***CALL FOR CHAPTERS***

### *THE HANDBOOK OF IDENTITY DOCUMENTATION:*
### *PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE*

**Editorial Team**: Godfrey Baldacchino (University of Malta), Michael J. Geary (Norwegian University of Science and Technology – NTNU), Jennifer Redmond (Maynooth University), Beatrice Scutaru (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), and Aisling Shalvey (University College Cork).

**Handbook Description:**
From clay seals of ancient Mesopotamia to the biometric passports of the digital age, this *Handbook of Identity Documentation* traces the fascinating evolution of identity documentation throughout human history. This book explores how societies across time have sought to define, regulate, and verify personal identity—shaped by shifting needs for **security**, **administration**, **belonging**, and **control**.

Beginning with early systems of identification in ancient civilizations, such as tax records in **Egypt**, citizen rolls in **Rome**, and imperial censuses in **China**, the narrative flows through the **medieval period's** letters of safe conduct, the rise of passports in early **modern Europe**, and the emergence of **modern national IDs** in the twentieth century. Special attention is given to pivotal moments, including **wartime surveillance systems**, **colonial administrative controls**, the emergence of **the modern passport system**, and the global spread of fingerprinting and photography. As the ID narrative moves into the twentieth first century, the book examines the rise of **digital identity**, **biometric authentication**, and debates over **privacy**, **surveillance**, and **inclusion** in a hyper-connected world. Drawing from history, politics, sociology, law and technology, the *Handbook on Identity Documentation* sheds light on how documents meant to identify us have also defined the very meaning of **citizenship**, **personhood**, and **power**.

We welcome contributions from **all periods of history** and **geographical areas** from the **earlier Greek and Roman periods** through to **the present day**. Similarly, we welcome **interdisciplinary perspectives** from law, history, political science, classics, migration studies, literary studies, and related fields. Contributions should have a clear focus on **the role/use/abuses/evolution of identity documentation**.

In terms of **timeline**, this is a two-stage process:
1. **Chapter abstracts** should be submitted using this link no later than **Friday, 3 October 2025**: https://nettskjema.no/a/526823
2. A full chapter (**8,000 words maximum**, including a max 10 list of suggested further readings) will be due by **15 February 2026**.

The editorial team is already in advanced talks with a leading publisher.

For additional questions, please email: **michael.j.geary@ntnu.no**.