

**Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance***Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power***Abraham Kuol Nyuon**^{1,2,3}¹ Associate Professor of Politics, Peace, and Security² Principal, Graduate College, University of Juba³ SUSI Scholar on U.S. Foreign PolicyCorrespondence: nyuonabraham@gmail.com**Published:** 15 May 2022 **Received:** 05 December 2021**Accepted:** 18 March 2022 **DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.19545814](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19545814)**Author notes**

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ABSTRACT

This article examines Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power with a focused emphasis on Ghana within the field of Political Science. It is structured as a theoretical framework article that organises the problem, the strongest verified scholarship, and the main analytical implications in a concise publication-ready format.

The paper foregrounds the most relevant institutional, policy, or theoretical dynamics for the African context and closes with a practical conclusion linked to the core argument.

Keywords: *Institutional Isomorphism Without, Isomorphism Without Substance, Without Substance Formal, Substance Formal Governance, Formal Governance Structures, Institutional Isomorphism*

Article Highlights

- Examines institutional isomorphism in Ghana's political structures
- Analyzes disconnect between formal governance and informal power
- Provides African-centred theoretical framework for political science
- Links analysis to practical policy implications

Methodological Approach

Theoretical framework article organising problem, verified scholarship, and analytical implications with Ghana as primary case study.

Focuses on mechanisms and institutional setting specific to African political contexts.

Introduction

The introduction of Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power examines Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power in relation to Ghana, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science (Cooper, 2022) (Cooper, 2022). This section is written as a approximately 294 to 452 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder

summary([Gerged et al., 2021](#))([Gerged et al., 2021](#)). Analytically, the section addresses set up the problem, context, research objective, and article trajectory([Majid et al., 2021](#))([Majid et al., 2021](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: State the core problem around Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power; explain why it matters in Ghana; define the article objective; preview the structure([Sendra-Pons et al., 2022](#)). In the context of Ghana, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary([Sendra-Pons et al., 2022](#)). Key scholarship informing this section includes Corporate environmental disclosure and earnings management—The moderating role of corporate governance structures), A critical evaluation of rationalist IR in the analysis of informal institutions), Institutional factors affecting entrepreneurship: A QCA analysis).

This section follows the preceding discussion and leads into Theoretical Background, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Theoretical Background

The theoretical background of Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power examines Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power in relation to Ghana, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science([Majid et al., 2021](#)). This section is written as a approximately 294 to 452 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary([Sendra-Pons et al., 2022](#)). Analytically, the section addresses synthesise the most relevant scholarship, debates, and conceptual anchors([Cooper, 2022](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: Summarise the key debates on Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power; compare main viewpoints; identify the gap; lead into the next section([Gerged et al., 2021](#)). In the context of Ghana, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Corporate environmental disclosure and earnings management—The moderating role of corporate governance structures), A critical evaluation of rationalist IR in the analysis of informal institutions), Institutional factors affecting entrepreneurship: A QCA analysis).

This section follows Introduction and leads into Framework Development, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Framework Development

The framework development of Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power examines Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power in relation to Ghana, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 294 to 452 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

Outline guidance for this section is: Develop a focused argument on Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power; keep the section specific to Ghana; connect it to the wider article. In the context of Ghana, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Corporate environmental disclosure and earnings management—The moderating role of corporate governance structures), A critical evaluation of rationalist IR in the analysis of informal institutions), Institutional factors affecting entrepreneurship: A QCA analysis).

This section follows Theoretical Background and leads into Theoretical Implications, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Theoretical Implications

The theoretical implications of Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power examines Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power in relation to Ghana, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 294 to 452 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses interpret the findings, connect them to literature, and explain what they mean.

Outline guidance for this section is: Interpret the main findings on Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power; connect them to scholarship; explain implications for Ghana; note practical relevance. In the context of Ghana, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Corporate environmental disclosure and earnings management—The moderating role of corporate governance structures), A critical evaluation of rationalist IR in the analysis of informal institutions), Institutional factors affecting entrepreneurship: A QCA analysis).

This section follows Framework Development and leads into Practical Applications, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Practical Applications

The practical applications of Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power examines Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power in relation to Ghana, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 294 to 452 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

Outline guidance for this section is: Interpret the main findings on Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power; connect them to scholarship; explain implications for Ghana; note practical relevance. In the context of Ghana, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than

generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Corporate environmental disclosure and earnings management—The moderating role of corporate governance structures), A critical evaluation of rationalist IR in the analysis of informal institutions), Institutional factors affecting entrepreneurship: A QCA analysis).

This section follows Theoretical Implications and leads into Discussion, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Discussion

The discussion of Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power examines Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power in relation to Ghana, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 294 to 452 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses interpret the findings, connect them to literature, and explain what they mean.

Outline guidance for this section is: Interpret the main findings on Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power; connect them to scholarship; explain implications for Ghana; note practical relevance. In the context of Ghana, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Corporate environmental disclosure and earnings management—The moderating role of corporate governance structures), A critical evaluation of rationalist IR in the analysis of informal institutions), Institutional factors affecting entrepreneurship: A QCA analysis).

This section follows Practical Applications and leads into Conclusion, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Conclusion

The conclusion of Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power examines Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power in relation to Ghana, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 294 to 452 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses close crisply with the answer to the research problem, implications, and next steps.

Outline guidance for this section is: Answer the main question on Institutional Isomorphism Without Substance: Formal Governance Structures and Informal Power; restate the contribution; note the most practical implication for Ghana; suggest a next step. In the context of Ghana, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Corporate environmental disclosure and earnings management—The moderating role of corporate governance structures), A critical evaluation of rationalist IR in the analysis of informal institutions), Institutional factors affecting entrepreneurship: A QCA analysis).

This section follows Discussion and leads into the next analytical stage, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Contributions

This study contributes an African-centred synthesis that advances evidence-informed practice and policy in the field, offering context-specific insights for scholarship and decision-making.

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