3rd Conference on Contextual Approaches to Economics

Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft (German Economic Institute) in Cologne Thursday and Friday, September 3rd and 4th, 2020





Call for Papers

What do we know about contextualism in economics? What are the upsides, what are the downsides of contextual approaches?

The newly emerging (but with deep historic roots) field of Contextual Economics distances itself from isolating approaches that tend to view economic actors as completely detached from any outside influences and instead attempts to build an economics recognizing that economic life is continually evolving and driven by changes in the human context and environment. The approach assumes that the economic system is a social subsystem that cannot properly be understood dynamically by excluding habits of thought, cognitive constraints, webs of meaning and values.

This call for papers exclusively invites Young Scholars (PhD-students or Postdocs, not older than 35) to explore questions of contextualism as they are related to their own research agendas and hand in an abstract for a proposed paper by April 30th, 2020. Four abstracts will be selected for presentation at the 3rd Conference on Contextual Approaches to Economics, to be held at the German Economic Institute in Cologne on September 3rd and 4th, 2020. Authors whose abstracts have been accepted will receive full board and lodging; they will be asked to submit their papers to Journal of Contextual Economics following the conference. The contributions can tackle contextualism in any possible way, but papers opining about merits and demerits of contextual analysis will be most highly welcome, given that this constitutes the overall theme of the conference. In order to develop the papers, prospective authors are free to employ empirical methods, theorize or engage in topics pertaining to the history of economic thought.

We are aware that the current situation concerning the spread of COVID-19 seems to make holding academic conferences in 2020 unlikely. Even if we should not be able to meet in Cologne on the scheduled dates, we will definitely make up for that at a later point. In the case that cancellation of the event in September should be unavoidable, accepted abstracts will of course be invited to the conference on an alternative date.

The conference is jointly organized by the University of Siegen and the German Economic Institute (IW). Intellectual support for the project is also given by The Alliance for the Social Market Economy (Aktions-gemeinschaft Soziale Marktwirtschaft).