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Editorial Note

Dear Reader,

We proudly present Vol. 35 of *Politikon*, the flagship academic journal of the International Association for Political Science Students.

Politikon is open to talented junior scholars regardless of their formal academic status. This can be seen from the rich variety of backgrounds of our authors, whose papers successfully passed our peer-review procedure.

Our first paper adopts a constructivist approach to examine how securitization allowed the US Central Intelligence Agency to introduce controversial tactics such as coercive interrogations and extrajudicial detention as new internal norms, without turning them into fully-fledged rules under the Bush administration. Our second contribution argues that the lack of a network approach in favour of a centralised approach to government in South Africa can explain the weak success of tackling unemployment thus far. A network approach advocates for the inclusion of private actors, which can bring valuable expertise, skills, know-how and credit at the local level. To illustrate this, our author presents the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality's Youth Enterprise Development Programme as a case study. Our third paper evaluates the character of the EU as a foreign policy actor by looking at its restrictive measures against Belarus. For this purpose, it analyses documents issued by the European Parliament on sanctions over a ten-year period. Our final contribution also studies the European Parliament, but this time from a different angle. In fact, it analyzes the voting behavior of European far-right parties between 2009 and 2014 on economic and monetary affairs as well as immigration, but also their party programs, election manifestos, parliamentary speeches, statements and media coverage. This article shows that these parties tend to be united on salient issues, while deviations are mostly caused by country-specific reasons.

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We look forward to reviewing your work!

Your Editors