

Section 1: The Community

Article 1: Broad Definitions

/leftypol/ is an anonymous community of non-sectarian leftists united in common cause against the forces of capitalism, fascism, and liberalism.

Leftism shall be henceforth 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 communist one to replace it.”

The broad tenants of a communist society are outlined in many works of more import than this, but briefly the goals of a communist society are the dissolution of the class divide, social and material emancipation for the whole of humanity, the eventual dissolution of the state, and ending labor as a material venture and returning it to the common people as a task to be taken at their leisure. These goals may executed upon on any reasonable timescale and still be adequately called “communist”.

Article 2: Mission Statement of /leftypol/

/leftypol/ as a community is made up of several different ideological forces who are united under a non-sectarian banner for the purposes of posting and organizing on the board. As /leftypol/ is a largely anonymous community, **any member who is not provably violating the rules or acting in bad faith should be considered a community member.**

The immediate goals of /leftypol/ may change, but its central mission has always remained: **provide an open space for discussion of topics related to leftism and understanding the processes and goings-on of the world through a dialectical and materialist lens.** This mission is a joint effort between the posters and the moderation, the posters generating the majority of the content of the site and maintaining the general discussion of leftist ideas and thoughts on the board, while the moderation ensures the rules are followed and that discussion is straightforward and in good faith.

As such, a team of moderators are empowered by the constitution to take up the task of enforcing the rules, ensuring the smooth operation of /leftypol/, and maintaining board culture through the powers entrusted to them by the community. Moderation is expected to act with a consensus mandate between themselves.

Article 3: The Alt-Board Clause

As of writing, /leftypol/ has long since expanded from a single board into a number of alt-boards which host their own community, form of discussion, and general board culture. As such, alt-boards shall be afforded the capacity to develop their own mission statement parallel to that of /leftypol/'s to make clear the function of that board as contingent by the community. This is to be done by a general approval by the posting population and approval of the moderation team by a simple majority, and from there the drafting of the mission statement shall be made for a period no shorter than 1 week so that the community might define itself in its mission statement.

The mission statement is allowed to deviate from /leftypol/'s but must still hold the central tenants of upholding a leftist position and fostering good-faith discussion of the topics contained within the board, as well as maintain a commitment to the global rules of the site. Likewise, alt-boards are entrusted to develop their own rules so long as they do not directly contradict the site rules. The moderation is charged with enforcing the individual rules of different boards in the same manner they would /leftypol/'s.

Article 4: The Merger Clause

In the past /leftypol/ has had mergers with other boards and chans which has had that community operate largely autonomously to /leftypol/ but still enforcing the global site rules and cooperating with /leftypol/'s moderation. These historical arrangements should be considered a **standing offer** for those chans who are leftist and desire a merger, within the following ruleset:

- These communities may develop their own parallel constitution to /leftypol/ as contingent to the merger agreement, or if they so desire, they may use the alt-board clause to have their own mission statement and ruleset within our constitution, with the exception of being given independent moderation.
- These communities are encouraged to maintain their own board culture so long as said culture maintains a generally leftist attitude and follows site rules.
- These communities are granted their own autonomous moderation who shall enforce their board's rules and work with /leftypol/ and her alt-boards on site-wide issues. No /leftypol/ bans should extend into these boards without good cause (like violation of global rules, spamming, ect) and likewise for these communities.
- These communities are permitted to access and comment on all public boards of /leftypol/ so long as they follow local rules, and likewise for /leftypol/ members looking to visit these communities.

The specifics of a merger is to be decided by the respective moderation teams of /leftypol/ and the chan or board seeking merger prior to their move onto the site through mutual negotiation between their respective moderation.

Article 5: Community Outreach and Alliances

/leftypol/ has brokered and maintained many alliances in the past between itself and fellow chans, boards, and likeminded websites of other forms. These alliances may be **tactical** (often non-ideologically aligned forces but sharing a common enemy or cause with /leftypol/) or **ideological** (the alignment of /leftypol/ and another entity based on shared politics and goals).

The benefits of an alliance generally tend to include **cross-promotion** with the linking of each other's' respective websites on each other as well as mutual community movement between both, so long as each community's members follow the rulesets of both sites as outlined. Other benefits, such as mutual site development, shared moderation, or other benefits as determined by the negotiation of alliances between /leftypol/ and the other site.

As a matter of site security, the negotiation of alliances remains the exclusive privilege of the moderation of /leftypol/, however the community may promote the idea of alliances towards the moderation. In addition, alt-boards may develop alliances with other entities with shared goals with permission from moderation.

Section 2: The Rights and Duties of the Community

Article 1: /leftypol/ and Her Community

As previously discussed, /leftypol/ is a longstanding community dedicated to the discussion of leftist politics and the resulting media, projects, figures, and all else resulting from the application thereof. To this end there is the most common aspect of /leftypol/, her **posters**. The posters constitute all of those who would communicate through /leftypol/ in accordance with the rules and procedures laid out by the moderators. The **moderators** are a subsection of the community who often take up the same duties as the posters, but are charged and entrusted with the powers of moderating the community on behalf of /leftypol/ so to make the dialog productive and rule-abiding. To this end moderators are charged with enforcing the rules where applicable, unless specific circumstance has the moderation believe the application of a rule in that situation be detrimental to the community or discussion, and to otherwise use their judgement on posts with malicious intent but do not definably break the rules. All actions of moderation upon the board are to be either recorded in a mod log (for bans, deletions, ect) or made public discussion before implementation (for major changes), within the best abilities of the moderation to do so through official channels. Moderation reserves the right to maintain some private channels to coordinate moderation action and decisions beforehand.

Article 2: Rights, Duties, and Expectations of the Posters

The posters make up the majority of /leftypol/'s community and are its voice and heart. The content and conduct of /leftypol/ are largely decided by their actions and posting styles, and as such posters are expected to follow the **board culture** as well as the **site and board rules**. Site and board rules will be further defined in Article 3 and will be made available both in specific and simplified versions throughout the site.

Board culture is less definable but is generally outlined as the general mode of discussion by the posters including tone, conduct, expected topics, ect. Board culture is known to change across time however, so its only really something that can be maintained with constant engagement with the community. Failure to follow these could result in moderator actions taken against posters, with the individual judgement of the moderation determining the length of any ban or the extent of any post deletions. So long as the rules and expectations of the board are followed and posting is not otherwise disruptive, posters are given the right to discuss any topic within a left purview or exercise leftist critique on topics outside of an explicitly leftist discussion. In addition, topics which might otherwise be banned or otherwise are anti-leftist may provisionally be allowed by moderation if the thread promotes a productive dialog and does not disrupt the processes of the board in any negative sense.

In addition to this, posters are expected to report posts that explicitly violate the rules and posts that are otherwise disruptive towards board processes through the dedicated report button or by bringing it up directly to mods via official channels. Do note that reports do not mean that a post might necessarily warrant a ban or deletion, it is just a way to bring a post to the moderation's attention for their own evaluation. Reports can also be used for purposes beyond reporting rule-breaking, however. Reports can be used on threads to indicate if you want it cycled, it can be used on posts you have made if you made a formatting error in the post that you want changed or deleted, it can be used to add spoilers to images which may be considered offense, and so on. The report function is simply one of the quickest ways to get the attention of the moderation for any general issue.

However, the report button should not be used to settle individual conflicts by misconstruing posts in bad faith, it should not be used to falsely claim a post that is not yours to be yours and say you want it deleted, or other flagrant misuses of the report button. Those who misuse the report button shall be noted for doing so and their reports ignored by the moderation going forwards should they too regularly abuse it, or otherwise spam it with false reports. The report function is a bridge between the community more broadly and the moderation, it is a poor idea to try and burn it down for lulz.

Article 3: Rights, Duties, and Expectations of the Moderators

The moderators are charged by the community to enforce the rules and generally keep the peace of the board, to make sure that the site functions smoothly and the topics generally focused on leftism. To this end the moderation is entrusted with a suite of tools for management of the board and certain admins are entrusted with tools to manage the site generally and are expected to use those tools within consensus of the moderation team. The primary duties of moderation are deleting rule-breaking content, spam, and ensuring threads are contained within their appropriate boards. Moderators are also charged to act as the leadership and organizational force for the userbase when it comes down to collective critique and ideas for the site and individual proposals, and as such are expected to make threads pertaining to those topics whenever there is need for it. Moderators are also expected to keep up with the report queue to ensure the community's needs are heard. Any action like the bumplocking, cycling, merger, ect of threads should be made with a public comment on said threads with a reason as to why the thread had action taken on it. In addition, posts that warrant bans are expected to have a reason for the ban either through a public comment on the post itself or on the mod log, but preferably both. Moderation is granted the right to internally delegate specific functions of moderation into sections of the moderation for efficient handling of issues.

Moderation is to be selected by the existing moderation team, either through seeking out specific posters or by having a generalized application thread for posters to become moderators. From there, posters who are seen as capable are to be interviewed by the moderation on an official but secure and private channel, with the topics of discussion chosen by moderation to ensure the individual is suited to be a good moderator. From there, a confirmation vote will be held internally within the moderation for the approval of the individual as a moderator. This process is meant to ensure that the individuals are suited for the board culture and are knowledgeable as to the rules of the site and are generally capable of enforcing them upon the community without much interference from their personal biases. Ultimately moderators will have to rely on individual judgement on some issues, so understanding their stance and perspective on leftist theory and the community generally should be done to ensure that their perspective won't be too disruptive to community function. Individuals who are seen as acceptable within these boundaries are to be approved as moderators and given access to the moderation tools.

Mods who are internally disruptive to the community or moderation efforts can be expelled from the moderation team by a vote of at least 60% of the active moderation team. The active moderation team is all mods who respond to the expulsion vote within a week of its issuing. The vote stands for 1 week before being counted.