

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement

The Round Table believes that principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) are essential characteristics in the delivery and production of quality and innovation in research and policy-making. We therefore consider cultivating these aspects a vital part of our organisation and its efforts to enhance our output and foster the next generation of academics, experts, and policy-makers.

We are committed to maintaining and expanding the diversity of our current editorial board, focusing particularly (but not solely) on race, gender, age, sexuality, and economic background.

We value diverse voices and input into editorial matters, and acknowledge that the travel and time required to contribute is not necessarily equitable for all members. As a concrete way of fostering DEI, we have therefore committed to providing expenses to board members for whom financial considerations would deter participation (e.g., due to age/career stage/geographical distance/economic background).

As a journal focused on the Commonwealth and wider international affairs, racial and geographical diversity is of paramount importance. It is critical that our journal contains a diversity of opinions derived from a global authorship which can authentically articulate and critique the challenges and concerns of the modern Commonwealth.

Our international advisory board, composed of academics, professionals, and experts from around the world, is an important part of this mission. We are taking concrete steps to integrate them further into the granular running of the journal.

We are also devising a special initiative to encourage submissions from authors based especially in the Global South, who might be disadvantaged in emerging Open Access publication schemes.

We are working hard to expand our peer review network, to ensure that articles are considered by individuals who are not only experts in the subject, but also encompass a broad range of viewpoints and backgrounds.

We have recently reviewed and simplified our submission criteria to give authors clarity and our editorial team a defined yet adaptable set of standards to apply to each submission. We have also expanded our requested wordcount to acknowledge and encourage diversity in referencing and citations. These initiatives aim to encourage submissions from authors from a wider range of backgrounds.

As a journal, we are committed to an ongoing data collection project on the characteristics of our authorship, alongside a consistent broader process of self-assessment and reflection, to ensure that we remain actively engaged in our efforts to make the journal a more inclusive, diverse, and equitable academic platform.