This journal provides a forum for professionally informed commentary on issues affecting contemporary American politics. This includes but is not limited to issues engaging parties, elections, and political participation; the news media, interest groups, Congress, the Presidency, and the Courts; trends in public finance, presidential popularity, congressional productivity; in contemporary, historical, or comparative perspective.

The journal is motivated by the view that social scientists, historians, and legal scholars frequently have important insights into the concerns that arise in contemporary politics and government, drawing upon the disciplinary knowledge at their command. Yet they frequently lack a publishing outlet willing to print the analytic reasoning that gives weight to the resulting commentary. The Forum is designed to fill this gap.

We contemplate a journal free of fixed position and requiring no particular verdict with respect to policies, institutions, or processes. Well-reasoned discussion disciplined by reference to established bodies of knowledge or aimed at stimulating the creation of such knowledge is the goal of this journal.

ABSTRACTED/INDEXED IN  Baidu Scholar · CNKI Scholar (China National Knowledge Infrastructure) · CNPIEC: cnpLINKer · Dimensions · EBSCO (relevant databases) · EBSCO Discovery Service · ERIH PLUS (European Reference Index for the Humanities and Social Sciences) · Genamics JournalSeek · Google Scholar · IBR (International Bibliography of Reviews of Scholarly Literature in the Humanities and Social Sciences) · IBZ (International Bibliography of Periodical Literature in the Humanities and Social Sciences) · J-Gate · Journal Citation Reports/Social Sciences Edition · JournalGuide · MyScienceWork · Naver Academic · Naviga (Softweco) · Primo Central (ExLibris) · ProQuest (relevant databases) · Publons · QOAM (Quality Open Access Market) · ReadCube · ScienceON (Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information) · Scilit · SCImago (SJR) · SCOPUS · Semantic Scholar · Sherpa/RoMEO · Summon (ProQuest) · TDNet · Ulrich’s Periodicals Directory/ulrichsweb · WanFang Data · Web of Science: Current Contents/Social and Behavioral Sciences; Social Sciences Citation Index · WorldCat (OCLC) · X-MOL · Yewno Discover

e-ISSN 1540-8884

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PUBLISHER  Walter de Gruyter GmbH, Berlin/Boston, Genthiner Str. 13, 10785 Berlin, Germany

JOURNAL COORDINATOR  Beata Adamczyk, De Gruyter, Email: beata.adamczyk@degruyter.com

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