

WORLD POLITICS  
*A Quarterly Journal of International Relations*  
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Guidelines for Consideration of Special Issues

1. Prospective guest editors should submit a draft proposal of 4,000–5,000 words that presents the main argument, ideas, or debate that will be developed by the volume. The proposal should explain the significance of the project and its relevance to the *World Politics* readership. Its theme should represent an original theoretical contribution to the field of comparative politics or international relations, and each of its constituent essays should be tightly linked to this theme. In emphasizing the originality of the project, the proposal should indicate how it differs from rival efforts that have already appeared or are in preparation elsewhere. It should identify the contributors, the titles of their essays, and the role each essay plays in the overall development of the volume. The proposal can serve as the first draft of the editors' eventual introduction and conclusion, but it need not be judged as such at this stage. A proposed special issue may include up to seven essays for review, including the introduction. The proposal should be sent to Joy Scharfstein at [jscharfs@princeton.edu](mailto:jscharfs@princeton.edu).
2. The editorial committee will review the project proposal as a whole. If persuaded of the merits of the project, the committee will invite the guest editors to send in the chapters, which should conform to the regular guidelines for submission (see no. 5 below).
3. The entire project—up to six essays, plus an introduction—will then be reviewed by three readers, one from the editorial committee and two from other institutions. If a minimum number of articles to constitute an issue (four or five) pass muster with the readers, the project will be accepted, subject to the authors doing final revisions. The editorial committee will inform the guest editor(s) which essays have been accepted for inclusion and outline suggestions for revision of the articles, the introduction, and the conclusion. The editorial committee will then make a final decision based on the revised essays.
4. A member of the editorial committee may submit a proposal for a special issue and may write the introduction; he/she may not contribute an article to the issue. The member in question will not participate in vetting the proposal or making the decision on the project.
5. To be considered, articles in a special issue must adhere to the guidelines for submissions to *World Politics* concerning simultaneous consideration or publication elsewhere (in a print or online and concerning length (i.e., a maximum of 12,500 words, including notes and references).
6. Acceptance of the project for publication as a special issue does not imply a commitment to accept the complete package.
7. It is expected that authors will revise their articles as requested by the readers/editors and that the articles will be rereviewed.

(Revised 2017)