

Review of: "From International to Subnational: A Contribution to the Insertion of Subnational Governments in Northeastern Brazil in the Internationalization of Public Policies."

Heng Zhao¹

¹ Dalian University of Technology

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This paper contributes by proposing a new research method, the snowball technique, for exploratory research. It provides a diagnosis of the state of art in 2021 on international diffusion field of public policies with addition search terms. The results point to role played by state governments from Northeastern region as leading importers and exporters of public policies.

But I have the following questions and suggestions. 1. what is the scientific question of this study? Is it simply to tell us about the public policies of the Brazilian states?

2. What is the definition of the international diffusion of public policies? It seems to me that the diffusion of policies is some quantifiable indicator that becomes more consistent or similar between countries with the help of some physical or virtual channels, like the spillover effect of monetary policies. If it is defined as a policy adopted internationally, then I do not think it should be described in terms of diffusion. I suggest that theories related to international diffusion of public policies be added to the study and that more theoretical contribution is needed.

3. What are the channels of international diffusion of public policy? Is it through fundamental similarities or some kind of cross-regional linkage? Personally, I think this is a deeper question.

4. in "Mapped Public Policies" I would like to see a comparison of policies across states, not the enactment of public policies in each state.

5. why only the Northeast region of Brazil was chosen? Is there something specific about this region that could be useful for the study or are data from these states more readily available? I hope that the sample was selected scientifically and not randomly or by human intervention.