

MARTIN RICKERD

Freelance copy-editor and proofreader

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- Retired British diplomat (37 years' service)
- Qualified proofreader (Merit Pass, Publishing Training Centre, January 2011)
- Professional Member, Society for Editors and Proofreaders
- Member, the Queen's English Society
- Reliable and resilient with a keen eye for detail, producing high-quality work within deadline (testimonials at <https://martinrickerd.wordpress.com/proofreading/testimonials>)
- Mother tongue English; fluent Italian; good French; work with non-native English

Prior experience: Member of HM Diplomatic Service from 1972 to 2010, serving in Belgium (NATO), New Zealand, the Eastern Caribbean, Italy, Singapore, Francophone West Africa and the USA. Work included press and political liaison, writing reports and speeches for myself and senior figures (including government ministers and, once, The Queen), multilateral negotiations and promotion of British economic/commercial interests.

As a copy-editor, my broad experience includes:

- non-fiction books on subjects including the Middle East (history, oil industry, society), the advertising industry, Olympic medallists, politics, business management/HR, the history of cycling; and fiction – including *SeaBEAN*, a trilogy of children's novels
- autobiographies (military, police, cultural, travel)
- *Diplomaatia*, monthly English-language Estonian magazine on international affairs and security policy (49 issues since 2014)
- research papers, reports and academic journal articles on international development issues (Global Development Division, University of Reading; EMG CSR Consultancy; Justice and Security Research Programme, LSE; School of Government and Society, University of Birmingham; Development Initiatives Ltd)
- Ph.D theses (reintegration of Liberian child soldiers in the post-civil war period; identity and ethnic violence in Georgia; quality of governance in Kurdistan; US–Iranian relations; labour relations in Mao-era China; local governance in North-West Frontier region of Pakistan)
- confidential reports on companies' internal forensic risk analysis
- articles for academic journals on economic governance; peacebuilding; statebuilding; ECOWAS; South Sudan
- copy-editing and proofreading (and occasional copywriting) for magazines in the aviation, tourism and public-health sectors, and for a polo club

Much of this work has involved working with writers whose first language is not English.

Technical skills: MS Word, Adobe InDesign, Adobe Acrobat DC. Almost all my copy-editing/proofreading experience has been on-screen.