



## St. Antony's International Review – Call for Peer Reviewers

### Issue 19.1 *Globalism & Multipolarity* and Issue 19.2 *Hardware & Software*

St Antony's International Review (STAIR), invites professors, lecturers, academic researchers, fellows, and current doctoral students to volunteer as peer reviewers for STAIR's upcoming issues, *Globalism & Multipolarity* and *Hardware & Software*. We seek those with expertise on those themes (which are elaborated upon below), as well as those with experience in the field of International Affairs and related disciplines.

#### **STAIR is seeking peer reviewers with expertise suited to the following sections:**

**General Section:** manuscripts on topics in the fields of International Relations/ Affairs, Political Science, Contemporary/International History, Area Studies, Development Studies, and related fields. Articles may take theoretical or policy-oriented approaches.

**Theme Sections 19.1 & 19.2:** manuscripts pertaining to the themes of *Globalism & Multipolarity* and *Hardware & Software* as outlined in the descriptions below:

#### **Issue 19.1 *Globalism & Multipolarity: The search for new Grand Narratives***

When STAIR was founded in 2005, Grand Narratives abounded. 'The Clash of Civilizations,' 'New World Order,' 'New Internationalism,' 'The End of History,' and others were applied by students and scholars of International Affairs as heuristics to frame developments around them in historical context. Amid growing attention to the question of unipolarity, its decline, and the rise of China as a new Great Power and other middle powers from the Global South, Issue 19.1 seeks to investigate whether Grand Narratives, both and in general, remain widespread and/or useful tools with which to analyze International Affairs. STAIR seeks contributions about a comprehensive set of issues cohered by an investigation into the extent those who study International Affairs have taken for granted assumptions about their field which are now outdated. In other words, are the issues which top global agendas conceivable using the frameworks popular among STAIR contributors of one or two decades ago?

Why are major parties on the Western political right, often associated with military intervention and free trade, now hesitant to provide military aid to Ukraine and increasing advocates for protectionism? Have multinational institutions of governance, diplomacy, and war such as the EU, NATO, the G7/20, and the United Nations (including the Security Council), lost legitimacy they once possessed? Has a transnational populism reframed domestic politics from classification along a left-right continuum to one for and against an 'establishment,' or 'globalism'? What connects January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, in Washington D.C. to January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, in Brasilia? What links may be uncovered between the Trucker Convoy in Canada and the *Gillet Jaunes* in France? Were major political mass movements in the wake of the 2008 Financial Crisis, including Occupy Wall Street, the Tea Party, the anti-Austerity Movement, the Pink Tide, and the Arab Spring regional expressions of the same phenomenon? Are Euroscepticism, climate change denial, and vaccine hesitancy variations of a common, underlying suspicion?

Is democracy in peril? Is BRICS a Global South analogue to the G7, or are expectations of



zero-sum competition between them unnuanced? Will other reserve currencies ever seriously challenge the predominant use of the US dollar in global trade? Is the normalization of relations occurring among Iran, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Egypt, Turkey, and Gulf States in the Middle East capable of reshaping the regional balance of power? Will the world's various Indo-Pacific Strategies successfully contest Chinese regional hegemony? What explains the emergence of rapid and sustained regime change across the so-called "coup belt" from Niger to Somalia? Has there ever been a 'rules-based international order,' and has our fascination with the concept clouded our ability to understand actually existing International Affairs? Do we live in a multipolar world, and if so, what will become of the global supply chains and financial system which traverse acrimonious spheres of influence?

### **Issue 19.2 Hardware & Software:**

In Issue 19.2, STAIR turns its attention to the multifaceted geopolitical dynamics and implications of technological innovation. We welcome exploration of the frontiers of AI, from Large Language Models (LLMs) to Computer Vision and Machine Learning. The implications of these technologies in tangible applications such as self-driving vehicles, labor automation, and cloud computing are also of interest. The realm of digital communication, with the rise of new media, deepfakes, and the prevalence of digital misinformation, provides a rich field of inquiry. How are these shaping our perception of truth and influencing our societies? This discourse naturally segues into the discussion around encryption, cybersecurity, and the escalating threats of cybercrime and cyberterrorism. What are the implications for individual privacy and state surveillance in this digital age?

The evolution of the internet, from social networks to the advent of Web 3.0, presents another interesting perspective. How is this evolution shaping societal interactions, economic models, and political engagements? Technological governance is also of keen interest, particularly in the context of digital diplomacy. How do nations and international bodies navigate this emerging landscape, and what does it mean for global power dynamics? How does technology intersect with traditional security concerns, such as nuclear proliferation? The advancements and dilemmas in the military-technological sphere, from Autonomous Weapon Systems (AWSs) and drone warfare to bioweapons, also merit exploration. How do these developments reshape warfare, and what are the ethical, legal, and strategic implications? Finally, we encourage authors to examine the intersection of technology and global health, especially considering the COVID-19 pandemic. How has technology played a role in navigating this global crisis, and what lessons can be derived from it?

STAIR will offer special consideration to submissions made by scholars and students whose field(s) of expertise are not limited to International Affairs and its neighbors in the social sciences and humanities. We eagerly invite those in STEM fields, whose academic backgrounds more directly concern the operation and science behind the technological developments listed above - and beyond - to consider submitting. We hope contributors from these fields who seldom write to audiences like ours will embrace the challenge of breaching the walls of echo chambers which separate STEM from International Affairs.



Express your intent to peer-review using [our form](#) by:

- January 1, 2024, for Issue 19.1
- April 1, 2024, for Issue 19.2

#### **Peer Review Deadlines**

- March 1, 2024, for Issue 19.1
- June 1, 2024, for Issue 19.2

Email submissions in .docx format to: [stairjournal@sant.ox.ac.uk](mailto:stairjournal@sant.ox.ac.uk)

#### **About STAIR:**

STAIR is the only peer-reviewed journal of international affairs at the University of Oxford. Founded in 2005 by graduate students at St Antony's College, STAIR has carved out a distinctive niche as a cross-disciplinary outlet for research on pressing contemporary global issues, providing a forum for emerging scholars to publish their work alongside established academics and policymakers. A range of notable individuals have contributed to STAIR issues in the past, including Dame Minouche Shafik (LSE's first female Director), Sir Anthony Giddens, Prof. Noam Chomsky, Prof. Valerie Bunce, Prof. Robert Keohane, Prof. Amitav Acharya, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya (Belarussian opposition leader), Prof. John Baylis, Prof. Todd H. Hall, Prof. Alfred Stepan, Prof. James Rosenau, and more. Our events have featured highly influential global figures such as: Dr. Nikos Christodoulides (President of Cyprus), Boris Johnson, and Victor Yushchenko.

To learn more about STAIR, please consider visiting our [website](#). To stay in touch, feel free to join our mailing list.