

38th EAEPE Annual Conference 2026, Lausanne, Switzerland, September 9-11.

Call for Papers of RAE1 Industrial Policy and Development

Rethinking Industrial Policy in an era of destabilisation

Recently the global economic order is undergoing profound and accelerating transformation. Across policy levels, we observe a clear shift from assumptions of rules-based multilateralism toward a new landscape of intensified geopolitical rivalry, unilateral actions, systemic uncertainty and renewed state activism. These developments challenge among other things how regional and national actors design their industrial policies, and how specific actors and entrenched incumbents shape their strategic positioning.

China has adopted offensive industrial and trade strategies to secure control over key technologies and critical segments of global value chains. The United States has embraced a new era of trade conflict—through tariff escalation, strategic decoupling, export controls, and landmark domestic interventions. The European Union has responded with a hybrid approach combining protectionist measures—illustrated by tariffs on Chinese-made electric vehicles— with pursuit of new trade agreements, including the ongoing Mercosur and EU-India negotiations.

In this context many ambitious objectives, including the Sustainable Development Goals, are challenged. Even long-standing neo-liberal frameworks and governance architectures are being contested, adding further uncertainty to global coordination mechanisms .

This year, in addition to topics falling within the general research interests of Research Area *Industrial Policy and Development*, we particularly welcome submissions that clearly address how current geopolitical and institutional transformations are reshaping the priorities, instruments, and outcomes of industrial policy. We encourage papers that analyse the implications of these shifts for the environmental, social, and economic dimensions of sustainability.

Submission details

An abstract of 500 to 1000 words should be submitted to the conference abstract submission webpage <https://eaepe.org/abstract-submission/> under Research Area E1.

Important dates

Abstract submission deadline for individual papers: March 1st, 2026.

Notification of acceptance: March 31st, 2026.

Early registration closes: May 15th, 2026

Deadline for inclusion to the programme: June 15th, 2026.

For more information and abstract submission please visit <https://eaepe.org/>