

**Call for Papers**  
**Special Issue of the *Journal of Operations Management***

***Global Operations and Supply Chain Management in the Context of Dynamic International Relations***

**Background:**

Volatility in international relations among countries can influence a firm's global operations and its underlying supply chain design through the interactions among states and non-state actors. For example, one intent of the current trade war between the U.S. and China is to encourage reshoring decisions by U.S. manufacturers (*The Economist*, 2018). The Catalonia independence vote in Spain led more than 2,700 firms to move their headquarters away from the region (Erickson, 2017). The Brexit referendum has raised concerns for multinational enterprises about access to international markets. These concerns have led firms to rethink the design of their global supply chains in Europe (Sheng, 2019).

The sentiments of non-state actors can impact global supply chain designs and operations as well. For examples, the French-language movement in Quebec (Canada) drove French-speaking consumers to complain and boycott brands that refused to add a French phrase to their logos (Canadian Press, 2012; Hamilton, 2016). Lotte Mart, one of the largest Korean retailers, was forced to exit the China market because of the boycott by Chinese consumers caused by the Korean government's providing land for the U.S. missile defense system (China Daily, 2018).

These cases demonstrate the significant impact of various external stakeholders on firms' global operations and supply-chain decisions. Research on the impact of international relations is well established in international business, political science, and economics disciplines. The scope of international relations covers (but is not limited to) foreign affairs, international history, international laws, non-state actors' (e.g., NGOs and consumer groups) behaviors, and international events (Baylis et al., 2017). Some of these issues have been addressed through analysis of national and international political activities (Hillman and Wan, 2005), labor standards in a global context (Locke et al., 2007), national cultures and communications (Nes et al, 2007), innovation policy and global production (Breznitz and Murphree, 2011), terrorism activities (Czinkota et al., 2010), and the deglobalization phenomenon (Witt, 2019).

To examine the impact of the dynamics of international relations on operations, it is fairly common for operations management (OM) scholars to use various dummy variables in their empirical models to capture the year and/or location to control for the effects caused by the dynamic change of certain corresponding events. However, these treatments skim the surface and often overlook research opportunities proffered by these dynamics. From a historical perspective, international relations have been identified as a major driver of demand, innovation, and capital formation throughout the industrial revolution (Singhal, 2001). Yet, current empirical OM literature provides limited insight about how the dynamics of international relations affect the efficiency, effectiveness, consistency, and flexibility of global operations and supply chain management (OSCM). With the absence of implications and insights derived from

empirical research, operations managers are provided with limited references for their decision making in adapting to ever-changing business environments. There have been only a few exceptions. Metters (2008) argued that the dynamic of international relations may pose risks to offshoring strategies. Dube et al. (2016) explored the impacts of host government on the performance international humanitarian organizations. Singhal and Singhal (2019) described the role of international relations and war in the development of Chinese technology and manufacturing.

### **Topics:**

This special issue aims to push forward the discourse among political and social sciences and OM. We encourage the submission of high-quality manuscripts that can advance our understanding of the impacts of international relations on global OSCM. We also encourage OM scholars to investigate how public policy that could affect firms' operations is generated, and examine how OM research provides implications for formulating policy. We expect that these research implications can contribute to future policy-making by facilitating physical, information, and cash flows in global supply chains. Potential topics include but not limited to the following:

- The impacts of unilateral, bilateral, and multi-lateral international trade agreements on the transition and performance of a firm's global operations strategy
- Global supply chain management in the context of dynamic national power relations and conflicts
- Operational resilience to adverse international events (e.g., war, terrorism, political disputes, natural and man-made disasters)
- Industry regulatory and operational strategies (e.g., worker health and safety regulations, environmental regulations, etc.)
- Government enforcements and regulatory requirements for improving occupational safety and sustainability
- National monetary policy and supply-chain finance
- Adapting operational systems to environmental changes
- Collaborative innovations among firms and governments
- Economic reforms and supply chain management in state-owned enterprises and privately held firms
- Social movements and their impacts on OSCM
- OSCM decisions in response to non-government organization (NGO) campaigns
- Terrorism and global supply-chain security
- Entry barriers and international operations (e.g., immigration policies)
- International collaborations and humanitarian operations

We welcome submissions that propose clear and important research questions and use any of a variety of rigorous, empirical methods and approaches. We also encourage the use of multiple research methodologies. These include but are not limited to:

- Surveys, experiments, action research, case studies, secondary and archival data analysis, network analysis, and typological analysis
- Combinations of empirical and other methods such as analytical modeling, simulation, and ethnography

## Guest Editors:

Andy C.L. Yeung (Managing editor)

**Prof. Yeung** is the Chair Professor of Operations Management and Head of Department of Logistics and Maritime Studies, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He obtained his Ph.D. from The University of Hong Kong. His papers are published in journals such as *Journal of Operations Management*, *Manufacturing and Service Operations Management*, *Production and Operations Management*, and *Organization Science*. He is currently a Departmental Editor of *Journal of Operations Management* and received the Best Associate Editor Award in 2013. His research interests include operations management, supply chain management, innovation and information management.

Christopher S. Tang

**Prof. Tang** is a University Distinguished Professor and the holder of the Edward W. Carter Chair in Business Administration at the UCLA Anderson School of Management, University of California, Los Angeles. He has published 6 books, 30 book chapters, over 100 online blogs, and over 160 research articles (with over 15,000 citations on Google Scholar) in various leading academic journals, and written articles for *Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times (UK)*, *Fortune*, *Los Angeles Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Business Times (Singapore)*, and *The Guardian (UK)*. He was elected as lifetime fellow by the *Institute of Operations and Management Sciences (INFORMS)*, the *Production and Operations Management Society (POMS)*, and the *Manufacturing and Service Operations Management Society (MSOM)*. Also, in 2015 and 2016, he was invited by the *Royal Swedish Academy of Science* to nominate candidates for the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences. Recognized as a well-rounded scholar in global operations management, Prof. Tang was elected as President of *Production and Operations Management Society (POMS)* in 2014. Upon his election as Editor-in-Chief of a premier journal *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management (M&SOM)* in 2015, he transformed the journal and got *Financial Times (FT)* to add *M&SOM* to its FT 50 Journal List in 2017.

Di Fan

**Dr. Fan** is a Senior Lecturer in the Research School of Management, The Australian National University. His current research focuses on the intersection between government enforcement and sustainable operations management. His research has been published in leading operations management journals including *Journal of Operations Management*, *Manufacturing and Service Operations Management*, and *Decision Science*. He has received a number of research awards including the IACMR Presidential Award for Responsible Research 2017.

Chris K.Y. Lo

**Dr. Lo** is associate professor in the business division of the Institute of Textiles and Clothing at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. His research covers global supply chain management, corporate social responsibility, big data analytics, branding and retailing. His publications have appeared in journals, such as *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management*, *Organization Science*, *Journal of Operations Management*, *Decision Science*, *Information & Management*, *International Journal of Production Economics*, and *Journal of Business Research*, also in fashion and textiles-science

related journals. He is currently on the editorial review board *Journal of Operations Management*, and serves as associate editor of the *International Journal of Workplace Health Management*.

Yi Zhou

**Dr. Zhou** is a Lecturer in Operations Management in the Department of Management, Monash Business School. He obtained his PhD degree in Supply Chain and Operations Management from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Prior to his PhD, he worked in the retail and logistics industry as a buyer and consultant for several years. His research is focused on sustainable operations management, global supply chain networks, and big data analytics for business operations. His works have been published in *Manufacturing and Service Operations Management*, and *International Journal of Production Economics*.

**Deadlines:**

Manuscript submissions: 30 September 2020

Initial (first-round) decisions: 31 December 2020

Revised paper resubmissions: 31 March 2021

Manuscripts should conform to the instructions given in the Guide for Authors for the *Journal of Operations Management*

(<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/18731317/homepage/author-guidelines>).

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