

EDITORIAL POLICY - THE BEAM BLOG

Blog purpose

The purpose of this blog is to provide a space for reflection and discussion and to share experiences around nuclear topics from a social research perspective.

We aim to promote a wider understanding and awareness of social research and issues relevant to the nuclear industry in the UK and internationally and to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise between humanities, and science and engineering, within academia and industry.

Blog posts will...

1. Focus on insights relating to aspects of nuclear relevant social research and/or issues, in the UK and internationally.
2. Differ from academic papers or mere descriptions of a particular issue in the nuclear sector. They will offer some form of insight or reflection on these issues.
3. Usually contain a degree of opinion, and posts that stimulate debate are encouraged, however, views must be based upon evidence and author experience or expertise.
4. Be accessible to a wider audience, with a relaxed style.

Articles give the views of the author(s) and not the position of The Beam, the Dalton Nuclear Institute or The University of Manchester.

Contributions

Although the blog draws primarily on The Beam's community of academics and researchers at The University of Manchester, we welcome contributions from other universities and research organisations, and from organisations with an interest in nuclear issues and topics as long as they conform to our standards.

We would usually expect contributors to write on topics and areas in which they have academic expertise, but this is not an absolute condition, so long as articles meet the key criteria outlined above. We may sometimes ask authors to rewrite articles to include additional research or a novel evidence-based conclusion.

Posts about events should focus on key points, findings or arguments that are useful or interesting to take away, whilst taking account of applicable [Chatham House rules](#). The primary goal should be to share insight with a wider audience rather than to simply report an event's occurrence.

Comments

Authors can choose whether to have comments from readers allowable on their post.

All comments will be moderated and only appropriate comments will be made public and receive replies, if applicable. Appropriate comments are considered to be either points of clarification related to the specific post or information which adds value that post.

If authors choose this option, they must be willing and available to reply to comments, for the first two weeks following publication, within a reasonable timeframe. There will be no official responses from The Beam to comments from readers.

Academic freedom

As an initiative of the University, The Beam blog adheres to the core principle of academic freedom (<http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=16238>, but also the University's Code of Practice on Freedom of Speech (<http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=11846>).

Where there is any concern from the blog team about any content submitted, publication may be delayed in order to seek further advice from the Editor-in-Chief and/or appropriate University staff and advisors. If this is the case, the contributor will be informed.

Submissions

If you have been commissioned directly by a member of The Beam team, please submit the article to them and copy in thebeam@manchester.ac.uk.

If your submission has not been commissioned, it will still be warmly welcomed – please submit it to thebeam@manchester.ac.uk.

If you are not sure whether your planned post will be suitable and accepted, please contact us at thebeam@manchester.ac.uk.

Submission Process

All contributions that are submitted for publication will be acknowledged by a member of The Beam editorial team as soon as possible.

If a post is deemed not to meet our editorial requirements, we will advise authors on how best to rewrite articles so that we are able to publish them.

Articles will be reviewed by members of The Beam team, who may edit the piece to enhance readability to our wider audience. This may include:

- Shortening text if the post is above our limit of 1,000 words
- Removing specialist jargon or overly academic language
- Adding a narrative-style title to sum up the post's main findings
- Re-ordering of content

If major edits are made, a final version of the post will be provided for the author's approval prior to publishing.

In cases where posts are time sensitive, authors may have less than 24 hours to approve edits.

Once published, further edits can be made to posts should the author deem them to be necessary.

Creative Commons and article use policy

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For further information about The Beam please email thebeam@manchester.ac.uk.