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December 29, 2014

Dear Cees van der Eijk, Vivien Lowndes, Christopher Pierson and Mark Wenman,

I would like to submit a new manuscript entitled “Mass Media and the Domestic Politics of Economic Globalization” to be considered for publication in *Political Studies*.

I confirm that this work is original and has not been published elsewhere. This work is not currently under consideration by any other journal.

In this article, I find quantitative evidence consistent with the argument that mass media tend to diffuse blame attributions for the consequences of economic globalization, and that this weakens the relationship between economic openness and welfare spending. This is significant because it suggests the mass media tend to weaken the accountability of policymakers to domestic groups harmed by economic globalization. The paper should be of interest to scholars of international and comparative political economy, as well as scholars of media and public opinion. The article also speaks to ontological and methodological debates surrounding the constructivist approach to political research, because the article provides new, quantitative evidence of one specific avenue through which the media’s social construction of politics may have direct and important effects on political outcomes.

Because of the article’s creative combination of historically disconnected research areas, I believe that it would be best suited for a general interest journal with as large and diverse a readership as that which belongs to *Political Studies*.

Please address all correspondence concerning this manuscript to me at j.murphy@soton.ac.uk.

Thank you for your consideration of this manuscript.

Sincerely,

Justin Murphy, PhD
Lecturer
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