



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

## Universities as global enabling social innovation agents

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### ***Description:***

The role that locality and geography plays in the creation of social innovation ecosystems and specifically social enterprises has seen significant research over the last decade (Defourny and Nyssens, 2010; Galera and Borzaga, 2009; Hazenberg et al., 2016; Kerlin, 2013). However, whilst much of this previous research focus has been centred upon national and regional contexts globally, less attention has been paid to the differences and factors that influence social innovation ecosystems at the local level (i.e. town/municipality). Furthermore, previous research has identified that the institutional context of a given locality is of paramount importance in shaping the types of social enterprise that emerge (Mendell, 2010), along with socio-economic and political factors (Doherty et al., 2009). Among other institutional actors, universities are key institutional players within their localities since they have been shown to have significant economic and social impacts on their communities (Bonner, 1968; Glasson, 2003).

In this panel, we seek to build upon the inaugural stream centred on this topic held at ISIRC 2020, to explore the role that universities can play in driving the development and sustainability of social innovation ecosystems in their locality, and how this can then drive social innovation globally through research, education, knowledge exchange, international partnerships and policy development. Building on this initial panel, we wish to explore the role that international partnerships, global ranking and impact frameworks, as well as adherence to the Sustainable Development Goals can have on social innovation in higher education. Therefore, the themes to be explored include:

- Research, teaching and community engagement;
- Resource acquisition and provision;
- Incubation and acceleration facilities;
- Network creation and partnerships locally and globally;

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

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- Policy advocacy and innovation;
- Global ranking and impact frameworks;
- The UN SDGs.

## References

1. Bonner, E.R., (1968), The Economic Impact of a University on Its Local Community, *Journal of the American Institute of Planners*, 34(5), pp. 339-343.
2. Defourny, J., & Nyssens, M. (2010), Conceptions of Social Enterprise and Social Entrepreneurship in Europe and the United States: Convergences and Divergences. *Journal of Social Entrepreneurship*, 1(1), 32–53.
3. Doherty, B., Foster, G., Mason, C., Meehan, J., Meehan, K., Rotheroe, N. and Royce, M., (2009), *Management for Social Enterprise*, London, Sage Publications
4. Galera, G., & Borzaga, C. (2009), Social Enterprise: An International Overview of Its Conceptual Evolution and Legal Implementation. *Social Enterprise Journal*, 5(3), 210–228
5. Glasson, J., (2003), The Widening Local and Regional Development Impacts of the Modern Universities - A Tale of Two Cities (and North-South Perspectives), *Local Economy*, 18(1), pp. 21-37.
6. Hazenberg, R., Bajwa-Patel, M., Roy, M.J., Mazzei, M. and Baglioni, S., (2016), The role of institutional and stakeholder networks in shaping social enterprise ecosystems in Europe, *Social Enterprise Journal*, 12(3), pp. 302-321.
7. Kerlin, J. A. (2013), Defining Social Enterprise Across Different Contexts: A Conceptual Framework Based on Institutional Factors, *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 42(1), pp. 84–108.
8. Mendell, M., (2010), Reflections on the evolving landscape of social enterprise in North America, *Policy and Society*, 29(3), pp. 243–256.

## 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.