

Announcement and Call for Papers

**EU-SPRI Early Career Researcher Conferences (ECC) IRCRES Rome, Italy
14-15-16 October 2015**

CROSSING BOUNDARIES IN SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE CREATION AND TRANSMISSION: TRENDS, CHALLENGES AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The EU-SPRI Early Career Researcher Conferences (ECC) "Crossing boundaries in scientific knowledge creation and transmission: trends, challenges and policy implications" will take place in Rome, 14-15-16 October 2015, and is organized by the IRCRES CNR- Institute of Research on Economic Sustainable Growth (former CERIS-CNR).

Scientific knowledge creation and transmission have been studied mostly focusing on institutions, people and domains of expertise, circumscribing them within geographical, institutional, disciplinary and cultural boundaries (Akkerman and Bakker, 2011). Today the increasing interest toward boundaries crossing in knowledge creation and transmission emerges because of the complexity and heterogeneity which characterize more and more scientific knowledge. Studies on boundaries crossing represent a new and increasing strand of literature in different disciplines -social and political sciences, economics, educational studies, psychology, etc.. (Kaufmann and Tödtling, 2001; Ravinet, 2008). The term boundary crossing refers to the "negotiation and combination of ingredients from different contexts to achieve hybrid situations" and it might concern, among the other, the work of scientists, policy makers' activities and institutions' collaborations patterns (Engestrom, 1995).

Different types of boundaries are considered: disciplinary and sectoral boundaries, geographical and collaboration boundaries, organizational and institutional boundaries.

Disciplinary and sectoral boundaries crossing increasingly characterize research and higher education policies today through the creation of new fields of science which pull together traditional scientific fields and let emerge new "modes" of knowledge production which go beyond traditional knowledge creation and transmission boundaries and allow reframing the "conventional hierarchies of knowledge, expertise and practice" (Nowotny, 2007; Kogan, 2005).

Geographical and collaboration boundaries crossing drives the attention on new mechanisms of delegation and coordination in trans-border and international collaborations of HEIs and institutions, on transformation of research networks and mobility trends in education and research. This allows scrutinizing variable and flexible schemes (Holzinger & Schimmelfennig, 2012) behind the construction of the Europe of Knowledge today and changes in the reallocation of powers within and across research structures and research groups (Klijn, 2008; Hoekman et al., 2010).

Organizational and institutional boundaries crossing considers changes in the relationship between the State and academic institutions and between science and society, questioning the nature of public science as a whole (Lascoumes and Le Gales, 2007) letting emerge different HEIs internal governance arrangements and relationships with external actors (industries, stakeholders, State) (Engestrom, Sannino, 2010; Dimitrova, 2010).

The conference aims at fostering wide and in depth discussion on the learning and transformative potential stemming from disciplinary, geographical and cultural boundaries crossing as well as on the highly diversified mechanisms of actions which can take place at boundaries (i.e. coordination and networking activities and policies). Different developments of the concept and of properties of boundaries in knowledge creation and transmission will be investigated. Policies implications of boundaries crossing and its effects on governance arrangements at the national and EU level will also be discussed. Consideration of policy implications with respect to the shifts observed in traditional knowledge creation and transmission boundaries will be at the core of the conference discussion.

Conference Tracks

We invite early career researchers and junior scholars to participate and present their research at the conference on the following themes and streams:

- T1) Crossing boundaries in Education and Research: patterns and geography of change;
- T2) New concept, role and practice of academic institutions: merging old mission with new challenges;
- T3) Changing patterns of collaboration in research and innovation;
- T4) Beyond standardization in knowledge transmission: changing environments and emerging instruments;
- T5) Open track on relevant issues related to main conference themes.

Suggested streams for contributors (although not limited to this list):

- ✓ *Universities facing complexity: crossing institutional, geographic and disciplinary boundaries*
- ✓ *Crossing boundaries in a context of knowledge transfer and innovation: main actors and bargaining processes*
- ✓ *Participation and collaboration in education and research against specialization and fragmentation*
- ✓ *Rethinking PhD beyond disciplinary and research practice boundaries*
- ✓ *Crossing boundaries within systems of innovation: what interactions between science and industry?*
- ✓ *Collaborative work and learning environments transformations: from networking to knotworking*
- ✓ *Tackling grand challenges through networking: European and international dimensions in scientific research*
- ✓ *New instruments and environments for knowledge transmission*
- ✓ *Opening and widening the access to scientific knowledge: modifying the concept of knowledge?*

Format of the conference

The conference includes plenary sessions, paper presentations in five parallel paper sessions and one dedicated poster session (10 posters accepted) for PhD students at the first stage of their programme presenting their work as poster.

Five speakers are invited to deliver keynote presentations related to the conference theme.

Each paper presentation will be allocated 30 min of time, 20 min presentation and 10 min comments. Each paper will be assigned a discussant performed by a presenter in the same session who will provide comments and suggestions on the work presented. We aim to promote reflection and discussion among the audience and thus make the conference a more valuable experience for both presenters and listeners.

Participants

The conference aims at involving up to 30 participants working in the fields of Higher Education and Innovation studies.

The conference aims at involving primarily:

- doctoral students in the last year of their programme
- post-doctoral researchers
- research assistants having obtained the PhD within 5 years

Ten PhD students at the first stage of their programme presenting their PhD work as poster can also be accepted if the work is directly related to the Conference theme.

Priority will be given to postdoctoral researchers and to applicants from EU-SPRI members' organizations.

Participants from different social science areas are welcome (sociology, economics, political sciences, public policy, organization studies and innovation studies). Participants from other fields, such as natural sciences and life sciences, are also welcome.

Abstract submission and registration

Participants are invited to submit an extended abstract (400-600 words) and the CV which should indicate PhD dissertation topic and, for research assistants and post-doctoral researchers, main research projects. Proposals should be submitted by email to the following address eccrome@ircres.cnr.it as PDF file. Deadline for submitting the abstract is **1st April 2015**. Registrations also open 1st April 2015.

Selection will be based on the quality of the proposal, the coherence with the conference theme and CV of presenters. Notification of acceptance will be notified by mid May 2015.

Selected authors should confirm their participation by 30th June 2015. Full papers (5000-7000 words) are due by 15th September 2015.

It will be possible to submit a Poster proposal for very preliminary studies, works in progress, or early-stage research projects for which consolidated results are not yet available.

Conference fee

The conference is free of charge for participants from EU-SPRI forum organizations. The organization will cover accommodation for two nights, lunches, conference material and the conference dinner.

The conference fee for participants from outside EU-SPRI forum is Euro 250 (includes conference material, lunches and accommodation up to two nights). The fee does not include the cost of the conference dinner (euro 30 approximately). Payment of the fee should be made by bank transfer during registration or by 30th June 2015 at the latest.

All participants should cover their own travel costs.

Conference location and main deadlines

Conference will take place in Rome, 14-15-16 October 2015, at IRCRES CNR- Institute of Research on Economic Sustainable Growth (former CERIS-CNR) Via dei Taurini 19, Rome Italy.

Further details on conference arrangements can be found on the IRCRES dedicated web pages <http://www.ircres.cnr.it/index.php/it/call-for-papers>

Main deadlines

Call open	beginning January 2015
Registrations open	1st April 2015
Abstracts submission	Due by 1st April 2015
Notification of acceptance	By mid May 2015
Registration (and payment of the fee)	By 30th June 2015
Full papers	Due by 15th September 2015

About EU-SPRI

The "European Forum for Studies of Policies for Research and Innovation" (Eu-SPRI Forum) aims to strengthen the vibrant but dispersed interdisciplinary community of researchers focusing on interdisciplinary dimensions related to policy and governance in the field of knowledge creation and innovation. The Eu-SPRI Forum was founded in Paris in June 2010 and has presently 15 member institutions. http://www.euspri-forum.eu/about_us/

Contact person

Emilia Primeri
eccrome@ircres.cnr.it

Local Organising committee

Dr. Emilia Primeri
Dr. Giovanni Cerulli
Dr. Emanuela Reale
Dr. Bianca Potì
Dr. Antonio Zinilli
Dr. Andrea Orazio Spinello
Dr. Lucio Morettini

