Book Series

International Psychology

Series Editors
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This new book series embraces all aspects of the growing field of international psychology: research, practice, teaching, consulting, advocacy. This series is sponsored by the Psychology Coalition at the United Nations (PCUN), which provides two-way communication between behavioral scientists and UN and other global policy-makers. Topics spans all 17 diverse UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as health, education, gender, LGBT+, work, human rights, urbanization, climate, justice, equality, peace, democracy. (https://sdgs.un.org/goals) It is based on three growing realizations that (1) almost all problems facing humanity today actually have a behavioral component, (2) that behavioral science can deepen our understanding of these problems, and thus (3) help policy-makers to design more effective solutions to these problems. The series welcomes cross-disciplinary work by experts in psychology, social work, and related behavioral sciences.

Books in this series:
- Behavioral Science in the Global Arena
- Behavioral Science in the Global Arena
- Behavioral Science in the Global Arena
- Pathfinders in International Psychology

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"How are behavioral scientists increasingly involved to advise global decision-makers in the United Nations and elsewhere?"

In 2020, the Psychology Coalition at the United Nations (PCUN) launched a bold new series of books, describing how evidence-based behavioral research is increasingly used by United Nations and other decision-makers, to address global issues. These issues reflect the UN’s 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030—such as health, poverty, education, peace, gender equality, and climate change.

This PCUN volume brings together 37 experts in 14 concise chapters, to focus on health in two parts: (1) a data-based overview of diverse trends in global health—such as COVID, opioids, dementia, and disabilities. (2) An examination of underlying issues in global health—such as race, gender, LGBTQ+, and health disparities (detailed below). The chapters are co-authored by leading global experts as well as “rising star” students from many nations—offering readers a concise overview of each topic, a glossary of key terms, study questions, and bibliography. This volume is suitable as a textbook for diverse courses in psychology, social work, cross-cultural and international studies.

ENDORSEMENTS:

"...Behavioral Science in the Global Arena" is a milestone in the forging of a global psychologist mental health network, able to offer the United Nations solutions to its quest." — Niels Peter Rygaard, CEO at www.fairstartfoundation.com, Recipient of the 2020 APA International Humanitarian Award

"...This volume provides students and professionals committed to international work insights on theoretical frameworks, policy implications and best practices using evidence-based approaches." — Barbara W. Shank, PhD, LICSW, Dean and Professor Emerita, University of St. Thomas; Secretary, International Association of Schools of Social Work

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Behavioral scientists are increasingly involved in international work through cross cultural research, conference presentations, and faculty exchanges. Psychology and social work NGOs work at the United Nations, both on providing professional consultation on timely issues, as well as advocating to promote human rights and sustainable development. Although this work at the United Nations is an important arena for behavioral scientists, this has been barely covered in the academic literature.

"What are growing roles of psychology and the behavioral sciences at the United Nations today?" This first-ever volume brings together over 20 authors—both key experts and student interns—to answer this question. As the United Nations pursues its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the year 2030, behavioral scientists now occupy increasingly diverse roles to pursue evidence-based answers for these 17 timely SDGs.
This panoramic yet concise 230-page volume is designed for students and professionals in the behavioral sciences, psychology and social work to provide state-of-the-art information on how behavioral scientists are addressing diverse global issues today. Each chapter offers a concise overview of a topic, including a glossary of current concepts, and citations to current research.

ENDORSEMENTS

"I am delighted to recommend this volume, which uncovers two important truths to the success of the UN. 1. The critical role of civil society that makes the UN more humane. 2. The important role of behavioral sciences in shaping UN policies to produce successful outcomes. Because of the UN, we’ve not had a third world war, yet. Human Rights have expanded beyond belief of anyone who founded the UN 75 years ago."
- Bruce Knotts, U.S. diplomat, author, and Chair of the U.N. DPI NGO Executive Committee

"As this new volume describes, the world is a better place because of the United Nations - where most of the world comes together with diverse and lofty goals such as protecting the environment, promoting health, supporting equality, and maintaining peace. All of these major goals require interventions that sometimes maintain and sometimes change human behavior. National and international policies need to be informed by the best available research in the behavioral sciences. Our future depends on it."
- Diane F. Halpern, PhD., Former President, American Psychological Association

"Attaining the United Nations’ 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 is a formidable challenge that can be furthered by a foundation of solid evidence. This book provides a base of relevant psychological knowledge that can inform policy and interventions in the achievement of those goals."
- Judith A. Gibbons, PhD, Past-President, Interamerican Society of Psychology

"The authors make a convincing case for the relevance of behavioral sciences to the work of the United Nations. Progress on women's rights, preparing for and recovering from natural disasters, adapting to climate change, improving child well-being and more all have behavioral dimensions. These must be addressed for the UN to make progress on its goals. By chronicling the involvements of psychology and social work in the United Nations, this volume will inspire students and practitioners to engage further in global work and advocacy."
- Lynne Healy, PhD, International Association of Schools of Social Work

"Behavioral Science in the Global Arena - a timely and significant volume about the role of psychologists at the UN addressing our contemporary social problems - i.e. human rights, social justice, climate and environmental change. As Congress, Takoooshian, and Asper demonstrate, it is time for psychologists to move from their individual focus toward social change at a macro, diverse and global focus following the UN’s 17 sustainable development goals for 2030. We need to acknowledge changing population demographics, growing mobility and aging in our population, and recognize the continued gender inequities and disparities among migrants salient today. No longer can we simply consider psychology's role in the aftermath of disaster, but to be proactive and on the forefront about counterterrorism, climate change, etc. to promote global action so that we think and act together toward shared social change."
- Jean Lau Chin, EdD, ABPP, Past-President, International Division, American Psychological Association

"As the UN celebrates its diamond anniversary, it is fitting that thinkers in psychology provide critical insights into psychology’s engagement with the UN SDG Agenda. The authors have carefully considered the UN from many vantage points, especially behavioural. This important volume posits fresh ideas for psychology's role and future impact in the only global body that brings all governments together to tackle the social, economic, political and security factors that are essential for peace and collective human development in our fragile world."
- Saths Cooper, PhD, Past-President, International Union of Psychological Scientists (IUPsyS)

This book provides a global overview of pioneers in international psychology with contributions from distinguished authors from representative nations around the world. Chapters offer biographical profiles describing the personal histories and professional contributions of leading figures in psychology from across the globe that represent the diversity of psychology. This volume can serve as a core or supplemental text for a broad range of courses in Psychology, International Studies, and Education, with particular interest to those teaching international psychology, cross-cultural psychology, and history of psychology.

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