



13<sup>th</sup> International Social Innovation Research Conference

**“Enabling the change! Social innovation and enterprises for a better future”**

*ALTIS-Graduate School Business & Society, E4Impact Foundation*

*Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan)*

*September 8-10<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

Conference stream: Call for Papers & Panels

## Active ageing and social innovation

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### *Description:*

This stream builds on the well-subscribed theme from ISIRC 2019.

The stream develops the positive premise that longevity is to be welcomed and explores how trends in lifestyles and emerging innovation may well see such longevity as a clear asset. It seeks papers, which look at innovations and trends in active ageing. It also welcomes papers, which seek to develop theory and models to examine this phenomenon. Comparative papers and papers, which examine country-based innovations, are also welcome.

The concept of ‘active ageing’ has evolved to reflect this and has been reflected by work undertaken by the WHO and by research in field such as gerontology (WHO 2002, Walker 2019). There have been initiatives to develop active ageing models in the field of gerontology (Kalache and Gatti) However, the concept is not yet well reflected in the literature on social innovation. A recent thesis examined it from the perspective of loneliness (Sharma 2018).

Much of the published work has been from the perspective of ‘service provision’ and innovations on behalf of an older demographic (Schulmann 2019). Our stream seeks in particular papers, which sees older people as actively engaged in social innovation perhaps as social entrepreneurs. There is a developing literature on entrepreneurship in older demographics (Stypinska 2018).

Most countries are experiencing an ageing demographic and this even includes developing countries. This has been generally viewed as positive and a consequence of a better life and healthy society. However, it is also now increasingly viewed, especially in public management and public policy literature, as representing a ‘problem’ or a ‘challenge’. Questions are posed about the proportion of ‘earning’ population, the pressures on social and health care and about intergenerational ‘inequality’. Reviewing academic literature using terms such as ‘ageing demographics’ shows a very heavy skew towards a ‘problem based’ research agenda (almost as if ‘ageing’ is an illness or social problem). We seek to challenge this agenda in this panel. Covid19 has presented new challenges to older people, but at the same time digital technologies have pushed the boundaries of social interaction, as well as supported neighbourliness, and mutual support. This panel would be particularly interested in research on responses to Covid19.

Conference Website: [www.isirc2021milano.com](http://www.isirc2021milano.com)

Conference administration team’s email: [isirc2021@unicatt.it](mailto:isirc2021@unicatt.it)



Papers are invited which develop theory and which identify social innovation models emerging internationally to address the myriad opportunities (as well as challenges) posed by significant changes to global ageing demographics; increased opportunities for those beyond retirement age to remain engaged and contributing, re-framing how we think about careers/work and beyond, challenges of health and social care and housing- both in the built environment and through financial public sector constraints, and opportunities for technology to play a role.

There is a planned book with a major publisher. We anticipate a possible special journal issue.

### References (Harvard reference style)

Kalache, A. and Gatti, A., 2003. Active ageing: a policy framework. *Advances in gerontology= Uspekhi gerontologii*, 11, pp.7-18.

Sharma, D., 2018. *Fostering social innovation for active ageing: tackling later life loneliness* (Doctoral dissertation, Lancaster University).

Schulmann, K., Reichert, M. and Leichsenring, K., 2019. Social Support and Long-Term Care for Older People: The Potential for Social Innovation and Active Ageing. In *The Future of Ageing in Europe* (pp. 255-286). Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore.

Stypinska, J., 2018. The enterprising self: A panacea for all or new fictitious social role for older adults? The analysis of European policies for senior entrepreneurship. *Journal of Population Ageing*, 11(1), pp.43-65.

Walker, A. and Zaidi, A., 2019. Strategies of active ageing in Europe. In *The Future of Ageing in Europe* (pp. 29-52). Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore.

World Health Organization, 2002. *Active ageing: A policy framework* (No. WHO/NMH/NPH/02.8). Geneva: World Health Organization.

### Guidelines for submission

To contribute to the conference, it is possible to submit both paper abstracts or proposals for panel sessions. Following details about the submission:

#### **A. Paper abstracts**

Must be maximum 400 words, excluding references (Font: Times New Roman 12-pt, double spaced, 2.5 cm margin all around).

They should articulate: (1) the research objectives or questions being addressed; (2) the conceptual or theoretical perspectives informing the work; (3) where appropriate, the methodology utilised; and (4) the contribution of the paper to knowledge in light of the conference themes.

A maximum of two abstracts may be submitted per presenter (joint papers to be presented by co-authors will also be considered).



To enable anonymity, the authors' names should not appear. Instead, a cover page giving the title of the paper and full identifying information of the author(s) (name, address, telephone and e-mail address) should be included as a separate Word or PDF document.

On abstract submission please ensure you advise the conference stream.

### ***B. Panel session proposals***

Must be maximum 400 words, excluding references.

They should include: (1) the panel purpose and its relationship to the nominated conference stream; (2) details of (minimum) three and (maximum) four papers and paper presenters to be included in the panel; and the expected contribution to the panel.

On panel submission please ensure you advise the conference stream.

### ***Process and deadlines***

All paper abstracts and panel proposals must be submitted by email to: [www.isirc2021milano.com](http://www.isirc2021milano.com)

Abstract and panel proposals submission due: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Notification of decision on submissions: 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Optional full paper submission for consideration in best paper awards: 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Enquiries about conference administration and technical issues related to online submission should be directed to the conference administration team at [isirc2021@unicatt.it](mailto:isirc2021@unicatt.it)

### ***Guidelines for full paper submissions:***

Papers must be written in English and should be sent in Microsoft Word or PDF format.

Papers should be between 5,000 and 8,000 words in length including tables, figures and references.

Tables and figures should be incorporated into the paper. Each table and figure should be given a title.

Please include an abstract and four to six key words.

To enable anonymity, the authors' names should not appear. Instead, a cover page giving the title of the paper and full identifying information of the author(s) (name, address, telephone and e-mail address) should be included as a separate Word or PDF document.

Harvard is the preferred referencing style.