



The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations

John Baylis (Editor) , Steve Smith (Editor) , Patricia Owens (Editor)

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The Globalization of World Politics, Seventh Edition, is the best-selling introduction to international relations, offering the most comprehensive coverage of key theories and global issues in world politics.

The seventh edition features several brand new chapters that reflect the very latest developments in the field, including those on gender and race, to ensure the book continues to cover topics that define key IR issues. New pedagogical features help readers evaluate key IR debates and apply theory to real world events.

Leading scholars in the field introduce readers to the history, theory, structures, and key issues in IR, providing students with an ideal introduction and a constant guide throughout their studies.

The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations Details

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From Reader Review The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations for online ebook

Manar says

- a must for any International Relations student

Yunia Damayanti says

Oh my thesis....

Mervyn Cartwright says

Reading this book as part of a short course entitled The Causes of War. It has views on many aspects of International Politics. Particularly interesting are the definitions of war as seen from differing perspectives. The book also has online links for case studies of contemporary conflicts.

Joe says

First, let's talk about what John Baylis' "The Globalization of World Politics" is: a sweeping, relatively comprehensive overview of the field of International Relations. With five chapters on world history, another 7 on the major theoretical schools of IR, and then another 15+ chapters on various topics of importance such as international ethics, modern warfare, peacekeeping and diplomacy, international political economy, and others. Suffice to say, GWP is a massive, sprawling look at just about all the major topics in contemporary IR.

That being said, the depth of each topic necessarily can't be more than an overview, and while this may suffice for an "Intro to IR" course, it won't leave you with much beyond that. In addition to that, the strength of each chapter varies wildly; while I found his chapters on realism, constructivism, and Marxism pretty descriptive, sections like those about the impact of post-colonialism or feminism were largely lacking. However, Baylis wins points for having 5-15 "Further Reading" suggestions at the end of each chapter and topic, which serve as a basic jumping-off point for motivated students. He also includes a rather excellent Glossary at the end of the text, which prepares readers with precisely the kind of vocabulary needed to navigate a field as academic as international relations.

Baylis also takes an approach largely agnostic from bias; while you can tell based on his attention to detail about certain topics where his expertise lies, he also largely avoids the very common trap of completely neglecting heterodox schools of thought or uncomfortable facts about popular perspectives. Perhaps this is due to his European academic heritage. All I know is, I was genuinely surprised to find an entire section about Antonio Gramsci's contributions to IR written without bias-- this is something you'd never find from a professor at, say, the University of Texas, and I found it incredibly refreshing. Ditto for Baylis' asides on the spread and growth of economic inequality as a side effect of globalization and interdependence, for another

example. Really one of the strongest aspects of the book.

"The Globalization of World Politics" suffers from the misfortune of trying to introduce students to a gigantic and relevant field of study, and while it mostly accomplishes the goal, it can't possibly get all the way. I don't hold it against Baylis, because this effort is sure the best one I've come across so far, but it is what it is. If you're looking for an exhaustive, 2000-page tome that covers every aspect of IR in depth, I'm not sure it exists. But for an educating and interesting introduction? GWP has you covered in spades.

Ambuj Sahu says

4.5/5.

A nice and gripping starter to theories of International Relations. The book is divided into three sections. The first section traces the evolution of current international orders glancing through the prevailing systems in world history. It is supplemented by the theoretical tools used to understand the approaches towards the subject.

The second section deals with various actors and their roles in the larger game of international politics. I specially enjoyed the chapter on war and feminist approaches.

The final section comprises of prevalent global challenges and issues faced by the international community. Ranging from poverty, security, environment, nuclear proliferation and terrorism, the authors provide interesting insights into the problems with many perspectives.

Additional case studies and boxes help to test and track the understanding of concepts. Every chapter concludes with analyzing the theme with respect of globalization. The content of the book is sheer justice to the title and reputation of the book. I deducted 0.5 because I still have a few chapters to finish (as the ones on international regime and private actors are too dry, factual and boring...)

Muhammad Murad says

Read many of its chapters over the last couple of years. It helped me a lot in my concept making related to the subject, especially the theories of world politics. I will recommend it to those who have interest in the subject of world politics and world politics.

Mikaela says

One of the best introductions to International Relations and global politics. For students (or readers) who are looking for an informative text on World Politics, this textbook is comprehensible and filled with examples. However, like many Western published textbooks, much of the content swings to Western culture and society. Understandably so, as the history of academic international relations were popularized by the West, however, for an introduction to politics and comparative politics, the text is easy to read.

Akshi says

Everybody knows what an important book this is for the student of International Relations and it is considered one of the basic texts for all the right reasons. Giving one a glimpse of the evolution of the international system over the ages to explaining nearly all the relevant phenomenon through the lens of different theoretical paradigms, it keeps the much celebrated "globalization" central to its discussions. Specific chapters have been written by well known authors of the field and ever since my first meeting with this book last year, I've enjoyed reading it every time I've picked it up.

I bought the fifth edition for myself and was overwhelmed by the beauty of its colourful and glazed paper and attractive design. However, my only complain is that in the course of widening its scope, the new edition seems to have cut down on the depth of the analysis previous editions offered (an example is the chapter on World history from 1900-1990). This compromise of depth in favour of breadth means that the book remains only a starting point, albeit, a thoroughly engaging, up-to-date and relevant one! This also enables it to be a book that would be accessible to both students of I.R. along with a person who may not belong to the academic field but may be intrigued by International Relations nevertheless.

Note : The sheer beauty of the book along with the ease of reading it makes it one of my most prized possessions :)

Bookworm Amir says

This textbook is a must for any International Relations student. As a newbie, it gives us the basic structure that we can use to comprehend the basics of IR, as well as the contemporary issues at hand.

One of my professors said that the book was so good, as each chapter was written by a renowned scholar of that field, that he fears students might just use that textbook for references and ideas.

The book has a useful glossary, questions at the end of chapters, further readings, colourful texts and photos, and for each sub-chapter, a review. I have been writing notes and underlining texts on this book.

My only concern that as a 2nd year student, while it has proved very useful for qualifying year, now it seems that what they talk about - to depth and width - is lacking. Say if I was to write about the issue of nationalism, this textbook will quickly give me the basics, but nothing more. I would have to go to JSTOR and other journals to get the more specific information which our paper requires. The textbook is great for beginners, and as the title of the book mentions, it is an introduction merely. I am happy to have read most of the book from cover to cover.

Amanda says

Very informative. I plan to keep this book as a reference. The prose, though difficult, was well done and the divisions between topics were orderly and helpful. There are even nice key point boxes at the end of sections to help review in a pinch.

Sham Al-Ghazali says

An incredibly huge help with my university degree however history is written by the "winners" and this somewhat looks on globalization all too favorably

Syed M. Abdullah says

I'd say, it is a bible for the modern international politics: theory and practice both (for beginners only).

Linnea says

One of the best overviews of international politics and globalization. A great introductory book with all the essentials, from political international theory to bureaucratic issues. Also very pedagogic with examples and a nice structure.

Lacked critical reflection by the authors, but this is understandable since it's just a basic-level introduction.

Ike Sharpless says

This is the textbook I chose for my upcoming intro to IR course, which I'm teaching for the first time. So it'll be listed as "reading" for at least the next three months...

Marie Therese says

It is well put together and each chapter guides you through each topic at a steady phase.
