**Special Issue on**

**Social Design and Innovation**

**Call for Papers**

The history of social design can be dated back to 1963, when the International Council of Societies of Industrial Design was granted by UNESCO a special consultative position to work on various design projects for improving the human condition (Smithsonian Institute, 2013). Today, social design has several forms. The oldest builds on ethical grounds. In 1972, Victor Papanek’s Design for the Real World made the case for socially conscious design that works outside the market. Current work on designing for sustainability and for the third world typically refers to him. Another form of social design is methodic, with the relevant design methods forming a rough line from participatory and user-centered design to service design, which invites professionals and lay persons to collaborate in the public interest. A third form brings sociological theory into design, as in the work of Nigel Whiteley (1993) and Harvey Molotch (2003). The last few years have seen a rise of new forms such as co-design, co-construction, collaborative design, community design, design activism, frame creation (Dorst 2015), social innovation (Manzini 2015) and manifestos such as Design for Transformation and DesignX that urge designers to use their skills to work on major societal challenges, sometimes in conjunction with, but often regardless of, outside, and even against the market.

The latest development of social design activism reminds us of the long history of social reforms in finding systematic solution for capitalist society. It can be traced back to Rousseau’s Discourse on the Origin of Inequality, which influenced Marx’s theoretical framework. After Engels (1943) published his *Condition of the Working Class in England in 1844*, social reformers in the U.K. turned to the philosophies of such movements as Owenism and Fabianism, seeking to provide fair and decent living standards for every citizen by introducing ideas such as cooperative communal living and state welfare programs as alternatives to revolution. Since then, many social change movements have developed to resolve economic, political, and societal problems all over the world. Sociologist Wright (2012) has summarized these efforts into six types based on the degree of citizen participation, economically and politically: 1) social democratic statist regulation, 2) associational democracy, 3) social capitalism, 4) cooperative market economy, 5) social economy, and 6) participatory socialism. A design-centred approach of social design that supplements or even enriches this contemporary trend of social reform can be expected.

This special issue welcomes articles that focus on theoretical investigations into social design (e.g., history, different paradigms and models), on the methodological challenges of social design (e.g., various models, frameworks and trans-disciplinary insights and cross-fertilization), and on trans-disciplinary examples and implementations of social design innovations. In order to enhance our understanding and development of social design across different societies, either comparative studies or case studies on newly founded social design societies are encouraged.
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Schedule

- **Full Paper Due:** 24 September 2015
- Notification of Review Results: 10 November 2015
- Final Version of Paper Due: 10 December 2015
- Notification of Acceptance: 15 January 2016
- Special Issue Publication Date: 31 March 2016

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Submission of Papers

Manuscripts should be prepared with the template file and guidelines found at [www.ijdesign.org/authorGuidelines](http://www.ijdesign.org/authorGuidelines). Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. A double-blind review process will be employed for this special issue.

Manuscripts should also be sent through the on-line system at [www.ijdesign.org/submissions](http://www.ijdesign.org/submissions). Authors should choose “Special Issue on Social Design and Innovation” as the Journal Section when submitting papers.

Reference