

## DEAR READERS

As we continue into the second phase of our funding, we are excited to share with you the latest edition of our newsletter. This edition highlights our latest Call for Fellowships, as well as recent publications by current and former CAPAS fellows and research associates. You will also find updates on outstanding work, ranging from the relationship between apocalypse, technology, and fascism to apocalyptic threats in relation to questions of successful (co-)existence, democratic living, and ecological action. We are also pleased to reflect on the success of Joshua Wodak's book presentation, and the discussion between Jonathon Keats and Robert Folger on "Post-Apocalyptic Futures: Imagining Life After the Polycrisis." You will also find more blogs and podcast contributions in various languages, as well as information on forthcoming events. Enjoy your read!

## OPEN CALL: FELLOWSHIPS AT CAPAS



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We are currently inviting applications for 10 Fellowships for the 2026-2027 academic year (deadline: 31 August 2025). Fellowships are available for up to 12 months, including at least one academic term (April to July or October to February). For the 2026-2027 period, our yearly topic will focus on the notion of *Subjectivities*. [More Info](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

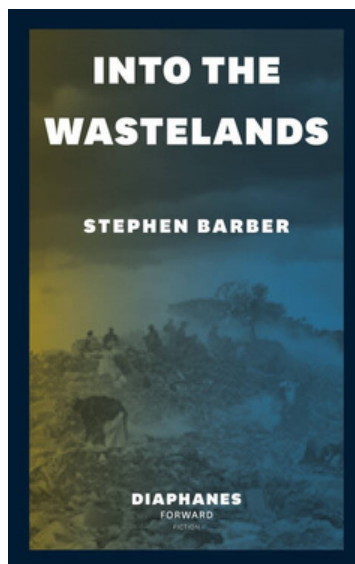
**30.10 – 14.11 – Doing Futures in Precarious Times: 6<sup>th</sup> International Forum on Global South Studies** | University of Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany

This forum will bring together scholars, artists, and activists to critically explore how the future is imagined, negotiated, and contested in and from the Global South within an increasingly uncertain global context. The deadline for proposals is August 15th. [More Info](#)

**11.08 – 13.08 – Tutzing Sommerakademie: Weltuntergänge. Apokalyptisches Denken in der Gegenwart** | Tutzing, Germany

This summer academy will explore the role of apocalyptic thinking in contemporary political discourse, examining topics ranging from right-wing rhetoric about collapse and climate activism to tech dystopias. [More Info](#)

## PUBLICATIONS



In his new novel *Into the Wastelands*, former CAPAS fellow Stephen Barber not only addresses the urgent issues of our wasted reality, but also tells a personal story through his fictional narrative.

Robert E. Kirsch's and Emily Ray's new research article, "Bunkerization as a fantasy of consumer sovereignty: The politics of American disaster preparation", examines how post-WWII American culture has embraced bunkerization as a fantasy of consumer sovereignty, in which individual disaster preparedness takes the place of collective political solutions.

In his article "Frozen Subjectivity: Vulnerability and Aesthetics at the End of the World", Russ Castronovo examines how the will to sovereignty is shadowed by its disavowed other: vulnerability.

Jakub Kowalewski's new book, *A Philosophy of Climate Apocalypticism*, offers a provocative rethinking of the apocalypse as both crisis and possibility. Kowalewski challenges the prevailing narratives surrounding climate change, urging readers to confront the political and ethical implications of a collapsing world.

## PAST EVENTS

### Post-Apocalyptic Futures: Imagining Life After the Polycrisis

The debate at the German-American Institute Heidelberg between conceptual artist and experimental philosopher Jonathon Keats and CAPAS Director Robert Folger centred on how apocalyptic studies might provide a tool for understanding the present, focusing on the role of visionary art in creating desirable futures. [More Info](#)



(Robert Folger, Julian Reid and Jonathon Keats)

### Lecture: Fascism and the Politics of the End

Eduardo Altheman presented the keynote lecture "Fascism and the Politics of the End" at the Political Ecology Congress "Repairing the Future? Reflections and Experiences from Political Ecology" on July 1st 2025, at the Sciences Po Toulouse. In his presentation, he analysed how contemporary right-wing authoritarianism compares to classic fascism and how they bring societies closer to the threshold of complete annihilation.



### Book presentation Joshua Wodak: *Petrified. Living During a Rupture of Life on Earth*

In his book presentation at Goethe University's Giersch Museum, Josh Wodak discussed his new book, *Petrified: Living During a Rupture of Life on Earth*. [More Info](#)

## Christopher Columbus's Apocalyptic Ideas and the Drive of Colonialism – Robert Folger & Jayne Svenungsson

At the recent 2025 [International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature and the European Association of Biblical Studies](#) in Uppsala, Sweden, CAPAS Director Robert Folger delivered a talk examining how Christopher Columbus's apocalyptic ideas served as a key motivating force behind colonialism.

## OTHER MEDIA

### Tristan Sturm – "Will the U.S. get involved in Iran? Mike Huckabee's evangelical worldview may be the key" (The Forward)

This article explores Mike Huckabee's apocalyptic worldview and its surprising influence on Donald Trump. It examines the connections between American evangelicalism, biblical prophecy and foreign policy entanglements in the Middle East. [Read the Article \(English\)](#).

### Jonathan Littell – Review of Joshua Wodak's book *Petrified* (Le Monde)

This is an insightful review of Wodak's work on climate imaginaries and cultural responses to the ecological crisis. [Read the Review \(French\)](#).

### Robert Folger – "'The Last of Us, 'Eternauta' and others: Woher kommt unsere Lust auf die Apokalypse?" (Tagesspiegel)

This article, in dialogue with literature and media theory, examines why apocalyptic narratives —ranging from global pandemics to climate doom —captivate us. [Read the Article \(German\)](#).

### Robert Folger – "Endzeit-Stimmung: Warum wir so verliebt in Apokalypsen sind" (Deutschlandfunk Kultur)

In this episode of *Studio 9* on Deutschlandfunk Kultur, Robert Folger explores our collective fascination with apocalyptic narratives. He examines why end-of-times scenarios captivate audiences in literature, film, and public discourse. [Listen to the Podcast \(German\)](#).

### Ana Honnacker – Journal Interview (Die Zukunft)

CAPAS Fellow Ana Honnacker considers how apocalyptic threats can lead us to rethink democratic life, ecological action and relational ethics. [Read the Interview \(German\)](#).

### Daniel Loick – "Argentinien: Faschismus, postapokalyptisch" (nd aktuell)

This review of the Netflix series *El Eternauta* contextualises post-apocalyptic aesthetics within Milei's far-right Argentina, with a focus on resistance narratives. [Read the Article \(German\)](#).

### Robert Folger – Journal Interview (CeroSetenta)

In this interview, our director Robert Folger reflects on the 'post-apocalyptic' landscape as a metaphor for disillusionment with modernity and considers the role of CAPAS in theorising these conditions. [Read the Interview \(Spanish\)](#).

### Bruna Della Torre – "Broligarquias e Neofascismo" (Ontocast)

This critical podcast episode explores Brazilian neofascism, class violence, and the connection between far-right populism and post-apocalyptic political ideas. [Listen on Spotify \(Portuguese\)](#).

## **Bruna Della Torre – "Sobre a utopia: uma conversa entre Theodor W. Adorno e Ernst Bloch" (Boitempo Essay)**

In her essay "Sobre a utopia: uma conversa entre Theodor W. Adorno e Ernst Bloch", Bruna Della Torre revisits the 1964 dialogue between Adorno and Bloch, exploring their contrasting views on utopia. [Read the Article \(Portuguese\)](#).

## **Emilian Ortega – Radio Interview (Astillero Informa)**

On 4 July 2025, CAPAS-affiliated researcher Emilian Ortega appeared on Astillero Informa, one of the most influential Spanish-language digital news platforms, to discuss the cultural and political dimensions of apocalyptic thought. [Listen to the episode \(Spanish\)](#).

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Apocalyptica: Call for Papers – Special Issue: Apocalypse and the Biopolitics of Time**

Apocalyptica is CAPAS' international, interdisciplinary, open-access, double-blind, peer-reviewed academic journal. For this special issue, we are seeking submissions that explore the temporal aspects of apocalyptic biopolitics. We are looking for contributions that engage with critical moments of undoing or unveiling pervasive conceptions of time. [More Info](#)



"Broken clock or blocked time?", by FiJRosa, CC-BY-NC-SA 3.0

**Global Dis:Connect – Open Calls for Fellowships:** Käte Hamburger Research Centre "Dis:connectivity in processes of globalisation" (global dis:connect) at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU). The latest fellowship opportunities at Global Dis:Connect are now open for application. [More Info](#)



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