

Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the sixteenth volume of our journal. The Atlantic International Studies Organisation is a student-run group at Mount Allison University. Although this journal typically focuses on politics and international issues, it is interdisciplinary at heart.

This year's edition includes five original student papers that relate to our 2021 theme of Sifting Through the Wreckage. We chose this theme in response to the "unprecedented" events of 2020, hoping to attract submissions that reflect on ways of dealing with crisis and vulnerability, institutional failures, and global change. The events of 2020 have brought many systemic issues to the forefront of intellectual discourse, and we wanted the papers in this journal to emulate this critical evaluation. To some extent, the editing process of this journal has reflected this sentiment as we have debated about the Chicago Manual of Style guidelines and our political concerns in how ideas are presented. You may notice that we have decided to capitalize Black and Slavery. We also added scare quotes to "developed" and "developing" to recognize that this way of classifying countries is not well-defined nor accurate. We think that presentation is an important, though small, act of recognizing the validity (or not) of these terms and what they represent.

Editing issues aside, we invite you to engage with the pieces in this volume with our theme in mind. Notice how responses to "wreckage" differ between cases. How might a lens of hope and anger differ from a social and political analysis of minority issues? How has the COVID-19 pandemic influenced global connections and the strength of the UN? Who is given a voice on children's rights and how do we ensure that they receive the kind of education that is both personally and socially engaging?

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who helped with the creation of this 2021 edition. We greatly appreciate our peer reviewers and their assistance in our paper selection process. We are continually grateful for the invaluable support of the Department of Political Science and International Relations. A final thank you goes to Dr. Thomas for maintaining our connection with the department and for speaking at our annual conference.

Thank you for reading, supporting, and inspiring student work.

—Amy Ward on behalf of the editing team