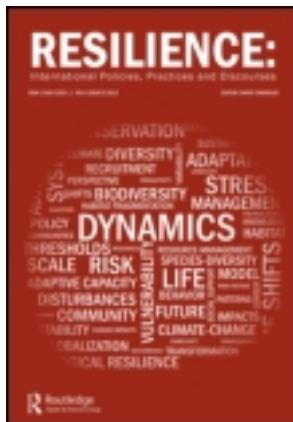


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Resilience: International Policies, Practices and Discourses

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Editorial

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Editorial

I would like to welcome you to the first issue of the new journal *Resilience: International Policies, Practices and Discourses*. This international journal, peer-reviewed and published by Taylor & Francis, will serve as the leading forum for the development and exchange of ideas regarding resilience and its role in both policy practice and theoretical understandings. As this journal is international in coverage and broad in scope, we neither start from fixed definitions of resilience, nor do we assume a normative editorial position, which talks resilience up as the imagined solution to practically all policy problems or sets out to knock it down as merely a new policy buzzword. For us, resilience – and its ubiquitous rise across the policy spectrum – is an invitation to critically engage with the world around us, to ask new questions of it and to overcome disciplinary and conceptual divides based upon the understandings of the past.

There are many entry points into the problematic of resilience, from broad sociological perspectives to those of politics, ecology, geography, biology, economics and international relations, and the merging of the concerns of security, development and the environment. Resilience is now a central concept informing policy frameworks dealing with political, developmental, social, economic, security and environmental problems in ways that clearly transcend traditional disciplinary boundaries. *Resilience: International Policies, Practices and Discourses* aspires to create a platform for dialogue about the processes, spaces, policies, practices and subjectivities through which resilience is seen to operate. As such, this journal will draw together academic expertise from disciplines such as political science, international sociology, geography, political theory, development studies, security studies, anthropology and law.

We fully recognise that the problematic of resilience is not merely about how we respond to a world of rapid change, complexity and unexpected events, but is also a way of constituting and understanding this world. This journal will thereby provide a space in which resilience can be conceptually analysed as a guiding framework – a sedimentation of various cultural outlooks – expressing a shifting relationship between our understanding of human agency, its potential and efficacy, and our aspirations for improving, securing and developing the world we inhabit. This journal seeks to draw out and engage with the assumptions informing resilience approaches and practices and, in so doing, create an inter-disciplinary space for contemporary critical socio-political theorising.

The journal is interested in articles which contribute to the resilience thematic understood in broad terms, including but not limited to: the *practices* of prevention, empowerment and capacity building; the *policies* of resilience, as applied in different fields and at different levels and their interconnections, proliferation and implementation; the *discourses* of adaptation and vulnerability, their genealogy and construction in relation to the natural and human sciences; the *processes* of resilience, how ‘resilience thinking’ approaches complexity, networks, causality and agency in new ways; the *spaces* of construction, the arenas where communities and policy practices are constituted at a wide range of levels from the local and regional to the national and global; the *economics* of

adaptation, the links with neoliberal approaches and the shift to the private and social sphere; the *politics* of resilience in relation to communities of resistance and the construction (and deconstruction) of the political; the *subjectivities* articulated in the interpellation of the subject as embedded, as self-securing and responsibilised, and as active and transformative.

Resilience is an invitation to critically engage with our world, outside the boxes of the disciplinary and conceptual certainties of the past. It is this invitation which provides the guiding ethos of the journal *Resilience: International Policies, Practices and Discourses*. On behalf of the editorial team, the editorial assistants and our International Advisory Board, I would like to invite you and your institution to become part of this project. Full information for article and review submissions and for personal and institutional subscriptions is available at the journal website: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/resi20>.

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