

Editorial Note

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Abstract

The latest issue of Politikon: The IAPSS Journal of Political Science features a diverse selection of articles exploring various political aspects. These contributions offer insightful analyses on topics ranging from Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's populist discourse to the EU's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the Conversations section focuses on transnational collaborations in academia, with reflections on student engagement and academic publishing experiences.

In this issue of *Politikon: The IAPSS Journal of Political Science*, we present a diverse selection of articles that explore different facets of political dynamics and governance. These articles offer insightful analyses and thought-provoking perspectives on various topics, contributing to a deeper understanding of contemporary political issues.

Furkan Çay and Assem Kalkamanova's study, "Measuring Populist Discourse of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan: A Quantitative Content Analysis," examines Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's populist discourse. Through a quantitative content analysis of his campaign speeches, Çay and Kalkamanova unveil the evolving dimensions of populism in Erdoğan's rhetoric and its connection to the political landscape in Turkey.

Andrea Capati's contribution, "The COVID-19 Pandemic and the Establishment of the Recovery and Resilience Facility: A 'Critical Junctures' Analysis of the European Union's Financial Assistance Regime," examines the EU's response to the unprecedented challenges posed by the pandemic. Capati's analysis offers insights into the transformation of the EU's financial assistance regime as a consequence of this critical juncture.

Sarah Joan Clifford's article, "Silent Masculinity: The Discursive Interplay of Gender and White Logic in Alberta's K-6 Draft Curriculum," offers a discursive analysis of gender representation in Alberta's K-6 Social Studies draft curriculum. By scrutinizing the curriculum's portrayal of history and its implications for identity formation, Clifford unveils the nuanced interplay of gender and historical narratives.

Kristin Eichhorn's research note, "Selecting the Electorate: Disenfranchisement and Selective Voter Registration in Electoral Autocracies," explores the manipulation of democratic processes in electoral autocracies. Focusing on the strategic adjustments of

suffrage rights in response to electoral contexts, Eichhorn reveals the intricate mechanisms employed by autocrats to secure their political survival.

Each of these articles enriches the scholarly landscape by providing distinct viewpoints, thorough examinations, and valuable understandings. We anticipate that the readers of *LAPSS Politikon* will find this issue to be both intellectually stimulating and captivating, fostering additional investigation and conversation about the intricate political phenomena explored in these pages.

This issue also showcases two contributions to the Conversations section, a newly established non-peer review section of *LAPSS Politikon*. This section is open to opinion essays, interviews, pedagogical discussions, film commentaries, and critical reflections on academic events within the realm of Political Science. It aims to expand the boundaries of Political Science to encompass creative interventions and interdisciplinary dialogue, thus fostering a dynamic and inclusive platform for scholarly exchanges.

Within this issue, the contributions to the Conversations section focus on transnational collaborations in academia. Oleksii Zahreba reflects on student engagement and the representation of the Global South at the IPSA 2023 World Congress held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Velomahanina Tahinjanahary Razakamaharavo brings a distinctive perspective to academic publishing, drawing from the experiences of students from Madagascar and insights derived from the Hybricon project.

The matters of accessibility and inclusiveness addressed by Zahreba and Razakamaharavo carry notable importance for *LAPSS Politikon*. One of our key challenges is ensuring that researchers worldwide at all stages of their careers can benefit fully from innovations in research publishing, including the transition to open access and broader “open science” practices. At *LAPSS Politikon*, we are committed to empowering students and emerging scholars, facilitating their contributions to the field of Political Science while ensuring their work attains the visibility it rightfully deserves. To challenge the existing patterns in academic publishing, especially when scholars face growing pressure to “publish or perish,” we recognize the need to enhance efforts in offering training and support to researchers across the Global South in all aspects of publishing. This includes aiding researchers in designing methodologically robust research projects, fostering effective interdisciplinary collaborations, honing article-writing skills, adeptly addressing revision requests, and navigating communication with editorial teams. As we navigate these changes, we are committed to nurturing an inclusive and supportive environment for scholarly advancement.