

Special Issue for the Triple Helix Journal: Triple Helix International Conference 2022

A Call for Papers is hereby issued for a **Special Issue of the [Triple Helix Journal](#)** (THJ - indexed in WoS and Scopus). The special issue's theme is "**Governing new and traditional partnerships for innovation and development in the post-pandemic world**". Professor Marco Bellandi (University of Florence, Italy), Dr Dimitri Corpakis (Former EU official) and Dr Letizia Donati (University of Florence) will act as guest editors.

The Triple Helix journal is devoted to exploring the multiple facets of University - Industry - Government cooperation for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Its editors-in-chief are Yuzhuo Cai (University of Tampere, Finland) and Marcelo Amaral (Fluminense Federal University, Brazil).

What we are looking for: we ask for submissions of papers that help to illustrate and advance understanding on one or more of the topics related to the main theme of the XX Triple Helix Conference, held last June in Florence, Italy (check also <https://www.triplehelixconference2022.org>).

The papers should have a good formal academic quality and propose scholarly advancement of either theoretical or empirical sides of the helical process of innovation, also building on the literature accumulated on such subjects.

Additionally, papers need to provide original contributions to topics related to the main theme of the conference, in particular:

- **Contemporary challenges:** The Covid-19 pandemic has profoundly affected the social, environmental, and economic system of the 21st century at a global level, further exacerbating the societal challenges faced by society in the pre-pandemic era. Climate change, social exclusion, and inequality are just a few of the wicked problems that need to be addressed and somehow mitigated, for example through initiatives aiming at the achievement of the sustainable development goals set by the Agenda 2030. Papers on these issues have already started to appear in the Triple Helix Journal.
- **New considerations of the traditional Triple Helix interactions** in the light of new socio-economic tensions: These are often due to imbalances between public and private interests. Such tensions may give rise to rent-seeking approaches and disregard aspects of social inclusiveness and sustainability.
- **Re-evaluation of the regional role of universities** that is often exaggerated or over-simplified in the context of the so-called third mission: While universities may fulfil the ambition of taking a leading role in regional innovation ecosystems, the process through which this can be accomplished is poorly understood and often given wrong interpretation. New answers are needed in the legitimate expectation of societies towards universities to take a leading role in this context.
- **The evolving profile of local production systems towards industry 4.0:** While major industrial hubs in Europe, Asia, and the USA develop breakthrough solutions and chart new paths toward industry 4.0, increasingly involving Artificial Intelligence (A.I.), robotics, and big data, smaller localized production systems struggle to either adapt or keep pace with developments with serious consequences on formation and structure of value chains, innovation,

competitiveness, and employment. New research is needed on identifying a new road to adaptation, with respect to sustainability.

- **The recovery plans** from the pandemic impacts: Now being implemented, they include references to the need to reinforce the innovation process. However, it is not clear how they incorporate a logic of innovation 'systemness'.
- **The building of constellations of collaborating partners:** Traditional and new helical actors, and their governance need appropriate collaboration mechanisms for developing novel solutions, managing barriers and difficulties, and reaching well-being and sustainability.
- **The growing variety of possible helical actors:** Hybrid features exist not only in intermediary organizations that drive innovation partnerships but also in the original Triple Helix partners (TH actors assuming partially the role of the other is often a signal of successful helical processes). However, such hybrid features develop more and more assuming a variety of forms and being driven by different factors that need to be better understood.
- **The relations between innovation partnerships and local and regional development:** They need a better understanding within the context of multi-level local-global institutional frames and flows of material resources and knowledge.
- **Large-scale empirical analyses, comparisons, and evaluations** of helical processes of innovation: They represent another important focus of new contributions, drawing also on epistemological areas like information theory, communication theory, and semantics. In this context, it would be interesting to receive papers on large-scale comparisons within and between the Global North and the Global South.
- **The global disruption** introduced by Russia's invasion of Ukraine: It calls for deepened reflections on the foundations, goals, and impacts of quadruple and quintuple helical processes with respect to responsible innovation, democratic knowledge, peace-based multi-lateral relations, and social progress.

Submission process and deadlines:

Please, note that this Call is restricted to registered participants who have presented their works in one of the sessions of the XX Triple Helix Conference, held in Florence on 27-29 June 2022.

Within such a set, the authors who submitted a full paper at the Conference THA Awards have the possibility to be offered a fast track, if they submit a (possibly amended) version of the same paper through the Journal's special online submission system **until the cut-off date of 18th of August 2022**. First decisions on papers on the fast track are expected to be made within 40 calendar days following submission. The final version of the papers that will complete positively the reviewing process can be edited and released as advance articles on the THJ website before their publication in the Special Issue.

Alternatively, the same authors as above, or those who, while presenting at the Conference, have not sent a full paper for the THA Awards, can submit a long abstract (a minimum of 1500 words and a maximum of 3000 words; figures, tables, and images are not included in the word count) that focusses on what has been presented during the Conference, by writing to the Guest Editors (see email addresses below) **until the cut-off date of the 18th of August 2022**. When doing so, please include in the Subject of your email message the phrase 'Triple Helix Conference 2022 – Long abstract submission'. The Guest Editors will inform the author/s within 20 calendar days if the project of the paper fits the Special Issue, and in that case, the author/s can proceed with submitting the full paper through the Journal's special online submission system **until the cut-off date of 18th of November 2022** and thus enter the reviewing process.

Finally, THJ is an Open Access Journal. The APC fee upon publication stands currently at EUR 380. There is a possibility that this fee will be waived. The THJ Guest Editors will inform you immediately if such a possibility arises.

Information about submission rules can be found at <https://brill.com/view/journals/thj/thj-overview.xml?contents=artsub>

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