Guidelines for Contributors

Scope

International Organization seeks to publish the best and most innovative scholarly manuscripts available on international political and economic relations. A study that does not emphasize any international (or cross-border) phenomenon—for example, as a major cause or effect—falls outside the journal's domain. Additionally, *IO* features articles that contribute in some way to the improvement of general knowledge or empirical theory defined broadly. Although we may publish a manuscript designed to propose a solution to a current world problem, we prefer to publish those that also apply theoretical ideas and findings or address general questions debated in scholarly publications.

The editorial team sends every submission, except letters to the editor, to reviewers for comment before making a decision to publish.

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IO does not evaluate works already published elsewhere or currently under review by another publisher. Our guideline is that a manuscript is clearly not original enough if as much as half of the ideas or evidence has been published elsewhere first. If a question of overlap arises, at the time of submission please send a copy of the earlier work and ask the editor for a determination. As a partial exception, a study that is promised to a future edited volume can normally be published by *IO* if the volume will appear at least six months after the article's publication in *IO* and the author has arranged for the *IO* editor's agreement at the time of submission.

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IO will not review a manuscript containing more than 14,000 words, including notes and references. Please provide a word count, which most word processors will compute, on

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the title page. *IO* also publishes occasional review essays, research notes, letters, and dissents directed at previous articles. Dissents should be no longer than 5,000 words.

Procedure

Please submit one paper copy of your manuscript and a 3.5-inch disk containing the electronic file to Managing Editor, *International Organization*, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, 1737 Cambridge St., Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138. The electronic file submitted on disk should be in Microsoft Word, PDF, or plain text format; authors who find submitting a manuscript in one of these electronic formats a hardship should contact the *IO* office. Submissions must consist of the following six parts in this order:

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2. Double-space the text, allow margins of at least one inch on all sides, and use a font no smaller than twelve points.

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5. Provide a single-sided copy of the manuscript.

If your manuscript is accepted for publication, we will provide further guidance regarding how to prepare it for copyediting.

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Economy

Weak and extraneous prose detract from the strength of your argument. Scrutinize your draft for potential deletions, such as expressions, sentences, and paragraphs whose absence would not harm the argument or would help it to stand out more prominently. Prime candidates are complex constructions where simpler phrasing would do, distractions from the main line of argument, and excessive repetition. Rare is the manuscript that cannot be improved with tightening. The following classics offer much concrete advice: *On Writing Well* by William Zinsser, *The Elements of Style* by William Strunk and E. B. White, and *The Careful Writer* by Theodore M. Bernstein.

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