Power Preponderance, Institutional Homogeneity,
and the Likelihood of Regional Integration

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Abstract

This paper introduces a theory and research design that attempts to explain and predict

levels of regional integration worldwide. The central argument is that the likelihood of

institutionalized regional integration increases under a power preponderance structural

condition and high levels of trade which promote homogenization of domestic

institutions. The paper reviews prior work on regional integration and then contributes

to the scholarship by synthesizing the findings of the power transition and institutional

schools. Systematic testing of the hypotheses is introduced in the preliminary research

design.