Referee Report of the Paper titled "Biased Sanctions? Methodological Change in Economic Sanction Reconsidered and Its Implications"

This paper investigates if methodological changes affected the 2nd and 3rd edition of the Peterson Institute database reported in Hufbauer et al. (1990, 2007) and whether these changes leaded to biased results. The paper examines an interesting issue. However, the current version of the paper has to be revised according to the suggestions below before publication:

1- On page four, both the first paragraph and the following questions explain the aim of the paper. So, either the first paragraph or the questions should be discarded.
2- On page five, there is a very long paragraph which states the content of the following sections. The content of the following sections should be explained in a short paragraph at the end of the introduction.
3- On page seventeen, in the first paragraph it should be "Likewise specification (2) is reported in columns 2 and **5 (not 4)**".
4- There is no conclusion in the paper. Although the last section which is titled as "(why) does bias matter (and when)?" seems like a kind of conclusion the main findings of the empirical results, the shortcomings of the analysis and the contribution of the paper to the literature are not clear in this section. So, a new section (conclusion or concluding remarks) which states these elements should be added to the paper.