

**Call for Papers for the Sessions of the Research Area [Q] - Complexity Economics**  
at the Annual Meeting 2026 of the EAEPE  
in Lausanne, Switzerland, Sep 9-11 2026

## **Past the tipping points: Economic complexity in an unstable world**

The world economy is currently experiencing significant disruptions across climate, geopolitics, technology, and finance. A tipping point is a threshold beyond which system dynamics change abruptly, shifting to qualitatively different behavior. The concept is widely used in theoretical and empirical research spanning physics, climate science, technological transitions, and social dynamics. Against the backdrop of recent disruption, and the possibility that multiple tipping thresholds are being crossed, this conference track explores how complexity economics can help us understand and govern an unstable world.

We invite theoretical, computational, and empirical contributions examining instability, transition dynamics, regime shifts, and structural change in economies and innovation systems. Topics of interest include cascading shocks and propagation in production networks, geopolitical fragmentation and the reconfiguration of global value chains, technological discontinuities, and empirical analyses of past transitions. We aim to bring together diverse perspectives and methods to better navigate instability and support inclusive and sustainable outcomes.



## 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] Coordinators

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## How to submit

Extended Abstracts (300-750 words) should be submitted on the EAEPE website, <https://eaepe.org/abstract-submission/> where Research Area [Q] can also be selected as the primary research area the submission is meant for.

**Submission deadline:** March 1 2026

**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 the 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, pluralistic forum for the debate among different schools that is needed in Europe.