



# JOURNAL OF PRAGMATIC CONSTRUCTIVISM

## Call for Papers Special Issue – The Flourish of Life-Friendly Language Games

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### 1 Introduction

In the midst of multiple crises—ranging from the climate crisis and biodiversity decline to an imagination crisis and general well-being challenges—our current era, often labeled the Anthropocene, reflects a profound disconnect from life-friendly practices. This disconnect is evident across various levels, as highlighted by Nørreklit and Paulsen (2022), permeating our institutions with a forgetfulness of the living world.

This special issue seeks to address the crises by inviting contributions that explore new conceptual developments, conduct studies, and propose applications of ideas that center on life, the good life, and the essence of life. How can pragmatic constructivism contribute to taken better account of life?

The following questions form the further focal points for submissions:

- What constitutes the essence of the good life?
- What does a life-friendly society or practice, one that cares for life, look like?
- What are the criteria for life-friendliness?
- How can the value of 'life-friendly' be comprehended?
- What life possibilities are excluded by neglecting life-friendliness?
- How can society become life-friendly?
- How can societal practices be developed to provide space for life?
- How can we study life-friendliness, including its oppositions?
- What defines life-friendly or not life-friendly aspects of current societal institutions?
- What characterizes a life-friendly language game? Can it be conceptualized?
- Can communication be life-friendly and/or not?
- What characterizes a pragmatic approach to life-friendliness?
- How can life-friendly language games be studied and/or developed?
- How can we assess the degree of life-friendliness?
- What are the reasons behind the life-destructive tendencies of prevailing society?
- What obstacles hinder the creation of the good life and a life-friendly society?
- What constitutes a life-friendly organization? Is it possible?
- Who is a life-friendly leader, and what characterizes such leadership?
- What is a life-friendly employee, and what characterizes such an individual?
- What are the primary challenges life-friendly attitudes must contend with?
- Is it possible to create something life-friendly in the world we currently inhabit?
- What counternarratives exist against life-friendliness?
- Is it time to reconsider the idea of the social contract and instead recognize our place in the living world? How can this transition occur? How can it be conceptualized?

We welcome various types of articles that respond to these questions, including conceptual papers, empirical studies, or a combination of both. Submissions can range from short to longer papers.

During spring 2024 two online workshops will be held. At these workshops research proposals can be discussed. The dates are: 11 April 2024 and 14 May 2024. If you are interested in joining these workshops, please register by contacting Michael Paulsen. You find his email address at the top of this call for papers.

Guest editor of the special issue: Michael Paulsen

Deadline for Paper Submission: September 2, 2024

Submission can be made via the journal website or by sending your paper directly to Michael Paulsen.

## References

Nørreklit, L., & Paulsen, M. (2022). To Love and Be Loved in Return: Toward a Post-Anthropocene Pedagogy and Humanity. In Paulsen, M., & Hawke, S. M. (Eds.). (2022). *Pedagogy in the Anthropocene: Re-wilding education for a new earth*. Springer Nature. ( <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-90980-2> )