

JOURNAL FOUNDATIONS

Intellectual Mandate

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The Journal of Institutional Architecture and Continuity is a scholarly journal dedicated to the study of how institutions are designed, governed, preserved, transformed, and made capable of remaining functional under conditions of uncertainty, disruption, and structural change.

The Journal begins from a simple proposition: institutions are not merely organisations, rules, or legal forms. They are architectures.

Every durable institutional system contains an underlying arrangement of authority, ownership, obligations, decision rights, records, settlement mechanisms, institutional memory, jurisdictional relationships, and mechanisms for adaptation. These structures determine not only how an institution operates under ordinary conditions, but whether it remains governable, intelligible, enforceable, and capable of action when those conditions cease to hold.

The Journal therefore places institutional continuity at the centre of institutional analysis.

Continuity is understood neither as resistance to change nor as the preservation of existing organisations for their own sake. It concerns the ability of an institutional system to preserve the functions, rights, records, authority, obligations, and decision capacity that must survive even when particular actors, technologies, markets, counterparties, jurisdictions, or organisational forms change or fail.

This perspective shifts attention from institutional performance under equilibrium conditions to institutional behaviour across thresholds.

The Journal is particularly concerned with the architecture of institutions exposed to structural disruption: financial fragmentation, technological transformation, geopolitical discontinuity, jurisdictional conflict, organisational failure, changes in sovereignty, intergenerational transition, failures of settlement or record systems, and the increasing delegation of analytical and decision functions to artificial intelligence.

Within this field, the Journal examines the relationship between institutional architecture and such concepts as continuity, resilience, irreversibility, optionality, authority, ownership, settlement, institutional memory, institutional reasoning, legitimacy, sovereignty, and adaptive capacity.

It welcomes research on sovereign institutions, non-sovereign institutional systems, financial and settlement infrastructures, ownership structures, private governance systems, trusts and intergenerational structures, public institutions, cross-border arrangements,

technological infrastructures, and hybrid institutional forms.

Artificial intelligence is treated not simply as a technological subject but as an emerging component of institutional architecture. Particular attention is given to the conditions under which computational systems may support institutional reasoning, continuity analysis, state evaluation, institutional memory, and decision processes without obscuring authority, accountability, or human responsibility.

The Journal does not seek to establish a single school of thought.

It exists to create a rigorous scholarly territory in which competing theories, architectures, methodologies, and institutional models can be examined against explicit assumptions, evidence, mechanisms, and consequences.

No particular institutional framework, including frameworks developed by authors associated with the publisher, receives privileged scholarly status.

The Journal's intellectual commitment is to the quality, originality, integrity, and durability of the work it publishes.

Its purpose is not to maximise publication volume.

Its purpose is to preserve research that materially advances understanding of how institutional systems are constructed, how they fail, how they change, and how continuity can be designed before disruption makes continuity impossible.

The Journal of Institutional Architecture and Continuity is published by Invisible Architecture Press. Scholarly evaluation and editorial decision-making are institutionally independent from the publisher's commercial activities.

Publication in the Journal is determined by scholarly merit, relevance to the Journal's intellectual mandate, methodological or conceptual rigour, research integrity, and the significance of the contribution to the field.

The Journal is intended to become a durable scholarly record for a field whose central question is increasingly difficult to avoid:

What must an institution preserve in order to remain an institution when the environment on which it was built no longer exists?