

1st CALL FOR PAPERS - EAEPE 2021



**European Association for
Evolutionary Political Economy**

**Recovery from the Covid-19 Pandemic:
Re-thinking the role of the State towards safe,
cohesive, sustainable, and innovative economies**

The 33rd Annual EAEPE Conference

2-4 September, 2021

Naples, Italy

Background to the 2021 Conference Theme

Since early 2020, Covid-19 pandemics have shocked the world economy. Most governments and economic actors were taken by surprise while the pandemic's economic and societal damages were aggravated by an initial underestimation of and sustained uncertainty surrounding the new virus. During 2020, GDP has dropped by more than 10% even in the leading high-income countries. The emergency has stimulated unprecedented adaptation efforts in areas such as labour (smart working), education (distance learning), consumption (e-commerce), manufacturing (to face the shortage of face-masks and other sanitary equipment) and of course health (faster building of intensive care units; innovative testing for vaccines). Furthermore, it has highlighted the dangers of privatising the health sector and of international specialisation patterns that deprived some countries of strategic technological competences. Governments and central banks have carried the heaviest load in leading economies out of the first pandemic wave and in mitigating a second one. Many advanced economies have implemented welfare and labour market policies to avoid an otherwise dramatic increase in unemployment, whereas the ability of countries in the Global South to use fiscal and monetary policies was much lower. The European Union has suspended the Stability and Growth Pact obligations and has adopted programmes such as SURE and the Recovery Fund / Next Generation EU. The European Central Bank has stepped up its purchases of government and corporate debt. Such programmes can take the pandemic as an opportunity for greening and digitalising the economy, but so far environmental conditionality's have not been attached to fiscal and monetary policy programmes.

While emergency public policies have averted the collapse of economic systems, the economic damage of the pandemic is (and will be) substantial in terms of firm bankruptcies, unemployment, work conditions, long-term educational achievements, and economic opportunities for the young, for women and for the BAME population. The emerging signs of a threatened global economic integration are even clearer. The stress caused by the pandemic has only emphasised the threat posed by authoritarian governments. Patterns of international cooperation in critical areas such as health R&D highlight the segmentation of world politics into blocks and confirms that regions are unequally equipped to face the immense adaptation and treatment efforts required by the Covid-19 emergency. Raising income, wealth, regional, and gender inequalities are further adverse consequences of the pandemics. Environmental degradation is yet another threat, related e.g. to long-distance trade flows induced by e-commerce, or to face-masks and medical waste disposal.

Given the deep uncertainty surrounding the emergencies and challenges of our time (pandemics, climate change) and the complexity of the required structural changes, alternative theoretical and methodological approaches capable of representing and interpreting these disequilibria are required. These might include stock-flow, integrated assessment, agent-based modelling, network analysis, laboratory and field experiments, and may address particular challenges such as the economic, social and environmental consequences of the pandemics and of climate tipping points. Discussions are also welcome on how political economic goals, such as globalisation, austerity, and privatisation increase the fragility of economic systems in the face of environmental, climate, health, and financial crises.

The conference will provide unique opportunities to revisit the foundations of economics, to discuss alternative theories at the macro, meso and micro levels, and to enrich the evolutionary background with insights from diverse fields such as complexity science, biology, political and international studies, development and gender studies, physics, philosophy, sociology, and management science among others. The aim is to provide new empirical evidence and fresh theoretical insights for policy makers to understand and manage the challenges and opportunities of our times. In particular, the conference may stimulate efforts to rethink the role of the state in light of the lessons learned from the Covid-19

emergency. In doing so, we invite scholarly contributions that allow to reconsider the foundations of economic policy (from industrial to innovation policy; for regulatory to environmental policy; as well as macroeconomic, fiscal and monetary policy) in relation to relevant social goals such as health, cohesion, and sustainability; to shape new economic institutions to manage structural change; and to investigate new models of production, consumption, finance, trade, and socio-economic interaction and organisation.

Abstract Submission

You are invited to submit an extended abstract no later than 1st April 2021 on the conference website. Following the usual format, prospective participants are invited to submit a paper related either to the theme of the conference or one of the diverse EAEPE Research Areas as well as special sessions. Abstracts (300-750 words) should include the following information: authors' names, email addresses and, affiliations, and name and code of the relevant research area. Following notification of acceptance, you will be invited to submit the full paper. Please have in mind that only one presentation per author is allowed; additional papers can be submitted by the same author but need to be presented by a registered co-author, if accepted by the scientific committee in advance.

Online Abstract Submission:

https://eaepe.org/?page=events&side=annual_conference&sub=abstract_submission

Online Special Session Submission

https://eaepe.org/?page=events&side=annual_conference&sub=special_session_submission

Local Organizing Committee

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Important Dates

- **19 February, 2021:** Special Session Proposal Submission Deadline
- **1 March, 2021:** Abstract Submission to Special Sessions Opens Online
- **1 April, 2021:** Abstract Submission Deadline for all kind of sessions
- **30 April, 2021:** Notification of Abstract Acceptance; Registration Opens
- **28 May, 2021:** Early Registration Closes
- **25 June, 2021:** Late Registration Closes (for authors to be included in the scientific programme)
- **31 July, 2021:** Submission of Full Papers Deadline

Venue

Parthenope University of Naples
School of Economics and Law
Palazzo Pacanowsky, via Generale Parisi 13
48015 80132 Naples

We are investigating the possibility for enabling online participation during the conference as we plan for a full face to face meeting in one of Europe's most iconic cities. A final decision on the conference fee structure will be made during the Spring Council meeting.

Keynote Speakers

TBA