

CALL FOR PAPERS

Rebel Cities: Local Government and Global Challenges beyond 2030

This year in June, the Swedish International Centre for Local Democracy (ICLD)¹ organized the Local Democracy Academy that hosted scholars from around the world to share ideas, network, and present their research on 'Global challenges and Local governments: Towards Transformative Policy and Practice'. The objective of the academy was to discuss the latest research in the field of local democracy, explore directions for future research and foster collaborations.

We invite participants of the Local Democracy Academy as well as others researching rebel cities and local governments to contribute to an edited volume/special journal issue with the theme 'Rebel Cities: Local Government and Global Challenges beyond 2030'. The theme incorporates a significant slice of the research presented at the Local Democracy Academy. We are in the process of identifying outlets for research, but would like to start the solicitation process for papers.

Theme - Rebel Cities: Local Government and Global Challenges beyond 2030

Around the world, cities and local government face some of the toughest challenges of the 21st century. Whether this is the increasingly pernicious effects of climate change, growing migration to urban centers, poverty, refugee crises, or the inclusion of immigrant/migrant communities, localities often bear the brunt of the effects from these global issues. Local leaders, both within and outside of government, increasingly must seek innovative, sustainable solutions, either because of federal/national/supranational inaction or action that in fact exacerbates these problems. The complexity and multidimensionality of these global challenges requires research that focuses on local responses and indigenous solutions in pursuit of the global commitment to 'leave no-one behind'. In some cases, local government may seek to improve or expand upon federal/national/supranational responses to crises, while in others they may directly challenge these approaches as they seek to chart a path forward that will reduce conflict in their communities. Cities must not only seek to be inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (SDG 11) but also to develop institutions that are effective and accountable at all levels (SDG 16). These "rebel cities" are becoming a model of the steps that can be taken locally to address global problems and in this special issue we aim to draw upon some of the top scholars across disciplines and around the world to analyze and scrutinize how local communities have responded.

¹ The overall objective for the International Centre for Local Democracy is to promote the development of sustainable local democracy in low and middle-income countries. ICLD's work has an important role to fill within the framework of the UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) by strengthening local governments to fulfill the goals in a democratic and inclusive manner. ICLD's operations cover three principal areas: the Knowledge Centre, Municipal Partnership Programmes and International Training Programmes. For more information see <https://icld.se/en/this-is-icld>.

Those interested should send an abstract of between 200 words to 500 words which highlights the importance, methodology, findings, and recommendations of the research to the editing team: Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien, Angeline Sithole, Ana Maria Vargas, and Gareth Wall via Emma Olofsson on emma.olofsson@icld.se by 31st August 2019. For papers still in the process of collecting or analyzing data, the abstract should provide an expectation in regard to when it would be completed. Submissions of contributions not presented at the academy are welcome.

Tentative dates

31st August 2019 submission of abstracts
21st September 2019 invite for full paper submission
30th November 2019 full paper due
10th January 2020 peer review deadline
25th February 2020 revised draft submission
30th May 2020 journal peer review
31st July 2020 revised draft for copy editing
31st August 2020 final draft