



Call for papers
Special Issue: Southerning State Crime Criminology
Editorial Team

The State Crime Journal invites proposals for a special issue on 'Southerning State Crime Criminology', to be coordinated by the editorial team under the leadership of Professor Valeria Vegh Weis and Professor Kristian Lasslett.

This call stems from the urgent need to address imbalances in the criminological discourse on state crime. While a significant proportion of state crime occurs in the Global South, the dominant criminological canon has been shaped predominantly by scholars from the Global North, particularly the US and the UK, often neglecting Southern studies. Additionally, recent strides in Southern, decolonial, and countercolonial epistemological approaches in criminology have yet to permeate the study of state crimes, with a few exceptions (Agozino et al. 2021). The lacuna is particularly notable in the absence of intersectional perspectives.

This situation within the Anglophone criminological literature necessitates a transformative shift. Southern perspectives unveil the impact of global inequalities on scientific production and the extended disregard of valuable knowledge and experiences from the Global South. Beyond seeking epistemic justice, Southern viewpoints offer a fresh lens for exploring overlooked instances of state crime, showcasing the work of marginalized Southern scholars (e.g., Zaffaroni 2022, del Olmo 1990), and integrating local epistemologies rooted in ongoing experiences of oppression.

Recognizing the role of structural publishing inequities in these epistemic inequalities, the special issue marks a pivotal moment that will persist as part of the journal's policies, challenging existing disparities. Instead of reinforcing English language hegemony through translation support, the first step involves accepting submissions in other languages. While the original-language articles will feature in the special issue, an AI-translated version in English will be published on the journal's website. Additional changes include disrupting the mainstream, Western-centric writing structure and inviting submissions adhering to alternative styles while upholding scientific rigor. We are committed to ensuring that peer reviewers possess the necessary linguistic and epistemological skills for a fair evaluation. Lastly, acknowledging that relevant analyses from a criminological standpoint may exist in other languages under different disciplinary labels, this call embraces diverse approaches as long as a clear connection to criminology is established.

We welcome proposals on the following topics, which serve as indicators rather than limitations:

- Exploring Southern perspectives in state crime criminology
- Contrasting Southern, decolonial, counter-colonial, and post-colonial viewpoints on state crime criminology
- Intersectional theorisations and applications of Southern perspectives to state crime.
- Comparative analysis of state crime in the Global North and South
- Historical examinations of state crime in the Global South
- Present and future challenges in the realm of state crime in the Global South
- Decolonizing the publishing system in state crime criminological research
- AI as a tool for achieving epistemic justice in state crime criminological research

Scholars from marginalized groups are strongly encouraged to submit proposals. We also invite collaborative submissions between authors from the Global North and South, as well as partnerships between academics and activists.

Kindly submit abstracts (max. 150 words) for your proposed article to s.knowles-mofford@qmul.ac.uk by 15 March 2024 (though it is not necessary to do so to submit your manuscript). Final submissions (fully anonymised, and 5–8,000 words) are expected by 1 August 2024. Full information on submission guidelines can be found here: <http://statecrime.org/journal/notes-for-contributors/>.

See index for other language translations of this call (generated with AI).

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