

Association for Economic and Social Analysis (AESA) Statement of Purpose

I. AESA's purpose is to stimulate interest in and debate over the explanatory power and social consequences of non-essentialist Marxian economic, cultural, political, and social analyses in order both to interpret and to change world.

II. AESA recognizes that Marxism is a formation shaped by historical and contemporary processes that include political, social, economic, cultural, natural and intellectual dimensions. AESA seeks to articulate Marxism as a condensation of these processes into a concept of class and presents this articulation in an open-ended way. AESA emphasizes both the concept of class and the conditions of its possibility. This emphasis emerges from a non-essentialist, overdeterminist Marxism influenced especially by the work of Althusser. AESA's particular articulation of Marxian class analysis began in the Economics department of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and from that basis it has proliferated. This work now encompasses varied research traditions, such as those that examine the relation of class to subjectivity, gender and its intersections with other axes of power and difference, community economies, psychoanalysis, private lives, ecology, and more.

III. AESA encourages contributions from people in many disciplines and from a wide range of intellectual, political/activist, and artistic perspectives, including both academic and non-academic projects. Notably, AESA remains committed to producing the journal *Rethinking Marxism: a journal of economics, culture, and society* and undertaking additional public activities such as conferences, both national and international, that expand the work of the organization.