



ISS2026 - Capitalism and Democracy: Paradigm Shifts and Creative Transformations

University of Strasbourg, France, July 1st - 4th, 2026

Profound changes are underway in environmental, economic, social, political, scientific and technological areas that are driving profound transformations of our societies in depth. These changes are questioning, and even challenging, both capitalism and democracy in their contemporary forms. While Joseph Schumpeter considered creative destruction to be the engine of progress, in 1947 he substituted or at least complemented 'destruction' with 'creative response'. Our scientific community urgently needs to contribute more to this creative response. Our hope is that the ISS 2026 conference will be an opportunity for scholars, policymakers, and practitioners with different methodological approaches, paradigm perspectives, and working interests to come together to focus on innovation and change related to issues of global sustainable development.

In the spirit of the Schumpeter Society, papers submitted to the 2026 Schumpeter Society Conference can address a broad range of topics. The theme of the conference is intended to be broad and submissions dealing with evolutionary economics, innovation, technological revolution, growth and development, and other topics relevant to the scientific community of the ISS are all welcome. Transformation and related notions of novelty, emerging challenges, and socio-economic change can be analyzed in different ways, perspectives and theoretical traditions. For example, papers are welcome which analyze industrial sectors, market systems, public policies, technologies, socio-economic contexts, history, geographical spatiality, amongst others. Due to Schumpeter's interest in the individuals and organizations who are active in creative accumulation and creative destruction, papers are also welcome on the micro-level of actors and agents who are engaged in activities such as innovation, entrepreneurship, financing, R&D, and the creation of innovation ecosystems.

More specifically, the ISS 2026 wishes to encourage contribution on contemporary topics such as:

- Economic cycles and dynamics
- Institutions, policies, and historical trajectories
- Knowledge, creativity, and methods
- Schumpeterian legacies, honoring Dick Nelson, Stan Metcalfe, and Frederic M. Scherer.

Invited Sessions:

ISS 2026 is also an opportunity to welcome specific projects in the form of "invited sessions". Among the sessions we already have:

- The Creative Destruction of Public Debt Sustainability (Amélie Barbier-Gauchard)
- Gender Issues in entrepreneurship (Charlotte Le Chapelain)
- Beyond industrial policy - towards value added policies (Christian Lerch)
- Accelerating Net-zero Transitions: Dimensions, Interventions and Tensions (Karoline Rogge)

- Nicolas Georgescu-Roegen and the 'Universitas Schumpeteriana' (Patrick Llerena)
- Innovation as Practice (Thierry Burger-Helmchen)
- Power in the Age of AI : Data, Innovation, and Inequality (Ingrid Ott)
- Departing to Post-Schumpeterian Economics (Andreas Pyka, Horst Hanusch)
- Open User Innovation and Industrial Dynamics (Isabel Almundi)
- Transformative Innovation Policy - Previous developments and challenges (Uwe Cantner)

Call for Papers - Paper Sessions:

The ISS 2026 conference focuses upon extended abstracts and subsequent presentations at the conference, to promote scholarly discussions in our field. The corresponding author should upload an extended abstract in English not exceeding 1000 words (or full paper), including the names, titles and affiliations for all authors in PDF format. Submissions should be made through the website no later than midnight **1st February 2026**, CET:

<https://iss2026.sciencesconf.org>

Paper sessions will be organized around 15-20 minutes for presentations, followed by discussion.

Scholars may be co-authors on multiple papers, and any co-author can present. However, each conference participant may only present one paper in paper sessions. When you register and pay conference fees in Spring 2026, you will be prompted to provide the number of the paper that you will present.

Following the tradition, selected papers presented at the ISS 2026 conference will be published in a special issue of the Journal of Evolutionary Economics (official journal of the ISS), as well as in edited volumes published by the Springer Press and/or the Cambridge University Press.

PhD Workshops, Posters & Best Young Researcher Paper Prize:

PhD students can submit their abstracts, to be evaluated for inclusion in PhD Workshop, poster sessions or Young researcher prize. These events, during the conference. These events include 1) the small-scale workshops on July 1st as well as 2) your poster sessions on July 2d to 4th, 2026.

The PhD student events are intended for all abstracts involving a PhD student, as the presenting author. Hence, the abstracts submitted by the PhD student as the presenting author can either be authored individually or jointly with any researcher, such as a supervisor.

Participating in these events offers PhD students the opportunity to meet peers as well as established researchers in the ISS community.

In addition, a "Best young researcher paper prize" will be awarded, thanks to the generous donation of the Pr. Horst Hanusch. PhD candidates and early-career researchers (within one year of PhD defense) are invited to submit a paper to the PhD and Young Researcher Workshop, which will take place on July 1, 2026, part of the ISS Conference.

More information can be found here: <https://iss2026.sciencesconf.org>

Schumpeter Prizes:

The International Joseph A. Schumpeter Society (ISS) will organize the 2026 Schumpeter Prize Competition, to be held in conjunction with the 21st International Schumpeter Society Conference in Strasbourg, France, hosted by BETA (Bureau d'Économie Théorique et Appliquée).

For 2026, the prize will recognize contributions in two categories:

1. Books (monographs)
2. Articles published in recognized scientific journals

Eligible works must have been first published (including online publication) or remain unpublished after June 1, 2024.

Deadline : March 2d, 2026

Key Dates:

Nov. 15th, 2025: Submission of extended abstracts opens

Feb 1st, 2026: Deadline for Submission of Extended abstracts

April 2026: Notification of acceptance/rejection decision to authors

April 30th, 2026: Deadline for authors to register & pay fees for conference (Otherwise paper/poster will be automatically removed from program)

April 30th, 2026: End of early birds conference fee

May 31st, 2026: End of registration

Conference Dates: July 1-4, 2026, Strasbourg, France

The International Joseph A. Schumpeter Society looks forward to its 21st biennial conference – ISS2026 – in Strasbourg, France.

All the details about the ISS2026 can be found here: <https://iss2026.sciencesconf.org>

More information about the Society can be found here: <https://iass.de>.



La Fondation de l'Université et des Hôpitaux Universitaires de Strasbourg