

Call for papers for a Special Issue “Gender approaches of Social Economy and State-Owned Enterprises”

Edited by Prof. Juan Fernando Álvarez, Pontificia Javeriana University, Prof. Marie Bouchard, University of Quebec in Montreal, Prof. Dorothea Greiling, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Prof. Carmen Marcuello, Zaragoza University



Themes and contents of the special issue

Growing inequality, precarious working conditions, the climate crisis, the loss of democratic capacity and the increase in territorial violence are some of the major global challenges of our time. In many cases, women and gender minorities are at the heart of these issues, both as victims but also as promoters of alternatives to curb the risks involved. The social economy and state-owned enterprises share a social and public mission to transform the economy, its methods and its outcomes, so that it serves sustainability and improves the well-being and empowerment of people, communities and territories in the economy. What roles do women and gender minorities play in the orientation, governance and management of such organizations? Following feminist economics, how do these enterprises “challenge the gendered frameworks of economic theories and generate knowledge for a more just and sustainable world, while bringing broader transdisciplinary visions” (Bergeron, 2023, p.37). There are many similarities between feminist economics and the practice and theory of social economy and state-owned enterprises (Baruah, 2023; ILO, 2010 and 2015l, OECD, 2023; Pavlovic et al. 2023). However, there are still many challenges to be faced as shown by Bastia et al. (2022), Guerin et al (2021), Hillenkamp and Dos Santos (2019) and Lesnikov et al. (2023).

We propose a special issue that focuses on social economy and state-owned enterprises, identifying the spaces, challenges and opportunities these organizations share from a gender perspective. We believe that in order to provide evidence and knowledge based on both quantitative and qualitative techniques, analyses from different disciplines such as economics, sociology, law or history are necessary. We propose the following areas of research:

- Deepening the articulation between social economy and feminist economics, identifying the factors limiting gender equality in social economy from a multidisciplinary perspective in the search for transformative and cross-cutting practices beyond the gender system.
- Analyzing the challenges for social economy organisations in the area of gender inequality, including vertical and horizontal segregation, pay gaps and other relevant issues. The aim is not just to quantify these concepts, but also to understand in detail what the key factors are that promote or hinder effective equality within these organizations. Identifying the levers that can help or hinder the achievement of gender equality in SSE is therefore a priority.

- Measuring the impact of policies and practices introduced to reduce inequalities. The definition of critical indicators and the measurement of their evolution over time, based on a longitudinal approach, will make it possible to demonstrate the progress that making in favour of gender equality and to identify and understand the key elements that have a greater impact on this evolution.
- Addressing success factors and failures of female representations in the governing bodies of public enterprises on all government levels (national, regional and municipal enterprises).
- Analyzing and evaluating the approaches of “doing gender” in the light of public sector’s commitments towards the Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs), the OECD Principles for gender diverse boards of state-owned enterprises and national regulatory frameworks for promoting the democratic principle of gender equality.
- Taking stock of how gender issues are addressed in SDG-reporting, sustainability reporting as well as the gender-related management practices of state-owned enterprises in OECD-countries and non-OECD countries.

References:

- Baruah, B. (2023). Gender Equality and Empowerment in the Social and Solidarity Economy. Encyclopedia of the Social and Solidarity Economy. Edward Elgar Publishing Limited in partnership with United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE).
- Bastida, M., Oliveira, A., & Vazquez Tain, M. A. (2022). Are cooperatives gender sensitive? A confirmatory and predictive analysis of women's collective entrepreneurship. *Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics*. DOI: 10.1111/apce.12405
- Bergeron, S., (2023): “Feminist economics and the social and solidarity economy” en Yi, I. (Ed.): *Encyclopedia of the Social and Solidarity Economy: A Collective Work of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on SSE (UNTFSSSE)*. Edward Elgar Publishing. (pp. 37–43) <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781803920924.00017>
- Guérin, I., Hillenkamp, I., & Verschuur, C. (2021). Solidarity Economy Under a Feminist Lens: A Critical and Possibilist Analysis. In C. Verschuur, I. Guérin & I. Hillenkamp (Eds.), *Social Reproduction, Solidarity Economy, Feminisms and Democracy: Latin America and India* (pp. 31-63). Springer International Publishing. 10.1007/978-3-030-71531-1_3
- Hillenkamp, I., & Dos Santos, L. L. (2019). The domestic domain within a post-colonial, feminist reading of social enterprise: towards a substantive, gender-based concept of solidarity enterprise. *Theory of social enterprise and pluralism: Social Movements, Solidarity Economy, and Global South* (pp. 90-115). Routledge Publisher.
- ILO (2015). Advancing gender equality the co-operative way, International Labour Office, Enterprises Department, Geneva, retrieved from https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/---emp_ent/---coop/documents/publication/wcms_379095.pdf [access date: 10.06.2021]
- ILO Bureau for Gender Equality (2010): *Gender Mainstreaming in Local Economic Development Strategies*

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/---emp_ent/---led/documents/publication/wcms_141223.pdf

OECD. (2023). Beyond pink-collar jobs for women and the social economy. OECD Local Economic and Employment Development (LEED) Papers.

Pavlovic, V., Knezevic, G., & Bojicic, R. (2023). Do the Profitability, the Volume of Assets, and Equity of Public Enterprises Have Any Role in Local Authorities' Gender and Age Policy?—A Case Study of Belgrade. *Economic Studies journal*, (2), 172-191.

Lesnikov, P., Kunz, N. C., & Harris, L. M. (2023). Gender and sustainability reporting—Critical analysis of gender approaches in mining. *Resources Policy*, 81, 103273.

Practical instructions: submission and deadline

All papers should be submitted through the Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics online platform (mc.manuscriptcentral.com/apce). Some papers considered for the Special Issue have been presented at the Gender and Social Economy Working Group (WG) organized by CIRIEC International. All papers, either presented at the WG or directly submitted to the journal, will be subject to anonymous peer review in line with APCE guidelines for submission.

The deadline for all submissions for the Special Issue is **April 1st, 2024**.

For additional information please contact: Dorothea.Greiling@jku.at, cmarcue@unizar.es