**Call for Papers for the Special Session**

“*Stratification Economics: Rethinking Forms and Explanations of Inequality*”

organized by the EAEPE research areas


**At the 32nd Annual EAEPE Conference**

that will be held **ONLINE** on 2-4 September 2020

**Invited Speakers:**

Hanna Szymborska (Birmingham City Business School)

*Diversity, stratification, and decolonisation: rethinking the scope and structure of the economics profession*

Susan Himmelweit (Open University) *(to be confirmed)*

Inequality and its forms are growing concerns. The UNDP HDR 2019 has called for “a revolution in metrics” to develop new ways to measure emerging forms of inequality. However, we do not only need better measurement, but also deeper understanding of the mechanisms behind inequality. Mainstream economists have long studied inequality, but much of that work focuses on narrowly conceived market mechanisms without paying sufficient attention to institutions, the role of morality, and other insights provided by other social and behavioral sciences.

Stratification economics, pioneered by black economists, notably William Sandy Darity Jr., provides a compelling emerging alternative. This new field aims to analyze and explain group-based economic inequalities and social stratification. Its approach is interdisciplinary, integrating economics, sociology, and social psychology. Along with paying close attention to the ethical aspects of inequality, it has at its center that social and economic exclusion often occurs along the lines of race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and the intersections of these (and other) categories.

In line with the EAEPE conference theme, our joint sessions focus on rethinking inequalities from the perspective of stratification economics and evaluating its explanatory potential and policy relevance. The ambition of this session is both to develop stratification economics to address pressing questions and problems concerning inequality, and to subject it to closer scrutiny from a methodological and philosophical perspective. The questions we propose to discuss are, but not limited to, the following:

- What are the visible and hidden forms of inequality and what are the mechanisms behind them?
- What is the role of institutions in the emergence and persistence of inequalities?
- How does social stratification display itself at work, education, housing, and other walks of life?
- How do various schools of economic thought conceptualize, problematize, and understand inequalities across individuals and groups, and how can stratification economics go beyond what we already know?
- Does stratification economics succeed in its attempt to provide an interdisciplinary understanding of enduring inequality? Is its approach to the ethical aspects of inequality satisfactory? Can and how should it contribute to the “revolution in metrics”? Or, need it be preoccupied by questions of ‘metrics’ to the neglect of its wider political-economic challenge?

We invite theoretical, empirical, and methodological papers by stratification economists, scholars who analyze inequality from different perspectives, and economic methodologists. *The Review of Evolutionary Political Economy* is willing to offer a symposium or a special issue for the selection of the papers presented at the session(s), subject to a review process.

**Abstract Submission:**

Abstracts (300 words) should be submitted electronically on the [conference website](http://www.eaepe.org) by selecting “Stratification Economics: Rethinking Forms and Explanations of Inequality” session before **30th April 2020**. Please inform m.burnazoglu@uu.nl about your submission.

**Co-ordinators:** Emrah Aydininat, Merve Burnazoglu, Wolfram Elsner, Stefan Kesting, Uskali Maki, Franklin Obeng-Odoom, and Alyssa Schneebaum. For queries and questions, please contact m.burnazoglu@uu.nl

---