

# Examining and Explaining the Role and Function of the International Monetary Fund in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals

Parisa. Shamloo<sup>1</sup>, Koorosh. Jafarpoor<sup>2\*</sup>, Maryam. Afshari<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Doctoral Student of International Law, Department of Law, South Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

<sup>2</sup> Assistant Professor, Department of Law, South Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

\* Corresponding author email address: koroshjafarpour@gmail.com

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## EDITOR:

Richard Dodder<sup>1</sup>

Emeritus Professor of Sociology and of Statistics, Oklahoma State University Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA. Email: rdodder@hotmail.com

## REVIEWER 1:

Muhammad Abdul Rahman<sup>1</sup>

Department of Humanities, Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Email: muhammadrahman@ntu.edu.sg

## REVIEWER 2:

Zeynep Karal<sup>1</sup>

Department of Computer and Instructional Technologies Education, Trabzon University, Trabzon, Türkiye. Email: zeynepkaral@trabzon.edu.tr

## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction effectively outlines the research problem and objectives but lacks a clearly defined research gap. Consider adding a paragraph explicitly stating what gaps in the literature this study aims to fill.

The discussion on SDGs (p. 3) mentions their significance but does not sufficiently link them to the IMF's specific activities. Provide explicit examples of how IMF policies have successfully (or unsuccessfully) aligned with SDG targets.

The sentence "The IMF operates to achieve sustainable growth and welfare for all countries" (p. 6) is a broad claim that may not reflect the full reality. Provide evidence or examples where IMF policies have directly contributed to sustainable growth.

The discussion on IMF lending (p. 14) does not critically analyze the impact of IMF conditionalities on borrowing countries. Many studies suggest that IMF-imposed austerity measures negatively impact social welfare. Address this perspective for a more balanced discussion.

The study is largely based on secondary sources. If primary data collection was not feasible, clarify this limitation in the methodology section.

The references include several reports from international organizations, but there are very few citations from peer-reviewed journals. Strengthen the credibility of the article by incorporating more academic sources.

Some statements lack in-text citations, particularly in the introduction and theoretical background. For example, the claim "Sustainable development necessitates fulfilling basic needs for all while providing opportunities for everyone to pursue their aspirations for a better world" (p. 4) requires citation.

The article mentions that "Since 1995, the IMF has mandated member countries to adopt domestic policies aimed at reducing the government's role in the economy" (p. 16), but this reform process started earlier, particularly with the Washington Consensus in the 1980s. Consider revising this timeline for accuracy.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

### 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The discussion on sustainable development (p. 4) is well-structured, but it lacks engagement with critical perspectives. Consider discussing critiques of sustainable development, particularly regarding its feasibility in economic policy.

The phrase "Development has consistently been a major concern for developing countries. Its content spans various dimensions and has evolved over time" (p. 5) is too broad. Define development in a way that aligns with the article's focus on IMF policies.

The section "International Legal Personality of the International Monetary Fund" (p. 8) describes the IMF's legal status but does not mention criticisms regarding its governance structure, particularly the disproportionate influence of developed countries. Consider adding a discussion on these criticisms.

The article briefly mentions the World Bank but does not provide a comparative analysis of how the IMF and the World Bank differ in their approach to sustainable development. A comparative analysis would enhance the depth of discussion.

The article uses technical financial terms such as "Special Drawing Rights (SDRs)" and "exchange rate stability" without adequately defining them. Ensure that all technical terms are clearly explained for non-specialist readers.

Many sentences are written in passive voice, which makes the text less engaging. For example, in the sentence "Efforts have been made by the international community to advance knowledge and policymaking regarding socio-economic issues" (p. 10), consider rewording to "The international community has actively worked to advance knowledge and policymaking regarding socio-economic issues."

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.