

Special Issue

Geographies of Urban Energy Transitions, Critical Materials and Sustainable Industrial Development

Message from the Guest Editors

The transition to low-carbon energy systems is recognized as a technological and geographical transformation that requires an increasing understanding of the spatial, environmental, and socioeconomic dynamics of industrial development. Critical raw materials such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, and rare earth elements are at the center of these dynamics and are indispensable for renewable energy, energy storage, and green infrastructure. While these materials facilitate decarbonization pathways, their extraction, processing, and circulation also create new challenges related to environmental degradation, global supply dependencies, social equity, and governance. This Special Issue of *Urban Science*, 'Geographies of Urban Energy Transitions, Critical Materials and Sustainable Industrial Development', will focus on the intersection of energy transitions, critical material flows, and sustainable industrial strategies at various scales, ranging from local urban systems to global supply chains. We look forward to receiving your contributions.

Guest Editors

Prof. Marcello Ruberti

Department of Economic Sciences, University of Salento, 73100 Lecce, Italy

Prof. Stefania Massari

Department of Economic Sciences, University of Salento, 73100 Lecce, Italy

Deadline for manuscript submissions

15 October 2026



Urban Science

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.2
CiteScore 3.7



mdpi.com/si/257264

Urban Science
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
urbansci@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
urbansci](https://mdpi.com/journal/urbansci)





Urban Science

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.2
CiteScore 3.7



[mdpi.com/journal/
urbansci](https://mdpi.com/journal/urbansci)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Urban Science is a scholarly international journal which provides a platform for the exchange of theories, ideas, methods, analyses, and comparative studies of urban and regional development. It is a peer-reviewed, open access journal that publishes high quality original articles, theoretical essays, critical reviews, research notes, and shorter communications. Its broad definition of “science” includes both quantitative and qualitative methods of social, environmental, and spatial analysis. There is no restriction on the maximum length of the papers.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Luis Hernández-Callejo

Department of Agricultural and Forestry Engineering, University of Valladolid, Campus Duques de Soria, 42004 Soria, Spain

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, ESCI (Web of Science) and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Geography) / CiteScore - Q2 (Urban Studies)