

Call for Papers

Thinking agriculture from the margins: Intersectional perspectives

The old image of the farm was a white, male-centered unit of production. Over the years the role of women, of migrant workers, of queers, were made visible. As contributions of “the margins” gain recognition, new social and ecological relationships are gaining prominence—reshaping how we think about agriculture, sustainability, and justice.

With this Call for Papers we encourage scholars to (re)think agriculture from the margins. What alternative models exist beyond traditional family farming and extractivist agricultural systems? And how might marginalized perspectives—such as those of queer, racialized, and migrantized individuals—contribute to the development of sustainable and socially just agricultural practices? Furthermore, how do issues of racism, disability, and social justice intersect with access to farmland and natural resources?

These critical questions lie at the heart of our Call for Papers, which seeks to explore intersectional approaches to sustainable agriculture. This call invites scholars and practitioners to engage with the socio-ecological dimensions of sustainability, centering marginalized perspectives that challenge dominant narratives and foster more inclusive, resilient agricultural practices.

We welcome contributions that critically engage with, but are not limited to, the following themes:

Gendered and Sexual Relations

- How do patriarchal structures, heterosexuality, and hegemonic gender roles shape rural life and agricultural labor?
- What alternative models and practices challenge these structures to promote more just gender and sexual relations?

Queer Perspectives on Farm Life and Work

- What are the experiences of queer individuals in farming spaces?
- How do they contribute to just and sustainable agricultural practices?
- What challenges do they face, and what strategies of empowerment and co-existence have they developed?

Migration and Racism in Agriculture

- How do migration and racialized/ethnicized structures influence agriculture?
- How can these dynamics be addressed to foster just working and living conditions?

Disability and Agriculture

- How are disabled individuals involved in agriculture?
- How can disability-inclusive agricultural practices contribute to sustainable and adaptive farming models?

Human and More-Than-Human Relationships

- How do marginalized perspectives conceptualize relationships between humans, animals, plants, and the soil?
- What role do these relationships play in shaping sustainable and just farming livelihoods?

Practical Examples and Case Studies

- What existing projects and initiatives promote sustainability and justice in agriculture?
- What challenges and successes can be identified from these efforts?

Future Visions for Sustainable Agriculture

- What political, social, and economic transformations are needed to enable sustainable and just agricultural livelihoods?
- How can intersectional approaches inform policy and grassroots activism in agriculture?

Submission Formats

We encourage diverse forms of contributions, including but not limited to:

- Empirical research papers utilizing quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods approaches to generate new insights on intersectionality, sustainability, and justice in agriculture.
- Theoretical reflections offering novel conceptual frameworks and critical analyses.
- Unconventional formats, such as interviews with practitioners, ethnographic portraits of initiatives, or artistic/creative engagements, provided they are grounded in relevant theoretical and methodological frameworks.

Submission Guidelines

We invite contributions from a range of disciplines, including but not limited to rural studies, sociology, agricultural sciences, gender studies, migration studies, disability studies, anthropology, and environmental studies.

Deadlines

- **Abstract submission (max. 300 words): July 20, 2025**
- Notification of acceptance: August 30, 2025
- Full paper submission to editors: December 31, 2025
- Full paper submission to journal: March 1, 2026

Online Event

In January 2025, we plan to host an online workshop where all contributing authors will present their work and engage in collective discussion. A scheduling survey will be conducted in September among the selected contributors to determine a suitable date.

Contact & Submission

Please submit your abstracts to:

- Dr. Dina Bolokan (bolokan@protonmail.com), University of Bath (Postdoctoral Scholar, Politics and International Studies)
- Prisca Pfammatter (prisca.pfammatter@unibe.ch), University of Bern (PhD candidate in Geography)

Publication Plan

Following the selection process, we will seek to publish selected papers in a special issue of a relevant academic journal, such as the *Journal of Rural Studies*, *The Journal of Peasant Studies or Agriculture and Human Values*.

We look forward to your contributions and to fostering new perspectives on intersectionality and sustainable agriculture together!