

Special Issue

Philosophy of Human Well-being

Message from the Guest Editor

Human well-being has been a central philosophical topic throughout the history of philosophy, though it has temporarily been out of fashion. It has recently achieved new prominence, partly as a reaction to the boom in empirical studies of, and public interest in, the nature and conditions of well-being. Philosophers have tried to improve the conceptual and methodical foundations of well-being research, though with mixed success. Philosophy itself has had difficulties moving beyond the stalemate between subjectivist and objectivist views, and between the “big three” (hedonism, desire satisfaction, and objective list theories), and there are doubts about the real-world applicability or usefulness of abstract notions of well-being. New ideas for hybrid, holistic, dynamic, or contextualist theories of well-being have been put forward, but neither sufficiently developed nor widely discussed. This Special Issue aims to advance the state of the art of philosophical theorizing about human well-being.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (1 February 2022)



Philosophies

an Open Access Journal
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Impact Factor 0.7
CiteScore 1.4



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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Philosophies searches for the syntheses of philosophical and scientific inquiries. It promotes philosophical work that is derived from the experience of diverse scientific disciplines and cultures. Multiple philosophies already exist—those of logic, information, computation, natural and artificial life, natural or artificial intelligence, complexity, technology, etc. Our mission is not to abandon philosophical roots and traditions of inquiry, but to promote the development of philosophical foundations and effective methodologies derived from diverse scientific explorations, and intended to enhance these explorations as to generate deeper and more holistic knowledge. Innovation may also be achieved through the cultural dimension. Other cultures can offer from their heritage a diversity of resources for exploration; these resources can also contribute to the emergent synthesis of philosophical inquiry.

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