

Guide for authors

¿What is the Mexican Law Review?

The Mexican Law Review (MLR) is a peer review scientific research journal published by the UNAM's Institute for Legal Research. It is included in numerous national and international catalogs, databases and registries, including the directory of the CONACYT's Journals of Excellence.

The Mexican Law Review aims to be a forum for academic research and a platform for discussion where novel legal issues of interest to Mexico, North America and Latin America are explored.

The journal offers researchers, academics and students the opportunity to publish articles and papers on relevant Mexican and comparative law issues. All contributions are subject to a "double blind" peer review and must conform to the formal requirements set out below. Therefore, we ask that the guidelines for authors be reviewed with the utmost care.

1. BASIC REQUIREMENTS.

Only original works that have not appeared in any journal with an ISSN will be considered for publication. The official language of the MLR is English.

Works written in Spanish will therefore not be accepted

2. REFERENCE FORMAT.

The MLR uses the Bluebook citation format, the standard for all international law reviews. Adhering to the citation format is essential to accelerating the publishing process. Including pertinent references allows readers easy access to the sources used. If using proper citations proves to be a challenge for authors, we can provide our manual of citations, which was specifically made to simplify the task of adapting the references.

3. FORMAT FOR CONTRIBUTIONS.

Contributions must be delivered in the following format:

Arial font: 12 points.

Line-spacing: 1.5.

Word (DOC).

Contributions (articles/papers) should be sent to the following email address:

ackerman@unam.mx

mexlawrev@gmail.com

Each article should be a minimum of 25 pages and a maximum of 50 (between 5,000 and 12,000 words)

Each paper should be a minimum of 10 pages and a maximum of 20 pages (2,500 to 5,000 words)

All contributions must contain:

- A summary and an abstract with a maximum word count of 250.
- Keywords, from 3 to 5 words.

- A summary or a table of contents.
- Biographical sketch on the author, which should include his/her academic qualifications, the full name of the institution where he/she works, the full name of his/her department, the location of the institution and contact information, such as a mailing address or email address.

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LEGAL CHALLENGES OF BIOMETRIC IMMIGRATION CONTROL SYSTEMS*

Vanessa DÍAZ**

Abstract

ABSTRACT. This article analyzes the deployment of biometric systems in immigration control. It argues that public policy for biometric data collection and processing must be based on legal principles and involve the participation of diverse actors, including civil society organizations, industry associations, special privacy advocates and government officials. Such deployments must also involve control mechanisms that help ensure transparency and accountability. Based on a comparative study of biometric immigration control system deployment in four countries (Australia, Mexico, New Zealand and Spain), two types of asymmetries stand out: first, notable differences in the types of information collected, stored, processed, retrieved, updated, analyzed and exchanged; Second, the purposes for which biometric systems are currently used. In the latter case, wide divergences exist in areas for which these systems are employed, such as border control strategies and the use of travel documents, revealing that each nation chooses to use these systems at different points in the immigration process. These asymmetries pose both short and long-term challenges for international cooperation.

Palabras clave (Keywords)

KEY WORDS: Biometric, biometric systems, border control, ePassports.

Resumen

RESUMEN. A través de un estudio comparado se analiza la implementación de sistemas biométricos como política migratoria. Resulta la importancia de incluir no sólo la participación activa de diferentes actores, tales como la industria, la sociedad civil, juristas especializados y funcionarios públicos en todas las políticas públicas de implementación de tecnología biométrica, sino también establecer criterios de transparencia y rendición de cuentas como mecanismos de control en dicho despliegue de sistemas biométricos. Revela dos tipos de asimetrías en la implementación de este tipo de tecnología en materia migratoria. Por un lado, existen diferencias entre la información recogida, almacenada, recuperada, or-

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4. PUBLISHING PROCESS.

The MLR has a permanent call for contributions; therefore, there are no deadlines for the receipt of manuscripts.

Once received, manuscripts undergo a preliminary technical review to ensure that they comply with MLR publishing criteria.

After this technical verification process, they are sent to be peer reviewed. The reviewers are acknowledged experts in their particular fields and affiliated to prestigious academic departments. Reviewers have a 2 to 3-week period to assess the contributions, abiding by the following procedure.

Once the initial assessment is done, the results will be communicated to the author. The decisions can be positive, negative or conditioned to corrections to be made by the author. If it is conditional, the author is given 2 to 4 weeks to make the necessary changes and once these are done satisfactorily, the editing process can begin.

This second version of the manuscript will be sent for editing in English. This process can last from two to four weeks, and the author will be allowed to approve the changes made.

Once the author's approval has been given, the article is deemed ready for publication.

When the publication process is finalized, the author must cede the copyright to the Institute for Legal Research.

Each author will receive two copies of the issue in which his/her article has been published.