

Handbook for contributors

Thinking of contributing to Cafébabel?
We're open to several forms of submission,
so if you're a filmmaker, writer,
or photographer, you've come to the right place.

If you want to learn more about who we are and what our
editorial line is before submitting, [head here](#) →

How to submit to Cafébabel

- 1 Submit your idea using our pitch document.
- 2 Your respective language editor will get in touch with you as soon as possible.
Each language version has its own editor.
- 3 Together, you will refine your pitch for Cafébabel. Your editor may ask you to provide
a detailed outline, interview questions or a more in-depth explanation, depending on your idea.
- 4 Once you have refined your article idea with your editor, you will set a deadline together
for a first draft or a storyboard. (Don't worry, this doesn't mean that you are left alone in the
meantime. Your editor is at your disposal to answer any questions you may have!)
- 5 Submit your first draft. Your editor will make the first corrections and give you feedback.
- 6 You will set a final deadline together.

- 7 Publish article on website. Here is how that happens:
 - a You create a profile on our website by clicking...
 - b Your editor will upload the article onto the website and invite you as author
 - c Final check together
 - d Editor will publish the article in the magazine in one of our four sections,
and your article will appear on the homepage.

That's it! Congratulations, you've officially become a Babelian.



Stylistic guidelines

• Content

We believe the best way to show Europe in real life is to include a medley of experiences, voices and stories directly from the ground. Thanks to our multilingual approach and our active community of volunteer contributors all across the continent, we come to understand European trends through long-form, in-depth pieces that you want to sink your teeth into.

We mostly cover lifestyle and society pieces, as well as cultural topics, but we don't exclude political pieces that are a little off the wall. It's your unique, critical and provocative tone and personal writing style that will add to Cafébabel and the way Europe is being treated in the media. What could help would be to picture your article in one of our four categories (Impact, Experience, Raw or Creative) before you start working.

• Tone

Given the participative nature of our magazine, we try to give as much freedom to our contributors when it comes to their writing or visual style. However, there are a few pointers that could help you understand our editorial line and the framework of our articles:

- Try and avoid academic language
- Put as much emphasis as possible on the people in your story
- Keep it simple: sometimes, less is more
- Use active sentences and concrete words
- Be as descriptive as possible and try to create an image of your topic for the reader
- Try and include voices and descriptions from the ground
- Irony is entirely acceptable and so is sarcasm
- Make sure that your style reflects the angle of your article
- Finish strong