
GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

The purpose of these guidelines is to ensure a clear, standard format for submissions. Please follow all guidelines as closely as possible.

Marxism & Sciences is an open access journal. Publication of articles/essays and access to accepted and published material is free. The journal does not charge any article/essay submission, processing or publication fees. We have no budget for proof-readers or type-setters. These tasks are therefore the responsibility of the authors.

The basic descriptions and principles about the content of submissions are formally presented here. However, the priority of the journal is to achieve its aims collectively in collaboration with editors, editorial and advisory boards, authors and readers.

Marxism & Sciences accepts submissions only on the condition of contributing to Marxist conception of totality, materialist conception of history and/or materialist dialectics. Submissions satisfying this condition could be on any topic from any branch of sciences. The journal especially promotes submissions which are written collaboratively by more than one author from different and/or remote disciplines, or cover more than one discipline if written by a single author.

Marxism & Sciences welcomes any contribution that falls within the domain of its aims and scope. However, the journal especially encourages submissions with following four qualifications:

- *Class struggles*: Studies covering class struggles in nature, culture, and/or society.
- *Geographical prevalence*: Studies from Africa, Asia, Latin America, Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe as well as Western Europe and North America.
- *Gender equality*: Studies by non-male authors and/or from Marxist and socialist feminist
- *Marxist ecology*: Studies which considers human as part of nature, not superior to it.

Each issue of the journal is published based on a specific topic announced publicly at the web page through the Call for Papers (CFP). Submissions on other topics are also welcome.

Marxism & Sciences welcomes a wide spectrum of academic writing styles from articles at one end to essays at the other. *Marxism & Sciences* also welcomes cultural works in fields of arts or traditional and popular culture particularly those related to the specific topic of each issue.

Below are the types of submissions accepted by *Marxism & Sciences*:

- **Articles** (5000-10000 words): Articles are original scholarly manuscripts that contribute to any field of research.
- **Essays** (5000-1000 words): Essays are original contributions with more personal, intuitive and introspective style and do not necessarily have to build on a comprehensive literature review and/or extensive research, unlike scholarly articles. Essays are expected to include critical reflections or political interventions into the past or actual natural/cultural/social issues and/or old or ongoing scholarly and intellectual discussions.
- **Review articles** (6000-12000 words): Critical review of the state-of-art of any topic or any discipline(s).
- **Cultural works** (max. 1200 words of texts or max. 1 GB of audio/visual material): Poem, play, story, music, short film, documentary, video, photographs, graphics design, painting, sculpture etc.
- **Communication** (1500-7000 words): Responses to previously published articles/essays or cultural works in the journal, or actual disciplinary discussions on Marxism, or brief political reviews from Marxist perspectives, or reports about planned or ongoing Marxist projects by scholars and/or activists. This category is intended to foster discussion, exchange, coordinate collaborations and international cooperation, Intention, standpoint, context, addressees and aims should become clear from the texts. Connections to knowledge, research and development are very welcome. Submissions under this category are not peer-reviewed but evaluated by the editors.
- **Translations** (6000-12000 words): Works either with an historical or actual significance written and published in languages other than English.
- **Interviews** (1500-3000 words): Interviews with leading Marxist scholars in any discipline.
- **Book, film, music recording, exhibition and performance arts reviews** (1000-2000 words)
- **Conference and symposium reviews** (1000-2000 words)
- **Letters to editors** (500-1000 words): Short communication on any topic that attracts the attention of the readers.

Open Peer Commentary (OPC): *Marxism & Sciences* may choose an accepted manuscript for an OPC process. The process begins once the approval of the author(s) is acquired.

Academic quality: Please consider originality, theoretical and practical significance, and methodological rigor, referring to the usual standards within your specific discipline or subdiscipline.

Confidentiality, responsibility and ownership: All documents considered during the review procedure are confidential. Statements and opinions expressed in published submissions are those of the author(s). All work in this journal is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial 4.0 International License. Copyright for articles published in this journal is retained by the authors, with first publication rights granted to the journal. By virtue of their appearance in this open access journal, articles are free to use, with proper attribution, in educational and other non-commercial settings.

Academic property issues: Submissions must be original and unique. They may not be already published in the same or similar form (in print or electronically, including on a web site), in any language, or accepted or under consideration for publication elsewhere. Papers published in *Marxism & Sciences* may not be published elsewhere in any language without the permission of *Marxism & Sciences*.

Marxism and Systems Science - The Technosphere: Systems, Things, and Infrastructures From Tektology, Cybernetics and Computational Planning to the Complexity Paradigm and Platform Capitalism

Marxist thought and practice have always centrally focused on the analysis of systems, things, and (technological) infrastructures—along with the possibilities inherent in alternative systems organized by collective ownership and state planning. These discussions have gained renewed currency in the digital age. To explore these questions today means to elaborate a Marxist epistemology of systems that goes beyond the old dichotomy of historical vs. structural analysis.

In this special issue, we want to investigate the relation of Marxism and systems science, in history, theory and practice. We construe systems science broadly, with a particular emphasis on those conceptions which developed in the Marxist tradition with a dialectical approach. Additionally, we understand there to be a longstanding relationship between systems theory, political economy, organisation, computational means, theories of economic planning, and global social history, represented by traditions such as Immanuel Wallerstein's world systems theory.

In recent years, world systems analysis has been recast in light of the debate around the notion of the Anthropocene. Representative is the work of the geologist Jan Zalasiewicz, who has argued we should understand the artefacts of human planetary activity as comprising the Technosphere. As Zalasiewicz writes, "The technosphere encompasses all of the technological objects manufactured by humans, but that is only part of it.... [It] comprises not just our machines, but us humans too, and the professional and social systems by which we interact with technology.... A proto-technosphere of some kind has been present throughout human history, but for much of this time, it took the form of isolated, scattered patches that were of little planetary significance. It has now become a globally interconnected system – a new and important development on our planet."

This debate provides an occasion to revisit Marxist resources for understanding human labour in connection with the "scientific-technological revolution" and the "great acceleration" of the twentieth century. We can consider key moments in history, from the famous Bogdanov-Lenin debate to the anti-technocratic work of Evald Ilyenkov, the systems theory of Blaubeurg, Sadovsky, and Yudin, and cybernetics in the socialist realm.

In the special issue we would like to address the following questions: Is system science more than a theory of an administered world? Does it go beyond an effort to improve the status quo and transform the system altogether? What role does systems theory play in Marxist thought and the history of socialism more generally? What epistemological changes are presented by the development of technologies such as AI? Are current developments reducible to old questions about statistics and data, or do they contain novel dynamics?

Additionally, we might ask: what were the contexts informing the development of Marxist systems theories? Which problems do we encounter today when pursuing these perspectives, and how successful were syntheses of the Marxian critique of political economy and systems thinking? What are its prospects today, and where are revisions needed?

Also, Is it significant that the first two versions of systems science, developed by prominent Marxist theorists Bogdanov and Bukharin, were suppressed by the Soviet regime and only reemerged in the post-war US context?

Given the broad topic, we are looking for contributions from different fields and perspectives, including historical and analytical methods, and systematic and speculative approaches alike. We particularly welcome contributions that give a comprehensive overview of a specific field, case study, or problem.

Possible topics may include:

- Revisiting Bogdanov's work and its reception
- Cybernetics in socialist planning in view of computation (e.g. in Chile, DDR, USSR, China, etc.)
- Marxist analyses of systems (e.g., trade, money, the internet)
- Marxist systems theories (World systems theory, the Regulation School, etc.)
- Materialist dialectics and systems theory
- Hegel, Marx and Engels as precursors of the systems paradigm
- The problem of inherent positivism in techno-futurist ideas
- Dialectics of nature and earth-systems science
- The Technosphere and the debate about the Capitalocene
- Marxist epistemology of systems and infrastructure
- Capitalist appropriation of systems sciences (neo-liberalism, neo-institutionalism, Governance theory, Club of Rome, RAND, etc.)
- Cybernetics in socialist planning and computation
- The rise of complexity science in the neoliberal era (Manhattan Project, Santa Fe Institute, etc.)
- Marxist (and post-Marxist) critics of systems sciences and complexity governance
- Digital infrastructures and platform capitalism

NOTE

Your submission may be in the form of articles, essays, communications, cultural works and creative writing for our summer 2025 collaborative issue. Detailed CFPs for both issues will be published and circulated in due time.

Please submit your manuscripts prepared for blind review with a separate title page that includes the title of your submission, affiliation and contact information to marxismandsciences[at]gmail. com. We also suggest the "online first" publication option for the manuscripts that are submitted, reviewed, and accepted earlier than the deadline.

DEADLINE
1 JUNE 2025

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