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Citizenship and Membership: Theory and Challenges in Times of Global Crises

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (15 October 2021)

Message from the Guest Editors

The Special Issue investigates the concept of citizenship in constitutional theory and specifically addresses the transformation such a concept is facing in pluralist and technology-driven societies. Ethnic definitions of citizenship, which claim that it should be founded on bonds of a genealogical or biological nature, have easily been dismissed by constitutional theories. As a matter of fact, any call for the authentic ‘popular will’ implies the identification of a relatively homogeneous polity expressing consistent needs and priorities. Nevertheless, this conceptual rebound is challenged by technological developments, artificial intelligence, etc.

Against this backdrop, the Special Issue explores how the meaning of citizenship, both in terms of conceptual construction and in terms of legal significance, has been transformed in a context of nationalist revival, popular will rhetoric, and technological developments.

The Special Issue will contribute to scholarship in the fields of constitutional theory by engaging with some of the most contentious issues in contemporary scholarly debate.



mdpi.com/si/59122

Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Laws is an international, open access journal featuring rigorous scholarship on critical developments in governance, courts, agencies, and social order. Analysis and synthesis, theory and practice, and empirical and doctrinal work have appeared in the journal; contributions that bridge these traditional boundaries are particularly welcome. The social sciences and humanities generate insights both from and for the legal system. While theory grounds *Laws* in a timeless dialogue shaped by traditions of inquiry, legal practice ensures that scholars are addressing pressing problems. Both normative and positive scholarship can aid policymakers, judges, and agency officials. *Laws* brings together the work of theorists and practitioners, and a diverse range of empirical researchers, to promote the progress of foundational legal norms.

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