MASHARIKI RESEARCH AND POLICY CENTRE (MRPC)

CALL FOR PAPERS

The MasharikiRPC Journal of Research and Policy: A Special Issue (January, 2025)

Submission of Abstracts
11ᵗʰ October, 2024

Submission of Papers
15ᵗʰ December, 2024

Theme: Regional Peace and Security in Eastern Africa: Issues, Challenges and Prospects.

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Rationale for the Special Issue

Contemporary Eastern Africa has in the recent past exhibited several variables with the potential of threatening peace and security in the region. The region's security problematique comprises political instability, terrorism, violent extremism, trans-national organized crimes, adverse climate change, environmental degradation, unemployment, youth bulge, simmering inter-state conflicts, among other variables.

The MasharikiRPC Journal of Research and Policy is published by the **Mashariki Research and Policy Centre** (MRPC). MPRC is an interdisciplinary and independent think tank headquartered in Nairobi, with focus on strategic and security studies in the Eastern Africa Region. The Centre provides a platform for research and policy discourses in pursuit of a secure and prosperous region. The theme of this special issue of the journal is thus in fulfillment of this mandate. It is expected that papers published in the issue, expected to come out in January, 2025, shall stimulate discussions on strategies and policy options for addressing problems in the peace and security sector in the region. Of course, scholars and practitioners who will contribute papers to this Journal issue will be expected to carry out evidence-based research with a view to proffering concrete and actionable policy recommendations to the various stakeholders with interest in East Africa's security and peace. At the national level, such recommendations may trigger new or the strengthening of existing policy responses within states in the region. At the regional level, it is envisioned that the journal shall contribute to the evolution of durable and sustainable collective security architecture with the capacity to tackle the challenges to peace and security in the region. The extra-regional actors such as the African Union (AU), the European Union (EU), the United Unions (UN) and the World Bank are also expected to benefit from this special issue.

Sub Themes

Contemporary literature in security studies has called for a shift from the traditional approach to security to one that embraces the multidime- nsional nature of security as a phenomenon. The traditional approach tended to be too narrow in perspective, laying emphasis on "state security." Protection of the "regime" and territory became the defining features of security policies. It was oblivious of, or assumed at the very best, other legitimate objects of security, especially, protection of people from threats to their very survival as human beings. The new approach is broader to the extent that it covers all the dimensions of security. It therefore recognizes such clichés like human security, political security, environmental security, economic security, and social security. It is expected that papers submitted for publication in this Journal issue shall be based on this broadened conceptualization of security. It is also obvious that this multidimensional and comprehensive understanding of security may require a multidisciplinary approach as well. It is our hope that the Journal as a whole and individual papers shall reflect multidisciplinarity as a corollary of the multidimensional nature of security.

Based on the aforementioned theme and the multidimensional conceptualization of security as well as the multidisciplinary nature of security as a research agenda, the following sub-thematic areas have been identified for prospective paper writers to choose topics from:

a	Governance and Regional Security in Eastern Africa
b	Democratic Peace as a guarantor of Security

Sub Themes

c	Youth bulge and Security in Eastern Africa
d	Food Security
e	Geopolitics of Climate Change in Eastern Africa
f	Extra-regional actors in peace and security in Eastern Africa
g	Environmental Security
h	Regional Security mechanisms and institutions
i	Violent Extremism
j	Transnational crimes
k	Insurgency in Eastern African region
l	Regional peacekeeping
m	Organized Militia

Sub Themes

n	Regional integration and security
o	Inter-state conflicts
p	Regional Diplomacy and Regional Security
q	Economic security
r	Defense Policies and Regional Security

Abstracts

Interested contributors to the journal are expected to submit an abstract of no more than 400 words clearly specifying the objective (s) of the paper, research questions, research methodology, theories and assumptions of the paper where relevant, and policy justifications. Abstracts should clearly reflect the aims and mandate of the journal as explained above.
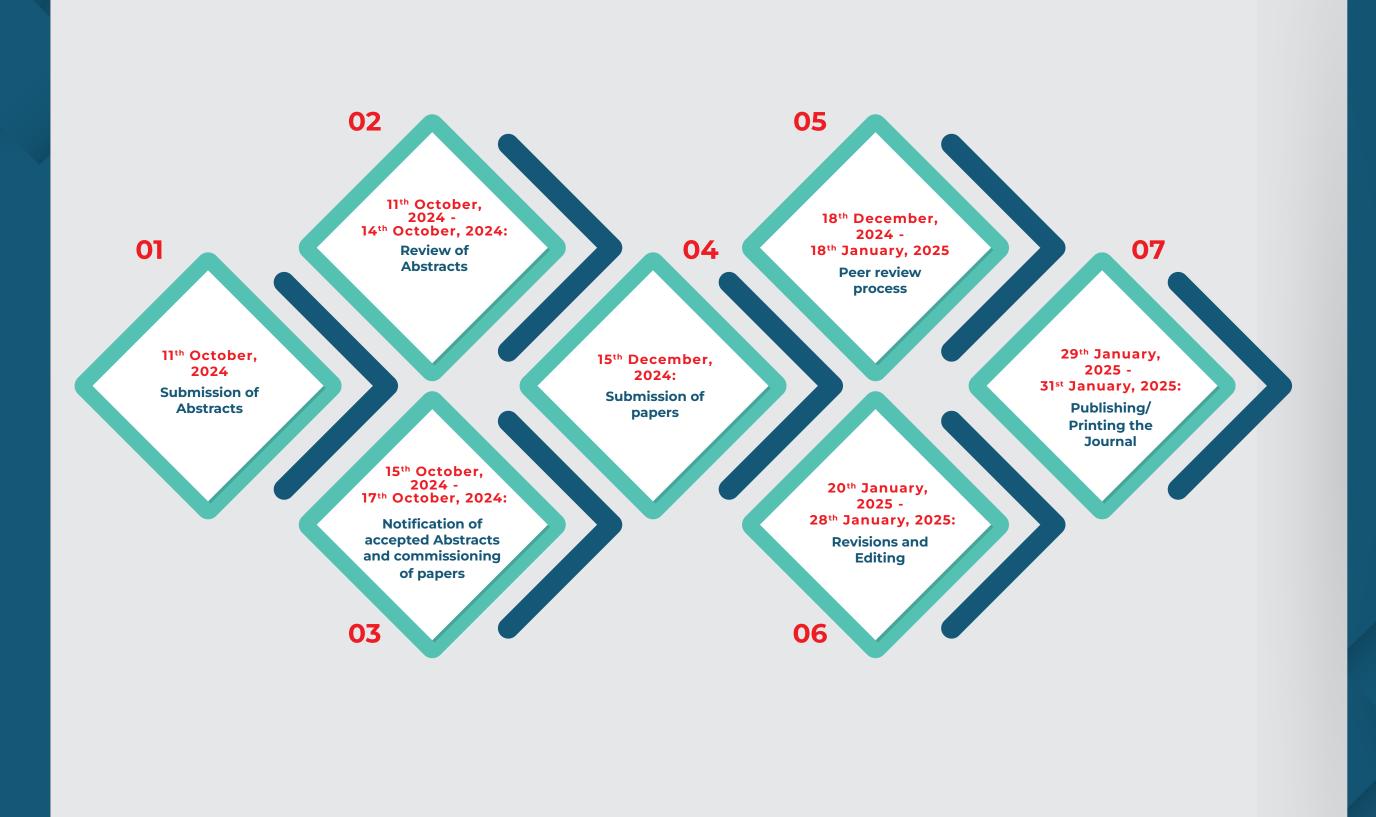
Timelines

01

11th October, 2024

Submission of Abstracts

02

11th October, 2024 - 14th October, 2024:

Review of Abstracts

03

15th October, 2024 - 17th October, 2024:

Notification of accepted Abstracts and commissioning of papers

04

15th December, 2024:

Submission of papers

05

18th December, 2024 - 18th January, 2025

Peer review process

06

20th January, 2025 - 28th January, 2025:

Revisions and Editing

07

29th January, 2025 - 31st January, 2025:

Publishing/ Printing the Journal

Submission guidelines

Upon the approval of research abstracts, authors shall be expected to produce full papers of between 5,000 to 7,000 words excluding references. Papers should be written in font size 12, Times New Roman, 1.5 spacing. The papers are to adopt the APA 7TH edition house style. Submitted papers must be original publications and should not be under consideration for publication elsewhere. All papers will be subjected to internal

I	Abstract
II	Introduction
III	Discussion of findings
IV	Conclusion
V	References

Contact Information

For abstract submission, questions or clarifications, please contact the MPRC research team at info@masharikirpc.org/mrpc168@gmail.com