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A faint, light blue background image of a globe, centered on the Americas, with the continents of North and South America visible in a slightly darker shade of blue.

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Editorial Note

Dear Reader,

We proudly present Vol. 34 of POLITIKON, the flagship academic journal of the International Association for Political Science Students.

This volume features four selected papers. You will be able to read about ‘constitutional patriotism’, a fascinating concept in political theory which claims that societies can create ties defining their collective identity through common allegiance to shared norms rather than on the basis of culture. For those of you interested in political theory applied to the EU, the second paper investigates which requirements would be needed for the adoption of ‘demoicracy’ as a possible form of governance for the EU. While reflecting on the plausibility of such adoption, ‘demoicracy’ is presented as a better candidate than cosmopolitanism for the implementation of party-less governance. Should you be interested in recent developments in international law, the third paper explores the controversies behind the doctrine of ‘Responsibility to Protect’ (R2P). The case studies of the conflicts in the Balkans, Iraq and Afghanistan investigate the extent to which R2P can be considered as a viable legal instrument for intervening in international conflicts. Finally, the fourth paper addresses the legal framework and the shortcomings of the use of petitions as a tool of inquiry on Non-Self-Governing Territories by the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly of the UN. Most importantly, this instrument is criticized for introducing a double standard on human rights within the UN as well as legal imbalances among member states of the Committee under study.

Our authors range from senior undergraduate students to PhD researchers, whose papers successfully passed our peer-review procedure. This shows that *Politikon* is open to talented junior scholars regardless of their formal academic status.

If you also want to publish an article with us, please visit our website for further information: <https://www.iapss.org/wp/academics/journals/politikon/call-for-papers/>.

We look forward to reviewing your work!

Your Editors