

# Review of: "The EU's Capacity for Enlargement: Does It Matter?"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

Congratulations on your interesting research.

The author delves into an often overlooked aspect of the possibility of enlarging the European Union, explaining its significance and offering a novel analytical framework for understanding the concept.

The author presents a balanced and analytical approach. Rather than presenting a partisan political stance, the author maintains objectivity by focusing on theoretical foundations and empirical evidence. By refraining from advocating for or against the admission of specific candidate countries, the author fosters a scholarly discussion that promotes in-depth understanding and informed decision-making.

I have some suggestions on how to make your text more attractive.

1. In the abstract, I propose to emphasise the aim of the work, the research question posed, or the hypothesis. The abstract must focus on objectives, mention how they were achieved, and emphasize the results obtained.
2. Some amendments in the format are due to admit publication. The main problem is the epistemological structure (why the article was conceived and how the study was developed). I suggest the following structure of objectives: (i) research gap; (ii) research question; (iii) purpose of the article; (iv) intermediate objectives; (v) assumptions or hypotheses; and (vi) research method. This structure must appear in the introduction.
3. The research gap must be created by a systematic literature review that provides 'holes' in the state of knowledge on the topic. I believe that a full review should not be done, but an analysis of about 5-8 studies on the topic under discussion. You can find some examples, which will show the relevance of the issue, as it is indeed a topic of current, relevant research. At the end of the justification, you should write something like: According to what we were able to find, there are no studies referring to and reporting on ... With this, you have therefore proven that the issue is relevant, and you have also proven that your study does indeed fill a research gap.
4. In conclusion, I propose
  - evaluate the critical research, show its limitations and weaknesses,
  - highlight the new knowledge and the lessons learned from it,
  - describe the importance of the research and how it affects the wider field, show how the information obtained can be further used

Conclusions must be clearly and unambiguously linked to the results of the survey. Their theoretical and practical implications should be indicated.

5. I would avoid in a scientific article such statements as: Returning to the question posed in the title (conclusions).

So far, I am only exploring the vaguely defined notion of the ability to accept new members (abstract).