



Sociological Research Online Special Issue

30th Anniversary Special Issue Call
for Papers – become a part of our
history and future!



British Sociological Association journal *Sociological Research Online* (SRO) invites abstract submissions for an anniversary special of the journal.

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 30 November 2023

SRO reaches a key milestone in 2025: our 30th anniversary! You have the chance to mark this key milestone with us by contributing to our planned special issue, which celebrates and reflects on the impact the journal has had on sociological scholarship over its lifetime. In the past 30 years, this flagship sociological journal has firmly established itself as a prominent platform for the research of prolific sociologists and influential articles that have innovated debates in the discipline.

The special issue will form part of an archival project exploring the journal's impact, history and meaning to sociologists. Scholars, both established and new to the discipline, will explore and revisit past debates in the context of their own work and contemporary interests. This special issue will also create a space to consider the future of the journal and the discipline by fostering debates about key themes that have made a mark in SRO's publication history. Importantly, we foresee this anniversary special issue to offer a moment of critical reflection both on how SRO has helped shaped sociology over the last three decades and on some of our "blind-spots" and areas for further innovation.

We are re-opening the call because we want to invite more contributions which explicitly explore how SRO has helped shaped sociology over the past thirty years, methodologically, conceptually as well as within any of the thematic areas, on which the journal has left its mark. We encourage prospective contributors to consider which authors, articles and debates published in SRO have helped shape scholarship within their area(s) of specialization; and, crucially, what key absences remain and how SRO can advance debates in these areas. Some of the thematic and methodological areas, in which SRO has pioneered or in which the journal has participated particularly prominently, include the following:

- Qualitative methodologies – online/digital, CAQDAS, qual analysis (including secondary), creative methods and their potential to push beyond the methodological 'canon'
- Race and ethnicity
- Family, family practices and parenting
- From social crises to fragmentation and polarization
- Media and celebrity
- Political sociology (including nationalism and populism)
- Men and masculinities
- Citizen participation and community
- Internationalisation and transnationalism
- Time/temporality

We invite authors to consider one or more of the following goals for the special issue before submitting abstracts for a proposed paper:

- To celebrate what the journal has achieved, its innovations, and its contribution to sociological debates,
- To consider where SRO has made its most enduring contributions but also to help set the agenda for the future trajectory of sociological debate,
- To mark and celebrate the place of SRO within the broader publishing landscape,
- To publish new and contemporary research explicitly relating to established themes in the journal (i.e. please note: the list above is indicative but by no means exhaustive) and to indicate how such new work further enhances SRO's commitment to producing theoretically and methodologically innovative research. Special emphasis will be placed on the rigour, significance and innovation offered in the papers accepted.

Submission instructions

The editors invite 200 word abstracts for proposed papers. Please also include in your proposal a short 100-word explanation about how your paper responds to this call and will explicitly celebrate SRO's history and future, as well as a biographical note about the authors. The editors will review the abstracts and invite a selection to submit full papers to the journal.

As with all other articles submitted to SRO, invited full papers will undergo a fully anonymised peer review process to reflect the quality standards of the journal and BSA. Being invited to submit a full paper does not guarantee publication in the issue, as acceptance is dependent on the peer review process.

Theoretical, empirical and review-based papers are welcome. Contributors are welcome to submit abstracts for reflective review papers on key debates or ways in which SRO may have influenced their own thinking and scholarship.

When preparing your abstract and proposal, please take into account the development of debates within SRO. If there are other key themes of SRO history that you would like to highlight, contributors are very welcome to put suggestions forward to the editorial team.

Please also contact the editors with your proposal before submitting an abstract if you would like to submit *Sociology in Action* or *Beyond the Text* articles. More information on *Sociology in Action* pieces can be found [here](#). We also welcome *Beyond the Text* pieces that publish innovative and creative work generated as a product of social science research or as an expression of research participation, collaboration and output. The *Beyond the Text* guidelines can be found [here](#).

Submissions should be sent to James Pattison at jpattison@lincoln.ac.uk

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 30 November 2023

Notification of decisions on abstracts: Early December 2023

Submission of **full papers: Mid-April 2024**

The above deadlines have been determined in order to ensure timely publication in the 30th volume.

For any additional information or questions regarding this issue, please contact the editors through jpattison@lincoln.ac.uk

Sociological Research Online is published by the [British Sociological Association](#) and [SAGE Publications](#). It is a peer reviewed journal publishing research within the full range of sociological enquiry, in a variety of formats and publication types from research articles to creative outputs represented by *Beyond the Text*.

For full information about the journal, please visit the [SRO website](#).