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Revista Española de Sociología

Call for papers

SPECIAL ISSUE
SPANISH JOURNAL OF SOCIOLOGY

SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ON INNOVATION

Call for Papers

Guest editors

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Background

Innovation is a social process that involves the transformation of knowledge into value and its effects for economic development, efficiency or social welfare. The usual approaches to innovation constantly refer to the importance of the social environment, as well as to the role of sociological factors in the origin, use and diffusion of innovations.

Frequently, the importance of institutions, culture, social capital or social networks in the processes of innovation are stressed. However, in rare occasions the specificities of the sociological approach are made explicit in the multidisciplinary field of social studies on innovation. The multiplicity of disciplines and approaches that are used to analyse innovation give rise to a considerable dispersion in the definition and use of analytical concepts that already have a long tradition and a high degree of consensus in sociology.

The use of the contributions and systematic analysis of sociology can help to enrich the multidisciplinary field of social studies on innovation. The contributions of the special issue are aimed at highlighting the capacity of sociology to provide a theoretical and empirical basis for understanding the contexts, processes and effects of innovation activities at various levels of societal analysis. This issue critically examines the theoretical assumptions of the field of social studies on innovation and places the relevant research within the sociological canon as a complementary perspective that can enrich this essentially multidisciplinary field.



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Aims and scope of the Special Issue

The aim of this issue is to gather recent contributions from the sociology of innovation. The contributions will address both theoretical aspects and empirical results of recent work. It also seeks to advance the configuration of a research agenda of the sociology of innovation and to participate in the multidisciplinary discussion of this field of studies, highlighting the usefulness of the sociological perspective to analyse complex processes such as innovation.

To this end, the Special Issue accepts works that analyse mainly some of the following issues:

- Analytical discussions or theoretical proposals of following concepts: social capital, institutions and social networks applied to innovation studies, along with other concepts of sociology as social structure and culture in relation to innovation.
- Empirical work of a qualitative or quantitative nature at the level of innovation systems of a national, regional or sectoral character, carried out from some perspective or framework of analysis framed in sociology.
- Qualitative or quantitative empirical studies that illustrate the usefulness of sociology to study processes of innovation at the macro, meso or micro level in questions such as:
 - university-business relations
 - the role of social networks
 - the culture of innovation in firms
 - collaboration in the economy and organization
 - dissemination of innovation
 - social innovation, innovation in the public sector
 - innovation processes in industry, firms

Key words

Sociology of innovation; Culture of innovation; Institutions; social capital; Innovation systems.

Languages:

The special issue accepts papers both in English and Spanish. (The RES journal publishes bilingual versions of papers when the translation is provided by the author after the evaluation process).

Authors guidelines

People interested in contributing to this Special Issue are invited to consult the publication rules of the [Spanish Journal of Sociology](#) (Revista Española de Sociología).

Tentative timing

- Call for papers (abstract between 500-600 words) and key words: **until 15th of May 2017** to be sent to the guest editors (mvanoost@ull.edu.es y tgdelafe@ull.edu.es).
- Confirmation of acceptance to authors: 25th of May 2017
- Final text delivery: 1st of September 2017
- Revision by editors and reviewers: between September y October
- Estimated publication date: December 2017