



creación y  
pensamiento

## Call for papers: Design and (social) transformation

### **RChD: Creación y Pensamiento**

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### **Important Dates**

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### **Abstract**

One of the dimensions of design is the creation of artefacts, objects, or interfaces, which are inserted in particular contexts. Undertaking a deep reflection associated with this dimension implies that it should be approached, not only by the discipline of Design, but also by Sociology, Anthropology or Philosophy, among other disciplines. Thus, it is significant to reflect and answer questions such as: why is relevant to create a new artefact that will be inserted into a particular reality? Through this question (and other similar ones) can be recognised that objects shape some aspects of everyday life for people and other living creatures. In turn, people have a direct influence and can adjust and / or modify technology. Thus, it is argued that, although design transforms reality, it is also transformed by it, since there is a complex systemic interaction.

An obligatory task for the Design discipline is to reflect on how such interactions can be considered as a starting point to act and demonstrate the influence that design 'has' to transform a society and deal with the challenges that result and impact on living beings as a result of its practice. There are various events that humanity is facing, a very obvious one that has direct implications for people is the global pandemic. Another is the imminent climate change that affects life on earth. This change is associated with the current economic model where one of the many factors involved is design, so it is also a potential means to deal with this great challenge.



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Under current circumstances, it is important to think carefully and try to answer questions such as: is it possible to define clear scopes or limits with regard to the transformative role of design? How is the autonomy of individuals and social groups involved in such a transformation? What mechanisms should be considered to determine a transformation when designers are involved? From a design perspective, how should a transformation be addressed when the challenge has a long-term impact? How should a transformation be undertaken in order to consider other living beings? What future is being built through design, and what are its implications for living creatures? Answering these and other similar questions, may be a starting point for designers to have in mind the agency of his / her own work as creator, promoter, or facilitator of solutions. Furthermore, this may also enhance the awareness of motivations and purposes that designers aim to achieve and which are often reflected in design proposals.

Taking the aforementioned as a reference, we suggest some topics to explore in this issue, which aims to analyse and inquire into the transformative role of design:

- Transition design.
- The design agency in social transformation. Which is the scope of design?
- Design, complexity and social transformation.
- Design, activism and social movements.
- Design, gender and / or feminisms.
- Design and decolonization.
- Design, autonomies and territories.
- Design and the Anthropocene.
- Design and new technologies for the future.



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