

The Fields of the Global

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Call for Contribution



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Context of the editorial project

After forty years as part of the global academic vocabulary, the attempts to understand the increasingly interconnected realities in which human beings live have produced millions of pages of both theoretical and empirical research, and countless are the number of books, readers, handbooks, companions, special issues, papers devoted to the high number of topics related to globalization. In this endless literature, our editorial project tries to understand the impact of the globalizing process on how social scientists do global studies or approach processes at local/global scales.

While in a first volume (entitled “The Craft of the Social Scientist in the Global Arena, to be published by BRILL Publishing in Fall 2023 and entirely open access), we explore how globalization is changing our tools of analysis on an epistemological, theoretical and methodological level, in this new project, we would like to gather proposals addressing more specifically the way in which various disciplines approach globalization, and from-scratch through more ethnographic field-works, locally grounded.

Call for contribution

While an overwhelming number of studies have been conducted in the realm of global studies, our goal here is to understand the methodological issues, for social and political scientists – being sociologists, anthropologists, human geographers, linguists, etc. –, to address the Global, its manifestations and its consequences, linked to their investigation on the field. The empirical question is one of the most pressing and compelling ones since it addresses the very issue of ‘how’ globalization(s) work(s) and its impact on the methodological tools and the production of data.

What might constitute (a) global fieldwork(s), and what are the fields of the global? What kind of data and methodology should be mobilized to observe the transnational processes at a micro-level, or, on the reverse, how and when do we connect local observations and locally meaningful entities to global processes? How to seize the impact of global risks on local reality? How to conduct multi-situated, multi-scalar, multi-level fieldworks? These are the questions that our edited collection would like to address by offering a multidisciplinary panorama of possible fields and scales to apprehend the multiple consequences of globalization.

Linking local observations and global processes, interested in the circulations between multiple centers and peripheries within the relationships between Global North and South, West and East, the studies presented should start from their research field as case studies by explaining the conceptual tools mobilized and the research practices that their use induces, on the one hand, the adaptation of the theoretical frame to the fieldwork and how the characteristics of the latter can transform the former on the other hand. We will be particularly interested in “globalization from below,” in the production, circulation, reception, and redefinition of norms, values, imaginaries, ideals, religious beliefs, ethnonational identities, varieties of cultures, and local traditions by observing the phenomena diversely called glocalization, indigenization, hybridization, creolization, the invention of traditions, etc.



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We most welcome papers lingering on the empirical dimensions of the research, the true nature of the ethnographic work of observation, and immersion in the fieldwork. For all the reasons above, we strongly encourage contributors not to hesitate to reveal the researcher's cuisine and not just the finished meal, as is often the case in books on globalization.

Timeline

Circulation of the Call for Contribution: March 2022

Submission of proposals (500 words maximum): September 2022

Answer to the authors: December 2022

First versions of the chapters (8000 words maximum): May 2023

Remarks to the authors: July 2023

Second versions of the chapters: December 2023

Submission of the manuscript to Brill: Spring 2024

Date of publication: Fall 2024

As the first volume of this editorial project, we intend to have the book both printed and open-accessed online.

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