

*Announcement and Call for Papers*

**EU-SPRI Early Career Researcher Conference (ECC) Milan, Italy  
November 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**How to Foster Innovative Entrepreneurship? Trends, Challenges, and Policy Implications**



**POLITECNICO  
MILANO 1863**

DIPARTIMENTO DI  
INGEGNERIA GESTIONALE



**Freie Universität Bozen  
Libera Università di Bolzano  
Università Lieldia de Bulsan**

Scholars and policy makers have devoted growing attention to innovative entrepreneurship, i.e. the development of new products/services or new methods to produce/deliver existing goods at a lower cost (Baumol et al., 2007). Academics have centered their investigation on the entrepreneur- and firm-level characteristics that facilitate the identification and exploitation of innovative business ideas (Zahra and Wright, 2011; Autio et al., 2014), whereas policy circles (e.g., OECD, European Commission) have focused on the role of innovative entrepreneurship in favoring new jobs creation and economic growth.

Despite these efforts, there is still a rather poor understanding of innovative entrepreneurship along several dimensions. First, the definition of innovative entrepreneurship is still quite fuzzy (Low & Isserman, 2015). Second, extant literature lacks widely accepted measures of innovative entrepreneurship. As a consequence, current works provide incoherent figures on the size of the phenomenon: the share of innovative ventures on the overall number of new venture ranges from less than 10% to about 50%, depending on the measure used. Finally, there is a compelling need for research about the determinants, the outcomes, and the economic impact of innovative entrepreneurial ventures.

Moving from these premises, the idea and scope of this two-days conference is to bring together the ongoing research and policy debate on innovative entrepreneurship. Discussions will provide an overview of the trends, challenges, and policy implications with the aim of improving our understanding of this complex phenomenon. Paper presentations will be enriched by keynote speeches of leading scholars in the field.

Some broad topics that might be addressed in papers submitted to the conference include:

- ✓ Identification and exploitation of innovative business opportunities
- ✓ The role of technology in the creation of innovative entrepreneurial ventures
- ✓ The role of knowledge and human capital in fostering innovative entrepreneurship
- ✓ The sources of finance for innovative ventures
- ✓ The organization of innovative entrepreneurship
- ✓ Behavioral aspects of innovative entrepreneurship
- ✓ The role of universities to stimulate the creation and development of innovative entrepreneurship
- ✓ Multi-level policies to promote innovative entrepreneurship
- ✓ Innovative entrepreneurship driven by societal challenges

## Organizing Committee

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- ✓ Vincenzo Butticié (Politecnico di Milano)
- ✓ Massimiliano Guerini (Politecnico di Milano)
- ✓ Christian Manfred Lechner (Libera Università di Bolzano)
- ✓ Evila Piva (Politecnico di Milano)
- ✓ Paola Rovelli (Politecnico di Milano)

## Target audience

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The conference aims at involving a selected group of scholars (25-35 participants). The participation from scholars at the Assistant Professor level, at the post-doc level, or at early stages of their career is particularly encouraged. PhD candidates at the final stage of their dissertation are also encouraged to attend.

## Submissions and selection

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Participants are invited to submit a full paper or an extended abstract and their CV. Full papers should be no longer than 30 pages, including figures and tables. Extended abstracts should be no longer than 3,000 words and clearly specify the objective of the study, its approach and results. The CV should indicate the PhD dissertation topic for PhD students and the main research projects for research assistants and post-doctoral researchers. Full papers/extended abstracts and CVs should be submitted by email to the following address [entrepreneurship-workshop-dig@polimi.it](mailto:entrepreneurship-workshop-dig@polimi.it) as PDF files.

Participants will be selected basing upon the quality of the submitted paper/extended abstract, the coherence with the conference theme, and their CV. Once acceptance will be notified, participants should confirm their participation and send the final version of their full paper.

## Main deadlines

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<b>Deadline for full papers/extended abstracts submission</b>	<b>September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017</b>
<b>Notification of acceptance</b>	<b>September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017</b>
<b>Deadline for sending full papers and registration (including the payment of the fee)</b>	<b>October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017</b>
<b>Conference</b>	<b>November 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 2017</b>

## Conference venue

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Politecnico di Milano, Department of Management, Economics, and Industrial Engineering  
Via Lambruschini 4/b, 20156, Milano (Italy).

## Conference fee

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EU-SPRI members: the conference is free of charge. The organization will cover accommodation for two nights, lunches, conference material and the conference dinner. Accommodation for early career delegates will be provided close to the conference venue in the university accommodation.

Non EU-SPRI members: the conference fee is 200 € (includes conference material and lunches). Participants from outside EU-SPRI forum are advised to book their accommodation in Milan. The fee does not include the cost of the conference dinner.

**For any questions, please contact the conference organizers: [entrepreneurship-workshop-dig@polimi.it](mailto:entrepreneurship-workshop-dig@polimi.it)**