

## **Call for papers**

### **Epistemic Emotions in and around the law**

Special issue for *Frontiers in Sociology of Law*

Editors: Renata Grossi, Eve Hanan, Alessandra Minissale, Cecilia Nordquist, Kate Rossmannith.

Abstract submission now till Nov 5

Article submission Feb 2027 (or to be negotiated)

All correspondence to Renata Grossi ([renata.grossi@uts.edu.au](mailto:renata.grossi@uts.edu.au)), Alessandra Minissale ([alessandra.minissale@uu.se](mailto:alessandra.minissale@uu.se)) and Cecilia Nordquist ([Cecilia.nordquist@soc.lu.se](mailto:Cecilia.nordquist@soc.lu.se))

Law and Emotion scholars have consistently challenged the reason versus emotion divide in our understandings of law and legal processes, scholars have established that emotion in law is methodologically sound, and epistemically significant. More recently an additional tool has emerged to further such investigations: epistemic emotions.

Epistemic emotions are associated with cognitive work, making judgments and achieving knowledge (Brady 2013, Morton 2009). Ronald DeSousa has stretched the term (while talking of feelings) to include any emotions that influence our cognitive strategies, our convictions and our conclusions (2009). Epistemic emotions are considered able to promote cognitive efficiency (Muis et al 2018); to constitute virtuous intellectual pursuit (Vosinek 2026), and provide a bridge between our analytic thinking and our intuitive thinking (De Sousa 2009). Law and emotion scholars have recently begun to address the role of epistemic emotions in the work of judges, prosecutors and mediators. This research has highlighted the epistemic importance of doubt, uncertainty, surprise, gut feelings and anger.

In this special issue we are interested in papers that (1) deepen our understanding of the concept itself. For example, which emotions are epistemic and how so?; (2) Uncover places where epistemic emotions are guiding legal thinking and legal practice in our diverse legal systems. For example, are epistemic emotions also relevant in private law, constitutional and international law?; (3) Broaden the idea of law – thus we invite papers that consider law in all its forms and places.

We are seeking 6-9 contributions in total. *Frontiers* follows a method of publishing articles as soon as the editing process has been completed. Once we have six papers they will be released in a magazine format; and then, if we reach ten papers, the work will be released as an E-book.

Please submit your abstracts/manuscript summaries (500 words) now. The final due date for abstracts is November 5.

Please send these to the managing editors: Renata Grossi ([renata.grossi@uts.edu.au](mailto:renata.grossi@uts.edu.au) ), Alessandra Minissale ([alessandra.minissale@uu.se](mailto:alessandra.minissale@uu.se) ) and Cecilia Nordquist ([Cecilia.nordquist@soc.lu.se](mailto:Cecilia.nordquist@soc.lu.se)).

When sending to the editors, please also include a short biographical outline.

Article length: 8 thousand to 10 thousand words inclusive of references and will be due 4-6 months after the abstract has been accepted. Style of submission follows Frontiers instructions [Guidelines for Authors](#).

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