

Lectures 22 and 23, 04.05. and 06.05.2026

How to avoid common shortcomings in legal publications / Intellectual and formal standards (including ethical standards) of scientific legal research and writing

Dear participants of the course "Metodologi Penelitian dan Penulisan Hukum",

on Monday, 4 May, and Wednesday, 6 May, I will give two lectures on intellectual and formal standards (including ethical standards) of legal research and writing. Please read my course material in advance, so that we can focus in the lectures on your questions. Not all of you will be familiar with the demanding international standards for scientific legal writing.

As a foreign guest lecturer, I am often asked to perform peer reviews of articles submitted for publication in conference proceedings or law journals in Indonesia. Often, they cannot be accepted without thorough revision, because they fail to meet some of the international scientific standards. In particular, there are issues regarding the scientific structuring of the text and the practice of scientific citing. To help you to avoid them, I have prepared "*A quick guide how to avoid common shortcomings in legal publications*" that focuses on the most common deficiencies.

Nowadays, many young researchers publish articles in online journals or conference proceedings with open access. This is not only a chance but also a potential danger for your career: These publications can be easily looked up by everyone worldwide. This includes the commissions that decide about your applications for doctoral studies abroad, scholarships, jobs in international organisations or law firms or to speak at international conferences. Obvious flaws in your academic writing (e.g. citing sources without exact page reference) may disqualify you at first glance. So better make sure that your work meets all the presented standards! If you have any questions about the right way, you are always welcome to contact me.

See for more detailed materials my [contribution to the course Methodology of Legal Research and Legal Writing](#) in Semester 1, 2025/2026 at www.thomas-schmitz-yogyakarta.id. For any questions, suggestions and criticism please contact me via WhatsApp (+62 812 9824 3441) or e-mail (tschmit1@thomas-schmitz-eu.de) or in my office (Building A, room A.VI.11).

(Date: Announcement (MPPH))