

## Call for contributions

for a blog symposium and journal special issue on

# Casting Light on Kashmir

Kashmir is one of the world's most militarised zones in the world. It has witnessed three Indo-Pakistani wars and several armed conflicts. While the region of Kashmir that is part of the Indian nation state held a semi-autonomous status until 2019, the Indian government on 5 August 2019 removed this special status through the revocation of article 370 of the Indian constitution and turned the region into two separate Union territories that are now governed by Delhi. This step was accompanied by infringements of the right to free speech and the freedom of assembly, restrictions on physical movement and internet restrictions—aspects that had major implications for the Kashmiris living in the region.

While scholarly engagements with the situation in Kashmir are dominated by political scientists and scholars in international relations, this blog symposium seeks to look at the topic through a constitutional law lens.

We invite potential contributors to send us your blogposts for a blog symposium on "Casting Light on Kashmir" to be published on Verfassungsblog. Selected authors will be invited to develop their blogposts into full journal articles for a special issue of World Comparative Law (WCL).

The thematic focus of the blogposts could cover any of the following topics:

- (Asymmetric) federalism, autonomy, the revocation of Art. 370 and petitions in the Supreme Court challenging the same
- Democracy, elections, election boycotts
- Emergency, the suspension of fundamental rights
- Freedom of assembly, freedom of expression, censorship of the media, internet restrictions
- Religious freedom
- Preventive detention
- The right to privacy, surveillance
- Gender-based violence
- Accountability / Impunity of military personnel
- Secession movements

- India-Pakistan relations, the international law dimension
- Domicile reservation policy, the Kashmir Reorganization (Adaptation of State Laws) Order, 2020
- International security cooperation between India and other states

We are particularly interested in contributions that look at legal aspects in an interdisciplinary manner and consider the legal situation in its historical, political, social, and / or economic context or through a law and gender / law and religion lens. We particularly welcome contributions by Kashmiri authors. Contributions can also be published anonymously or under a pseudonym, should you have any concerns regarding security.

Process and timeline:

- Please send a 100-word abstract of your intended contribution to [symposium@verfassungsblog.de](mailto:symposium@verfassungsblog.de) by 30 July 2022
- Selected authors will be notified by 10 August 2022
- Blogposts of up to 2000 words will be due by 15 September 2022
- After review and editing by the team of Verfassungsblog, the blogposts will be published in a symposium on Verfassungsblog in autumn/winter 2022.
- Selected authors will be invited to develop their blogposts into full journal articles for a special issue of World Comparative Law.