


# Capital in history

## The relevance of Marxism today

**The Platypus Affiliated Society**

The Platypus Affiliated Society organizes reading groups, public fora, research and journalism focused on problems and tasks inherited from the "Old" (1920s–30s), "New" (1960s–70s) and post-political (1980s–90s) Left for the possibilities of emancipatory politics today.

[www.platypus1917.org](http://www.platypus1917.org)



modern epoch – fundamental transformation of humanity

revolution in cosmology

- European Renaissance
- scientific-technical
- cultural-religious: Protestant Christian Reformation
- economic: capitalism
- political: modern republic – liberal democracy
- philosophical: Enlightenment

~10,000 BCE

Agricultural Revolution

hunter-gatherers

nomadic

totemic species

community of nature

Paleolithic

“human revolution”

crisis of nature

millennia

traditional civilization

peasants

settled – “pastoral”

divine order – religion

“great chain of being” – castes

*zoon politikon*

post-Neolithic

crisis of humanity

1500s – 1600s – 1700s

bourgeois society

workers

urban

universality

*homo faber*

*homo economicus*

bourgeois revolution

crisis of civilization

1800s

Industrial Revolution

“proletariat”

post-bourgeois?

“capital” (Marx)

(“post-human”)

“socialism”

crisis of capital

crisis of nature

