

FORDHAM UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
2022 UNIFIED WRITING COMPETITION JOURNAL DESCRIPTIONS & APPLICATION CRITERIA

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Journal-Specific Application Criteria

	<i>Environmental Law Review</i>	<i>Journal of Corporate & Financial Law</i>	<i>Intellectual Property Law Journal</i>	<i>International Law Journal</i>	<i>Urban Law Journal</i>	<i>Law Review</i>
Statement of Interest	Required	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional Personal Statement	Optional Diversity Statement
1LDs eligible	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1LEs eligible	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2LDs eligible	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
2LEs eligible	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
3LEs eligible	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Transfers eligible	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
LLMs eligible	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
GPA cut-off	None	None	None	None	Top 50% unless selected via personal statement	Top 50% unless selected via diversity statement



FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW REVIEW

The *Fordham Environmental Law Review* (“ELR”), founded in 1969, is an outgrowth of the Fordham Environmental Law Council. First, council provided Environmental Law updates in what was called the Fordham Environmental Law Report. Since its inception, the ELR has provided a forum for scholars and practitioners to reflect on internationally and domestically relevant issues to environmental law. These include regulation of air, water, soil pollution, land use, and social policy issues such as corporate responsibility and environmental justice.

Environmental law touches upon almost all areas of legal scholarship—including but not limited to, tort, property, administrative, and constitutional law. The ELR’s publications often touch on these areas with a lens towards the unique issues and problems posed by environmental jurisprudence.

Staff members receive training and contribute to the ELR’s publication of issues and blog posts. Staff members are strongly encouraged to write and publish a Note or Comment. The ELR’s Board works with students to help develop and edit Notes and Comments for publication. Note writing guidelines and timelines are provided to help guide the staff member’s progress.

In addition to participation in many Fordham community events, the ELR hosts an annual symposium each Spring that draws leading scholars, lawmakers, and regulatory officials in the environmental law field, as well as environmental advocates and concerned citizens. This year’s symposium was entitled *The Environmental Implications of Space Tourism*. This symposium, which brought together distinguished academics and front-line activists, explored the challenges associated with legally regulating outer space activities, with a focus on their environmental impacts.

A dynamic and interdisciplinary publication, the ELR publishes two books annually comprising of Articles and Essays by professors and practitioners in the field and student Notes and Comments. The ELR maintains an online forum for student and practitioner publication to which staff are expected to contribute as well as participate in journal committees. The ELR chooses its staff members based on their submissions to the Unified Writing Competition and a required personal statement, not to exceed one page, detailing prior background or interest in environmental law or related issues.

Students who wish to pick up a past ELR publication or have questions should stop by the ELR Office in Room LL-102 or email us at elr@fordham.edu. Feel free to check out our website at <https://news.law.fordham.edu/elr/>; or follow us on Instagram: #fordhamelr; or our LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/fordham-environmental-law-review>.

Fordham Urban Law Journal

The *Fordham Urban Law Journal (ULJ)*, established in 1972, is Fordham's second-oldest law journal and its most-cited specialty journal. It is the only journal at Fordham dedicated to publishing legal scholarship addressing public policy issues affecting urban populations across the nation and throughout the world. Among public policy law journals, *ULJ* is the fourth most cited in legal scholarship and ninth most cited by courts according to the W&L Law Journal rankings. The 2022–23 school year marked the historic 50th anniversary of the founding of *ULJ*.

ULJ publishes a minimum of five books annually that are comprised of Articles, Essays, Notes, and Comments. Each book is typically themed, with an emphasis on creating a comprehensive discussion aimed at supporting diverse authors and under-discussed issues related to urban law. For example, one of this year's books examined the relationship between climate change and the carceral state.

In the past five years, *ULJ* has been cited by the United States Court of Appeals for the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Seventh, Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh Circuits, in addition to numerous district courts and state appellate courts. For example, the Eleventh Circuit cited *ULJ* in reviewing the constitutionality of a Florida law, which conditioned reenfranchisement of convicted felons' voting rights on their ability to pay prior financial obligations resulting from their convictions in *Jones v. Governor of Florida*, 975 F.3d 1016 (11th Cir. 2020). Prominent judges who have cited *ULJ* include Supreme Court Justices John Roberts, Samuel Alito, Clarence Thomas, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Neil Gorsuch, Anthony Kennedy, John Paul Stevens, and Harry Blackmun, as well as Judges Frank Easterbrook (7th Cir.) and Guido Calabresi (2d Cir.).

ULJ is also committed to publishing student scholarship and **strongly** encourages its members to write a Note or Comment for publication in the *Journal*. Many *ULJ* student notes have been cited by the nation's highest courts over the years, including the U.S. Supreme Court. For example, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York cited a *ULJ* student Note in *Jones v. Dunbar*, No. 21-CV-6036 (PKC), 2021 WL 5873067 (E.D.N.Y. Nov. 4, 2021).

Finally, *ULJ* hosts the Cooper-Walsh Colloquium in the fall and a Symposium in the spring, where scholars from around the country present and respond to urban legal issues. This year, Cooper-Walsh explored the public and private surveillance of urban spaces, with a particular focus on public housing and immigrant communities. The Symposium examined the role of admissions criteria in urban schools in *Testing the Limits: Admissions Exams in Urban Public Schools*.

ULJ selects its staff from the top 50% of Fordham's class but will also consider **any** applicant who submits a personal statement, regardless of class rank. Staffers work collaboratively with other members and the Editorial Board to assist with the publication of each book in a variety of different capacities. All staff are invited to participate in fun events like our Urbsgiving potluck, and social nights. *ULJ* members will also have many opportunities throughout the year to engage with *ULJ* alumni through panels and other events.

We encourage you to visit our website at news.law.fordham.edu/fulj/, and to follow us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#) for updates. If you have any questions, please contact *ULJ*'s incoming Editor-in-Chief, Joe Gomez at jgomez100@fordham.edu.



FORDHAM URBAN LAW JOURNAL

2023 Unified Writing Competition Personal Statement Prompt

The *Fordham Urban Law Journal (ULJ)* publishes six books annually that address legal and public policy issues affecting urban populations across the nation and throughout the world.

Since its inception in 1972, *ULJ* has strived to be a platform for voices, communities, and issues that are often ignored or underrepresented in traditional legal scholarship. The intellectual conversation *ULJ* engages in is stronger and more vibrant with a diversity of viewpoints, and *ULJ* is dedicated to uplifting historically marginalized voices through the selection of its pieces, authors, and students. *ULJ* looks for highly motivated staff members with a variety of experiences, interests, perspectives, opinions, and backgrounds, as well as a demonstrated interest in and commitment to public policy or urban law.

In 500 words or less, please share why you wish to join *ULJ*, or how your perspective and personal experiences would enrich the conversations *ULJ* strives to create. Your personal statement must be presented in 12 pt. Times New Roman font, with one-inch margins and double-spacing.

***ULJ* encourages all applicants to submit a personal statement.** *ULJ* selects its staff from the top 50% of Fordham's first year class, but will consider **any** applicant who submits a personal statement, regardless of rank.

You may write your statement either before or during the Unified Writing Competition, but you must submit your statement in accordance with the 2023 Unified Writing Competition Rules.

Please make every effort to avoid including any identifying information in your personal statement. However, if your experience requires you to reveal some potentially identifying information, you are still encouraged to include that information while making best efforts to preserve anonymity.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact *ULJ*'s Editor-in-Chief, Joe Gomez (jgomez100@fordham.edu).

Fordham Intellectual Property, Media & Entertainment Law Journal

The *Fordham Intellectual Property, Media & Entertainment Law Journal* (IPLJ) is a leading publication in all areas of intellectual property law including: patent, copyright, and trademark law; telecommunications, mass media, and internet law; counterfeiting, bootlegging, and piracy issues; First Amendment rights; trade secrets; and entertainment, sports, fashion, and art law. We offer our staff members and readership a broad range of ideas for consideration, from the latest controversies in technology and intellectual property, to growing concerns over privacy, publishing, and broadcast rights. As technology continues to advance, the IPLJ seeks to address the novel issues that confront intellectual property law.

The IPLJ is proud to be recognized both nationally and internationally by scholars and practitioners alike as a source of authority in its field. According to surveys compiled by Washington & Lee University in 2019, the IPLJ was the #1 ranked law journal in intellectual property, #2 journal in communications and media law, and #3 in arts, entertainment, & sports law. IPLJ articles have been cited by the U.S. Supreme Court—most recently in *Golan v. Holder* (2012)—and the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and have been read into the Congressional record. Throughout the year, members of the IPLJ work with and support the professors, students, and staff involved with Fordham’s renowned IP program.

The IPLJ publishes four times each academic year, and IPLJ articles are available in full on Westlaw and Lexis. Staff members play an integral role in the Journal’s publication, working closely with the Journal’s Board in editing articles, notes, and comments. Staff members are also strongly encouraged to write and publish a note or comment of their own, and are actively supported by the Board throughout the process. A recent IPLJ note was cited in a Supreme Court amicus brief for *Real Estate Alliance Ltd. v. Move, Inc.* (2018). Moreover, the IPLJ has expanded its intellectual property commentary with the launch and continuing evolution of its blog site featuring both blog posts and podcasts, to which staff members both edit and contribute extensively. Each staff member will be required to post a blog entry or record a podcast at least once each semester.

In addition to publishing, the IPLJ conducts several special events for practitioners and staff members. Our annual Symposium has become a seminal convention on present-day issues. In recent years, topics have ranged from data privacy to trademark dilution to free speech in the modern day. Most recently, 2021’s “IP Interrupted” symposium focused on amplifying diverse voices and putting a spotlight on IP issues affecting marginalized communities. The IPLJ also co-sponsors additional panels discussions and information sessions for students that include outside practitioner involvement.

In short, the IPLJ seeks to provide a forum for scholarly debate concerning the full spectrum of developments in intellectual property, media, entertainment, sports, fashion, and art law. We look forward to the contributions and involvement of new staff members. The IPLJ chooses its staff members on the basis of their submissions to the Unified Writing Competition and an optional statement of interest (strongly encouraged). You can also learn more about the IPLJ on our website at <http://www.fordhamiplj.org>.

Fordham Law Review

Founded in 1914 and operating continuously since 1935, the *Fordham Law Review* (FLR) is a scholarly journal committed to serving the legal profession and the public by discussing current legal issues. The *Law Review* is both an honor society and a working journal that publishes six issues per year, three each semester, totaling over 3,000 pages. The *Law Review* publishes articles and student notes and sponsors academic symposia in all areas of legal scholarship. The *Law Review* places twenty-first overall in the most recent ranking of general subject law journals by Washington & Lee University, and it is the fifteenth most cited law journal by courts and the ninth most cited by other legal journals.

The *Law Review* is managed by a board of twenty student editors and comprises an additional eighty student 2L and 3L staff members. All staff members play an active role in the production of each issue. The *Law Review* expects and encourages a diverse range of voices in its staff and published scholarship. A diverse staff and an inclusive working environment are therefore essential to the *Law Review* mission. We are committed to improving the diversity of our membership and creating an inclusive environment for all of those on the journal.

New staff members edit scholarly works slated for publication and are strongly encouraged to write a student note in the fall of their second year that may be selected for publication in the *Law Review*. The *Law Review* also prides itself on fostering a sense of community among its staff, hosting frequent bar nights and other events for all members, including an annual trivia night and Alumni Dinner.

Membership on the *Law Review* is open to all first-year (day and evening) Fordham Law students and transfer students who participate in the Unified Writing Competition (UWC) and are in good standing. By accepting a position on the Fordham Law Review, members agree to refrain from membership on any other student-run journal or scholarly publication.

The *Law Review* offers positions to ten students on the basis of their class ranking. These students must also make a good faith effort in the UWC. The *Law Review* will also offer positions to approximately forty students ranking in the top half of the first-year class on the basis of their submissions to the UWC. Finally, the *Law Review* will offer positions to up to ten students on the basis of an optional Diversity Statement, which will be evaluated in conjunction with their submissions to the UWC. The *Law Review* will evaluate all Diversity Statements submitted, regardless of a student's class ranking. The prompt for the Diversity Statement will be released to all first-year students in April 2023.

If you have any questions about the *Fordham Law Review* and its selection process, please contact Abigail McCabe, at amccabe11@fordham.edu, or visit our website, www.fordhamlawreview.org. If you have questions about the UWC, please contact Ryan Karerat, Executive Notes Editor of Volume 92, at fordhamlrevene@fordham.edu.

FORDHAM LAW REVIEW

2023 Unified Writing Competition Diversity Statement Prompt

Founded in 1914 and operating continuously since 1935, the *Fordham Law Review* (FLR) is a scholarly journal committed to serving the legal profession and the public by discussing current legal issues. The *Law Review* publishes approximately 3,000 pages of legal scholarship each year, including articles and student notes, and sponsors academic symposia in all areas of legal scholarship.

Staff members and their diverse experiences are critical to the *Law Review*'s success. *Law Review* members contribute to legal scholarship by participating in the editorial process, writing student notes, and engaging in an ongoing dialogue with the legal community. The *Law Review* strongly encourages its members to write student notes on legal topics that may be published alongside articles written by established legal scholars, as well as to participate in symposia and other events that spark legal conversation and innovation.

The *Law Review* recognizes that the law and legal profession have created—and continue to contribute to—deep racial harms and other systemic inequities. As a student organization that is selective by design, the *Law Review* has a responsibility to elevate underrepresented voices. We strive to do this by staffing the journal with students from varying backgrounds, identities, and perspectives on the law.

The *Law Review* invites you to submit a diversity statement that identifies and describes aspects of your identity, including—but not limited to—racial/ethnic identity; socio-economic background; faith; disability; age; gender identity; sexual orientation; first-generation American, first-generation college, and/or first-generation law student status; immigration status; and/or ideological perspectives.

Your diversity statement must be no more than 500 words, presented with one-inch margins, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, and double-spaced. All diversity statements will be evaluated as independent pieces of expository writing. They will be read for writing quality and attention to detail.

Please make every effort to avoid including identifying information in your diversity statement. Do not, however, let the prohibition on “identifying information” prevent you from highlighting your diverse background or unique experiences.

You may begin working on your statement immediately. However, please note that you must submit your statement in accordance with the 2023 Unified Writing Competition Rules.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Executive Notes Editor of the *Fordham Law Review*, Ryan Karerat, at FordhamLRevENE@fordham.edu.

Fordham International Law Journal

Entering its 45th year of publication, the *Fordham International Law Journal* (ILJ) is one of the most competitive international law periodicals in the world. According to Washington & Lee's Journal Rankings, ILJ is currently ranked in the top 10 among student-edited international law journals. The ILJ attracts contributions from prominent statespersons and members of the academic, legal, and political communities. We publish five books annually, comprised of articles, essays, book reviews, and student-written Notes and Comments. Journal pieces have been cited in numerous decisions of international courts, the US Supreme Court, as well as U.S. Supreme Court briefs, law review articles, and CFR and ALR annotations. ILJ articles have also been cited by numerous Circuit Courts including the Second Circuit and most recently by the U.S. Court of Military Commission Review in *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*. These pieces cover a wide range of topics with a strong nexus to international law. The ILJ has published works by the two former United Nations Secretary-Generals Boutros Boutros-Ghali and Kofi Annan, the first female U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, the first President of the International Criminal Court Philippe Kirsch, the former Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda Richard J. Goldstone, and the former judge of the Court of Justice of the European Union John L. Murray. We continue to attract submissions from prominent statespersons and members of the international academic, legal, and political community.

The ILJ has a diverse readership in the United States and abroad. Our commitment to delivering thought-provoking and timely pieces is reflected in the relationships we have built with Fordham's Crowley Program on Human Rights, the Leitner Center, and the Fordham Center on National Security, among others. Moreover, the ILJ is considered the preeminent publication on the European Union, consistently publishing articles pertaining to EU law. Furthering our efforts to advance international scholarship, the ILJ also organizes, hosts, and participates in a series of well-attended symposia. Recent topics have included, Changing Economy of Terror: Preventing and Combating Terrorist Financing, Cyber Attacks: International Cybersecurity in the 21st Century, Nuclear Weapons and International Law: A Nuclear Nonproliferation Regime for the 21st Century, Facing the Unraveling Reform: Domestic and International Perspectives on the Changing Role of China's Rights Lawyers, International Trade: Isolationism, Trade Wars & Trump, and The Judicial Power and US Foreign Affairs.

Among its alumni, ILJ proudly counts attorneys at leading New York City law firms, non-profit organizations, and well-respected multinational corporations. ILJ staff members work closely with the editorial board and fellow staffers to organize events and symposia, edit and improve works prior to publication, and engage with members of the international legal community. The editorial board also encourages ILJ staff members to submit pieces for publication and provide staff members guidance throughout the writing process.

We are committed to fostering an engaging and enjoyable experience for our members and look forward to working with you. The *Journal* will accept personal statements with Unified Writing Competition submissions. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Tasha Brown, incoming Editor-in-Chief, at tbrown133@fordham.edu. Feel free to visit our website at <http://fordhamilj.org>.

Fordham Journal of Corporate & Financial Law

The *Fordham Journal of Corporate & Financial Law (JCFL)* is a leading business law journal in the United States. According to Washington & Lee Law Journal Rankings, the *JCFL* is the #5 ranked student-edited Banking, Finance and Insurance Law specialty journal and the #14 ranked student-edited Business, Corporations and Securities Law specialty journal. Executives, practitioners, regulators, judges, and academics rely on the *JCFL* to keep abreast of leading corporate law scholarship, novel legal theories, and emerging issues that dominate current events. Our articles, notes, comments, essays, symposia, and online blogging platform cover the full spectrum of business law, including corporate governance, finance, securities, regulation, bankruptcy, and tax issues. Academic journals, courts, the financial press, and the United States Supreme Court have cited the *JCFL*.

The *JCFL*'s partnership with the Fordham Corporate Law Center is one of our strongest assets, allowing us to offer a year-long program of lectures, symposia, conferences, and practitioner lunches. These events feature distinguished professors, practicing attorneys, policy-makers, and members of the judiciary engaging in discussion of pressing issues. *JCFL* members receive unparalleled access to the people and ideas that shape the landscape of business law. Our signature event is the annual Symposium, which our staff plans and produces. This year's Symposium, "Here to Stay: Wrestling with the Future of the Quickly Maturing SPAC Market" was held in person and anchored by keynote speaker **Commissioner Hester M. Peirce**, Commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission. In addition, three panels of scholars and practitioners wrestled with important discussions surrounding the evolution of the SPAC market, trends of enforcement and litigation, and how SPACs should be treated moving forward. The 2020 Symposium, entitled "Who Makes ESG?: Understanding Stakeholders in the ESG Debate," featured a keynote speech from Leo E. Strine, former Chief Justice of the Delaware Supreme Court and currently of counsel at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz.

JCFL staff members gain invaluable experience working in a collaborative environment where curiosity and attention to detail are key assets. You will become immersed in corporate and financial topics with real-world relevance and learn about issues that will likely arise when you are an attorney. Our staff members engage with cutting-edge corporate law scholarship, hone their legal research skills, and perfect their Bluebook use. The *JCFL* also encourages all of its members to submit Notes for publication. Our Editors assist students as they select a topic, identify a faculty mentor, and refine their submissions before publication.

The *JCFL* prides itself on its camaraderie. Editors have an open-door policy and are always willing to offer advice on professors, classes, internships, and jobs to 2L staffers. In addition, the journal holds several bar nights throughout the year and encourages all staffers to attend. Even in the limited parameters of the pandemic, the *JCFL* continued to host happy hours on zoom and organized socially distanced activities throughout the semester. We look forward to meeting interested candidates and discussing how *JCFL* membership can provide the skills, experience, and background needed to begin a promising legal career. Please feel free to email Alexandria Lindsey (alindsey4@fordham.edu) with any questions.

FORDHAM JOURNAL OF CORPORATE & FINANCIAL LAW

Personal Statement Prompt

The *Fordham Journal of Corporate & Financial Law (JCFL)* encourages all interested UWC competitors to submit a personal statement in support of their application. Competitors are free to write about whatever they feel is relevant to their entry. Editors will review applicants' personal statements with an eye towards demonstrated interest in the JCFL and its subject matter.

For competitors who prefer a specified prompt, consider describing:

- 1) Your interest or working experience in corporate and financial law, and how you hope to apply that as a staff member of the JCFL;

AND / OR

- 2) Information about your life experience and personal identity (e.g. race, gender, ethnicity, age, sexuality, socioeconomic status, ability, or others) that you feel would equip you to offer a unique perspective and voice to the *Journal*.

Please limit your personal statement to two pages.