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# Guidelines for Contributors

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## Scope

*International Organization (IO)* 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 as a major cause or effect falls outside the journal's domain. Additionally, *IO* features articles that contribute 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.

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## Procedure

Authors wishing to submit manuscripts to *IO* should go to <http://io.edmgr.com>. This website will guide authors through the submission procedure. Please direct any questions to the managing editor at [io@polisci.wisc.edu](mailto:io@polisci.wisc.edu)

## Manuscript Preparation

Manuscripts submitted to *IO* must conform to the following guidelines.

1. Omit self-references after the title page. Your identity should not be revealed in the manuscript; for example, showing five of your writings in the reference list will be a clue to most reviewers. We recommend citing these sources simply as “author” in the footnotes and omitting them from the reference list. If fuller information might bear significantly on the manuscript’s acceptability, mention such information in separate comments to the editors. If, however, changing references to “author” could contribute to revealing your identity, please consult with the editors about the issue before submitting the manuscript.
2. Double-space the text, allow margins of at least one inch on all sides, and use a font no smaller than twelve points.
3. Place each table and figure on a separate page. You may include figures and tables as part of the main manuscript, or in separate files to be submitted in Editorial Manager.
4. Number the pages consecutively.
5. Submit an abstract, word count, and acknowledgments separately from the manuscript. Do not include any identifying information in the abstract.

We recommend using short author-date footnotes rather than parenthetical references as any paper accepted for publication will be required to use the former.

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

## Diction

Offer your readers vigorous, concise prose in the active voice. Choose vivid verbs and expressions that clearly communicate your meaning. Avoid using academic, “insider” jargon. Use the full name of a person, organization, program, or agency when mentioning it for the first time in your manuscript, and provide titles and explanatory phrases when appropriate. To enhance accessibility, avoid overusing abbreviations, initialisms, and acronyms. Use gender-neutral language whenever possible. Double-check the spelling of non-English words, and include special characters such as accents and umlauts.

## Economy

Weak or extraneous prose detracts 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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The reference list should contain the complete facts of publication or availability for each source cited, using the formats shown in the following examples. Include only those sources specifically cited in the text. Provide first names, rather than initials, of authors when available. For article and book titles, use the “up” style of capitalization and do not use quotation marks. In the reference list, show sources in alphabetical order by the first author’s surname; list multiple works by the same author in chronological order with earliest dates first. In the manuscript’s body, cite sources in footnotes using an abbreviated author/date form (for example, Beck 2000) that refers to a corresponding entry in the reference list. Add specific page numbers in the footnote when quoting from or referring to a particular passage. The footnote may include a *brief* comment that helps the reader understand the source’s value or viewpoint. Please use the following formats:

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PH.D. DISSERTATION: Halimi, Serge. 1990. Sisyphus Is Tired: The French Left and the Exercise of Power, 1924–86. Ph.D. diss., University of California, Berkeley.

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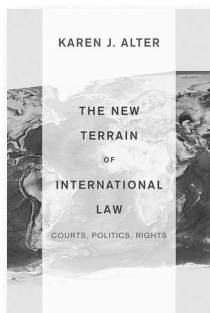
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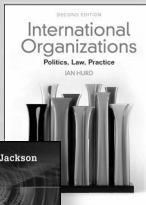
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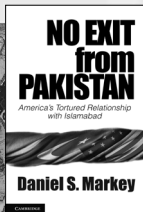
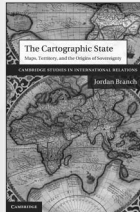
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