

Call for Papers: *Publius* Annual Review of American Federalism 2025–2026

Publius: The Journal of Federalism invites submissions for the Annual Review of American Federalism 2025–2026, which highlight and analyze developments in US federalism in the last year.

The Annual Review (AR) is a well-established special issue that allows scholars to tackle highly salient issues in US federalism. The AR is released each summer and features approximately 5-7 articles. Each piece places very recent/ongoing federalism developments into context by answering a timely research question(s) and/or offering early theoretical/thematic insights into these developments.

Scholars may take one of two paths in their AR piece: (1) a more traditional full-length research article that answers a research question related to current happenings in federalism using qualitative and/or quantitative data analysis; or (2) a shorter essay (approx. 5000-6000 words) around an important federalism theme that is directly related to events transpiring over the last year. These shorter essays can take various forms, but the key is that they tie into *current* themes.

For examples of more thematic pieces, we recommend potential authors look at the introductory article written by the special issue co-editors for each AR special issue in recent years. Potential authors might also look at *Publius*'s "Federalism Monitor" section, which similarly features shorter, accessible essays examining recent federalism developments. An example of a Federalism Monitor piece is here: <https://academic.oup.com/publius/article/55/1/201/7724058>. In general, we recommend potential authors view prior AR special issue articles for insights on their own submissions here: https://academic.oup.com/publius/pages/Special_Issues

2025–2026 AR pieces should highlight current federalism themes. For example, articles could cover several topics related to President Trump's unique approach to federalism, such as:

- States' role as litigants in pushing back and/or advancing presidential policies
- How subnational units respond to federal policy actions (such as through the administrative presidency, Congress, court decisions, etc.)
- How Trump's federalism actions and policies compare to populist/authoritarian leaders in other nations
- How subnational actors respond to budgetary uncertainty
- What emergency response looks like as the federal government pulls back
- The role of federalism dynamics in subnational policy adoption and/or policy implementation in particular policy domains

Submission instructions and timeline

Prospective authors should submit a *1-page proposal* with a detailed description of their plans for their AR piece including key theoretical and/or thematic contributions, research question(s), plans for analysis, and any other key details to the AR co-editors, Dr. Rebecca Bromley-Trujillo (Christopher Newport University), rebecca.bromleytrujillo@cnu.edu and Dr. Michael Dichio (University of Utah), michael.dichio@utah.edu.

The deadline for submitting a 1-page proposal for the AR Special Issue is August 1, 2025

The editorial team will decide on proposals by Sept 1, 2025. Accepted proposals will also receive specific feedback from the editors. Authors with accepted proposals should move forward with a full manuscript to be submitted for blind peer review by December 1, 2025. As with the traditional peer review process, authors will receive peer review and editorial comments and a decision (reject, revise and resubmit, or accept). Articles that are accepted for publication will be published in the summer of 2026.

Special Issue Submission Summary:

- August 1, 2025: One-page proposal to AR co-editors
- September 1, 2025: Decisions sent for full manuscript submission to AR special issue
- December 1, 2025: Deadline for submitting full manuscript to *Publius*