

CONTENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PREPARATION OF THEORETICAL PAPERS

ABSTRACT

The abstract is a short, usually 50–150-word, concise summary that is maximally informative. It clearly and specifically presents the problem statement of the paper, the main points of the argument, and the conclusion.

The abstract must not contain unnecessary words, vague or generic phrasing, or evaluative expressions (e.g., “It is very important to note that...”).

From a formal perspective, the abstract consists of a single paragraph—it does not include multiple paragraphs or references. The abstract is indicated with a subheading.

INTRODUCTION

When preparing theoretical-analytical papers, particular attention must be paid to formulating a well-thought-out and informed problem statement, understanding the perspectives found in empirical and theoretical literature, and conducting a critical analysis of the reviewed findings and ideas.

The introduction should:

1. Clearly present the main question or problem guiding the paper
2. Highlight the significance of the problem
3. Make clear the exact aim of the paper
4. Include (and, if necessary, clarify) the conceptual framework of the work, including the system of concepts used. Clear and, where necessary, analytical definitions of key concepts and constructs are especially important
5. End with a clear conceptual closure that marks the transition to the discussion of the problem

The introduction must form a coherent unit from which it becomes clear:

- what the paper is about,
- what it specifically undertakes,
- the theoretical and empirical context of the problem,
- how it relates to the literature,
- and how it contributes to further exploration of the issue.

DISCUSSION

The main body of the paper is the discussion, in which the author elaborates on the problem or question introduced earlier. Formally, the beginning of the discussion must NOT be indicated with a “Discussion” subheading.

Unlike empirical papers, there is no prescribed structural template (such as APA standards).

The discussion is a content-based unit, forming the core of the paper, structured according to the key points of the line of reasoning. The primary task in writing the discussion is to develop a logical argument and appropriate structure. Careful attention must be given to dividing the argument into subsections and selecting suitable subheadings. The structure must clearly reflect a logical progression of ideas.

Formally, the text should be divided using subheadings where appropriate, with further subdivision if necessary. The exposition should go beyond the mere presentation of ideas and empirical results.

Arguments must be supported with reasoning and evidence. The discussion must treat ideas analytically, highlighting similarities and differences between viewpoints, assumptions, strengths and weaknesses, unresolved questions, and potential contradictions within the literature.

The presentation of empirical studies should preferably be based on primary sources and generally be more detailed than in empirical research articles. If conflicting theories or contradictory empirical findings appear in the literature, they must be presented clearly and objectively.

CONCLUSION

The paper should conclude with a summary of the preceding line of reasoning, returning to the ideas raised in the introduction. The conclusion must provide a well-founded, careful, and objective answer to the problem posed earlier.

The conclusion should be a substantive synthesis and outlook, not merely a few brief, outline-like sentences.