

*Journal of Information Technology and Politics*  
REFEREE GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH PAPERS

**Referee Orientation:** The *Journal of Information Technology & Politics (JITP)* seeks high-quality manuscripts on the challenges and opportunities presented by information technology in politics and government. The primary objectives of the journal are to promote a better understanding of how evolving information technologies interact with political and governmental processes and outcomes at many levels, to encourage the development of governmental and political processes that employ IT in novel and interesting ways, and to foster the development of new information technology tools and theories that can capture, analyze, and report on these developments. Manuscripts should have significant theoretical and empirical roots, preferably in both political science and IT, but should at least contain significant content in both areas. We are particularly interested in manuscripts in three areas: how information technology (IT) influences politics and government; how politics and government influence the development and use of IT; and how IT can be, or is being, used to advance research and teaching about politics and government, particularly in political science.

**Evaluative Criteria:** Please consider the following criteria when preparing your review:

- 1. Appropriateness for JITP:** Is the manuscript relevant to exploring the themes listed above? Does it address a significant nexus between information technology and politics as defined in the call for manuscripts?
- 2. Significance/Importance:** Is the subject of the paper of broad policy or theoretical significance to the JITP audience? How much do the findings matter to the scientific or policy community?
- 3. Originality/Value Added:** To what extent does the article represent an advance over previous work in its area? In what ways does it contribute to substantive knowledge or theoretical debates?
- 4. Quality of Research:** What is your assessment of the research design, analysis, and interpretation? Does the author include a JITP Replication Policy (see below) first footnote?
- 5. Quality of Writing:** Is the article well organized? Is the writing concise? Will this article be accessible to an interdisciplinary audience? Is the author's main argument presented in an understandable manner? Would a PhD-trained social scientist familiar with the discipline but unfamiliar with the specific substantive area understand and enjoy reading it?

**Recommendation:** Weighing your opinion of the manuscript against the criteria above, please make a recommendation as to whether the manuscript is publishable in JITP. Please return your evaluation to JITP through our Manuscript and Review System (MARS) at [http://www.jitp.net/m\\_submit.php](http://www.jitp.net/m_submit.php). MARS combines our five evaluative criteria into a mixed structured and semi-structured web survey. Please provide detailed explanations and constructive feedback for the author of the manuscript. If you have any questions, please contact the Editor, Dr. Stuart Shulman, at: [editor@jitp.net](mailto:editor@jitp.net).

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