

CALL FOR PAPERS

International conference in Moscow

"Embeddedness and Beyond: Do Sociological Theories Meet Economic Realities?"

October 25-28, 2012

Conference theme statement

Over the last quarter century, new economic sociology emerged and evolved, by and large, within the broad theoretical framework of social embeddedness of economic action. While being initially rooted in the structural social networks perspective, the framework gradually expanded to integrate institutional and cultural arguments and to overcome the analytical separation between economic and social. More recently, it was complemented by the performativity approaches, which challenge traditional inquiries into the socially constructed nature of markets by focusing instead on their role in constructing (performing) societies. These developments show that the concept of social embeddedness has inspired a large number of insightful sociological theories and empirical studies of economic phenomena which, taken together, constitute a mature field of inquiry with its distinctive questions, arguments, and contributions. Yet, today's rapidly evolving and highly uncertain economic realities put these theories to a challenging test. Are they up to the task of thorough understanding market transitions in postcommunist and third-world countries, the continuing global financial crisis, or the new modern forms of calculability, governance, and social control? Given a rather static view of social embeddedness, how much can we say about the emergence, reproduction, and dissolution of networks, markets, and institutions, in other words, the dynamic nature of socio-economic reality? Or, on the contrary, about the stubborn resistance to change of old patterns of inequality and forms of governance? Does the proliferation of online purchases and Internet social networking sites radically alter the very notion of embeddedness? Overall, do our theories have enough "give" and can be slightly adjusted to answer such questions, or do we need a completely new toolkit to tackle them? The conference brings together the leading experts in the field who will concretize and explore these questions with regard to their own areas of research and theoretical approaches.

Status of the conference

Joint Interim conference of ISA RC02 "Economy and Society" and ESA Economic Sociology Research Network with the support of ASA Economic Sociology section.

Conference venue:

National Research University 'Higher School of Economics', Moscow, Russia

Plenary sessions and featured speakers

- Institutional change and social policy: Frank Dobbin, Wolfgang Streeck
- Power of networks: Roberto Fernandez, Brian Uzzi
- Culture and valuation: Marion Fourcade, Laurent Thévenot
- Knowledge, technology, and markets: Karin Knorr-Cettina, David Stark

Mini-conferences and their coordinators

- New theoretical perspectives
in economic sociology Patrik Aspers, Jens Beckert
- Money, finance and society Nigel Dodd, Alya Guseva, Olga Kouzina
- Organizations and institutions
in emerging markets Neil Fligstein, Vadim Radaev
- Emergence and innovation in markets
and organizations David Stark, Valery Yakubovich
- Gender and work transformation Sarah Ashwin, Roberto Fernandez
- Market society and moral order Marion Fourcade, Kieran Healy,
Philippe Steiner
- Performing economy in a material world Trevor Pinch, Gregory Yudin
- Capitalist globalization and its alternatives William Carroll, Georgina Murray

Selection of participants

Selection of the Conference participants is made by mini-conference coordinators on the basis of submitted extended abstracts. Proposals can be accepted for oral presentation or as distributed papers. Full papers are submitted before the Conference.

Important deadlines

- Deadline for submitting proposals February 15, 2012.
- Registration is open March 15, 2012
- Acceptance notifications April 1, 2012.
- Early registration May 15, 2012
- Late registration September 15, 2012
- Deadline for submitting full papers September 15, 2012.

Funding

No funding can be provided for traveling and hotel accommodation from the LOC Committee with the exception of featured speakers. All attendees, including other invited presenters, discussants, and coordinators, must pay registration fees.

Stipends for graduate students pursuing MA and PhD are provided on a competitive basis.

Contact information

Conference e-mail: esconf2012@hse.ru

Conference Website: <http://esconf2012.hse.ru>