

Nationaløkonomisk Tidsskrift – Journal of the Danish Economic Society

Guidelines for referees

Thank you for agreeing to review an article for Nationaløkonomisk Tidsskrift.

Established 1873, Nationaløkonomisk Tidsskrift is one of the oldest economics journals, e.g. older than Quarterly Journal of Economics (est.1886), Journal of Political Economy (est. 1892), American Economic Review (1911), Econometrica and Review of Economic Studies (both 1933). The **main purpose** of the Journal is to *present and debate scientific investigations of, or related to, the Danish economy* and to *communicate central research results to a Danish audience*. Articles should be as **easy to grasp** as possible and should aim at communicating the results to a **broad audience** of economists. The journal wishes to further the professional debate on economic policy and political economy.

You are asked to write a report on the paper and a short cover letter to the editor. Below please find a few guidelines meant to assist you in the refereeing process

1. Referees are anonymous. Their identity will only be known to the editorial board. The editorial board will not reveal your identity and that you should not reveal it either
2. Referees are asked to determine the appropriateness of a submission for publication. In this regard, the aim of the journal is to publish papers that make a concrete contribution to scientific investigations of the Danish economy or that communicate central research results to a broad Danish audience. Papers based on a well motivated research problem are especially encouraged. Quality and originality are important criteria.
3. The cover letter to the editor in charge of the paper should include an overall evaluation, with a recommendation to publish, revise and resubmit, or reject the paper. The cover letter is not seen by the author(s) of the paper.
4. If a submission is clearly inappropriate for the journal or the paper is a preliminary draft that still needs a lot of work, no detailed report is necessary. A simple letter to the editor is enough.
5. If the submission is appropriate for the journal and in good order, we kindly ask you to write a **referee report** to be read by the editor and the authors. The report on the paper should distinguish between revisions that are regarded as fundamental, and revisions that are regarded as less important. The structure of the report may be as follows (this structure is indicative, and need not be adhered to):

a. General comments, which may include:

an initial short summary of the article

an assessment of the paper in terms of its contribution to the literature

an assessment of the appropriateness of the paper for the journal in light of its stated aims and scope

b. Specific comments, which may cover, among other things:

the motivation and relevance of the questions raised by the paper

the methodology followed to answer these questions

the significance of the results and conclusions

the clearness of the presentation and organization of the paper

Nationaløkonomisk Tidsskrift is aiming for a fast process from original submission to final publication, in particular because papers often deal with economic problems or policy issues high on the current economic agenda. As a consequence, referees should evaluate whether a paper is suitable for publication after smaller changes rather than asking for new time-consuming analyses or ask for major revisions that require a rewriting of almost all of the paper. In these cases, it may be better to reject the paper.