

# THE /LEFTYPOL/ MANIFESTO



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## ARTICLE 1: OUR MISSION

The mission of /leftypol/ at leftypol.org is to provide a fun and enjoyable space for the working masses around the world, as an anonymous community of non-sectarian leftists united in common cause against the forces of capitalism, fascism, and liberalism. Our goal is to act as a centre for serious political discourse and less serious informal discussions on various topics related to leftist thought.

We aim to be the negation of /pol/; anti-fascist, materialist, better read. Our mission, above all, is to learn, and help others learn, the philosophical tools necessary to elucidate the interrelated and ever-increasingly complex space of self, society, and politics, from the local to the global scale.

An important part of /leftypol/'s unique character is our opposition to identity politics. We believe that conflicts between genders, races, sexualities, and so on are distractions from the wider class struggle that are intentionally fanned by the ruling class. This does not mean that oppression based on personal characteristics does not exist, but that it should be approached from an egalitarian perspective which is not personally accusatory and does not assign 'victim' and 'oppressor' groups. The rights of individuals to live according to their own wishes is a fundamental part of leftism.

More broadly, leftism as understood by this document is defined as; "*A broad set of ideological forces which are dedicated to, by one form or another, dismantling the current material way of things in capitalism and building a new egalitarian system to replace it.*" If a point of view or ideology claims to represent socialism or communism, yet is so divisive and anti-egalitarian that it fails to offer a reasonable alternative to the current order, it may be considered as non-leftist.

/leftypol/ is run by group decision of the moderation team, who are empowered by the constitution to take up the task of enforcing the rules, ensuring the smooth operation of the site, and adhering to the above mission statement through the powers entrusted to them by the community. Moderators are always expected to act with a consensus mandate between themselves.

leftypol.org is named after its main board, /leftypol/, but also hosts other boards. In this document, the term /leftypol/ will be used as a shorthand to refer to the entire website unless otherwise specified.

## **ARTICLE 2: /LEFTYPOL/'S BOARDS AND THEIR USES**

leftypol.org consists of multiple boards which each have their own purposes and uses. Users should adhere to these guidelines when deciding which board to use for which purpose, and posts that are outside of these boundaries are likely to be moved or deleted.

/leftypol/ proper is the original home of the community and should be used for specific political discussion as well as general discussion which has a political aspect and does not fall under the purview of one of the other boards.

/b/ is a 'random' board in the vein of 4chan's /b/, and has very lax rules and moderation standards. Its main purpose is to contain 'shitposting' or other kinds of random posting, as well as pornography. If a topic does not fit into any of the other boards it may be moved here.

/hobby/ is a board that is designed for discussion of hobbies and lifestyle topics such as cooking, exercise, movies, and so on, which are not required to have a political aspect (though this is not prohibited and often occurs).

/tech/ functions similarly to /hobby/ but is designed for discussion of programming, computers, and other electronics-related subjects. It may also be used by /leftypol/'s technical staff to solicit feedback or suggestions.

/games/ is a general purpose board for both videogames and traditional gaming (ie, tabletop or boardgames) which also functions similarly to /hobby/.

/anime/ is for discussion of both anime and manga, which again is similar to /hobby/.

/music/ is a board intended for the discussion of existing music, archiving of leftist music (historical or contemporary), and collaboration and advice for musicians.

The /meta/ board is a board intended for feedback, comments, or general discussion related to the site itself. It should also be used for moderation complaints relating to all boards by users.

/GET/ and /ref/ are sister boards to /leftypol/ which are located on their own domain at getchan.net. These boards are not administered by the /leftypol/ staff and operate according to their own rules, but are also leftist boards which are run by friends of the site.

## **ARTICLE 3: THE RULES FOR USERS**

**In short, the rules are enforced to provide an entertaining and edifying space for all posters to enjoy, and should serve to keep the board easily usable and free from spam and on topic, with discussion productive and open. In addition, content which is illegal in the United States will be removed.**

**FIRSTLY, ABSOLUTELY NO CP SHALL BE POSTED ON THE SITE.** Anyone posting child pornography will immediately face a permanent ban and their IP will be logged and recorded to be handed over to the authorities (if this is ever required). Content which 'doxxes' another user or person will also be removed. Other content which promotes or endorses illegal activity may be removed at the discretion of the moderators.

No spam is to be tolerated. Spam from a bot is subject to a permanent ban or more severe actions to preserve site security. Spam from a user may also be subject to a ban, the severity of which depends on the situation and is at the discretion of the volunteers.

Pornography should not be posted on /leftypol/ or /meta/ without good reason. In addition, images which are excessively offensive to the eye or to civilised sensibilities may be removed without warning (for example, gore, shock images) and punished with moderator action.

Posts should, overall, be conducive to an informed and productive discussion. /leftypol/ is not an academic journal, but it also should not be a cesspit of back and forth bickering and pointless insults. Users should attempt to argue for the point they are presenting in an honest and open way and should be receptive to information or arguments that do, in fact, challenge their views.

Reactionism and liberalism, or any other kind of non-leftist positions are not banned per se, as we will endeavour to allow and encourage people of other political philosophies to explore leftism through /leftypol/ so long as they follow the rules contained herein. However, non-leftist users are ultimately to be considered 'guests' and thus will be removed if they prove a nuisance or disrupt the normal functioning of the site.

In addition, /leftypol/ is committed to the ideal of left unity, or at least that the left should have an avenue for open discussion, so all 'mainstream' leftist ideologies will be permitted (so long as they do not violate the conditions set out in Article 1). /leftypol/ does not adhere to a specific leftist ideology.

To ensure a basic level of quality, topics or posts will not be tolerated when contributions are not conducive to well-intentioned discussion. Therefore, posts or topics are likely to be removed at the discretion of moderation staff if they:

1. argue under false pretences ("false flagging")  
ie. "Hey fellow commies, did you prep your wife's bull today?"
2. imply reactionary or false positions of the userbase as a form of group shaming  
ie. "Why do you guys all hate trans people?"
3. are of an overly derisive and mocking nature  
ie. "haha, btfo commies hitler rulez"
4. are of a gratuitously offensive or hysterical nature  
ie. "I hate fucking Mudslimes, we need to hang them all before they rape our children"
5. are debating inherently reactionary topics where no reasonable debate is possible  
ie. "In what way should we exterminate the lesser races, guys?"
6. are low effort sectarian bait rather than good faith discussion  
ie. "Tankie/Anarkiddie hate thread" or "Why does this theorist suck so much?"

7. are likely to create pointless and unconstructive arguments about 'idpol' (as defined in Article 1)  
ie. "Why can't I have women as sex slaves?" or "Why are whiteoids like this?"

These examples are low quality posts that are considered, at best, bait, but are better described as spam. Any poster that violates this rule may be subject to a ban, and any post that violates this is subject to deletion, subject to the discretion of moderators, if they feel that the topic may be an avenue for productive discussion.

Volunteers may remove other posts according to their own discretion which they feel do not contribute to the stated mission of /leftypol/, but they should try to adhere to the standards of the community and of their fellow moderators, and to refrain from arbitrary decisions. Where there is disagreement among moderators, the matter will be decided by informal consensus of currently active moderators. If there is still disagreement, the matter should be escalated to a formal vote.

Once a ban is issued, it should be followed by the user and not contravened. The evasion of bans will lead to continued bans and possibly an escalation of moderator action against a user. In addition, it is prohibited to attempt to imitate a moderator, or to give the impression of being multiple users at a time (for example to falsely make one's own opinion appear more popular).

Users have the right to question and challenge any bans or post removals, or other moderator actions, which they feel are unfair or do not live up to the spirit of the rules. This may be done in the moderation feedback threads on the various boards, or on the /meta/ board, but comments should be considered and constructive, and should not devolve into polemics against the volunteers. Ultimately, the judgement of the moderation team is final.

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**Drafted and written by Comatoast, Antinous, Caballo, and Wvobblly**

**Signed and approved by a majority of volunteers.**

**This document is the 2021/04/07 revision, which supersedes all previous versions of the manifesto. The rules for moderators can be found in the Constitution.**