

## **Abstract**

This thesis addresses the topic of legitimacy in global governance, specifically examining the repercussions of legitimacy crises on the policy output of 13 multi-issue international organizations (IOs) from 1985 to 2015. The research objectives are double: firstly, to furnish a descriptive analysis, and secondly, to pinpoint conditions influencing the likelihood and directions of these consequences. To accomplish this, data from two preceding articles were compiled and amalgamated. A noteworthy addition to this thesis is the utilization of the Intergovernmental Policy Output Dataset (IPOD), a novel dataset portraying policy output in five dimensions (volume, topic, type, instrument, and target) for the first time. Diverse analytical techniques were employed in analyzing this dataset, including visual analysis, t-tests, cross-section analysis, and multivariate regression. The results did not validate the various hypotheses aiming to predict the likelihood and direction of consequences. Nevertheless, the findings furnished a crucial descriptive analysis, enriching our comprehension of the phenomenon. Notably, they underscored the intricate nature of the impact of legitimacy crises on IOs' policy output and, more expansively, their overall performance. Furthermore, the results confirmed a nuanced perspective: legitimacy crises do not invariably yield negative consequences; they may also have no impact or a positive impact. This challenges the traditional theory, calling for a reexamination, and suggests a form of resilience within IOs. Amid current challenges and waning global confidence in established orders, this research offers hope. Criticisms and protests against international organizations could strengthen values, demonstrating resilience in upholding principles. This implies a potential for positive adaptation, instilling optimism in the ongoing effectiveness of these organizations in managing global complexities.