

THE ROUTLEDGE INTERNATIONAL HANDBOOK ON SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND RADICALISATION

Edited by Professor Tahir Abbas, Dr Lianne Vostermans, Dr Richard McNeil-Willson

Leiden University, Netherlands

+ + + Call for Papers + + +

Deadline for Proposals: 29 February 2024

Deadline for Chapters: 31 August 2024

1. Rationale

In a world marked by shifting paradigms and emergent challenges, *The Routledge Handbook on Social Exclusion and Radicalisation* is a ground-breaking compilation that addresses the intricate relationship between social exclusion and radicalisation on a global scale. In response to the prevailing tendency to examine radicalisation from single-level or individualistic perspectives, this handbook takes a comprehensive approach by embedding radicalisation within the broader context of socio-political, economic, and cultural dynamics of exclusion and marginalisation.

This pioneering handbook assembles leading scholars from a variety of fields, including sociology, political science, anthropology, and social psychology. Their multidisciplinary insights offer a well-rounded understanding of social exclusion as a precursor to radicalisation on a global scale. Chapters draw from a diverse array of theoretical frameworks and employ both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. Moreover, beyond retrospective analyses, authors look into the contemporary contexts of social exclusion, enabling them to make informed projections about future trends in radicalisation.

Scheduled for submission in September 2024, under the expert editorship of Professor Tahir Abbas, Dr Lianne Vostermans and Dr Richard McNeil-Willson, renowned authorities on issues of social exclusion and radicalisation in Europe, this volume stands as a timely and invaluable resource for researchers, graduate students, and policymakers alike. It provides a comprehensive roadmap for comprehending the dynamics of radicalisation and for crafting evidence-based strategies aimed at fostering inclusion and pluralism in a world where these values are ever more vital.

The International Routledge Handbook on Social Exclusion and Radicalisation will make a substantial contribution to scholarly discussions surrounding the intersection of exclusion, identity, disadvantage, and ideological extremism. Its insights and research findings have the potential to shape a more inclusive and tolerant future in an increasingly interconnected world.

2. Social Exclusion and Radicalisation

While a growing body of research has illuminated the relationship between social exclusion and radicalisation, significant gaps remain in our understanding of this complex phenomenon. A fundamental unresolved question is exactly how social exclusion feeds into radicalisation. What specific emotional, cognitive, and social processes translate experiences of discrimination or inequality into the adoption of extremist ideologies? More research is needed to unpack the psychological journey from perceived injustice to the justification of violence. Quantitative data analysis and in-depth qualitative studies with both radicals and non-radicals from excluded groups will help shed light on these murky mechanisms.

Furthermore, we lack a nuanced, context-specific understanding of how marginalisation interacts with radicalisation across diverse settings. While a link is widely acknowledged, the specific expressions of exclusion and forms of extremism it fuels differ substantially between disaffected youth in European cities, refugees in Middle Eastern conflict zones, and oppressed minorities in illiberal and authoritarian states. Teasing out the unique risk factors in each environment is crucial. Comparative case study analyses that juxtapose different cultural settings and ideological extremisms remain an underutilised approach.

Significant uncertainty surrounds the effectiveness of various policy interventions aimed at preventing radicalisation. Do targeted economic initiatives or political inclusion programmes make a tangible difference in reducing extremism among vulnerable populations? Rigorous programme evaluation research is sorely needed, both on specific deradicalisation schemes and broader political reforms meant to address root causes like inequality and discrimination. Vast knowledge gaps also remain regarding optimal messaging and narratives for counter-radicalisation among excluded groups.

Radicalisation studies highlights how social exclusion and marginalisation can drive radicalisation, though the specific dynamics may differ across the global north and south. In the global north, radicalisation often emerges among communities that face systemic discrimination, racism, and social isolation. Feelings of alienation and disillusionment with the political system can motivate some to turn towards extremist ideologies. Far-right radicalisation has also increased among majority populations who perceive their status and community to be under threat from immigration, globalisation, and liberal policies.

In the global south, radicalisation frequently stems from experiences of political oppression, corruption, and denial of rights under illiberal and authoritarian regimes. Poverty, lack of economic opportunities, and vast inequalities also marginalise large sections of the population, driving some towards radical groups promising revolutionary change. Post-colonial exclusion and intervention by foreign powers can further act as a radicalising factor. While the proximal drivers vary, social exclusion fundamentally hampers belonging, dignity, and identity.

This shared sense of injustice bridges the north-south divide in radicalisation studies. Incorporating perspectives from postcolonial theory highlights the legacy of imperialism and neo-imperialism in marginalising communities globally. Critical race theory illuminates

racialisation processes that dispossess minorities of power. Feminist approaches reveal how gender subordination interlinks with radicalisation.

Radicalisation studies therefore calls for inclusive governance, progressive economic policies, respect for human rights, and ending structural violence. Holistic deradicalisation policies should promote pluralism, inter-community dialogue, and healing to counter the social divisions that breed extremism across the world. Nuanced analyses that foreground social justice can inform responses to violence that may be far more effective and universally applicable than those based entirely on the securitised approaches more traditionally adopted to radicalisation.

3. Call for papers details

We welcome chapter proposals from authors across disciplines that address the complex dynamics between social exclusion and radicalisation in diverse cultural contexts across the globe. Potential topics include but are not limited to:

- Case studies analysing radicalisation among excluded minority groups in specific countries or regions
- Comparative analyses of exclusion/radicalisation across different settings
- Exploration of exclusion's emotional and psychological impacts
- Processes linking marginalisation to extremist ideologies
- Effectiveness assessments of counter-radicalisation policies and programming
- The role of social media and digital spaces in radicalisation of excluded groups
- Gender dimensions of exclusion and women's radicalisation pathways
- Intersectionality and multilayered marginalisation
- Far-right radicalisation stemming from perceived status threat
- Postcolonial perspectives on imperial legacy and neo-imperialism
- Critical race theory insights into racialisation and dispossession
- Conflict reduction, peacebuilding, and preventing violent extremism

Both conceptual analyses and empirical research are welcomed. Authors should situate their work within the broader exclusion-radicalisation scholarship and highlight novel contributions to theory, methodology, and practice. Interdisciplinary approaches are strongly encouraged.

Chapter proposals due **29 February 2024**. Acceptance decisions within 6 weeks.

Final draft chapters due **31 August 2024**.

Please direct inquiries and submissions to:

t.abbas@fgga.leidenuniv.nl, l.p.e.vostermans@fgga.leidenuniv.nl, and
r.mcneil@fgga.leidenuniv.nl

4. Keywords

- Social exclusion
- Marginalisation
- Discrimination
- Radicalisation
- Extremism
- Minority groups
- Immigrants
- Disenfranchised youth
- Far-right extremism
- Counter-radicalisation
- Deradicalisation
- Preventing violent extremism
- Peacebuilding
- Global North
- Global South
- Postcolonialism
- Critical race theory
- Intersectionality
- Social movements
- Multilayered marginalisation
- Conflict reduction

+++ Call for Papers +++