

**Call for Papers for the Sessions of the Research Area [Q] - Complexity Economics**  
at the Annual Meeting 2021 of the European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy  
(EAEPE), online conference, Sep 2-4 2021

**Research Area [Q] Main Conference Topic**

As the world emerges from the worst pandemic of our generation, complex systems science is one of the few fields of research that have the tools and the interdisciplinary community to address the challenges ahead:

- How shall economic systems be organized to facilitate a speedy but safe recovery?
- How should renewed outbreaks be addressed?
- What is the optimal vaccination strategy from an economic point of view?
- How can the damage that has been done to economic development, innovation systems, and society be repaired? How can complexity economics help to address that?
- What can be done to make the health care systems more resilient?
- What does the pandemic mean for the future of labor, global value chains, and education (among other aspects)?

What all these topics have in common is that they venture into addressing a new economic situation with relatively little empirical evidence to go on. The complexity of real economics systems, their dynamics, interaction networks, etc. need to be taken into account. Complexity economics has a lot to say about this. We invite contributions along these lines and hope to facilitate a conversation on ways out of the current pandemic from the perspective of complexity economics at this year's conference.

**Research Area [Q] Secondary Conference Topics**

Beyond this, we also encourage submissions in any of the long-standing topics of Research Area [Q]:

- Theoretical contributions on complex systems approaches to economics,
- methodological contributions in economic complexity (including ECI, ABM, machine learning approaches, NLP and others), and
- empirical papers relevant to complexity economics or applying complex systems approaches in economics.

**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. The research area works in close exchange with other research areas of the EAEPE (e.g., S - Simulation, X - Networks, and C - Institutions). Since the establishment of the research area in 2016, we organized a variety of 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**

Torsten Heinrich  
Chemnitz University of Technology, Chemnitz, Germany, and University of Oxford (INET, OMPTEC), Oxford, UK  
torsten.heinrich@wirtschaft.tu-chemnitz.de

Magda Fontana  
Università degli Studi di Torino, Turin, Italy  
magda.fontana@unito.it

**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](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:** March 31 2021

**Note on the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic:** The EAEPE 2021 meeting was originally scheduled to take place in Napoli, Italy. Considering the ongoing pandemic and with a view on keeping conference participants safe and not creating a super-spreader event, we have no other choice but to hold an online conference. The event will rely on the Blackboard Collaborate video conferencing software which works with all major web browsers. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.