

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## SPECIAL ISSUE ON HANS JONAS' PRINCIPLE OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THE CONTEXT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

### Topics of interest

The limits and normative desirability of technological fixes to climate change

The adequacy of Jonas' categorical imperative in today's environmental context and existing environmental normative ethical proposals

Jonas' controversial endorsement of a dictatorship to save humanity

The relationship between Hans Jonas' work and contemporary authors such as Timothy Morton, Naomi Klein, Dale Jamieson, Simon Caney, or César Nava Escudero

Dialogue between Hans Jonas' environmental ethics and recent approaches such as feminist climate change ethics following the impulse of Christine Cuomo and Nancy Tuana

Acceptable civilizational changes to ensure the survival of mankind vs. changes that would violate human dignity

Presciently, 42 years ago, Hans Jonas, famous for his work on bioethics, the philosophy of technology and environmental ethics, individuated the crucial challenge of climate change alerting for an “ultimate thermal limit” associated to our faith in technology and the greenhouse effect operating in the “closed box of our terrestrial environment.” Accordingly, in his landmark book *The Imperative of Responsibility* (published originally in German as *Das Prinzip Verantwortung* in 1979), Jonas coined a new categorical imperative: “Act in a way that the effects of your action are compatible with the permanence of real human life on earth” or “Do not endanger the conditions for the indefinite survival of mankind.”

Despite Jonas' early warnings and growing worldwide attention and academic commentary focusing on climate change and its potentially devastating effects, we are fast approaching the 2.7°C global warming level, a figure way above the Paris Agreement goal of limiting warming to 1.5°C degrees Celsius and potentially triggering irreversible consequences.

Against this background, it seems justified to intensify normative and descriptive philosophical and ethical thinking on climate change. **For its special issue, *Isonomía* is pleased to invite submissions that engage our ethical, philosophical, and legal responsibilities and challenges from the point of view of Hans Jonas' famous “principle of responsibility”.**

Abstracts (300-500 words) must be sent to [isonomia@itam.mx](mailto:isonomia@itam.mx) by **28 February 2022**. More info [here](#).

Guest editor: **Bernardo Bolaños Guerra (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Mexico)**