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# International Organization: What Do We Know and How Do We Pass on Our Knowledge?

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The study of international organization (IO) has a long history within international studies. To gauge the state of this domain of inquiry, this contribution to the Forum undertakes a detailed comparative analysis of

international organization textbooks. Textbooks are an important indicator of the knowledge that has accumulated in an area of study because they represent the efforts of scholars to draw together the state of the field for students. Not only does such a comparative analysis provide an overview of what the study of international organization has to offer, but it also demonstrates some of the different understandings and emphases that exist among scholars in the field.

The textbooks that are examined here include those used by the author in his IO courses or found in a careful review of publishers' catalogues. Although the designation of a book as a textbook is sometimes fairly clear-cut,...

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