Guidelines for Contributors

*World Politics* aims to publish outstanding scholarship in the fields of international relations and comparative politics. We are committed to showcasing two kinds of articles: 1) research articles that pose important substantive, political questions; significantly advance theoretical debates; and present original empirical research to advance knowledge on these issues; and 2) review articles that not only analyze and compare the contributions of a number of thematically related books, but also advance our understanding of how we should analyze and pursue future work on these themes; in this regard, *World Politics* review articles differ from conventional book reviews.

All *World Politics* articles should include a clear statement of major research goals; engage with theoretical and substantive literatures; demonstrate exemplary analytic clarity and logic; be explicit about their research design and use appropriate methods; draw substantively important conclusions based on the research presented. These general points, alongside specific expectations for quantitative and qualitative research, are elaborated in the Reviewer Guidelines, which are distributed to each reviewer and can be found on the journal’s Web site [https://wpj.princeton.edu/](https://wpj.princeton.edu/). Authors are encouraged to read the reviewer’s guidelines before submitting their manuscripts.

The journal does not publish opinion pieces, policy pieces, articles expounding political theory, historical articles, or narratives of a current affairs or journalistic nature. Statements of fact and opinion appearing in *World Politics* are made on the responsibility of the author alone and do not imply the endorsement of the editors or publisher. Moreover, *World Politics* requires authors with research involving direct engagement with human participants to affirm that they have abided by APSA’s [Principles and Guidance for Human Subjects Research](https://www.apsanet.org/file-library.html)–adopted by the American Political Science Association in 2020 and subsequently endorsed by the *World Politics* editorial committee; authors should discuss any relevant ethical issues in the article text or in the appendix (and will be prompted to address relevant questions when submitting the article to ScholarOne) The questions, as they appear on ScholarOne, can be found in Appendix 1 below.

Manuscripts should be submitted with an abstract to ScholarOne Manuscripts at [http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/wp](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/wp). Manuscript texts should be double spaced, and the word count should be indicated. Research articles and review articles may be up to 12,500 words in length, including notes and references. Tables, figures, and appendixes need not be included in the word count. Supplementary material intended for online publication should be used judiciously, only including materials that are central to the argument developed in the main text; these materials cannot exceed fifteen pages in length. Abstracts should be limited to 150 words in length. Revised articles may exceed the original word limit, including notes and references, if doing so is a result of responding to reviewers’ comments. *World Politics* strongly suggests that author response memos not exceed five pages, single spaced.
*World Politics* has a firm and long-standing policy of not considering material that has already been published (including in a foreign language), has been concurrently submitted elsewhere, or is already slated for publication even in a somewhat different form, such as a chapter of a book. This policy applies to both print and online formats. For these purposes, an online format that would preclude consideration by *World Politics* refers to a refereed presentation and/or a copyrighted working paper. Examples of pre-published materials that may be considered for publication by *World Politics* are print working papers and online papers on an author’s own homepage or Web site. Certain material already scheduled for publication, such as a chapter of a book, may be considered by *World Politics* if it is to appear no earlier than nine months after the likely date of publication in *World Politics*. Dual submission and dual publication are not permitted while a piece is under consideration at *World Politics*. These restrictions apply to all copyrighted publications (including book chapters, journal articles, and/or working papers).

Procedures for reviewing manuscripts are based on the anonymity of the author and the confidentiality of readers’ and editors’ reports in a triple-blind process. Author anonymity is preserved, as well, during the editorial decision-making process. Bylines or any information that could easily identify the author(s) should be removed. Self-cites should also be removed if possible. Referees are drawn from the social science scholarly community. Articles that are published in the journal have usually been reviewed by at least two non-Princeton reviewers and often, but not in all instances, one of the editors. Referees for the previous calendar year are acknowledged in the October issue of the journal. Authors can expect to receive decisions on their submissions within four months. In the case of an article deemed to be inappropriate for *World Politics*, the editors will notify the author that the article has been withdrawn from consideration.

*World Politics* has a Dataverse archive, and authors who rely on quantitative data must place their data, after a piece is accepted but prior to publication, in this trusted digital repository. The information made available should include such items as the original data; specialized computer programs; lists of computer program recodes; extracts of existing data files; and, most importantly, an explanatory file that describes what is included in the data, how it was created, the sources from which it was drawn, and how to replicate the exact numerical results produced in the work. Information should be provided in any published piece concerning the availability of the data. Embargoes on original, proprietary data for up to two years beyond the date of publication (or other special circumstances affecting the decision to make data publicly available) will be considered, but must receive the approval of the editorial committee prior to publication. The editorial committee will give special consideration to requests from junior colleagues seeking longer embargos for cases involving original data collection being used for other projects.

Click here to access the *World Politics* Dataverse site.
Appendix 1

Ethical Conduct of Research and IRB Statement

Questions

Social scientists often confront ethical challenges when conducting research and writing up results from research. In 2020, the American Political Science Association adopted Principles and Guidance for Human Subjects Research. The World Politics editorial committee endorses and adheres to these principles. They include (among others) respect for autonomy of human participants (a broader category than “human subjects” as defined in United States federal regulation); openness about ethical issues; the researcher’s non-delegable responsibility for the ethical conduct of research; and the reasoned justification of deviations from the Principles and Guidelines in scholarly publications.

1. Did your research directly engage with human participants? Yes/No
2. Did your research adhere to the APSA Principles described and linked in the preamble? Yes/No
   If no, please select which ones were violated from the options provided.
   Where in the submission do you address the deviation from these principles?
   Did your research entail any additional ethical challenges at any stage of the research process?
   If yes, please summarize in no more than 100 words.
   Where in the submission do you address the ethical issues you note above?
3. Did any ethics board review the research design to confirm that human participants (or human subjects) would be treated fairly and justly? (Your answer will be deidentified for reviewers, who will see only “yes” or “no” but not the name of the university or the approval number).
   If yes, please indicate the organization, reference number, and date of approval.
   If no, please indicate how you arrived at this conclusion (organization name did not deem it Human Subjects Research OR organization name granted an exemption [include reference number and date].
   If neither applies, indicate that your university does not have an IRB Board.
   If research was reviewed by an IRB, indicate statement of approval or exemption by IRB protocol number, institution, and date.