



## CALL FOR PAPERS

**Azimuth. Philosophical Coordinates in Modern and Contemporary Age**  
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### **The Subject of Politics: People, Populism and Democracy**

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The current health crisis, whose economic and social consequences seems to preannounce a substantial change in global politics, has furtherly sharpen the perception of those fundamental inequalities that have had already shaken the neoliberal framework of Western democratic societies in the last two decades. During this process, the elusive phenomenon of populism has acquired a progressive relevance, followed by an increasing attention, in the field of political theory, for a great variety of different experiences whose main feature is the anti-establishment setting of their appealing to the “people”. Despite the difficulties of defining an object of study by its nature unwilling to let itself be captured by a classifying approach, the multifaceted nature of the populist phenomena claims for a philosophical enquire into the current crisis of the representative system.

The historical eruption of neoliberalism implies, in fact, the disintegration of the institutional, economic, social and cultural mechanisms put in place by modernity, making the unitary logic in which they were enrolled unbearable. The breakdown of the categorical apparatus of the nation-state, as well as its neutralization devices, opens up a public space characterized by a growing anomie, to which the yearning for the construction of the people, the lost subject of politics, responds. Inscribed in the global logic that informs, transfiguring it, the current political scene, a critical reflection around populism should provide, intended in this way, an analysis of both the limits and the emancipatory potentials of contemporary political conceptuality.

Accordingly, the main purpose of this issue is to propose a genealogical and critical approach to populist theories and practices. On one side, we propose to analyze the historical emergency, within the last two centuries, of democratic political theories whose center is to be found in the different ways they conceive the people as the main subject of politics. On the other side, we aim to critically engage with the broad spectrum of post-Marxist and post-structuralist theories that, since the groundbreaking work of Ernesto Laclau, have further extended his legacy. To question this last philosophical-political framework should produce an enlargement of the current ways of understanding and enacting radical politics.

**We welcome papers exploring, on one side, the different theoretical and historical moments that represents the logical antecedents of populism and, on the other side, addressing the limits of populist theories from the point of view of the emancipatory praxis. Papers focused on the entanglement between feminism and populism or neoliberalism and populism are are especially welcomed.**

All papers giving an original contribution on these and other similar topics are welcomed. We invite contributions in English, German, French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. Authors, whose papers will be accepted, will be asked to edit their contributions following the editorial rules of the journal.

**Papers should be editing according to the Editorial Rules** available on the website: [www.azimuthjournal.com](http://www.azimuthjournal.com)

Please send your papers to: [editorial@azimuthjournal.com](mailto:editorial@azimuthjournal.com)

***Deadline (for the complete article): January 31, 2021.***

Max contribution length: Contributions are expected to be between 25.000 characters and 34.000 characters (spaces and footnotes included).

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