Special Session (SS18) on:

Social and Regional Embeddedness of Entrepreneurship

Organizers:

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The aim and scope:

In theory and in recent empirical literature, it has been argued that entrepreneurship has significant socio-spatial and institutional embeddedness (Polanyi 1994; Granovetter 1985; Oinas 1995; Dacin, Ventresca, and Beal 1999; Thornton 1999). In capitalist societies, the entrepreneurial activities define the geographies of development and therefore we cannot understand regional development without entrepreneurs - the key economic actors who affect the development of regions (Oinas 1995a). The regional social, cultural and other contexts play important roles in shaping the entrepreneurship and as such economic events become contextual, that is they become “embedded in spatial structures of social relations” (Martin 1994:287). It is argued, “business organizations are [..] 'produced' through a complex historical process of embedding which involves an interaction between the specific cognitive, cultural, social, political and economic characteristics of a firm's 'home territory’.” (Digken and Thrift 1992: 287). The concept of embeddedness has been used to understand the entrepreneurship/firm and geographic and social environment relationships. It has been employed to explain the importance of context (Welter 2011; Welter, Baker, and Wirsching 2019). This perspective helps us in better understanding of location of entrepreneurs/firms, their differential growth and sizes and their typologies. However, precise nature of entrepreneurs-environment relations has received little attention (Taylor 1984, 1995; Oinas 1995 a; 1995b). The studies on entrepreneurs/firm-region relationship still remain in embryonic stage. Although, the role of firms in regional development are well-highlighted (Barkley and McNamara 1994; Phelps 1993; Young, Hood and Peters 1994), the emphasis has largely been one-sided, that is causality from entrepreneurship/firms to regional development rather than how regions are causing growth and development of entrepreneurship/firms. Entrepreneurship/firms derive not only resources but also institutional advantages from their regions and as such regions and entrepreneurship/firms reinforce each other (Scott and Meyer 1992; Oinas 1995b).

In the above context, the present session invites papers focusing on,

- Social, spatial, and institutional embeddedness and dis-embeddedness of entrepreneurship
- Agency-structure problems in entrepreneurship
Emerging perspectives and methodologies to uncover embeddedness of entrepreneurship
Simultaneous embeddedness in multiple forms of context
Entrepreneurship and regional development

Abstract
The abstract submission deadline for the session can be 23 February 2020. The abstract can be submitted to shaban@tiss.edu/ philippe.cadene@univ-paris-diderot.fr

Registration
The usual process of registration as specified by RSAI for the 13th World Congress will apply. The registration charges will be directly paid to the organisers (RSAI) by the participants.