

Call for Papers: *Community, Work & Family* Special Issue

Community, Work, and Family in Flux: Exploring Changing Structures, Policies, and Practices in a Global Perspective

Overview: Mareike Reimann, Anja-Kristin Abendroth, Sonja Blum and Antje Schwarz (Bielefeld University) are guest editing a special issue of the journal *Community, Work & Family*. The Special Issue stems directly from the 10th International Community, Work and Family Conference that took place 25-28 March 2025 in Bielefeld, Germany. The special issue will focus on the meaning of global change dynamics for community, work and family (CWF) and their intersections. We seek submissions that contribute to debates on changing structures, policies and practices of CWF and that stimulate further research in this regard. **Deadline for the submission of manuscripts is October 15, 2025.**

Background information: We are currently witnessing simultaneous and ongoing dynamics of change at the global level that have consequences for community, work and family and their intersections. Prime examples, though not exhaustive, are the COVID-19 pandemic, digitalization, climate change, migration, and ongoing armed conflicts. All these dynamics of change might have implications for CWF and different dynamics of change might even accumulate opportunities and risks for CWF and their intersections. Moreover, public policies, inequality structures, and organizations may act as filters of attenuation and acceleration of global change. In addition, investigating agency in CWF would help to shed light on individual strategies in managing the risks and opportunities involved in different dynamics of global change.

Anticipated Content: We expect this special issue to include 6-8 articles plus an editor introduction. We invite contributions based on presentations at the 10th International Community, Work and Family Conference. Our goal is to accept a portfolio of articles that provide theoretical and empirical contributions on changing structures, policies and practices of CWF related to global change dynamics such as the COVID-19 pandemic, digitalization, climate change, migration, and ongoing armed conflicts. A wide range of topics include social change and intersections of CWF (for example climate change, COVID-19 pandemic, eco-social transformation, digitalization, ongoing conflict and war), global perspectives on CWF, agency in CWF, social inequality structures of CWF, and politics and policies of CWF. We especially welcome contributions which integrate global perspectives of the global south and north. Exemplary guiding questions for the special issue are:

1. How do policy contexts and reforms at different levels (country, region, organization) and their interplay shape norms and ideologies (e.g., with regard to gender, parenthood, age or migration)?
2. How do implications of digital and flexible work environments for CWF vary across heterogenous family structures and living situations, the organizational and national context, or across employee groups and working conditions?
3. What are long-term implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for CWF?
4. How do current streams of migration affect CWF in different regions and across the globe?
5. How do parenting and care leave policies and practices develop in different countries and how does the take-up vary, for example in relation to changing norms of motherhood, fatherhood and parenthood?
6. How do national policies, company strategies and individual decisions for improving work-life balance interact and what are the implications for CWF?

Submitted manuscripts should be approximately 8000-10,000 words inclusive of tables, references, figure captions, footnotes, endnotes. We accept original articles only. When submitting, you will be able to indicate that your paper should be considered for the special issue *Community, Work, and Family in Flux*. Detailed submission guidelines on original articles, including minimum requirements to be considered as a research article submission, can be found here:

<https://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?show=instructions&journalCode=ccwf20>

Timeframe:

Online submission site open: 1 September 2025

Deadline for submission of manuscripts: 15 October 2025

First review process completed: 15 February 2026

Revised manuscripts must be resubmitted by: 15 April 2026

Second review process completed: 15 July 2026

Revised manuscripts must be resubmitted by: 1 September 2026

All manuscripts must be ready for publication by 30 September 2026

Publication of special issue: December 2026 issue 5 (and published online earlier, as manuscripts become available)

Inquiries:

Questions about the special issue can be directed to the special issue editors:

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General inquiries about submissions and the journal can be made to joint journal editor Marc Grau Grau (mgraug@uic.es).