Guidelines

Dear author,

thank you for considering to write a post for "Reflections", the Blog of the STS Department at the University of Vienna. The following should give you some idea as to what your contribution may look like and what guidelines your post should follow.

Goal and audience of the blog

The STS Vienna Blog serves as a platform to discuss current events, issues and concerns from an STS-informed perspective. In particular, it seeks to provide room for contributions that stand in relation to work by the researchers, students and visitors of the STS Department at the University of Vienna. The blog wants to address a general audience, which is why we would ask authors to keep the following points in mind when writing their contributions.

A blog post should

- be written in a language that is appealing to a general audience. This especially means that theoretical and technical terms should be explained, so those not familiar with them can also follow the text's argument. In general, you are asked to write up your text with as few theoretical terms as possible.

- engage the reader in that it starts with a "hook" like an interesting description of a current event, personal experience or something similar.

- be inclusive and reflexive in the way it refers to groups of people in both writing and visual and audio material. In particular, we will not tolerate posts that are sexist, racist, anti-Semitic, homophobic or ableist.

- make use of the possibilities the medium offers, i.e. include hyperlinks, photos or videos. If you use photos or videos for your post, make sure that you have the rights to use them and provide us with the source you obtained them from.

- have a maximum length of 750 words excluding references (if you need them) as well as a title.

- include a short biographical note about the author, his/her affiliation, interests and work not exceeding two sentences at the end of the post.

- have three keywords to facilitate cross-linking the blog posts.

- comply with the following referencing guidelines: If you want to cite resources that are not available online (i.e. printed books), or that are only accessible to a limited audience (e.g. academic paywall) use footnotes to reference those. Resources that are available online without restriction (e.g. newspaper articles) should be referenced by hyper-linking them in the text.

Some suggestions for writing

- When thinking about a possible angle from which you can approach your topic you may want to consider choosing an aspect that is controversial, quirky or particularly relevant at the time of writing. Such aspects are usually easier to communicate in an engaging way.

- Questions in the title or right at the beginning might help you to create curiosity and keep the readers interested.

- If you write a post that is related to your master thesis do not just summarize the findings of your research. Instead pick out one interesting aspect of your thesis or the topic you have been writing about and develop that further.

Submission procedure

Please submit your blog post to blog.sts@univie.ac.at. Your post will then be forwarded to two reviewers from our department who will give you feedback. They will also agree with you on a deadline until which you can submit your revised post to them. After your second submission the reviewers will give you feedback on your revisions and either ask you for further revisions or submit the article to the blog coordinator for publishing. Please note that for editorial reasons it might take some time until your post will be online after it has been accepted.

We are looking forward to your submission!