

REVIEW OF REVIEWS

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JIRD includes studies regarding contemporary world politics and articles with a global political economy dimension with a broad methodological scope. The journal took shape first in 1984, aiming to boost scholarly publications by Central and Eastern Europe authors.

A key turn, occurring in the 1990s, indicated the journal as the official publication of the Central and East European International Studies Association (CEEISA), introducing also the peer-review system of selection for international studies, becoming thus an international journal with regional origin.

JIRD publishes original studies that respond to both theoretical and methodological scientific standards in the fields of international relations and political economy, providing also either theoretical or conceptual up-to-date analyses.

The editorial team represents a symbol for the international overture of the journal. *JIRD* is included in the Thomson Scientific list of journals and in the Social Science Citation Index. Among the interesting contributions to volume 16 of the *JIRD* we are mentioning here a couple of studies. The study titled "Politics, law, and the sacred: a conceptual analysis" by Friedrich Kratochwil from Kyung Hee University, Seoul, doi:10.1057/jird.2012.20, who approaches the question of the sacred in relation to the legitimacy for political rule. The author notices that the sacred is situated beyond politics and law, but law and legitimacy interact with politics and law as semantic fields, allowing for a conceptual analysis of practices that develop the sacred. Thus, the study investigates the possibility of a purely secular and contract-based international order, deprived of the sacred as it is supposed by the Peace of Westphalia. Then, the investigation emphasizes the contract as a metaphor that implies the sacred and especially the "sacralisation of the people", of the "human rights" and of other political metaphors in modernity. The sacred is merely transfigured: this way, the people become the 'nation' and a source of legitimacy for politics and law. The study portrays the human rights discourse in relation to "imperial projects" where the rule of law is displaced by the "rule of lawyers." Hans-Martin Jaeger from the Department of Political Science, Carleton University, B640 Loeb, 1125 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada signs the article entitled "Governmentality's (missing) international dimension and the promiscuity of German neoliberalism". Basing his work on Foucault's theory of governmentality in International Relations (IR) the author emphasizes the international dimensions of police and liberalism, since they emerge historically in international contexts, although Foucault's theory does not interpret them. This investigation develops within a context of interrelations between domestic and international politics. The international contexts identified are mainly the European balance of power and the 'globalisation' of markets and these are called international governmentalities. Twentieth-century (German) neoliberal governmentality has at its core the international dimension. Nevertheless, (German) neoliberalism is interpreted in its relations with multiple liberal and non-liberal 'international' governmentalities, an ambiguity sustained by a conservative ethos of moderation, contributing thus also to a more complex investigation of neoliberalism.

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¹ See also <http://www.palgrave-journals.com/jird/index.html>; http://www.palgrave-journals.com/ipr/free_articles.html; <http://www.palgrave-journals.com/jird/about.html#Editors>.