literature). If further modifications are deemed necessary, these modifications require explicit approval by the editorial team. These (sub-)chapters should address the following points:

- Theoretical Argument
- State of Research
- Relevant Literature
- Research Gap
- Research Question(s)
- Hypotheses: Make sure to include
  - a. one or multiple specific and testable hypotheses per research question,
  - b. a rationale for each hypothesis,
  - b. directional (if so, state the direction) or non-directional
  - c. predicted effect(s)

### 3) *Data and Methods*

#### a) *Data*

Name and briefly describe the dataset(s), and if applicable, the subsets of the data you plan to use. In the case of analyses of temporal dynamics, provide information about the aggregation level of temporal units. Mention the most relevant information so that readers do not have to search for the information themselves.

#### b) *Variables*

Describe **all** variables that will be used in your analysis plan and how they will be used. This includes any (re)coding, transformation, and standardization of variables. If you include indices in your analysis, indicate which construct the scale/index represents, which items the scale/index will consist of, and how these items will be aggregated. If you are using any categorical variables, state how you will code them in the statistical analyses.

#### c) *Data Exclusion and Missing Data*

If you plan to exclude cases from your analysis, specify the exclusion/inclusion criteria (e.g. quality checks like speeding and completion rates). Be specific when describing these characteristics. If relevant for your analysis, indicate the expected sample size you'll be using for your statistical analyses after accounting for these criteria. If relevant, how will statistical outliers be defined and handled? How will you deal with incomplete or missing data?

#### d) *Sampling Weights*

Do you plan to use sampling weights? If so, are you planning to use sampling weights provided with the dataset (if available) or will you use your own sampling weights?

### 4) *Analysis Plan*

You may describe one or more analyses in this preregistration. Please remember that all analyses specified below must be reported in the final article, and any analyses not specified in the final version of the Stage 1 manuscript must be reported as non-registered analyses within a special section of the Stage 2 manuscript (see Guidelines on Stage 2 manuscript for details). The manuscript may include exploratory analyses, but the specification of at least one hypothesis and the analyses planned to test this hypothesis is required. This analysis plan should be written in sufficient detail to allow other researchers to repeat the methodology exactly, without requiring further information.

#### a) *Statistical Models*

For each hypothesis, describe the statistical model used to test it. Describe the type of model (e.g., ANOVA, multiple regression, SEM) and its specifications (i.e., each variable used as predictors, outcomes, or covariates). Specify any interactions that will be tested.

#### b) *Effect Size*

If applicable, specify a predicted effect size for all the effects tested in your statistical analyses.

#### c) *Statistical Power*

For subgroup analyses, present the statistical power needed to detect the predicted effect size(s) or present the accuracy that will be obtained for estimation.

d) *Inference Criteria*

What criteria will be used to make inferences? Describe the information used (e.g., p-values, Bayes factors, specific model fit indices), as well as the cut-off criterion, where appropriate. Specify if you will use one- or two-tailed tests for each analysis. If you are comparing multiple conditions or testing multiple hypotheses, will you account for this, and if so, how?

e) *Reliability and Robustness Testing*

Describe decisions or tests about evaluating the strength, reliability, or robustness of your finding. This may include within-study replication attempts, additional covariates, cross-validation efforts (out-of-sample replication, split/hold-out sample), applying weights, selectively applying constraints in an SEM context (e.g., comparing model fit statistics), overfitting adjustment techniques used (e.g., regularization approaches such as ridge regression), or some other simulation/sampling/bootstrapping method.

f) *Assumption Violation/Model Non-Convergence*

What will you do should your data violate assumptions, your model not converge, or some other analytic problem arises?

### 3. Stage 2 Submission

Stage 2 submissions should include a brief cover letter, the manuscript, and a syntax file.

#### Cover Letter

The cover letter should contain the following parts:

- Please confirm that the manuscript contains a link to the approved and published Stage 1 protocol on the Open Science Framework or other recognized repository.
- Please confirm that, in addition to the clean version, the authors are submitting a tracked-changes version summarizing all the substantive changes between the Stage 1 and 2 manuscripts.
- Please give a detailed description of author roles/contributions

#### Manuscript

In general:

- Stage 2 manuscripts extend Stage 1 manuscripts by including the results and discussion of these results after data access and carrying out the pre-registered analysis plan.
- Make sure to discuss transparently any necessary alterations to and/or additions of the Stage 1 manuscript.
- A final syntax file should be submitted together with the manuscript.
- Maximum word count: 9,000.

**Submission Deadline: February 27, 2022**

**Note:** If the pre-registered protocol is altered after IPA due to unforeseen circumstances, authors must consult the editorial team for advice; minor changes may be permitted without leading to a rejection of the manuscript at Stage 2.

#### 1) Introduction

As in the final version of the Stage 1 manuscript, if alterations and/or additions are deemed necessary, they must be highlighted and specifically approved by the reviewers and editors. At Stage 2, any description of the rationale or proposed methodology that was written in future tense within the Stage 1 manuscript should be changed to past tense.

#### 2) Theoretical Argument, Literature Review, and Hypotheses

As in the final version of the Stage 1 manuscript, if alterations and/or additions are deemed necessary, they must be highlighted and specifically approved by the reviewers and editors. At Stage 2, any description of the rationale or proposed methodology that was written in future tense within the Stage 1 manuscript should be changed to past tense.

#### 3) Data and Methods

Necessary alterations of the Stage 1 version of this section include:

- Specification of the data set used, following the citation recommendations of the GLES (including title, release date, version, and persistent identifier (DOI) of the data set).
- Accessibility of the data set and its documentation via the GESIS data archive after one-time registration.

All other parts should be as in the final version of the Stage 1 manuscript. If alterations and/or additions are deemed necessary, they must be highlighted and specifically approved by the reviewers and editors.

#### 4) Analysis Plan

As in the final version of the Stage 1 manuscript. If alterations and/or additions are deemed necessary, they must be highlighted and specifically approved by the reviewers and editors.

#### 5) Results

##### a) Registered Analyses

The outcome of **all** registered analyses must be reported together with any pre-specified (outcome-neutral) significance tests, robustness and/or additional quality checks. There is one exception: if a registered and approved analysis is subsequently shown to be logically flawed or unfounded (agreement of authors, reviewers, and editor), the analysis is still mentioned in the Methods section but omitted, with justification, from the Results.

##### b) Non-registered analyses (optional)

Of course, it is possible to report non-registered analyses in the manuscript. These analyses can be exploratory or test hypotheses other than the ones specified in the pre-registration. To clearly

distinguish these analyses from the pre-registered ones, they must be placed in a separate section titled “Non-registered Analyses”.

6) *Discussion and Concluding Remarks*

Please conclude your manuscript with a discussion of the results in this chapter.

**Code submission**

When submitting your code, please upload only one final and commented version, preferably following the construction of your manuscript and make sure that all (re)coding decisions, analyses and output creation are documented in the code. Further guidelines on the correct code documentation to avoid reproducibility issues will be made available prior to data analyses on our [website](#).

**If you have any questions or informal inquiries please do not hesitate to contact the [Editorial team](#).**