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RIPE 2020 Diversity Statement

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As part of our commitment to diversity in academic publishing, the editors of the Review of International Political Economy (RIPE) decided in 2020 to publish annually a diversity statement, providing information about RIPE’s editorial team and contributors. Bair et al. (2021) provide further information on our commitment to strengthening equality, diversity and inclusion in international political economy and in the pages of RIPE.

Information on editorial board members was collected via a brief email survey; in addition, we mined the public web profiles of international advisory board members. Information on contributors was scraped from article contact details and notes on contributors. The data we collected in this way included: information on career status and geographical location of contributors\(^1\) as well as gender as extrapolated from pronoun use (De Haan 2020, 1131; Lohaus and Wemheuer-Vogelaar 2020, 8).

We recognise that the information thus presented provides only a very limited characterisation of diversity in our field; there exist significant restrictions on the empirical data we can collect. For example, we are not permitted to add questions about age, ethnicity and gender to the journal’s submission system.

Editorial team and international advisory board

In 2019, RIPE had announced its first ever all-women editorial board. Over the course of 2020, a total of ten editors served on the RIPE editorial board; three women rotated off the board, two women and one man joined it. The gender balance consequently shifted from 6:0 to 6:1 to 5:1 and then 6:1. As of December 2020, the editorial board was composed of one editor based in Canada, three in the UK and three in the USA; two editors had the career status of associate professors and five editors were professors; four editors had a first language other than English. The managing editor (she/her) was also UK-based.
As of December 2020, the international advisory board was composed of 57 scholars, with a gender breakdown of 19 women (pronoun use: she/her) and 38 men (pronoun use: he/him). International advisory board members were drawn from 15 countries, with the majority being located in the US (22), Canada (10) and the UK (6), followed by Australia (3), Denmark (3), Netherlands (3), Germany (2), China (1), Italy (1), Malaysia (1), New Zealand (1), the Philippines (1), Singapore (1), Switzerland (1) and Turkey (1).

**Contributors and guest editors**

In 2020, RIPE published 57 articles, comprising a total of 80 unique authors. The gender breakdown was 30 women (pronoun use: she/her) and 50 men (pronoun use: he/him). The majority of contributors were based in the UK (35%), EU/EFTA (30%) and Canada/US (24%), followed by Australia (7%), China, India, Japan and South Africa (1% each). The career status of contributors was PhD candidate (6%), Postdoc/Fellow (10%), Assistant Professor (16%), Associate Professor/Senior Research Fellow (29%), Professor (31%) and non-university based (8%).

In 2020, RIPE published four special issues and one special forum, guest edited by a total of five women (she/her) and six men (he/him). The career status of guest editors was Associate Professor/Senior Research Fellow (6) and Professor (5). Guest editors were based in Australia (3), UK (3), Germany (2), Hungary (1), the Netherlands (1) and the USA (1).

**Preliminary comparison of 2019 and 2020 submissions data**

Recognising the importance of timely information on the impact of the 2020 global health crisis on diversity in our field, in this statement we present preliminary data comparing 2019 and 2020 submissions. We hope to follow up on this with a more detailed analysis in the future. In 2019, we received 423 new submissions with a total of 718 authors. 93 of these manuscripts were accepted following peer-review, with decisions for three manuscripts still outstanding. Figure 1 provides a breakdown of the gender of all authors as well as the geographical location of the submitting author. For 2020, we expect a similar number of submissions - we had received 412 new submissions by December 6th, 2020. According to our preliminary analysis, both the percentage of women authors and of submitting authors located outside Anglo-5 and EU-27/EFTA had slightly increased.
Notes

1 Primary institutional affiliation at the time of online publication (‘notes on contributor’).
2 The article figure includes one Commentary, one Pedagogical Intervention and one Review Essay. Five women and four men (co-)authored two articles, one woman and two men (co-)authored three articles.
3 A small number of articles did either not include contributor notes or notes did not include information on gender and/or career status. In these instances, missing data was collected from public web profiles.
4 Category includes research and teaching fellows.
5 Category includes UK senior lecturer and reader.
6 Submissions data was coded manually by RIPE editors. We coded manuscripts by geographical location of the submitting author into two broad categories: submitting authors whose institutions are located in EU-27/EFTA countries and the Anglo-5 (UK, US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand), and those whose institutions are located elsewhere.

*To December 6th, 2020.
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References

