

Make it Plain

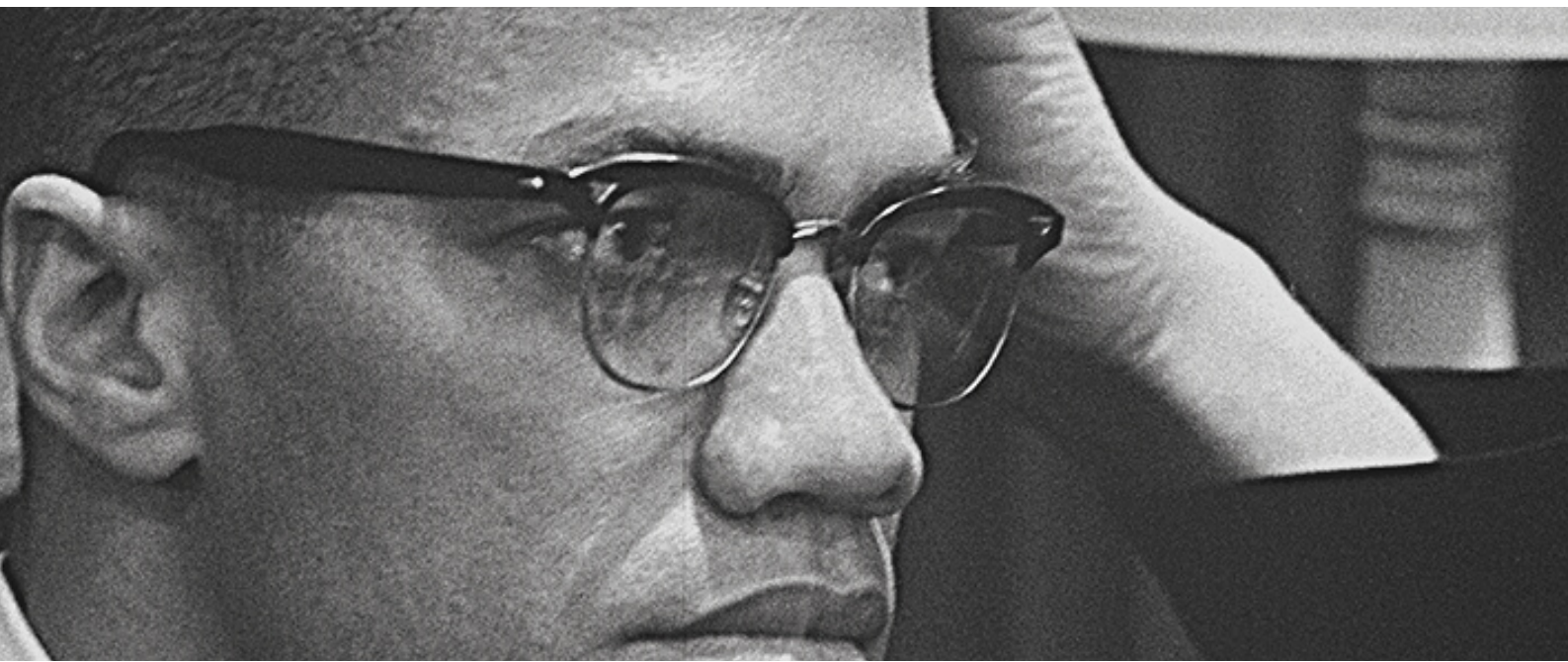
Style & Submission guide



Make It Plain is the editorial branch of Harambee Organisation of Black Unity

About OBU

In 1964 Malcolm X founded the Organisation of African American Unity (OAAU). The goal was to bring together all Black activists and organisations in the United States to coordinate and strategise the way forward for the community. We have updated the idea to bring it in the 21st Century, founding the Organisation of Black Unity in the UK, with the first chapter in Birmingham. We aim to build a mass membership organisation to work with existing groups to support the activity in the Black community and to create new programmes where necessary



About Make It Plain

Make It Plain is the editorial wing of Harambee OBU

We amplify the voices of our community

The editorial team of Make It Plain are always on the lookout for fresh voices to contribute to the cause. We are seeking passionate, committed writers to join in with the conversation and to make this a safe space for radical thoughts.





Call for contributors

Why should you contribute?

Make It Plain seeks to be the go-to hub for radical Black thought and community perspectives, highlighting the issues that matter and underlining their specific relevance to our communities. By contributing to our platform, not only do you help us further this important mission but you also become a core part of the change we hope to collectively realise.

Who can contribute?

We welcome contributions from Black people regardless of geographical location. We invite you to familiarise yourself with our content and read our about us page ahead of submitting a piece to ensure your perspective is a good fit.

What are we interested in?

We generally have four categories of written content - interviews & reviews, opinion, community news and community history. We reserve the right to refuse pieces that go against our ethos and welcome you to view our content prior to submission. Remember Make It Plain is a safe space for radical thought within the global Black community.



Writing Guide

We recommend you start by familiarising yourself with our content and our categories. This will help you decide how best to frame your article.

If you're preparing to submit a piece to us, please adhere to the following length guidelines:

Community News articles - 500 words

Think pieces - 600 – 1200 words*

Interviews, reviews 600 – 1200 words*

Pop Culture commentary - 500 words - 1200

History pieces 1500 – 2000 words*

Long Reads - No more than 2.5k words

Spelling and capitalization – Here are some rules specific to Make It Plain

Please note: As of 2023 we will adopt American spelling for all content - please adapt your submissions accordingly

Capital 'B' in Black when referring to people. As a normal color adjective, we use it in lower case, ie. black. Same for White

Dates: dd/mm, example: 17 April

Capdown for job titles ie. He was a janitor.

Covid-19, not COVID19 or COVID

Capitalization for acronyms ie. OBU

Quotation marks for direct quotes: We use "double" quotation marks, not 'single'

Avoid repetition of words

Links: Never include the 'https://'

For everything else, we adhere to the [Guardian's writing style guidelines](#)

A final note: Make It Plain reserves the right to edit submissions to better align with our direction as a platform. While we aim to communicate major changes to contributors, we reserve the right to publish your edited piece without consultation. By submitting your content to Make It Plain, you acknowledge and confirm acceptance of these terms.

