

VERSUS

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Dear colleague

We are pleased to start working with you in circulating and popularizing your research through Versus! This form contains instructions to authors and a list of materials that we ask you to send us for the publication.

Versus is an online research forum published by three scientific societies (*Society for Regional and Environmental Studies, Finnish Society for Environmental Social Science, Geographical Society of Finland*). Its aim is to make research more visible and effective by publishing popularized versions of scholarly work and creating discussion between researchers, experts, students, and other potential audiences. Versus offers visibility and societal impact in three formats.

- **Research Debate** builds on research-based texts (about 1000 words), accompanied by 2–4 (possibly provocative) commentaries by representatives of potential audiences. The original research article or other research material (e.g. lecture, presentation) is published as part of the debate in an open access format.
- **Thesis Corner** introduces thought-provoking synopses from Master's theses, be it the major results, a particular viewpoint, or a practical or theoretical claim (about 700-1000 words). Commentaries may be invited for theses-based texts as well.
- **Critical Space** publishes scientific and research-related viewpoints and commentaries that can be presented in the form of text and images, podcast, or video. Various kinds of publications are accepted in this section, therefore the final form and content is agreed upon with the Versus editors.

Authors are asked suggestions for suitable commentators for their Research Debate texts. Ideally, they represent different potential audiences, which facilitates a broad circulation of knowledge through Versus and creates multidimensional discussions. Commentators may be, for example, researchers, practical experts, administrative and policy actors, NGO representatives, journalists, students, or anyone with interest in the topic under debate.

The circulation and attractiveness of Versus publications is enhanced by visual contents and links to related sites and materials. We therefore welcome pictures, figures, charts, and other visual materials related to the study. Authors may also send links and materials published elsewhere to accompany the publication, to enrich the content (e.g. news pieces, discussion on other forums, topical political processes).

Versus editors provide assistance in the finalization of the texts, including copy-editing. Copy-editing is accomplished within two weeks. New publications are placed at the Versus front page as well as in the named section, and circulated through social and traditional media. For marketing, authors are asked to provide information concerning potential audiences. We also include a short bio with a photo in the publication (authors, affiliations, possible funders, fields of study, areas of interest).

**Please send the following items to the Versus editors ([toimitus@versuslehti.fi](mailto:toimitus@versuslehti.fi)):**

- **Research article or other material from which you draw in your Versus text**
- **Preliminary outline of the Versus text (see instructions on the next page)**
- **Names and contact information of suitable commentators (2–4)**
- **Potential audiences and key circulation channels**
- **Visual materials related to the study or the topic**
- **Short bio and photo**

*Do not hesitate to contact the Versus editors for more information. We look forward to your contribution!*

**Find below some instructions on how to start formulating your Versus text. The final text is not meant to be a mere summary of the original study - the questions here are aimed to help you to find a popular viewpoint on your topic. This information will be useful in the circulation and marketing of your publication as well. You may also send a draft text to the editors along with these notes.**

Authors

Research article or other material that your Versus text draws from (full reference details)

The main message and goal of your study

Two to three generally interesting findings of your study (local/national/regional/international)

Main scientific aims of the study and contributions to existing research (disciplinary/thematic)

How does your study relate with topical public debates and issues?

What kind of practical impact do you hope to reach with the study?

How does your study contribute to the fields of research represented by the scientific societies publishing Versus (human geography, environmental social science, regional and urban studies, natural geography)?