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International Encyclopedia of Public Policy -
*Governance in a Global Age: Objectives, Themes, Areas and Content*

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Abstract

With the increasing globalisation of capital, the rise of neoliberalism, challenges to
global capital, terrorism, war, financial crises and global slump and possible
recovery, the new millennium needs to see a comprehensive global and comparative
analysis and reassessment of governance issues. The International Encyclopedia of
Public Policy: Governance in a Global Age (IEPP, 4 vols) seeks to do just that. This
paper examines the objectives, major themes, areas and content of the IEPP, which
attempts a comprehensive examination of governance activities, theories, institutions
and problems. I am seeking participants in the project as writers, referees and
associate editors. After reading this article feel free to check the detail on the IEPP
website at: [http://cbs.curtin.edu.au/oharap/gpe](http://cbs.curtin.edu.au/oharap/gpe) and if interested email me at:
iepp1@runbox.com (or if this email address fails try: iepp2@yahoo.com)

Introduction

As editor of the *Encyclopedia of Political Economy* (Routledge 1999; paper edition
2001; 2 volumes; 940,000 words), I gained a great deal of experience in organizing,
administering, editing and writing encyclopedias (along with 300 associate editors,
writers, members of the editorial board, and referees). Recently I have been writing
quite a bit about policy issues and problems. This led me to wonder whether there is a
suitable encyclopedia on public policy or governance in general. So I checked through
the Internet and libraries and found reference to two possible candidates: ¹ Jay M.
Shafritz (1998) and Stuart S. Nagel (1994). (See O’Hara 2001 for details.) Overall,
there is certainly an empty niche for a comprehensive, international encyclopedia of
government, that concentrates on policy or governance issues, institutions,
perspectives, theories, processes, practices and problems. Such an encyclopedia
should be a-z in format from beginning to end, with a-z (policy area) lists to help with
the planning process.

In relation to length and organization, the IEPP will include 4 volumes; 1.6 million
words; 400 original articles; A-Z format from beginning to end; 13 Governance Areas
(for planning purposes); 30 original articles per A-Z Area (average). The average

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* Email: iepp1@runbox.com (or iepp2@yahoo.com). See the IEPP web page for more detail at: http://cbs.curtin.edu.au/oharap/gpe. I wish to thank participants in a seminar on the IEPP at Curtin University, along with Michael McClure, Peter Kriesler, Mathew Forstater, Sandra Hopkins, Jeffrey Pope, and Angels Ilams who were especially helpful with comments, advice and assistance.

¹ I also found some evidence of an emerging *Encyclopedia of Social Policy*, through searching the Internet. It looks like it is in an early phase of evolution.
length of articles will be 4,000 words; 4,000 x 30 x 13 = 1.6 million words; most articles will be of 3,000 words, many of 4,000 words, a few of 5,000 words. All articles will be fully refereed through an International Editorial Board and Associate Editors.

**Governance Areas Covered**

While the **IEPP** will be fully A-Z in format from beginning to end, for planning and study purposes 13 policy areas have been developed.

1. Policy Processes, Structures and Strategies
2. Ideology, Schools of Thought and Political Philosophy
3. Global Economy and Policy
4. Security, Peace, Military and Foreign Policy
5. Family, Health and Social Policy
6. Environmental Policy
7. Technology, Industry, Education and Science Policy
8. Labor and Industrial Relations Policy
9. Corporate Governance, Competition and Consumer Policy
11. Fiscal Policy
12. Monetary Policy
13. Law, Crime, Justice and Punishment

Most articles will include (not necessarily in this order), (a) an introduction, (b) definitions, (c) history and role of individuals and groups/organizations involved in governance issues, (d) governance practices, (e) governance theory and perspectives, (f) policies in the nations of the world, (g) the global or multinational significance of the issues, (h) a critique, (i) further research and policy innovation, (j) ‘see also’ (cross references); (k) selected references, and (l) Internet sites.

**Objectives of the IEGP**

**Objective One:** To document in a comprehensive fashion the current state of knowledge in the area of governance. Included here are the theories, perspectives, processes, institutions, issues, practices and problems of policy. Special reference is given to those areas which are critical into the early years of the new millennium, and the problems which are likely to evolve in the foreseeable future.

**Objective Two:** To document in a comprehensive fashion the main governance issues in the global political economy, as well as foreign policy and the issues of conflict, terrorism and war. The world is going through the second main process of modern globalization (the first was during 1880-1914), and, therefore, these issues need to be at the center of the issues analyzed in the encyclopedia.

**Objective Three:** To document in a comprehensive fashion governance issues, institutions, processes and problems in a comparative analysis, as well as the
processes and issues that are common to all main nations. Many articles will incorporate a comparative national perspective.

Objective Four: To document in a comprehensive fashion, foreign policy questions linked to political ideology, parties and political programs. It is crucial to document the main policy issues linked to these perspectives and philosophies in order for the encyclopedia to be relevant, interesting and political in its emphasis.

Objective Five: To document in a comprehensive fashion the main economic policies associated with fiscal and monetary, labor and corporate, plus business cycle and technology policy. These are the backbone of governance issues and thereby need to be placed at the center of the analysis.

Objective Six: To document in a comprehensive fashion the main social policy issues, processes and problems of governance. Critical in this respect are the policies associated with family and gender, health and welfare, arts and culture, plus ethnicity and the environment. These social issues and processes are critical to the public interest and community relations and therefore need to be given a privileged position in the encyclopedia.

Objective Seven: To document in a comprehensive fashion legal and rights policy issues and problems. Questions of property and human rights – both national and global – are foundational aspects of policy processes and concerns. Included here are questions associated with legality, justice, consumer rights, crime, and the workings of executive, legislature and judiciary branches of government. A detailed analysis of policy cannot be gained without a comprehensive understanding of these issues.

Publishing and Editorial Questions

The International Encyclopedia of Public Policy: Governance in a Global Age will be targeted at libraries and institutions, for use by students, professors, politicians, business people, public servants, policy advisors, political activists and the general public. It will be written in a lucid and accessible style. The average size of articles will be 4,000 words; with most articles being 3,000 words in length; many being 4,000 words length, and with a few being 5,000 words in number. The average of 4,000 words (taking into account the introductory pages, preface, sections about how to use the work, indexes, etc) provides sufficient length to generate enough depth for most articles.

It is desirable to produce the encyclopedia in 4 volumes, initially in hardback (plus possibly CD-Rom or Internet-access versions). This should be ideal for selling to university, local, government, school and corporate libraries. Later a paper edition could be produced, if it is anticipated that the market will be strong enough among academics and other users.

The next stage is to complete the publishing contract (I am currently considering one), and invite writers, associate editors, and referees. It is important that the associate editors be a group of experts and generalists that span the whole gambit of ideology
and perspectives, and emanate from diverse nations and continents. The 400 original articles will be fully refereed by the editor, associate editors and referees.
Timetable

It is planned to have a suitable publishing contract signed by July 2002. During the second half of 2002 there will be multiple calls for suitable writers, associate editors and referees. During mid-2003 the first batch of articles will come in to be refereed (followed by a rewrite, where acceptable). During late 2003 the second batch of articles will be due in to the editor and sent out to referees, followed by rewriting, etc. During mid-2004, the third batch of articles will be due. And during late 2004 the last of the articles will be due. The completed articles will then be sent to the publisher in five instalments during early 2005, and soon thereafter the International Encyclopedia of Public Policy will be published in four volumes. Although details are not yet finalized, writers that get 2 or 3 articles published in the IEPP will likely receive a ‘free’ copy of the IEPP, and writers getting one article published will likely get a copy of the volume they contribute to (as well as a hefty discount if they want to buy the work). In addition, there are likely to be 30-40 ‘Awards for Excellence’ for the best writers, associate editors and referees: including a plaque and monetary award.

The 13 A-Z Areas – Sample Areas

Thirteen (13) a-z areas will be used to plan the encyclopedia. Also, when published, the ‘How To Use the Encyclopedia’ section will detail each of these 13 areas to provide a guide to readers for study purposes: to show how articles are thematically related to each other. This can help, for instance, with course development and cross-referencing. Due to space limitations, the 13 a-z list of 400 articles cannot be shown here. Instead, 2 of the a-z areas are shown below, to give the reader an idea of the type of articles that will be in the 4 volume IEPP. See the IEPP web page for details of the 400 articles and many more details, including a sample article on ‘Insider Trading’, and a form for sending to the editor, at http://cbs.curtin.edu.au/oharap/gpe

Two Sample A-Z Lists for the IEPP

1. Policy Processes, Structures and Strategies

1. accountability in government [3000 words]
2. bureaucracy [3000]
3. community input into governance [3000]
4. corporate management and administration: governance issues [3000]
5. elections and referenda [3000]
6. executive, legislature and judiciary: checks and balances [3000]
7. free riders, collective action and policy [3000]
8. game theory analysis of policy [3000]
9. governance [4000]
10. governance & policy: (a) history of main issues & programs [4000]
11. governance & policy: (b) major contemporary issues & programs [4000]
12. governance & policy: (c) major contemporary theories & perspectives [4000]
13. governance & policy: (d) formulation & implementation [4000]
14. governance & policy: (e) comparative national perspectives [4000]
15. governance & policy: (f) local governance [4000]
16. governance & policy: (g) state governance [4000]
17. governance & policy: (h) national governance [4000]
18. governance & policy: (i) global governance [4000]
19. government size: trends, theory, practice and evidence [3000]
20. journals of government policy and governance [4000]
21. market-based reforms of government [3000]
22. modeling of policies and practices [3000]
23. objectives of government policy [3000]
24. Pareto optimum, second best & social welfare: policy implications [3000]
25. parliamentary procedures [3000]
26. policy instruments and targets [3000]
27. policy studies: basic concepts and themes [3000]
28. policy studies: multidisciplinary character & methodology [3000]
29. privatization: main issues, practices and problems [3000]
30. public administration: major issues and practices [3000]
31. public administration: theory and perspectives [3000]
32. public goods, externalities and governance [3000]
33. public interest [3000]
34. public performance indicators [3000]
35. public utilities and corporations [3000]
36. QUANGOs [3000]
37. regulation of industry [3000]
38. rules and discretion [3000]
39. utilities (gas, electricity, water) [4000]

2. **Global Political Economy**

1. African unity and integration [3000]
2. Asian unity and integration [3000]
3. balance of payments constraint on policy [2000]
4. balance of payments problems: policy issues & practices [3000]
5. brain drain: policy problems & responses [2000]
6. child labor and prostitution: policy responses [2000]
7. economic and financial crises: policy responses [3000]
8. European Union [3000]
9. exchange rates: policy issues and options [3000]
10. flexible system of production: policy issues [3000]
11. foreign aid [2000]
12. foreign direct investment: policy issues [3000]
13. free trade and protection: policies and practices [3000]
14. free trade and protection: theory and perspectives [3000]
15. Free Trade Area of the Americas [2000]
16. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade [2000]
17. global policy coordination [3000]
18. global political economy: realist, liberal & structural perspectives on policy [3000]
19. global technological revolution: policy responses [3000]
20. globalization [3000]
Conclusion

The *International Encyclopedia of Public Policy: Governance in a Global Age* is to be the most comprehensive reference on global, comparative and national perspectives of governance. With 400 articles and an average article of 4,000 words, there is sufficient scope for scholars to document the main problems and issues confronting the world in the first decade of the twenty-first century. What are the most critical issues associated with national and global governance? How can the most important issues of policy be examined and put into practice? What governance practices, perspectives and problems are likely to emerge in the future? There will be an international cadre of writers, referees, associate editors and members. It is envisaged that the critical issues will be saliently and eloquently examined, and that it will guide students, policy makers, academics, business people, and activists in fruitful directions. Potential editors, referees and writers are invited to correspond with the editor as early as possible to express their interest in participating in this project. You are encouraged to check the *IEPP* web site to explore the project details.

References

