

The final case study in Chapter 10 explores the rise of Barelvi activism and vigilantism following the 2011 assassination of the Punjab Governor, Salman Taseer, by his Barelvi bodyguard, Mumtaz Qadri. The trial and subsequent hanging of Qadri catalyzed a “new generation of activists to create a broad-based and energetic Barelvi movement” (262). This movement was centered on issues broadly construed as “blasphemy” and the protection of the prophet. It also had a sectarian dimension: mobilize Barelvi leaders, devotees, and students in competition with Deobandis. It also had political aims of contesting elections in Punjab and Sindh. The responses of established Islamist parties to the TLP were not uniform. Factions of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Pakistan, a Barelvi party, were most outspoken in their support, followed by the JI and the JUI-F, which offered only qualified support.

The concluding chapter brings together the analytical materials in the first part of the book with the evidence from the case studies to cast light upon the incentive structure that shapes Islamist organizations’ relationships with the religiously justified antistate violence.

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Exit from International Organizations: Costly Negotiation for Institutional Change

Inken von Borzyskowski and Felicity Vabulas. New York, Cambridge University Press, 2025. 412 pp. \$35.99.

The most immediate indicator of whether states seek greater or lesser coordination through formal international arrangements is their entrance and exit from formal international organizations (IOs). Nonetheless, theory has paid relatively less attention to the actual circumstances of the departure side of this exchange. *Exit from International Organizations* offers a welcome investigation into debates concerning institutional change with a methodical examination of the circumstances of voluntary withdrawal and forced suspension from IOs across a range of circumstances and historical time. As such, it offers an important contribution to international relations theory in its efforts to understand how membership affects state preferences in their dealings with IOs.

Making the initial distinction between intentional and unintentional suspension from IOs, the book’s core six chapters use a parallel format in examining the predictors of exit, its consequences, and three historical case studies aligning with the “large-n” examinations of both types of exit. In this way, it should appeal to audiences oriented toward a variety of

mixed methodologies. Among its many strong points, *Exit from International Organizations* offers a rigorous dataset of withdrawal from 534 IOs since 1913. Reproduced in an appendix to the book, the details offer a rich resource for understanding the breadth and depth of the issues at hand. Of particular interest are the cases where an exit was followed by a later return. These movements allow the authors to test a variety of related hypotheses around states' leaving IOs such as what predicts a voluntary withdrawal and what are its consequences, and what predicts suspension and what are its consequences? The deeper, real-world case studies of withdrawal include the U.S. from the International Labor Organization, Japan from the International Whaling Commission, and the U.K. from the European Union. The suspension cases are those of Honduras' from the Organization of American States, Ghana's from the Economic Community of West African States, and Syria's from the Arab League. While these six cases are all drawn from more recent times, they range across states with varying gross domestic product and geographical location. Likewise, the IOs in question are universal, regional, economic, and environmental. Having taken such variety into account, the authors conclude that exit can serve as a powerful tool for negotiation. Nonetheless, the action has consequences for a state's reputation and future cooperation with other states (307).

Perhaps because the book is so thorough in its treatment of the topic, it provokes additional questions about IO membership that lie beyond its core concern, particularly those connected to how state power operates at times of ambiguity surrounding what it means to be "in" and "out" of an organization. For example, the time frame for the U.S. decision to stop pursuing membership in the League of Nations is not as clear as it is often presented, and subsequent U.S. involvement—such as sending representatives to delegations and funding activities through backdoor congressional mechanisms and philanthropic contributions—gave it a degree of leverage over some operations of the League such as in the Bruce Committee Reforms (Kathryn C. Lavelle, "Exit, Voice, and Loyalty in International Organizations: US Involvement in the League of Nations," *Review of International Organizations* 2 (2007). Contemporary examples might include the formal U.S. withdrawal from the World Health Organization, while philanthropic contributions from the Gates and other American foundations continue, or the Russian quasi-suspension from the Arctic Council after the 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

Nonetheless, the fact that *Exit from International Organizations* provokes so many new questions and avenues for research speak to its considerable strengths. The authors have succeeded in offering a weighty, comprehensive study that will be a substantive resource for scholars across the field.

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