Guidelines and Criteria for the Submission of Short Papers at EGOS Colloquia

Short papers should focus on the main ideas of the later full paper, i.e. they should explain the purpose of the paper, theoretical background, the research gap that is addressed, the approach taken, the methods of analysis (in empirical papers), main findings and contributions. In addition, it is useful to indicate clearly how the paper links with the sub-theme and the overall theme of the Colloquium, although not all papers need to focus on the overall theme. Creativity, innovativeness, theoretical grounding and critical thinking are typical characteristics of EGOS papers.

Your short paper should comprise **around 3,000 words** (inc. references, appendices, and other material).

Submission deadline for short papers for the (main) 42nd EGOS online Colloquium hosted by the University of Bergamo, July 9–11, 2026:

- Tuesday, January 7, 2026, **12:00 CET**

The deadline is unchangeable and therefore **extensions can not be granted**!

Formatting your short paper

Your short paper should comprise **around 3,000 words**, according to the following format:

- Font: 12 pt, Arial or Times New Roman

- Margin left/right: 2.5 cm

- Line spacing: 1.5

- Use APA style for your citations

Do not use capital letters in your paper's title, unless they are proper nouns (e.g. "London", "Thomas"), quoted titles, or if it is the first word after a colon or hyphen. For example: *Mark Twain's "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn": Summary, analyses, and quotations.* Do not write your title in ALL CAPS.

Please **state your name** (and that of your co-author/s, if applicable) + affiliation + email at the top of your short paper (because no [single/double blind] peer review).

Short papers should be submitted as a **pdf or docx file**. Please do not upload txt files!

Steps prior to uploading your short paper

- To upload a short paper, you must be a **registered user** on the EGOS website.

  If you have never been an EGOS member, never uploaded a short paper for one of the previous EGOS Colloquia, or never attended an EGOS Colloquium before, you need to **register on the EGOS website**. Click here and follow the instructions. Once you have an EGOS member number and password, please **log in to the member area** "MyEGOS" and follow the instructions for uploading your short paper listed below.

- If you are an active (or former) EGOS member, **log in to "MyEGOS"** using your email [or your EGOS member number] and your password.

Uploading your short paper

You can **only upload one short paper** with your EGOS member number! If your short paper is co-authored and you have already submitted a (single-authored) short paper to another sub-theme, then your co-author (one of your co-authors, respectively) has to upload this co-authored short paper by using their EGOS member number. Please note: You may only appear as **co-author in a maximum of TWO further short papers**!

- In the MyEGOS section of the website, click on **Submit your short paper**.

- Fill in the form.

  Do not use ALL CAPS for your paper title.

  As the uploader, you are the main author. Add all co-authors (can also be added when submitting your full paper).

  Upload your paper as pdf or docx.

- If you want to re-upload you short paper because you submitted it to the wrong sub-theme or have an updated version, you can do so until the deadline:

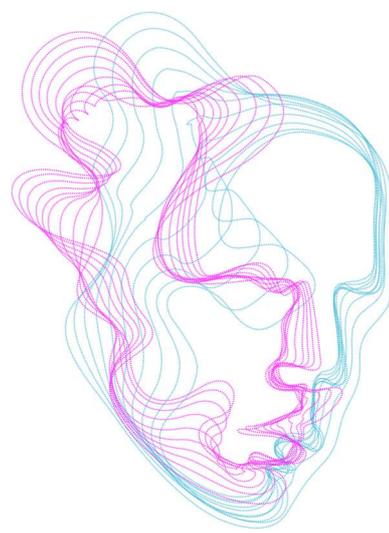 In MyEGOS, you will see Status: Edit your short paper

  Click delete your short paper application.

  Submit your short paper again.

If you have any further questions, please contact the EGOS Executive Secretariat.

Sub-theme 09: [SWG] Organizing as Practice: The Changing Role of Materiality in Organizational Life

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Call for Papers

The idea that organizational phenomena emerge from and transpire through a nexus of practices and activities is central to a modern practical theoretical sensitivity and is fundamentally linked to the notion that various materials play a crucial role in this process (Carlile et al., 2013; Hui, Schatzki, & Shove, 2017; Leonardi et al., 2012; Engeström, 1987; Orlikowski, 2007; Schatzki, 2005, 2006; de Vaujany & Mitev, 2013). Scholars adopting a practice-theoretical perspective align with several related approaches in social science and human studies that advocate for the inclusion of objects, non-human actants, and materiality in theoretical discussions of social and organizational phenomena.

The renewed interest in the relationship between people, artefacts, and materials, which goes back to the work of the Tavistock Institute (Monteiro et al., 2025; Trist & Bamforth, 1951) have informed a broad variety of studies including work on boundary objects (Carlile, 2002), infrastructure (Star, 1999; Shove & Trentmann, 2018), the materiality of strategizing (Lê & Spee, 2016), the material consequences of technology for work (Leonardi, 2010; Beane & Orlikowski, 2015), the role of artifacts in routines (D'Adderio, 2021), the agentic function of

media as materializing interorganizational collaborations (Berglez & Hedenmo, 2025), and the dis-embodiment of financial instruments through time-space compression (Bansal & Knox-Hayes, 2013), among many others.

While a lot has been learned, new contemporary material phenomena, artifacts, and technologies, along with their associated organizing forms, present significant theoretical, methodological, and empirical challenges for practice-theoretical studies of organizing (D'Adderio, 2021). For example, further research is needed to examine the material aspects of digitalization, of which the integration of AI and large language models is just the latest example. Digitalization can lead to profound shifts in work practices and occupations, but it also impacts core institutional values, norms, and rules, indirectly reshaping how organizations and industries operate (Orlikowski & Scott, 2023). The climate crisis and growing ecological awareness compel us to explore new emerging objectual practices—such as repair and reuse (Jarzabkowski & Pinch, 2013)—and the forms of sociality that emerge around them. Similarly, additional work is required to investigate the social life and biography of objects and practices, and how their connections and disconnections influence current politics and the planet's future. The devastating effects of human centrism further encourage us to rethink the relationship between the social and the material from a non-human-centered perspective, which remains dominant in traditional Management and Organizational Studies.

Moreover, these developments challenge the effectiveness and credibility of traditional methodological tools for studying practices, which were mostly developed in the 20th century to examine analog and face-to-face forms of sociality that are increasingly in retreat.

This sub-theme invites contributions that explore different approaches to the material dimension of organizational life understood in practice theoretical terms. It aims to foster robust discussions on how practice-based studies from across different traditions (including, for example, "as practice" approaches such as strategy-as-practice, Bourdieu's praxeology, sociomateriality, micro ethnography, ethnomethodology, phenomenology, and routine studies) might advance our understanding of the material dimension of organizing in the context of emerging new phenomena and evolving organizational realities.

The unifying framework of the sub-theme is the shared use of practice theories broadly conceived, which provide a common ontology and language for dialogue, critique, and mutual learning. We welcome empirical, methodological, and conceptual papers. Additionally, we encourage submissions that critically engage with the ethical positionality of their studies (Ezzamel & Willmott, 2014). Submissions may address, but are not limited to, the following questions:

- How do emerging digital technologies reconfigure the material foundations of organizational practices and routines?

- How is generative AI used in organizations? How can this use be conceptualised in practice theoretical terms

- In what ways do digital technologies, objects, or artefacts affect the spatio-temporal arrangement of practices in organizations?

- How do contemporary ecological practices—such as repair, reuse, and circular production—generate new forms of sociality and organizing around material sustainability? How can we foster their diffusion?

- What are the methodological challenges of studying digital, hybrid, or post-human practices using research tools originally designed for analog and face-to-face contexts?

- How do the biographies and social lives of objects influence organizational continuity, transformation, and the politics of production and consumption?

- What would a genuinely non-human-centred approach to organizing look like, and how might it challenge established assumptions in Management and Organizational Studies?

- How do artifacts, technologies, and material infrastructures mediate collaboration, boundary-spanning, and power relations across organizations and industries?

- How are recent technological innovations shaping organizational strategizing?

- How do practices and routines stabilize the material and infrastructural connections that matter for an organization's work?

- What methodological innovations are needed to better capture the evolving materiality of organizing practices in practice-based research?

We look forward to submissions that advance understandings of these topics and contribute to the development of a vibrant and interdisciplinary dialogue on the material dimensions of organizational life in practice theoretical terms.

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