

13th European Conference on Management Leadership and Governance

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Mini Track on Co-operative Societies

Mini Track Chair: Professor Anu Puusa, University of Eastern Finland



A co-operative is an established form of business that globally plays an unquestionable role in contributing to resilient employment, a more sustainable economy and the well-being of people. However, more research is required in order to increase understanding regarding the unique characteristics of this business model. In addition, as people, values and operational environments change, co-operatives also restructure themselves making the reappraisal of co-operative theory topical.

The aim of this track is to bring together researchers, students and practitioners interested in different types of co-operative enterprises and co-operative ideology, their mission and purpose, the complex logic in manifesting the cooperative values via its established principles, the dual nature of co-operatives and the unique features of managing a co-operative. The combining theme is the unique identity of co-operatives and their significance that goes well beyond economic factors.

We wish to refrain from (at least partially) following the logic of neoclassical theories that approaches theorization of co-operatives so that the cooperative movement as well as co-operative businesses have been given a status of being abstractions separate from the socioeconomic and historical context in which they exist.

Suggested topics include but are not limited to:

- The cooperative difference: The dual purpose
- Co-operative management and leadership
- Participation, commitment and a sense of ownership in a co-operative context
- New generation cooperatives and employment creation
- The awareness and knowledge of co-operatives
- Co-operative value chains and multi-owners
- Co-operatives and gender equality
- Understanding the various forms of co-operatives: Producer, service, worker, and/or consumer co-operatives.



Anu Puusa is a Professor working at the Business School in the University of Eastern Finland in Joensuu campus. Her current research interest areas are cooperatives, organizational change, organizational identity, Organization citizenship behavior, paradigms and qualitative methodological questions. Puusa has published numerous journal articles and written four textbooks.

Submission details

In the first instance a 300-500 word abstract is required, to be received by **22nd May 2017**.

Submissions must be made using the online submission form at <http://www.academic-conferences.org/conferences/ecmlg/ecmlg-call-for-papers/>

If you have any questions about this track please email: anu.puusa@uef.fi

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