

CONCORDi 2019

7th European Conference on Corporate R&D and Innovation

25-27 September 2019 – Seville (Spain)

INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION FOR TRANSFORMATION

Conference background and concept

*Corporate Research, Development and innovation (RD*i*)*

RD*i* are key factors for EU competitiveness and job creation. They are at the core of the EU socio-economic reform agenda, "preparing the transition to a knowledge-based economy and society by better policies". Innovation is a main engine of industrial dynamics. If well directed, such an evolution is able to tackle the societal challenges. Some of the challenges ahead have multiple dimensions, such as the scientific and technological development, employment and mobility, environment and security related issues. There, the industrial innovation systems are effected by and contribute to both global and local socio-economic endeavours, and influence the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

Innovation, structural change and industrial transformation

At the global level, industry is undergoing a profound structural transformation from changes driven by digitalisation, other new technologies and new business models (European Commission, 2018). This requires an effort towards industrial modernisation especially in the EU: embracing technological change, integrating products and services, and developing environmentally and employment friendly technologies also economically affordable for producers and consumers.

At EU level, although there is a large consensus on the importance of the manufacturing sector to foster competitiveness, innovation and sustainable growth, the last decades were characterised by a progressive EU decline of the manufacturing sector share, both in value added and job creation. Hence, the EU target for the manufacturing sector is to represent 20% of a country's value added. This should also result in an increase of R&D, given the positive association between manufacturing and R&D investment. It also suggests that the link between manufacturing and R&D depends on the specialisation of a country's industrial structure.

At the territorial level, innovation and R&D capacities attract industrial activities and favour industrial participation in global value chains and networks with resulting dynamism of the territorial innovation system. Still, managing the industrial transition exploiting the territorial convergence in response to globalisation and technological change is highly demanding.

Industrial innovation and socio-economic transformation

Together with facilitating the transition to a low-carbon and circular economy, policies aimed to foster industrial competitiveness, innovation and technological leadership have the ultimate objectives to create more and better jobs, and to accompany those regions and workers most affected by industrial

development and globalisation. Here, the employment impact of industrial innovation and transformation is expected to be large. In this process, the dynamics of the internal demand, wages dispersion among territories, the skills needs, and the job polarisation become topics of great importance. In this context, a strengthened link between innovation and industrial policies is essential to generate employment and good jobs through healthy business dynamics.

Call for papers

Participants are invited to contribute scientific papers around two core thematic lines:

1. **Innovation for structural change and industrial transformation:** In a context of rapid transformation of the economy, the distinction between manufacturing and service industries is becoming more and more blurred. One country's industrial structure (specialisation) cannot be ignored without looking at the relationship between innovation and competitiveness. In an evolutionary perspective, different patterns of structural change (sectoral dynamics) can be associated with specific technological dimensions. Moreover, to ensure industrial competitiveness, EU should reinforce its industrial capacities in key areas that underpin the undergoing industrial transformation, while it should also strengthen areas of its present competitive advantage.

Example of specific topics:

- **Innovation, structural change and industrial transformation**, e.g.: from technology to market structure change; sector specialisation vs multi-sectors usability of innovative products/services (as the dual-use technologies: military ↔ civil applications).
 - Role of **key enabling technologies as a driver of structural change**, e.g.: digitalisation; artificial intelligence; advanced manufacturing; key-technologies for energy and mobility.
 - **Territorial dimension of the innovation systems contributing to R&D global endeavours**, e.g.: industrial clusters, innovation ecosystems & hubs; future mission oriented research and innovation (R&I) initiatives under the next EU framework programme for R&I; regional and urban R&D and innovation development, including smart specialisation strategies.
2. **Industrial innovation and socio-economic transformation:** Industrial innovation has an important impact on socio-economic transformation and its sustainability. The changes in the structure of the labour market and the speed of technology diffusion result in persistent cross-sectional differences in the economic growth of countries, regions and cities. Regarding the socio-economic impact of innovation, economic growth is thus closely intertwined with the development of labour markets in the wider socio-economic context including some objectives of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, namely its goal on industry, innovation and infrastructure (SDG9).

Example of specific topics:

- **Employment impact of innovation, structural change and industrial transformation**
- **Dynamics of the demand, job polarisation, wages dispersion**
- **Social return** of technological development, socio-economic sustainability
- **Skills need** to adapt to new and next technologies generation.

Although priority will be given to papers related to these two core themes, the conference will also accept submissions of research articles related to other industrial innovation topics. Without being exhaustive, these comprise:

- **Returns of innovation** (Impact on competitiveness, firm dynamics and firm selection),

- **Diffusion of innovation for the EU industry** (RDI collaboration: private-public collaborations; open innovation; outsourcing and globalisation; innovation as a recombination of ideas; ...)
- **New industrial innovation policy** (horizontal vs sector/technology specific policies; structural funds & fiscal measures; evidence-based industrial innovation policies for territories; new public R&I policies to support the transition of mature industrial sectors via an increased technological and managerial capacity; new policies for better performance of new technology-based firms; new policies that favour system innovation; ...).
- **Global innovation networks and RDI value chains** (internationalisation of RDI; organisation of innovative activities and their relation to production; Industry 4.0;)
- **Advanced methodologies applied to RDI analyses** (machine learning and artificial Intelligence; analysis of economic complexity; network analyses; behavioural models;).

Extended-Abstracts: Structure of and editorial guidelines

The submissions of extended abstract should concern scientific work containing robust quantitative and qualitative analyses on the main subject and suggested main streams of the Conference (see text of the call for paper). Original research based on micro-data and aiming at bridging micro-to macro-analyses is especially welcome. The theoretical or empirical content of the proposed work should demonstrate to have a solid scientific base, be original and anchored to adequate reference.

The maximum accepted length of the extended abstract is 2000 words excluding figures, tables and annexes.

The submitted long abstract should follow the following structure:

1. Title, author(s), affiliation(s).

2. **Indicate if your submission relates to the following Conference streams** (see text of Call for Papers above): 1 (Innovation for structural change and industrial transformation), 2 (Industrial innovation and socio-economic transformation) or 3 (other) - you can indicate only one stream.

3. Background: Motivation and Research questions (max. 500 words)

This section should very briefly outline the following information: 1. What is already known about the subject, related to the paper in question 2. What is not known about the subject and hence what the study intended to examine (or what the paper seeks to present) – your original contribution. 3. What are the specific research questions the study focuses on?

4. Methods (max. 500 words)

The methods section should contain enough information to enable the reader to understand what was done, and how. Please specify which data sources you rely on.

5. Results / expected results (max. 500 words)

This part introduces the findings of the study. The results section should contain as much detail about the findings of your work and its limitations. In case of ongoing research, please indicate your expected outcomes.

6. Conclusions and possible implication for policy and further research (max. 500 words)

This section should contain the most important take-home message of the study, expressed in a few sentences. It is also customary for the authors to indicate the theoretical or practical implications of the findings, and the importance of their findings for the field as well for policy. In case of ongoing research, please indicate the possible implications of your expected results.

Deadlines

- Deadline for submissions of long abstracts 26 May 2019
- Communication of selected long abstracts/papers: 17 June 2019
- Authors' provision of posters: 21 July 2019
- Authors' provision of full papers: 9 September 2019.

Programme

The programme aims at maximising exchange between attendees. It will be structured in plenary sessions (with interventions by invited speakers and round-table panellists), parallel sessions (with presenters selected following the call for papers) and posters sessions. Plenary speakers include researchers, industrialists and policymakers.

Registration

Registration opens on 14 June on the CONCORDi website.

A maximum of 180 participants can be accepted on a first come first served base.

There will be no conference registration fee.

For more information visit <http://iri.jrc.ec.europa.eu/concord/2019/index.html>

Scientific Committee

The role of the Scientific Committee is to finalise the scientific programme schedule, review and select the extended abstract and play an active role contributing to the success of the Conference.

Román Arjona (European Commission, BE)

Anna Bergek (Chalmers University of Technology, SE)

Alex Coad (Universidad Pontificia del Perú, PE)

Chiara Criscuolo (OECD, FR)

Koen Frenken (Utrecht University, NL)

Bronwyn H. Hall (University of California at Berkeley, USA)

Pietro Moncada-Paternò-Castello (European Commission, ES)

Irmgard Nübler (International Labour Organisation, CH)

Raquel Ortega-Argilés (University of Birmingham, UK)

Sven Schimpf (Fraunhofer, DE)

Mariagrazia Squicciarini (OECD, FR)

Reinhilde Veugelers (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, BE)

Marco Vivarelli (Università Cattolica di Milano, IT).

Organising Committee

The Organising Committee's primary responsibilities are all on-site arrangements and logistics before, during and after the seminar.

Sara Amoroso (European Commission, JRC)

Alessandra Collechia (OECD)

Marta Dominguez (European Commission, JRC)

Nicola Grassano (European Commission, JRC)

Fernando Hervás (European Commission, JRC)

Pietro Moncada-Paternò-Castello (European Commission, JRC), *Coordinator*

Lesley Potters (European Commission, JRC)

Emanuele Pugliese (European Commission, JRC)

Alessandro Rainoldi (European Commission, JRC)

Dimitris Pontikakis (European Commission, JRC)

Alexander Tübke (European Commission, JRC)

Antonio Vezzani (European Commission, JRC)

Important dates

- 26 May 2019: Submission deadline for long abstracts
- 17 June 2019: Notifications of acceptance of submitted long abstracts
- 14 June 2019: Registration open
- 21 July 2019: Dead line for provision of posters
- 09 September 2019: Deadline for submission of full papers
- 20 September 2019: Registration closing
- 25-27 September: Conference

Venue

Fundación Cajasol
Pl. de S. Francisco, 1
41004 Seville – Spain

Accommodations

Hotel booking and other logistical information: Please, take into account that hotels are very busy in Seville in the week when the Conference will take place. We recommend you to book your hotel as soon as possible.

Contact

Information about hotels and transportation can be found here:

<http://iri.jrc.ec.europa.eu/concord/>

CONCORDi 2017 website: <http://iri.jrc.ec.europa.eu/concord/2019/index.html>

Contact email: JRC-CONCORDi@ec.europa.eu

Information on previous editions of CONCORDi can be found here:

<http://iri.jrc.ec.europa.eu/concord.html>