

Topical Collection

Epistemology, Methodology and Ontology of a Post-Digital Social Inquiry

Message from the Collection Editors

The post-digital condition—characterized by the convergence of pervasive digital infrastructures, generative artificial intelligence, and the emergence of quantum-based models of computation—demands a radical rethinking of how social knowledge is produced, validated, and interpreted. This Topic Collection aims to explore the epistemic, methodological, and ontological implications of this transformation, bringing together interdisciplinary contributions that interrogate the foundations and futures of social inquiry in an increasingly hybrid human–machine ecosystem.

The focus of the Topic Collection is to critically examine how new computational paradigms reshape the assumptions, tools, practices, and interpretive processes through which social scientists understand the world.

We particularly welcome contributions that illuminate how data imaginaries, interface-based interactions, and simulation logics influence the formation of evidence, the construction of social facts, and the researcher’s positionality.

Collection Editors

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Societies

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Societies (ISSN 2075-4698) is an interdisciplinary journal that brings together different scientific approaches to engage with societal questions to enhance our understanding of the social realm throughout history. The journal publishes original empirical research papers, literature reviews, and conceptual papers. Our aim is to publish papers that have a significant impact on addressing present and emerging societal questions. Therefore, we encourage researchers to publish their results in as much detail as possible. For empirical research papers and literature reviews, all experimental details must be provided, so that the results are reproducible. We also encourage the publication of timely theoretical pieces on topics of interest to existing and emerging societal questions. Papers are either published in the open journal or in Special Issues devoted to specific topics of interest to the field.

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