

# Foreword to NEJLT Volume 11

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This volume of NEJLT is considerably shorter than previous ones. This is not for a lack of submissions: In 2025, NEJLT received a total of 24 first submissions, double the amount of 2024. Two more submissions were handled that were first submitted in 2024. Out of these 26 submissions:

- 5 are currently still awaiting their first decision
- 4 were desk-rejected (wrong template, out of scope, insufficient quality)
- 2 received a reject decision after reviews
- 1 was withdrawn by the authors
- 11 received a decision of major or minor edits
- 3 were published

We observe that a substantial share of submissions receives a decision of major/minor edits but is then never resubmitted to the journal. The average time until a first decision (not counting desk rejections, withdrawn papers, or resubmissions) in 2025 was 85.3 days, longer than in the previous year. However, the variance is also rather high: the quickest decision was taken after

39 days, while the longest took 190 days. This is mainly due to delays in assigning action editors and reviewers, with me as the editor-in-chief often being the bottleneck. It is also a reason I have not actively advertised the journal in the past two years.

To revitalize NEJLT and improve our turnaround times, I put out a call for assistant editors in October 2025. The response to this was much better than I expected, and I am very happy to have found a small team of assistant editors who will be working closely together with me to improve NEJLT's operations:

- Hafsteinn Einarsson, University of Iceland
- Axel Ekström, Stockholm University
- Hyewon Jang, University of Gothenburg
- Constantine Lignos, Brandeis University

Based on their ideas and motivation, as well as the queue of submissions that are currently in the pipeline, I am hopeful that the coming year will be much more productive again for NEJLT.