

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

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The article is very well written and structured. The topic, related to the internationalization of public policies and the experiences of subnational governments, is very relevant.

Introduction is very clear and well written. Section 2 deals with the organisation of the research experience and with the dynamics of the course which triggered the following steps. Section 3 explores the state of the art in the field of internationalization of public policies, monitoring the publications in the field and showing that advances took place in the last years. However, the presence of the Brazilian northeast states in the publications is still very limited .

Section 4 provides a careful description of the snowball methodology and was persuasive in defending its employment. Section 5 describes five interesting experiences in which international cooperation played a relevant role and achieved positive results. The experiences are in different areas and are very interesting. The summary of the experiences is also well structured, building a fruitful dialogue with the theories in the field. The section is persuasive in showing the potential of such experiences to improve subnational public policies.

The article is thus very well built and has interesting results. It is very useful to people interested in the field of public policies and international relations, revealing the state of publication in the field. It also establishes a productive dialogue with possible strategies to strengthen teaching experiences in the field, besides showing the positive role that international cooperation can play. Thus, it demonstrates the importance of the area and the necessity of better understanding of the topics, dynamics and opportunities of the field.

However, the article is not very analytical. It does not try to answer, for example, why there are very few international cooperation experiences in the northeast states, why is it so difficult to advance in the field and what the states need to do to deepen such positive experiences. As someone interested in public policies, I would like to know if there are Brazilian states more advanced in the field, what they are able to achieve and what have they doing to achieve the positive results (this is just one example of questions that the article arises).

I am not an specialist in the area, but I believe that the article may be suitable for publication in a journal which demonstrates interests in the research field and also in teaching and didactic techniques (and experiences) to improve the programs of international relations and also those focused on the internationalization of public policies.

Specific observation:

Pag. 11 reference to Graduate programmas – I believe that the authors may have meant undergraduate programs