the series

*Bristol Studies in International Theory* provides a platform for theoretically innovative scholarship that advances our understanding of the world and formulates new visions of, and solutions for, world politics. It seeks to showcase work that (i) engages in conceptual analysis and the creation of new concepts, (ii) harnesses empirical research to build theory, (iii) decentres existing paradigms and explores non-Western perspectives and approaches, (iv) revisits the ideas and arguments of canonical thinkers and/or the evolution of theorizing world politics, and (v) foregrounds ethical questions in world affairs and the ethics and politics of the practice of theorizing.

Within this scope, the series is open to different methods and we encourage conversation with neighbouring fields and disciplines.

Our standard format is sole-authored, co-authored or edited books of 70-100,000 words, which are aimed at a specialized audience in the field of International Relations. We also publish shorter interventions (up to 50,000 words) written for a wider audience and offering solutions for concrete political problems. For the latter format please consult the separate Interventions proposal guidelines.

We also accept proposals for works translated into English by the author or by a translator with the approval of the author and/or their representative. We require at least one sample chapter in English in order to review the proposal formally, but are happy to discuss ideas at an earlier stage.

The series editors are **Felix Berenskötter**, SOAS University of London, **Neta C. Crawford**, Boston University, and **Stefano Guzzini**, Uppsala University and PUC-Rio de Janeiro

GENERAL Proposal Guidelines

A well-developed proposal should be approximately 5–8 pages (excluding CVs and any sample material) and cover the points detailed in these guidelines, preferably in the order presented. It is important that the proposal presents a convincing rationale for your publication. It should clearly outline the work’s objectives and explain the benefits and advantages it will provide to the intended audience, above and beyond what is currently available.

Your proposal will be read by the series editors and subject editor at Bristol University Press who may discuss it with you before sending it for peer review. We aim to have it reviewed and collate the responses and feedback to you within ten weeks of receiving your proposal. We are committed to working closely with our authors and to making publishing decisions as efficiently as possible. If there are circumstances we should bear in mind in terms of timing (for instance if the proposal is under consideration by another publisher), please do let us know.

If you have questions or would like to discuss your ideas with us first, please contact the series editors:

* Felix Berenskötter: [fb12@soas.ac.uk](mailto:fb12@soas.ac.uk)
* Neta C. Crawford: [crawfor@bu.edu](mailto:crawfor@bu.edu)
* Stefano Guzzini: [Stefano.Guzzini@statsvet.uu.se](mailto:Stefano.Guzzini@statsvet.uu.se)

**Please send your Publishing Proposal electronically to the series editors or Stephen Wenham at Bristol University Press: stephen.wenham@bristol.ac.uk**

Proposal

1. Title information

Proposed working title and sub-title

Please bear in mind that, at times, the title may be the only indication of content for librarians, booksellers and institutional customers. It is therefore important that the title is sufficiently informative, descriptive and includes key words or terms which will help drive readers to your work.

Author(s)/editor(s)

Please include your affiliation(s) here but use the later ‘Author information’ section for full details. If there is more than one author/editor, please list the names in the order you would like them to appear on the work.

2. Synopsis and aims

Scope and Content (c. 500–800 words)

Outline the publication’s *scope and content*, and highlight its *originality*.

Consider:

* Why does a book need to be written on your proposed topic and what is original about the content or your approach?
* What themes, concepts and ideas will you develop?
* What is the publication’s topicality or academic/teaching relevance? What problems of world politics does it address?
* In what sense is it at the forefront of current research?
* What, if any, are the deliberate omissions? And why?

Aims

Highlight the specific *aims* of the work, explaining them as clearly and succinctly as possible.

Consider:

* What gap will the work fill and why is this publication needed? How are these needs sufficiently important to support a new publication?
* How does this work contribute to new ways of thinking about world politics?

3. Content

This section should include a provisional list of contents, with primary subheadings if possible, and a detailed chapter-by-chapter summary (200-300 words describing each chapter). Please give an approximate breakdown of the word count (including references) per chapter.

Please provide TWO sample chapters for a monograph and THREE sample chapters for an edited volume. One of the samples should be the introductory chapter laying out the approach. You may also send a complete draft if available. Clearly mark the material ‘draft’.

If your work is an edited collection, please provide brief details about the selection criteria for the chapters and authors and outline how the editor(s) will ensure coherence throughout the text.

4. Target audience

Please provide details of the intended audience for your book and why the work will be of value to them. Try to distinguish between primary and secondary audience.

Consider:

- What is the international market for your book?

- Is the book aimed at academics or at a wider audience?

- Is the book written for a particular academic field or for scholars with a regional expertise?

- Will your book be suitable for teaching?

5. Competition

List any competing publications, where possible giving details of date, publisher and price, and an assessment of your book’s position against the competition.

Consider:

* How does your book fit alongside others on the subject, and how does it differ?
* What are the strengths and weaknesses of the competition?
* Why is your book more suited to the needs of potential readers?

6. Background information

What has motivated you to write this text now?

Please also describe the background to the proposal.

* If the work arises out of funded research, when was the research carried out? What, if any, are the funder’s dissemination requirements?
* If it was originally devised to support a course, which course and how long have you been teaching in this area?
* If the work is based on your PhD/PhD research, is it available electronically anywhere, e.g. in an institutional library?
* Has any of the content been published elsewhere, for example in journal articles?

7. Typescript information

Please give the estimated total word count (to the nearest 5,000 words) of your work.

If applicable, please specify the number and type of illustrations required (photographs, diagrams, maps or tables) and what format/package these can be supplied in.

Please state what stage you have reached in preparing the typescript, particularly if parts of the typescript are already or about to be published elsewhere (for example, as journal articles).

If you will be using material that is likely to need copyright clearance, please give details.

8. Timetable

Please give a realistic schedule for completion of the work and indicate when you hope to see the book published.

9. Author information

Include details of current position, affiliation and full contact details, as well as nationality, for each author or editor. You should also provide a list of previous publications and other relevant experience, such as teaching or research, or attach current CV(s).

If your work is an edited collection, please provide names and affiliations for all contributors. Please also make it clear if any potential contributors have not yet been approached or agreed to be on-board.

10. Referees

Bristol University Press will select readers appropriate to the content of your proposed book, but if you would like to suggest 3-5 people whom you regard as suitably qualified to comment on the proposal, please include their names and contact details here.

Please advise us of any conflicts of interest, or any reviewers that you feel would be inappropriate for us to approach.