



Call for Papers for the Sessions of the Research Area [Q] - Complexity Economics
at the Annual Meeting 2020 of the European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy (EAEPE)
in Bilbao, Spain, Sep 2-4 2020

The world, its economic systems, and its very social structure are hit by a pandemic that is unprecedented in modern times. The death toll is rising, and the impact on the lives of people in many countries is substantial. While we may hope that the number of infections will go down with the measures governments and international organizations are taking, the economic impact is only beginning to take shape.

We are almost certain to enter a dramatic recession the effects of which may last well beyond the end of the present pandemic. We also see the effects of highly integrated supply chains. Shortages of a huge variety of goods are starting to materialize quickly as production in the worst-hit grinds to a halt. Demand side effects add to the issue. Goods that are badly needed by care workers may not be available. While the case of disinfectant and face masks are obvious, it extends to information technology and many other product categories. Ripples are already felt in the financial system. And the brewing crisis is certain to have an impact on poverty and development as well as structural change and many other fields.

Complex systems are at the root of it all. Integrated supply networks may not be well-understood without taking complex networks into account. The integrated effect on society, development, finance and other fields may benefit from tools and perspectives from complex systems science. Systemic risk is clearly a factor.

For this year's EAEPE Research Area [Q] session, we therefore particularly invite contributions that assess

- the economic impact of pandemics, epidemics and other disasters,
- the complexity of supply chains and production networks and their economic implications,
- the impact of crises (such as the unfolding one) on socio-economic issues, and
- the potential for policy recommendations and forecasts in a changing world from a complex systems perspective.

That said, we do not wish to limit the scope of the research area by setting this timely focus. We continue to welcome contributions on the the Research Area [Q]'s established, regular, and important topics.

Furthermore, we would like to also encourage submissions to other research areas of the EAEPE conference. We are certain that, given current events, economic effects of pandemics will be a topic also in other research areas.

Research Area [Q] Complexity Economics of the EAEPE is dedicated to providing a forum for complex systems approaches in economics. This includes both perspectives, methods, and applications. We aim to raise awareness that while simplification may be necessary in model building, the complexity of reality and qualitatively different characteristics it gives rise to must be considered. Today, we have both the tools and the computation power to do so. Working in close exchange with other research areas of the EAEPE (e.g., S - Simulation, X - Networks, and C - Institutions), we have since the establishment of the research area in 2016 organized events ranging from our regular session at the annual conference to special sessions to workshops.

EAEPE stands for European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy, an association of evolutionary political economists founded in 1988. With a membership of over 500, EAEPE is the foremost European association for heterodox economists broadly defined. placing a focus on evolutionary political economy, it aims to promote open-ended, interdisciplinary, value-driven, and policy-oriented perspectives. The objectives of EAEPE include providing an open forum for the debate among different schools that is needed in Europe. EAEPE offers a pluralistic forum.

Research Area [Q] Coordinators

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How to submit: Extended Abstracts (300-750 words) should be submitted on the EAEPE website, https://eaepe.org/?page=events&side=annual_conference&sub=abstract_submission where Research Area [Q] can also be selected as the primary research area the submission is meant for.

Submission deadline: April 1 2020

Note on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic: We presently assume that the pandemic will be under control by the time the EAEPE conference is set to take place and that it will be as safe and responsible to travel to Bilbao and attend this event as it would have been in recent years. We will monitor the situation closely and keep contributors up to date. While abstracts are due on April 1, the conference registration remains open until June.