



30th Annual Conference of the  
European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy (EAEPE) on  
“Evolutionary foundations at a crossroad:  
Assessments, outcomes and implications for policy makers”  
6th–8th of September 2018,  
at the University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France

*Call for Papers for the Special Session on*

**FinTechs on the rise:  
New technologies, new policies and alternative economic perspectives'**

organized by of the EAEPE Research Areas on 'Economic Sociology' and  
'Monetary Economics, Finance and Financial Institutions'

New financial technologies provide unique site in which to study how information processing alters the parameters of economic relations - and, as a result, the interaction dynamics of market situations more specifically. Already in the 1980s, efforts at improving the efficiency of financial markets by automation and computerization expanded not only the scope and speed of trading. It also laid the foundations for integrating advanced technologies such as machine-learning and artificial intelligence. In this way, new economic knowledge about the world is produced.

This panel combines perspectives on recent regulatory and technological innovation in the field of finance with the goal to formulate non-mainstream policy ideas to govern the new normal of finance. In line with the theme of this year's conference we ask how alternative socio-economic perspectives can contribute to the formulation of policy ideas in the new context of advanced information technology and rapidly changing business environments. Thus, we want to connect socio-economic perspectives on technological innovations like blockchain technologies, the use of artificial intelligence and big data with concrete policy challenges. In the end, technological innovation and its associated disruptive forces also pose questions with respect to distributional effects and thus the normative basis of such progression.

Hence, this special session addresses rapid changes in a vast variety of financial environments – it is high time to question some of the taken for granted benefits of technological advancements and to complement mainstream demands for neutrally framed data provision or transparency concerns. We invite to contribute to this special session along (but by no means limited to) the following questions:

- How do financial institutions make use of technological innovations?
- How do new technologies affect the regulatory tool box and the financial system?
- How does technological innovation change the methods for analysing the financial system?

For further questions relating to the special session please write to Benjamin Wilhelm ([benjamin.wilhelm@uni-erfurt.de](mailto:benjamin.wilhelm@uni-erfurt.de)) or Ismail Ertürk ([ismail.erturk@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:ismail.erturk@manchester.ac.uk)). After login, abstracts of about 300–750 words can be submitted in via the EAEPE homepage (<http://eaepe.org>) until **31 March 2018** by selecting the title of this special session as your theme.