



FAST-TRACK SPECIAL ISSUE

Call for Short Early Research Papers on the Coronavirus Crisis

Summary of the Call
(full text further below)

1. Short research papers of 2-4,000 words based on promising empirical and/or theoretical work
2. Papers swiftly reviewed and individually published immediately after acceptance (3 weeks submission-to-publication target)
3. Papers on free access for several months
4. Call duration: June 15th – July 31st



Call for Short Early Research Papers for a Special Issue of “European Societies”

- European Societies in the Time of the Coronavirus Crisis -

Special Issue Editors

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The detrimental consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic affect the lives of people in Europe and across the globe. In many European societies, the existential health threat of the virus has resulted in far-reaching government interventions, often limiting basic social and political rights. Together this has created an economic shock, likely to surpass the financial crisis of the last decade. The complex nature of the current crisis (combining a health threat with an economic shock and with a reshuffling of social practices and expectations in various life domains) puts European societies under severe stress. In coping with the challenge, many states have issued far-reaching lockdown measures and closed their borders. As an aftermath of these events, social integration and cohesion within and across European countries are threatened.

The Corona Crisis already has complex consequences on domains such as health, work, consumption, family, education, social contacts, political participation and overall life satisfaction. While the future dynamic of the crisis is difficult to foresee, its impact is likely to vary across social groups, regions and states. It will potentially exacerbate social inequalities and disproportionately affect those already in vulnerable positions (e.g., the homeless, unemployed, precariously employed, immigrants and ethnic minorities, the aged, women, and families with children).

In understanding and coping with the Corona Crisis, **sociological perspectives, theories and empirical analyses** are in high demand. *European Societies*, as the flagship journal of the European Sociological Association (ESA), wishes to promote sociological debate and contribute insights on the current crisis by providing a **fast-track review and online publication platform** for **short early research papers**. “**Early research**” means that we are looking for papers with promising empirical research findings as well as theoretical discussions that help to understand the (potential) consequences of the current Corona crisis for European societies. We seek papers of short to medium length (**2,000-4,000 words**) that make a **clear and original contribution**.

Call Duration: Papers will be reviewed promptly after submission and **published upon acceptance** online in a special section. Submissions will be accepted until July 31. We advise authors to send papers as early as possible.

Organization of the special issue and publication process

1. After an initial screening by the special issue editors, European Societies will provide a fast-track peer review. *All submitting authors may be asked to review another other paper within a week !*
2. If reviews are positive, authors will get one week to revise their papers, if needed. Once accepted, the paper will be processed and directly published online in a special section.
3. All articles will benefit from **free access** for the first few months after publication.
4. Please use the [online submission system](#) and select “European Societies in the Time of the Coronavirus Crisis” from the drop-down menu. For any assistance with submissions, please use eusoc@essex.ac.uk.
5. Formal requirements: Please strictly follow the formal requirements as described in the “Instructions for Authors” section at the European Societies [homepage](#). For this issue, the maximum number of words including title, abstract and references (but excluding tables and figures) is 4000 words. A maximum of 2 tables and 2 figures is allowed. Limit footnotes to the absolute minimum.
6. Please note that in order to enter the fast-track process, papers need to meet all formal requirements. Speeding-up the process obliges us to reject papers that do not meet these formal criteria or need extensive proofing.

Possible research avenues

Possible topics that the early research papers may deal with, but do not need to be limited to:

- the social consequences of the crisis in terms of inequality and social change within and across European societies;
- changing norms, values, perceptions & beliefs, emerging social practices and behaviours in one or several realms such as: health, employment, remote or ‘smart’/ ‘flexible’ work, family, gender, division of labour, social mobility, education, adult learning, discrimination, violence (domestic, gender-, age-related), integration of migrants and ethnic minorities;
- attitudes towards and trust in political institutions, policies and governance;
- political participation, protest and civil society;
- social solidarity, social resilience and coping;
- challenges for European integration, migration, globalization, climate change, the Anthropocene, human-animal relations, and bioethics.