Editor's Note

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We kick off 2022, with a unique and exciting issue on multi-level politics from the perspective of scholars outside of France and the “West.” The nexus between policy and politics within and outside of France is put under the microscope in two research articles and a review article that addresses the variegated and complex sociopolitical impacts of and policy responses to migration as well as a duet of data and measure articles on foreign relations.

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to publish the two articles on French foreign relations with Iran and Poland. Not only has the journal been relatively silent on International and Foreign Affairs, but Hadi Doltabadi, at Teheran University, and Ryszard Zieba, at University of Warsaw, are both home-grown scholars who have spent their careers in their home countries; thus, we get an insider's perspective on how France relates to the rest of the world. Moreover, the challenging contexts in which both scholars work, in terms of economic and political instability, de-democratization and limited research resources and infrastructures, makes it even more important that their work appears in the journal.

While the foreign policy duet enhances our understanding about how France relates to countries beyond its borders, the other three pieces touch upon what happens when the rest of the world comes to work, live and be citizens in France. Raphael Cohen-Almagor, at the University Hull, originally from Israel and a leader in Middle Eastern Studies, provides a deep dive into the notorious burqua ban, not only in terms of the rights of French citizens, but also in terms of the ban's effect on the core republican principles of *liberté, égalité* and *fraternité*. Seongha Cho, based in the Republic of Korea at Seoul National University, takes a quantitative approach to the insider–outsider puzzle, through an analysis of connections between social cohesion and rising public opinion against migrant populations in France. Elodie Druez, originally from Sub Saharan Africa, but trained and working in France at the University of Strasbourg, goes even deeper into the dark side of French politics and society in a critical review of scholarship on the electoral politics of migrant, ethnic and racial minority communities in France through lens of an intersectional approach.

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This issue, therefore, takes seriously the need for including non-Western voices in crucial dialogs about French democracy and republican values and how France relates to the rest of the world. I hope you will enjoy and appreciate this diversity of perspectives and insight as much as I have. The outcome reflects the health and dynamism of the study of French politics and the excellence in the work of the scholars from across the globe who contribute to understanding and the cumulation of knowledge about the state and politics in France from a diverse variety of perspectives.

Many thanks to the hard work and patience of the contributing authors, reviewers, associate editors and production team who all made this innovative and important issue possible.

As always, I welcome your feedback on the journal (mazur@wsu.edu). For more information on the journal and articles for free download, including a collection on gender and politics, I invite you to go to our website at <https://www.palgrave.com/gp/journal/41253>.

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