CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: FALL 2018

The SAIS Review of International Affairs welcomes submissions on the theme of the media’s role in international politics for its forthcoming Fall 2018 issue. This new collection of scholarly work will reflect on the various changes in the relationship between states and the media in today’s world as technology, local politics, and broader international trends change how journalism is produced and consumed by policymakers and the public.

THE STATE OF THE FOURTH ESTATE

The media’s role in the world and its relationship to states and the broader international public is changing dramatically. The historical Western model of the press as a free and independent means of checking state power faces serious challenges from alternative models that emphasize the primacy of the state. Harnessing new technology and exploiting social media platforms, governments such as Russia’s are using media as a weapon to shape the opinion of the public not only at home but within other societies to serve political objectives. China is entering a golden age of censorship and has begun exporting its model of a state-controlled media to other countries. Even in the United States, political leaders express hostile attitudes toward the press and question the role that independent journalists play in a democratic society.

Meanwhile, the broader public’s relationship to the media is also undergoing serious change. Social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook are displacing traditional media companies as the chief disseminators of information. As web-based media platforms proliferate, citizens and policymakers alike are faced with a rapidly shrinking set of common facts with which to debate. This issue seeks to critically examine these trends and measure their impact on public debate and policymaking on the international stage. Key questions include: what consequences could result from higher degrees of state control over the media? Are changes in how media is produced impacting how states and policy makers interact with each other? Finally, how does the media impact relationships between states?

PRINT ARTICLES

- Articles should engage with the issue theme
- Contributions must include an author bio and proper citations as per the Chicago Manual of Style
- 2,500-4,000 words (excluding citations)

BOOK REVIEWS

- Book should be recent and relevant to the issue theme
- Approximately 1,000 words (excluding citations)
- E-mail sais.review@gmail.com for a list of suggested books to review or to propose a relevant book

PHOTO ESSAYS

- Photo essays should tell a coherent story about the issue theme and include titles, location information, and captions
- Images must be original and high resolution

WEB ARTICLES

- We publish articles at www.saisreview.org on a rolling basis
- 1,000-2,000 words (excluding citations)
- Preference given to content relevant to the issue theme

DEADLINES AND INSTRUCTIONS

- August 28, 2018: Abstracts (for print articles) or statements of interest (for book reviews and photo essays) of no more than 250 words
- September 30, 2018: First drafts (for print articles, book reviews, and photo essays)

Please send all submissions to sais.review@gmail.com, including name, professional affiliation, and phone number.