

Call for Papers

The Energy Commons: Catalyzing Collective Action in Energy Transitions

Transitioning towards sustainable and equitable energy systems requires a profound reconsideration of the social dynamics surrounding energy. Beyond mere technological changes, the transformation of energy systems has the potential to trigger and, in turn, can be brought about by substantial socio-political transformations. This process may necessitate reinterpreting energy as a common good, to enable effective and enduring collective action in energy governance. As decentralized and collective energy systems, energy communities represent a prominent example of such collective energy action. These communities actively engage local participants in generating and distributing energy, encompassing notions of the energy commons. They are increasingly recognized as a central element for facilitating local energy transitions. In some instances, emerging collective practices and social movements seek to reclaim critical resources, such as land and network infrastructures. This Special Issue in the [International Journal of Commons \(IJC\)](#) seeks to address collective action in energy transitions.

The topics include but are not limited to:

- Reconceptualizing energy as a common good,
- Decommodification of energy and energy democracy from a collective action perspective,
- Social movements and collective action for reclaiming natural and technical resources, such as land and electricity networks, in energy transitions,
- Social enterprises and business strategies,
- Resource allocation in energy communities,
- Governance structures in energy communities,
- Institutional analysis and design for energy communities.

Contributions with empirical, theoretical and modelling approaches are all welcome. We especially welcome manuscripts focusing on (and/or submitted by researchers from) Global South.

Practical information

Deadline: 1st May, 2024, please send the guest editors an email, including a 500-word abstract for consideration, if you are interested to submit.

Submission: [The journal's submission platform](#) is available for receiving submissions to this Special Issue starting 1st February, 2024. Please refer to the [Guide for Authors](#) to prepare your when submitting your manuscript online.

Costs: the International Journal of Commons (IJC) is an open-access journal, thus the authors are requested to pay for open-access fees as stated on the journal website ([Guide for Authors](#)). Note that most European Universities cover these costs. However, a few fee-waivers are available. Manuscript will be published online immediately after acceptance. Do not hesitate to contact the guest editors for any questions.

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