

## Call for Papers: Special Issue in *Political Psychology*

### **Special Issue Title:**

Re-examining Norms of Good Citizenship When Democratic Values are Under Threat

### **Overview:**

Amid global transformations and mounting challenges to fundamental democratic principles, the role of ‘good citizens’ in fostering resilient, inclusive, and engaged societies is more crucial than ever (Bermeo, 2016; Mauk, 2020). Predominant theoretical approaches to citizenship and even ‘good citizenship’ – typically shaped by Marshall (1950), Almond and Verba (1963), and Dalton (2020) – struggle to capture the complexities and interplay between different norms of good citizenship. Yet these norms are responsible for citizens’ political behaviour, shifting allegiances, and evolving political identities, including their turn towards illiberal practices and their apparent endorsement of an increasingly unstable political and global order (Oser et al., 2023; Schnaudt et al., 2024). Still, academic discourse on norms of ‘good citizenship’ often remains peripheral within broader debates on democratic values, civic education, citizenship politics, and state legitimacy due to the predominance of discipline-focused lenses.

While substantial research explores the variability of citizenship norms in relation to political behaviour and civic engagement (Reichert, 2016; Lane, 2020; Goodman, 2022), significant gaps persist in understanding how these norms are linked to psychological factors such as emotions, collective identities, and ethical behaviour (e.g. Valentino et al., 2008; Smith et al., 2015; Oser et al., 2023). Moreover, scholars remain divided on how individual and contextual factors come together to shape citizenship norms and how these norms influence political attributes in and across different social, cultural, and political contexts (Print & Tan, 2015; Kligler-Vilenchik & Thorson, 2016; Villalobos et al., 2021). Furthermore, the impact of temporal, technological, and socioeconomic changes on the evolution of good citizens and norms of good citizenship remains elusive. This is partly due to the predominance of democracy-centric theoretical approaches, with a growing body of academic scholarship questioning their broader applicability and potential to reinforce exclusionary undertones in contemporary citizenship models (Boatcă & Roth, 2016; Siklodi, 2020; Sharma, 2022).

This Special Issue aims to bring together normative and empirical approaches on citizenship, ‘good citizenship’ and norms of ‘good citizenship’ in order to facilitate a cross-disciplinary dialogue that spans temporal and geographic boundaries. It welcomes studies of liberal democracies, regions with colonial legacies and countries with fragile institutions. Together, the contributions to this issue will help examine the complex interplay between individual, institutional, behavioral and psychological factors that shape contemporary citizenship, advance a more comprehensive theory of the norms of ‘good citizenship’, and examine their implications for the future of democracy, political institutions and public engagement, and civic education.

**Key research questions:**

- What does ‘good citizenship’ mean, and how stable is this meaning across time and space?
- How do psychological factors, such as emotions, collective identities, and ethical behaviour, shape perceptions of good citizenship and citizenship norms?
- What are the main changes in citizenship norms, and which factors (economic, political, psychological, social, etc.) are related to these changes?
- How are citizenship norms linked to social, educational, technological, and psychological processes?
- How do citizenship norms vary across different socio-political, cultural, geographic, and temporal contexts, and what are the implications of these variations for democracy and civic education?

**Timeline:**

- Opening of call for abstracts: 1 April 2025
- Deadline for submission of abstracts/short summaries: 15 July 2025
- Decision on selected proposals and invitation for full submissions: 15 August 2025
- Deadline for invited authors to submit their full papers: 31 December 2025
- Final decision (after second review): 31 August 2026

All submitted papers will be subject to the journal’s [author guidelines](#) and double-blind review process via Wiley’s Research Exchange submission portal. Please remember to select the special issue title (“Re-examining Norms of Good Citizenship When Democratic Values are Under Threat”) when submitting your full-length manuscript through Research Exchange.

**Submission Guidelines:**

We welcome contributions from scholars globally, including from scholars working in underrepresented regions, with a focus on interdisciplinary dialogue and inclusivity. Submissions should be original research articles, theoretical papers, or comprehensive reviews.

Interested authors should submit an abstract of up to 500 words, 3-5 keywords, and details of the author(s) (title, institutional affiliation) by email to [sinorms@hku.hk](mailto:sinorms@hku.hk) by **15 July 2025**. Please note, the abstract needs to be clearly aligned with the key themes of this Special Issue and the [Aims and Scope](#) of *Political Psychology*.

**Contact Information:**

For any inquiries regarding the Special Issue, please contact the Guest Editors ([sinorms@hku.hk](mailto:sinorms@hku.hk)):

Professor Frank Reichert (The University of Hong Kong & The University of Sydney), Dr. Nora Siklodi (University of Portsmouth), Professor Murray Print (The University of Sydney)

We look forward to your contributions to this important and timely Special Issue.

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