



## **“Political Science in Global Health”**

Special issue of *Global Health Governance*

Guest Editor:

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The application of political science theory and method to the study of global health is a relatively new area of scholarly research. While political scientists have a long track record of studying the health policy-making process in the United States and other advanced industrialized nations, political scientists have only recently investigated the international and domestic politics of health policy change in developing nations and multilateral organizations (e.g., the United Nations and the World Bank). In recent years, other political scientists have explored the domestic and international security aspects of global health. This recent interest is mainly reflective of the fact that in the field of Comparative Politics and International Relations, health politics and policy have not been at the forefront of scholarly research; rather, and understandably so, the study of comparative democratization, electoral systems, ethnic and social conflict in the field of Comparative Politics, as well as international security, inter-state negotiations and conflict in International Relations has been of greater concern. And yet, recent seminal contributions to the field of comparative and international health politics and policy have kindled political scientists' interests in the topic.

The goal of this special issue of *Global Health Governance* is to analyze the progress that the political science community has made in the area of global health governance, to explain why political scientists should be interested in this field, and to consider new areas of scholarly research.

This series also strives to underscore the importance of undertaking multidisciplinary research in global health. Of particular importance is addressing the sustained divide between the political science and public health communities. Some political scientists for example are concerned about lack of interest in political science approaches to global health in mainstream public health journals. On the other hand, we wish to address why political scientists have failed to engage the public health scholarly community and other broader global health forums.

With this in mind, this special series seeks submissions of research articles addressing the following two themes and questions:

*I. Where are we? And why does global health matter?*

For this section of the special series, scholars will address the progress that the political science community has made in better explaining and understanding

international and domestic health politics and policy. For example, articles may address the following research questions:

- a) What new insights have been achieved through the application of political science theory to global health research?
- b) What new empirical challenges and needs have been raised through this approach to global health?
- c) What may be the limitations of the political science approach and how can other theoretical/methodological approaches be combined with political science to better understand and explain global health politics/policy?

## *II. Exploring New Areas of Scholarly Research*

In this section, scholars will submit articles addressing new areas of research in the fields of political science and global health. For example, some may wish to explore the processes of government response to neglected diseases, such as cancer, diabetes, malnutrition, obesity, as well as areas of controversial scientific inquiry, such as stem cell research. Alternatively, some may be interested in proposing new comparative methodologies and/or theories for better analyzing the international and domestic politics of global health. Authors may consider one or more health issues as well as one or more country case studies.

Those interested in contributing must submit abstracts to the guest editor Eduardo J. Gómez ([Eduardo.gomez@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:Eduardo.gomez@kcl.ac.uk)) and cc ([ghgovernance@gmail.com](mailto:ghgovernance@gmail.com)) by October 1, 2014. The guest editor will review the abstracts and make decisions by October 15. Authors whose abstracts are accepted will be invited to submit full manuscripts, which are due by February 15, 2015. The manuscripts must be uploaded on the *Global Health Governance* submission website, which can be found at the following website: <http://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/ghgi>

When submitting your abstracts, please make sure to indicate that you are submitting it to a special GHG journal series, by including in the subject line "Political Science and Global Health Special GHG Journal Series."

Please limit the word count of your submission to 3,000-5,000 words. After the February 15 deadline, all manuscripts will be internally reviewed. Those articles selected will then be sent out for peer review. Authors will be notified of a decision by April 1, 2015. Revisions to manuscripts will need to be sent back by May 1, with the goal of publishing the articles in June, 2015.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Guest Editor for this special series at [Eduardo.gomez@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:Eduardo.gomez@kcl.ac.uk).

Very best wishes and we look forward to receiving your submission.