



## **SIG 12 - RM&RP - Research Methods and Research Practice**

We invite you to submit your research to explore the theme of *The Business of Now: the future starts here* for the EURAM 20<sup>th</sup> Conference.

We look forward to receiving your submissions.

### **ST12\_01 - Coevolution, Ecosystems and Evolutionary Approaches in Management Research**

#### **Proponents:**

Johan Kask, Örebro University; Dermot Breslin, University of Sheffield; Gianpaolo Abatecola, University of Rome Tor Vergata; Stephen Dobson, Leeds University; Matteo Cristofaro, University of Rome Tor Vergata; Michael Schlaile, University of Hohenheim.

#### **Short description:**

How do open, adaptive systems in socio-economic contexts, such as firms, networks and ecosystems, evolve? This track aims to build on the growing body of (co-) evolutionary-oriented and ecosystem-based research within disciplines such as management, strategy, business history, decision making, marketing, entrepreneurship, innovation, philosophy and psychology. In the production of knowledge regarding the (co-) evolution of ecosystems and other socio-economic systems, we encourage the exploration of a wide range of methods, as well as discussions on how these can advance management research. Thus, perspectives based on multi-level coevolution, ecosystems, systems thinking, memetics, or agent-based modelling, constitute only examples of the welcomed submissions.

#### **Long description:**

How do open, adaptive systems in socio-economic contexts, such as firms, business ecosystems and industrial networks, evolve? The proponents of evolutionary, coevolutionary, ecosystem-based and Darwinian-inspired theorizing in management research argue that it can meet a need to contribute answers to the escalating call for dynamism, process-orientation and systems thinking approaches to cope with uncertainty and disruption in business contexts.

With origins in Evolutionary and Generalized Darwinist approaches to organization research, this standing track in the Research Methods and Research Practice SIG seeks to contribute to the lively discussion about the possibility and opportunity to develop (co-) evolutionary thinking within management research. Since the conception of this track in 2010, scholars from across the EURAM community have debated common features and differences in how socio-economic entities at various levels behave and co-evolve. Thus, as in the previous years, the 2020 track aims to attract papers interested in making theoretical, empirical and methodological contributions to our understanding of coevolving organizations and ecosystems.

The track aims to build on a constantly growing body of coevolution/evolution-based research within



a wide range of disciplines such as management, strategy, business history, marketing, decision making, entrepreneurship, innovation, economic geography, philosophy and psychology. As we believe methods are complementary to each other in the production of knowledge regarding the (co-) evolution of socio-economic systems, we encourage the exploration of a wide range of methods, as well as discussions on how these can advance (co-) evolutionary-oriented management research. Thus, perspectives based on multi-level coevolution, ecosystems, system thinking, ecology, memetics, or agent-based modeling, constitute only examples of the welcomed submissions. Related efforts to capture the evolutionary processes and open, adaptive system dynamics with proper concepts and methods, as well as empirical studies based on coevolutionary, evolutionary and ecosystem approaches, and informed contributions on limitations or overt simplifications of the (co-) evolutionary, ecosystem, and related approaches, are also very much warranted.

**Keywords:**

Organizational Adaptation and Open, Adaptive Systems  
Ecosystems  
Routines, Memetics and Cultural Evolution  
Coevolution  
Systems Thinking and Complexity Theory  
Generalised Darwinism

**UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG):**

Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities, Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production, Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions, Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals.

**Publication Outlet:**

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**AUTHORS GUIDELINES**

<http://www.euramonline.org/submissions-guidelines-2020/authors-chairs-discussants-guidelines.html>