

# Special Issue of *New Political Science*

41:4 (December 2019)

## “The Question of Tactics in an Age of Authoritarian Neoliberalism”

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Neoliberals and neoliberalism purport to extend “freedom” to individuals on a global scale. This “freedom” in practice extends primarily to transnational corporations and the billionaire class. As business and wealth are deregulated and set free to plunder the planet, ordinary citizens, workers, women, and minority groups are increasingly subject to overt state violence, multiple forms of surveillance, and direct forms of expropriation, such as declining real wages, regressive taxation, eviction, foreclosure, detention, and incarceration. Intensifying surveillance, exploitation, and repression by ostensibly democratic regimes, increasingly authoritarian rhetoric and actions of world leaders (e.g., Trump, Erdogan, Duda, Duterte, Rajoy), and rising right-wing populism raise political, organizational, and ideological questions that elude traditional forms of electoral politics. Consequently, in this age of neoliberal authoritarianism, the question of tactics reemerges at the forefront of progressive and left political debate. This December 2019 Special Issue of *New Political Science* will take up this question to consider possible ways forward in the early twenty-first century.

A critical area for consideration is how authoritarian neo-liberalism threatens the intellectual spaces where it is most subject to critique. In “The First White President,” Ta-Nehisi Coates (*The Atlantic*, 2017) notes the (re)emergence of alt-right campus groups, creation of the “Professor Watch List,” and renewed debates around free speech and academic freedom. These dynamics signal some of new horrors arising from Trumpism infusing spaces throughout higher education. The university constitutes a microcosm of divisive and regressive politics and political struggles experienced within the broader socio-political landscape. These permeable university-community borders also apply to faculty roles. The challenges that teachers and scholars must navigate in this new political landscape are exacerbated for those committed to social justice and activism in their classrooms and/or communities. This Special Issue Call for Papers invites submissions that engage the broader question of neoliberal authoritarianism and how it relates to higher education in our contemporary context.

We welcome papers for this Special Issue of *New Political Science* that consider this question within, but not limited to, the following areas: capitalism and globalization; the state and political power; class and class conflict; race and ethnicity; gender and sexuality; political ecology and the environment; social movements and protest politics; ideology and culture; pedagogy, politics and the profession of political science.

The Caucus for New Political Science (CNPS) is hosting its second conference focused on this question in February 2019. This NPS Special Issue Call for Papers will be advertised at the conference and is also open to all who have interest in submitting a manuscript.

The following timeline will be followed for considering manuscripts:

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| <b>February 24-26, 2019:</b> | Conference of The Caucus for a New Political Science, Isla Grand Beach Resort, South Padre Island, Texas |
| <b>March 15, 2019:</b>       | Full manuscripts of 8,000 words due for consideration for blind peer-review                              |
| <b>May 1, 2019:</b>          | Authors notified of decision to send out for blind peer review or rejection.                             |
| <b>June 15, 2019:</b>        | Comments from editors and reviewers returned to authors.   |
| <b>August 1, 2019:</b>       | Final papers due to <i>New Political Science</i>   |

This issue follows the standard double-blind peer review process for special issue papers. Two reviewers are selected and asked to evaluate all of the articles individually under consideration for the special issue. Manuscripts should be submitted to *New Political Science* via the following link: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/cnps20>.