

D I S T I N K T I O N

SCANDINAVIAN JOURNAL OF SOCIAL THEORY

Call for Papers – Special Issue on the *Concepts of Politics*

The May 2006 issue of *Distinktion* will have as its overall theme the concept of politics as conceptualised within classical and modern political and social theory. The concept of politics is a *sine qua non* for any serious and mature political and social theory. However there are numerous ways to locate and understand the concept of politics in different traditions. Is politics a phenomenon *sui generis* with its own logic and meaning or can it be subsumed under categories such as ethics, tradition or class? Should the theoretical concepts of politics base themselves on philosophical and analytical readings or should we look alternatively to historical and semantic analyses? What kind of processes, developments and struggles define the political? What are the institutional and historical conditions for the emergence and continuance of politics as a phenomenon?

In order to reach a certain degree of coherence in the issue we kindly ask possible contributors to structure their proposals in accordance with certain standards. The proposals should begin with some amount of mapping of the relevant concept(s) of politics within a chosen field, group of authors, or tradition, and should then proceed to develop its own original argument. Although the main idea of mapping 'politics' is a conceptual one, we welcome contributions with additional perspectives of an empirical or historical nature. Also, contributors may speculate on the changing conditions of politics in a globalised society and attempt to conceptualize new emerging forms of (post)politics.

The purpose of the issue is produce new theoretical perspectives while at the same time documenting the existing plurality of meanings and understandings on the topic. For this reason, we invite scholars from various traditions, fields and approaches to contribute.

Submission requirements: Deadline for papers is the 1st of September 2005. Scholars interested in contributing are advised to contact the editors before this date for a preliminary discussion of their ideas. For this special issue, only papers in English will be accepted. Send an electronic copy on email to the *Distinktion* editorial office at distinktion@ps.au.dk. All submitted papers will be evaluated by the editors, and publication decisions will be based on the double-blind peer-review process (the editors will necessarily know the identities of all participants). For further information about the journal, see www.distinktion.dk

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Distinktion: Scandinavian Journal of Social Theory was launched in 2000. It is published biannually (in May and October) and has over the years established itself as an innovative journal that is in the forefront of contemporary discussions in social theory. *Distinktion* has published original papers by a number of internationally prominent scholars, including Nikolas Rose, Engin Isin, Rob Shields, Mitchell Dean, Slavoj Žižek, Karin Knorr Cetina, Harrison C. White, Richard Swedberg, Jürgen Habermas, David M. Rasmussen, Jens Bartelson and Eric Alliez. Special issues have appeared on Niklas Luhmann, Carl Schmitt, health, urban theory, war, Empire, economic sociology, political globalization and Gabriel Tarde.

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