

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.

Dear authors,

I found your paper very interesting, and your research methods innovative.

However, I believe some areas could be improved to make the text more understandable and appeal to a broader audience.

It would be very useful if, in the introduction, you describe the Brazilian multi-level governance system. Otherwise, it is difficult to understand what you mean by subnational governments. In the same vein, it would be nice to provide a more detailed description of the Northeast area, the number of states, and the economic and political situation (also, you can include a map). This description would be a nice introduction and can be connected to the IV section of the paper, where you present the cases you found.

I believe you should consider a limitations section too. While it is clear that you are basing your research following and updating a previous study, there are still aspects that need to take into account. For example the Agenda 21 from United Nations developed at the international level was adopted at the local level. Therefore, they could be considered policy diffusion without containing the concept, and I believe there are much more examples.

There is also very important literature on why subnational governments are important for policy implementation. See the topic of wastewater: <https://wires.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/wat2.1617>

In this regard, it would be interesting that you discuss deeper why subnational governments matter.

I hope you find my comments useful.