Editorial Note

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This issue of the *Journal of World-Systems Research* takes us on a journey through the breadth of what world-systems analysis offers not just to the field of sociology but to a trans-disciplinary, even anti-disciplinary social science.

Guest editor Christopher Chase-Dunn presents the special section “Immanuel Wallerstein: The Legacies,” a series of essays expanded and reimagined from the “Old Heads Discuss Immanuel Wallerstein’s Ideas” at a conference last year. It brings together work from Craig Calhoun, Randall Collins, John W. Meyer, Valentine Moghadam, and Jonathan Turner to discuss the lasting impact that Wallerstein’s ideas have had on their work and on the field of world-systems analysis and the social sciences at large.

In an insightful analysis on households as sites of capitalist reproduction, Anouk Patel-Campillo addresses a gap in world-systems analysis in its ability to analyze structural differences within multi-sited capitalism as well as the necessity to incorporate the fluidity of familial and household structures outside the traditionally assumed nuclear, heteronormative units. Ricardo

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Noronha presents the history of the Carnation Revolution (1974–75) from the perspective of the long 1970s to situate Portugal’s attempt to rebuild the country through a socialist transition within a historical conjuncture enmeshed in labor unrest and political radicalization. Peter Wilkin undertakes a discussion on the development of two grand narratives of geoculture in the wake of the Cold War—neoliberalism and hyper-nationalist, conservative political and social movements.

Martín Jacinto presents an in-depth exploration of shifting positionalities between core, semi-peripheral, and peripheral nations within the world-system in the wake of the 2008–2009 financial crisis, employing empirical analysis of global trade networks in the post-global economic crisis world-economy. Also tackling the topic of global crisis, Roberto Ortiz discusses the turbulence of the 1970s as a matter of not just world-economic crises but world-ecological crises, in the increasing capitalization of nature in the form of cheap oil.

Examining trade wars in the post-Trump era, Paul S. Ciccantell, David A. Smith, and Elizabeth Sowers undertake a discussion of the breakdown and disruption of global commodity chains, its role in the present and future of globalization, and of disrupting the U.S. hegemony. Aryaman Sharma discusses the role that technological innovations from the semiconductor in the present to the automotive industry in the latter half of the twentieth century have played in attempts by semi-peripheral nations like China and India to break into high profit industries largely monopolized by the core. Lewis Michael Birley presents an analysis of China’s position and influence within the world-system and the continuing growth of its geo-space through infrastructural and economic ties throughout the world-system as hallmarks of an adaptive strategy designed to withstand crises within the world-economy, allowing it to stand in real contest to U.S. hegemony. Also addressing the possibility of a Chinese hegemony, Toufic Sarieddine explores the role the BRI has played in expanding Chinese economic, military, and cultural influence within the world-system, while noting that, despite growing ascendency it has not yet risen to the level of challenge required to fully topple the United States as hegemon.

This issue features two Essays. Salimah Valiani offers a work of creative nonfiction that explores the need for radical action within the current global context. In much anticipated second part of his essay on Power, Profit, and Prometheanism, Jason W. Moore outlines the conceptual history of superexploitation. In doing so, he brings together quantitative and qualitative aspect of the process as a singular world-historical dynamic. In this brilliant and novel rendering of the classic concept, previously not concerned with extra-human life as a source of unpaid work, capitalism’s geocultural logic of domination is connected to its violent transformation of webs of life. We also present two Commentaries; one by Boaventura de Sousa Santos as a continuation of his previous Commentary “The Silence of the Intellectuals” that discusses the decline of Europe as a world power and its failure to address the global political issues of ecological transition, challenges to knowledge, culture, and ethics; social cohesion and demodiversity, and the scarcity of peace; the other a critique by William Robinson of the anti-imperialist left that fails to distinguish between sovereignty of a people and sovereignty of the state, throwing support behind bourgeois democracies and spurious political projects while using the language of anti-imperialism. It closes with a book review by Patricia Ward of Does Skill Make Us Human?
Migrant Workers in 21st-Century Qatar and Beyond by Natasha Iskander, and a book review essay by Javier García Fernández discussing works by Bruce Gilley, Elvira Roca Barea, and Sebastian Conrad on the topic of global history and the need for continued epistemological decolonization.