

Towards a Reformulation

Board of editors

The overall aim of this journal was to foster valuable conversations in the new transdisciplinary and emerging field of valuation studies. *Valuation Studies* has in this way been a successful experiment. The main testimony of this success is the twelve issues with articles, interviews, editorials we have published since 2013. As an editorial collective, we are proud about of what the journal has become. Yet, we also have the sense that we are ready to push the now ongoing conversations to take further steps.

We have, until now, taken valuation to denote *any social practice* where the value or values of something is established, assessed, negotiated, provoked, maintained, constructed and/or contested. Partially thanks to this journal and the many authors, reviewers, editors involved in this collective task, valuation practices are today an established object of inquiry in the social sciences and humanities. Given this, the current question for us is how this journal can continue to further the conversation.

We propose a transitioning the journal from focusing on the study of valuation practices to the study of valuation as a problem. Valuation stands as a crucial *problem* for the social sciences and the humanities today, in more than one way. Understanding the tensions, determinants, contexts and effects of valuation practices appears indeed as a decisive requirement for the understanding of how our world is constructed, transformed or shattered. An interdisciplinary approach is required in order to investigate the technical cultures, the political imaginaries, the historical processes, the methodological problems and the institutional settings that shape the ways in which things are valued, and to identify relevant shifts, controversies and struggles. Sociological, anthropological, cultural, political, semiotic,

historiographic, legal, institutional, critical, organisational approaches to the study of valuation phenomena are needed in order to establish tractable, actionable interdisciplinary knowledge on valuation as a problem.

Valuation as a problem does not, certainly, exclude an attention to the practices of valuation. The problem of valuation is also the study of the problems of those who value and are subject of valuation. But, it implies also, to problematise further our own ways of approaching valuation. Our proposition is to push us, the editorial board, the authors, reviewers and readers to take new steps in our conversations about valuation. The revised focus will allow us to sustain and strengthen the journal as a platform for curated academic conversations on valuation.

These new steps further entails a shift in how we will manage submissions to the journal. From now on, content submissions will be made in response to broad open calls for contributions curated by the journal's editorial board, where we will always maintain a few thematic calls in parallel. This new format is to ensure focus and debate, while offering the space to address each call's purpose from many angles and in reference to various forms of evidence and demonstration. Papers already submitted will continued to be reviewed and assessed as previously and, once accepted, will be published on these pages. New submissions, however, will be received along the lines of the current new calls.