



A New Editorial Team for the Newly ISI listed British Journal of Politics and International Relations (BJPIR)

As of August 2009, a team led by Prof. Richard English at Queen's University Belfast take over the editorial reins of the British Journal of Politics and International Relations. The QUB team has been awarded the role for three years after a highly competitive bidding process overseen by the PSA. In addition to the lead editor, Prof. Richard English, the new editorial team are: Andrew Baker, Alistair Clark, Debbie Lisle, Dan Bulley, Susan McManus, Lee McGowan, Stefan Andreasson, Shane O'Neill, Graham Walker and Mike Bourne.

Now an ISI-cited journal, BJPIR is nothing without its authors, subscribers and readers. The QUB team aim to increase the number of submissions and to continue to publish the best of British political science and of political science on Britain. We would therefore like to encourage all readers to think of BJPIR as the first choice when deciding upon an outlet for your articles, and are happy for authors to get in touch informally regarding ideas for contributions. We look forward to hearing from you!

The QUB team aim to build upon the highly successful tenure of the team at Nottingham led by Prof. Chris Pierson. Accordingly, the journal's mission statement remains highly inclusive: 'BJPIR is committed to acting as an outlet for the best of British political science and of political science on Britain. A fully refereed journal, it publishes topical, scholarly work on significant debates in British scholarship and on all major political issues affecting Britain's relationship to Europe and the world'. The QUB team hopes to encourage submissions around a number of themes falling within this mission statement. These relate to: major theoretical, ideological, socio-cultural, electoral and party political developments in the UK, particularly when placed in comparative context; the differentiated and multi-level polity of the UK post-devolution; the UK's place in the world and as a central actor in international relations and in international organizations; and all major trains of leading scholarship, whether theoretical or empirical, in the areas of politics and international relations.

Popular initiatives such as the annual Special Issue and Controversy sections will continue. In the aftermath of the RAE and in the current political environment, the team aims to develop two sections. Firstly, among many pressures such as the RAE/REF, there is scope for developing work upon the professional issues and challenges that face the twin disciplines of Political Studies and International Relations. These challenges can also reflect theoretical and methodological advances which colleagues are making. To this end, a regular State of the Discipline section is planned to reflect on these challenges. Secondly, as a profession we are regularly asked about the impact that we have. These questions regularly come from policy-makers and are likely to increase in light of the inclusion of

'impact' as a factor in the forthcoming REF. Consequently, a further new regular section entitled Policy Matters is also planned in order to highlight and showcase the impact of work by the Political Studies and International Relations communities. Authors with work fitting into either of these areas are highly encouraged to send their work to BJPIR for consideration.