

Call for Papers

COVID AND VULNERABILITIES

The SARS-CoV2 crisis serves to reveal the fragility of our equilibrium - physical, mental, social, political, economic, societal, and environmental. The *CONFLUENCE Sciences & Humanities Journal* invites researchers from a variety of disciplines to submit an original article to be published in April 2022. It will question the various forms of vulnerability highlighted by the health crisis. The health crisis has been prolonged and exacerbates the vulnerability, as an intrinsic part of the subject, of the living being. The articles may address the context of this crisis, the ways in which it is perceived and experienced, its effects, and the representations that underlie it.

Keywords: *SARS-CoV2, COVID, Vulnerabilities, crisis, living, society, fragility.*

Calendrier :

- Launch of the call for papers: 11 February 2021
- Submission deadline for articles: **11 April 2021**
- Selection of articles and first response to authors: May 2021
- Publication of the journal: April 2022

Papers should be submitted online at revueconfluence@univ-catholyon.fr by 11 April 2021 at the latest. They must respect the editorial policy, the ethical charter, and the instructions to the authors of the journal.

The *CONFLUENCE Sciences & Humanities Journal*

Carried out by the UCLy Sciences & Humanities Confluence Research Center, this journal is at the confluence of life sciences and human and social sciences. The diversity of disciplines and units to which its committee members belong reflects its multidisciplinary and international ambition. It endeavours to explore singular scientific objects by promoting cross-disciplinary perspectives.

Terms of Submission and Evaluation:

Proposals for articles, up to 40,000 characters, may be written in French, English or one of the following languages: Spanish, Italian, or German. They may come from different scientific disciplines (life and environmental sciences, human and social sciences, etc.).

They will undergo a double-blind evaluation according to the procedure indicated on the journal's website: <https://www.ucl.fr/revue-confluence/>.

Instructions to authors as well as rules concerning the scientific integrity of the journal, reviewers, and authors are available at the same address.

Argumentation :

Beyond the uncertainties and upheavals into which the pandemic is plunging our societies, the SARS-CoV2 crisis acts as a revelation. In particular, it highlights the fragility of our equilibrium - physical, mental, social, political, economic, societal, and environmental. It exacerbates vulnerability as an intrinsic fact of life and therefore must be questioned from disciplinary fields representative of life sciences as well as human and social sciences.

The planetary context of the pandemic still at work thus leads us to experience disorder, the dazedness of the scientific world, and the unpredictability of economic and political fields on a planetary scale. In this respect, it constitutes a genuine test of our existing representations and upsets our relationship with the world, reminding us that man is not "master and possessor of nature". The world is no longer just complex, it is proving to be uncertain or even worrying and no longer allows individuals, whatever the scale considered, to project themselves identically into the near and familiar future.

Thus, the contributions will look at the various forms of vulnerability highlighted by the health crisis. They will consider not only the different dimensions of this unprecedented crisis (i.e., its contexts, experiences, representations, and effects), but also its unprecedented moments (lockdown, the ending of lockdown, curfew, first and second wave, etc.). In this perspective, we propose going beyond the initial theme of vulnerability as an object of study, in order to consider and articulate this notion which refers to the human condition and more generally to all living things, in the light of specific contexts which allow different disciplinary fields to properly develop a way of thinking about vulnerability in its different dimensions.

What does this major crisis of the subject and its relationship to the world tell us? What conceptions of the living human being, in its biological, symbolic, and social dimensions are to be questioned here? In what way does the current context call into question the functioning of our organisations and institutions? What changes does such a context bring about in the humanist paradigm, both ancient and contemporary?

The first issue of the *CONFLUENCE Sciences & Humanities Journal* will focus on the following themes:

- The context, and in particular the epidemiological and biological factors, explaining the emergence of the pandemic.
- Experiences of the crisis (alert, lockdown, the ending of lockdown, health measures, etc.): the inequalities that have been revealed, its expressions in legal terms, its role as a revealing, even catalytic, factor in ecological and economic vulnerabilities, the phenomena of precariousness, but also the dynamics of creativity, resistance, and resilience, as well as the interpretative games to which it gives rise.
- The short and medium-term effects in the relationship between man and living beings: environmental impact, changes in lifestyles, innovations, or regressions - whether scientific, technical, organizational, economic, political, legal, lexical, religious, existential, ethical, etc. Several scales can be envisaged: local, national, transnational.

- Representations of the disease, and more broadly of human beings, societies and even "the world", underpinned by imaginations, values, and beliefs. What collective memory of epidemics is expressed in literary, biblical, and scientific traditions?

Issue N°1 Coordinators:

- **Christine Bouvier-Müh**
Lecturer in Philosophy, UCLy Sciences & Humanities Confluence Research Center
- **Valérie Aubourg**
Professor of Anthropology, UCLy Sciences & Humanities Confluence Research Center

Contact:

Editorial Secretariat: revueconfluence@univ-catholyon.fr