



**KMGNE**

Kolleg für Management und Gestaltung  
nachhaltiger Entwicklung gGmbH



**NIDAS**  
NÚCLEO DE INVESTIGACIÓN Y  
DOCENCIA EN AMBIENTE Y SOCIEDAD  
UNIVERSIDAD ACADEMIA DE HUMANISMO CRISTIANO

## **Call for articles**

for the  
26<sup>th</sup> edition of the journal *Revista de la Academia* of the  
Universidad Academia de Humanismo Cristiano

Santiago de Chile

### **Problems, solutions, and debates on the social-ecological reality (In which direction are we moving the world?)**

Sustainability has become a generalised objective. It often happens that terms, which have gained social legitimacy, are subject to discussions and disputes on the interpretation or definition of their meaning.

Today, we clearly need to ask ourselves, how to re-organize the relationship between humanity and nature in order to stay within the planetary and the social-ecological boundaries of our planet, and in order to simply safeguard the survival of the species *Homo sapiens*.

Besides the strong neoliberal trends, in which the sustainability debate has been denoted hysterical and apocalyptic, positions and proposals have emerged, which claim profound transformations of the dominant socio-economic orientations. These proposals stress the necessity of questioning the anthropocentric society, they encourage the recuperation of public welfare and commons, initiate new ways of consumption, and foster a new understanding of the relation between humanity and nature.

The above-mentioned radical changes are of decisive significance for resolving the “crisis of civilization” because they suggest a fundamental transformation, which must include key concepts, such as degrowth, *buen vivir*, post-development, and eco-centrism, amongst many more. It is about the imperative of a cultural change, which encompasses the economic system and which gives orientation to politics. The latter are absolute conditions for the acceptance of the planetary boundaries (which are not yet mere speculations any longer) as basic principle for human action and human (development) models.

The debate includes even more changes of perspectives, such as a renunciation from “technology optimism”. The pope criticized it in 2015 in his encyclical *Laudato Si* as the reign of technocratic and instrumental rationality, which suppressed humanistic ethics in modern societies.

As regards science, policy and international institutions, we seem far away from meeting the urgency and the immense pressure of action. A critical science needs to question its role with regard to the highly dynamic and complex processes of change and needs to claim a new function of science with and for society.



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Therefore, it is certain that a *real* and profound transdisciplinarity is indispensable to tackle the social-ecological challenges in order to cope with their complexity, and in order to accompany processes of change with transformative knowledge.

It is also about the integration of new philosophies and ethics, about a new vision for the relation between humanity and nature, and about a critique of the dichotomy between culture and nature.

Beyond the normative requirement of transdisciplinarity, experiential knowledge needs to be integrated seriously and with (scientific) legitimacy into the research and into transformation processes. This is the basic condition to be able to find or gain an entry point on what is happening and on how possible futures could look like, and on how to possibly design alternative roadmaps towards these futures. In Latin America, this is also called “ecology of the people” or “ecology of the poor”.

Within this broad and open topic, you are kindly invited to turn in articles for the present 26<sup>th</sup> issue of the journal *Revista de la Academia* of the Instituto de Humanidades at Universidad Academia de Humanismo Cristiano in Santiago de Chile.

The journal is indexed in Latindex Catálogo, Dialnet and DOAJ and is published in Spanish.

Articles can be submitted in English and Spanish.

Deadline for submissions: August 30<sup>th</sup> 2018.

The articles will be reviewed by two scientific experts.

Articles may take up the following aspects:

- i) Specific social-ecological analysis in the context of the planetary boundaries
- ii) Possibilities and difficulties for initiating sustainable transformation processes
- iii) Elaborations which illustrate the relation between humanity and nature or which could illustrate these (approaches, suggestions, cultural analysis amongst others)
- iv) Analysis and descriptions of processes or experiences which depict sustainability pathways or / as well as paths of ecological crisis
- v) Debates about approaches and practices of social transformations and epochal transitions, based on a cultural and economic critique of modernity (transformation strategies, conditions for success / frames for transformation amongst others)
- vi) Critical analysis of the international institutionalization of environmental problems
- vii) Discussions and contributions about terms and concepts of the social-ecological debate (Anthropocene, eco-centrism, entropy amongst others)



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- viii) Role and function of science and scientists with regard to the global challenges (transdisciplinarity, living labs, humanities and cultural science amongst others)
- ix) Social-ecological movements and competences (transformative literacy) and civil society driven actions
- x) Environmental communications and arts
- xi) Others

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Dr. Joachim Borner and Anne Mette: [amette@kmgne.de](mailto:amette@kmgne.de) +49 (0)30 29367940

Please send your submission to José Fernando García Soto  
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We are looking forward to your submission!

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