

ANTIPODA CALL

**FORENSIC PRACTICES IN CONTEXTS OF
MASS VIOLENCE AND ARMED CONFLICT**

Guest editors:

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Antípoda. Revista de Antropología y Arqueología is pleased to invite the academic community to submit unpublished articles, articles essays, and book reviews from **May 3 to June 5, 2022**.

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Over the last forty years, archaeology and forensic anthropology have become valuable tools in judicial and humanitarian contexts and for the vindication of rights and social struggles, as in the case of historical memory and reconciliation. These two disciplines have become fundamental to the search for missing persons, the official validation of victim status, and the filing of individual or group charges (genocide, ethnocide and other scenarios of mass violence), among other crucial human rights issues.

From a critical stance, the issue is intended to provide a multidisciplinary space in which to account for the complexities, nuances, possibilities, and tensions that can result from the forensic practices of archaeology and anthropology. The space also serves to explain the relationship of such practices with other disciplines and ways of producing forensic knowledge, when applied in contexts of mass violence and armed conflict. The proposal is to expand the discussions on the effects of forensic practice—in a broad sense—in the social arenas where truth, justice, and reparation are disputed in violent processes of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries in different geographies. The above in contexts of transitional justice, peace processes, and memory exercises, as well as in scenarios of social unrest due to State (in)action in response to human rights violations. The issue is thus intended to build bridges between archaeology and sociocultural anthropology, articulated through the knowledge produced through forensic practice.

To this end, for this special issue, we are looking for critical and reflective contributions that will foster dialogue between theory and practice based on case studies. These may include more

classical positions such as questions about the racializations that come with forensic practice, the role of evidence and how it is produced, the different pathways to the production of forensic knowledge, and the effects of forensic practice for classifications and experiences of victimhood, among others. We also welcome reflections on the relationships and effects of forensic practices on the materialization of memory, the role of forensic archives in dialogue with social practices of commemoration, and the permeability of forensic knowledge in contexts of citizen search and exhumation. The objective here is for the reflections to nourish current discussions and further the dialogues between the different fields of anthropology (archaeology, physical anthropology, linguistics, and sociocultural anthropology).

The issue is open to receive academic, ethnographic, literary, cinematographic, and artistic works in various formats that allow for more flexible academic communication, such as collaborative writings, visual articles, and photo essays.

Keywords: armed conflict, human rights, forensic turn, transitional justice, memory.

Thematic axes

- Political and material dimensions of exhumations.
- Collaborative initiatives for search, exhumation, and acknowledgment.
- Possibilities and tensions for truth, justice, reparation, and non-repetition.
- Potentialities and challenges in scenarios of peace and reconciliation.
- Implications of forensic practice in both judicial and humanitarian contexts.