

## Call for papers

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# Call for papers

## L'INNOVAZIONE ORGANIZZATIVA NELLE IMPRESE MANIFATTURIERE PRIMA E DURANTE LA GRANDE RECESSIONE

**Associate Editors:** Alessandro Arrighetti e Fabio Landini, Università degli Studi di Parma.

**Permanent Call:** nessuna scadenza per l'invio dei paper.

L'innovazione organizzativa rappresentata un terreno ampio di riflessione che è stato finora non sufficientemente esplorato. Nonostante alcuni lavori abbiamo messo in evidenza come l'innovazione organizzativa sia complementare a quella tecnologica (Lam e Lundvall 2006; Schmitd e Rammer 2007) e che fornisca un contributo rilevante all'aumento dell'efficienza e alle performance delle imprese (Polder *et al.* 2010; Konings e Vanormelingen 2015) gli studi su questo tema, soprattutto per Italia, non sono numerosi<sup>1</sup>. Se poi si estende il tema fino a comprendere non solo le pratiche associate al processo decisionale interno all'impresa e alla gestione tecnica del processo produttivo, ma anche le innovazioni nella gestione del personale, il mutamento nelle relazioni con i fornitori e le politiche di marketing e di rapporto con i consumatori le conoscenze disponibili sono ancora più ridotte e tutt'altro che conclusive. L'adozione del terzo manuale sull'innovazione (Oslo 2005) ha reso possibile una almeno parziale convergenza i carattere metodologico che ha incentivato la raccolta sistematica di informazioni sul tema<sup>2</sup>. Da qualche anno disponiamo, quindi, di informazioni che ci permettono di misurare il fenomeno almeno nei suoi aspetti fondamentali,

<sup>1</sup> Fra gli altri Leoni (2008); Bisio *et al.* (2017); Damiani e Ricci (2010); Romano (2018); Bartoloni e Baussola (2016); Capriate e Divella (2017); Evangelista e Vezzani (2010).

<sup>2</sup> Per l'Italia i riferimenti sono: a) Istat, Censimento dell'industria e dei servizi, 2011; b) Istat, Rilevazione statistica sull'innovazione delle imprese, anni 2010-2011.

di esplorare i nessi tra innovazione organizzativa e le diverse componenti del cambiamento nell'impresa e infine di cominciare a valutare come la recessione abbia influenzato la composizione e la diffusione delle pratiche di innovazione organizzativa.

Sulla base di queste riflessioni si promuove una Call che incoraggi proposte di pubblicazione che, a titolo di esempio, si concentrino sui seguenti segmenti di analisi:

- gli antecedenti dell'adozione di innovazioni organizzative;
- il ruolo delle complementarità tra le diverse componenti dell'innovazione organizzativa;
- l'innovazione organizzativa e l'impatto sulla formazione del personale;
- l'innovazione organizzativa e le relazioni di scambio dell'impresa verso l'esterno
- l'innovazione organizzativa e le performance di impresa.

Tutti i paper saranno sottoposti a valutazione finale attraverso le consuete procedure di peer-review.

Gli autori devono inviare i paper a l'industria utilizzando la seguente piattaforma:

<https://submission.rivisteweb.it/index.php/ind/about/submissions>

## THE WEALTH OF THE NATIONS: PRODUCTION DYNAMICS AND MANUFACTURING CHANGE

**Guest Editors:** Patrizio Bianchi (Università di Ferrara and Regione Emilia Romagna), Roberto Scazzieri (University of Bologna and University of Cambridge).

**Permanent Call:** no deadline for submission.

The linkage between production and the wealth of nations is a long-standing theme for economic analysis and economic policy. Indeed, the productive effectiveness of a national economy is often explained in terms of manufacturing effectiveness, as it is in the latter field that increasing returns are most likely. The deep ongoing restructuring of productive organizations worldwide is a call to the renewed urgency of the theory and policy of production as the ultimate origin of national wealth. The structural theory of production calls attention to the critical role of interrelatedness within and across production processes and highlights the areas in which complementarities between processes turn the search for competitive advantage into a positive-sum game. In fact, as noted by Charles Babbage, the division into

*and* interdependence between specialized processes is at the root of increasing returns in manufacturing. Babbage's principles highlight that advantage in production is inherently cooperative due to the proportionality condition between specialized and interdependent processes.

The implications of this point of view are far reaching as it highlights the existence of distinct coordination arrangements for different clusters of processes and the need for production-based policy rules derived from the proportionality conditions for the effective coordination of specialized processes.

More specifically, we invite research contributions on the following thematic areas:

- how different patterns of interrelatedness between production processes require different modes of coordination and different policy tools;
- how patterns of interrelatedness and corresponding policy tools may change when switching from units of analysis at a given level to a level of analysis at a different level (say, from regional to national, from national to cross-national level);
- the role of catalysts (key activities) in production networks based on specialization and interdependence;
- the relationship between economies of scale and economies of scope under conditions of manufacturing change (scale, scope and industrial revolutions);
- the role of liquidity policy under conditions of asymmetric distribution of liquidity needs across processes;
- the relationship between trade policy and production policy when the coordination needs of production networks are highlighted;
- the political economy of nation states in a world of asymmetrically interdependent processes.

Potentially Interested authors are encouraged to submit an abstract of 2 or 3 pages outlining the proposed manuscript **to the contact Guest Editor rs292@cam.ac.uk**

If invited to proceed with a full manuscript, submissions of the final paper must be submitted at the following link:

<https://submission.rivisteweb.it/index.php/ind/about/submissions>

Submissions will be all peer-reviewed.

## INDUSTRIAL POLICY: LEARNING FROM INTERNATIONAL PRACTICES

**Associate Editors:** Marco R. Di Tommaso (Università degli Studi di Ferrara and c.MET05) and Elisa Barbieri (Università degli Studi di Venezia Ca' Foscari and c.MET05).

**Permanent Call:** no deadline for submission.

One decade ago, the wake of the crisis called for real policy actions in the real economy. In this setting, despite the neo-liberal rhetoric of austerity, typically against any kind of government interference, many countries have witnessed about ten years of vigorous industrial policy practices. In the US and in the strongest European industrialised economies, governments decided to intervene with industrial policy plans. Such plans had very ambitious goals: to stimulate the whole economy, protect domestic industries, sustain national employment, drive structural adjustments, promote competitiveness and innovation. The same happened in China, Japan, South Korea and many other countries around the world. While in some circumstances and in some countries a few of these interventions might have had an impact on growth, this does not appear to be always the case. And even if we assumed that growth has occurred in some cases, this would not be enough for industrial policies to be considered best practices.

With this call, we want to stimulate contributors able to tell the «true story» about the relation between government interventions, industry and development in different countries in the crisis and post-crisis scenario. To this aim, we need to collect detailed analyses of government policies and interventions in different countries and regions. Such kind of studies has remained at the margin of most of the scientific debate of the last ten years. This should not be surprising, given the generalized tendency of mainstream neo-liberalist theories to warn against any active role for governments in the field of industry and development.

In this call, we wish to stress that from our perspective industrial policy is not just about managing economic and industrial development or structural adjustment, but it can be conceived as a powerful tool to promote social change. On the other hand, industrial policy can also be used as an effective instrument to maintain the social and political status quo. In this perspective, what are the best and the worst industrial policy practices? And above all, for whom are they «best» or «worst»? Which interests industrial policies have really served – in terms of territories, industries, generations, social groups, genders, classes, and etc.?

We welcome contributions aimed at analysing in detail industrial policy practices reporting experiences from all over the world. We are interested in

national, supranational, or regional case studies. International comparative analyses are also very welcome. Papers can be of a theoretical or empirical nature and they can also be based on rigorous analyses of relevant case studies. In all of these cases Authors are expected to discuss the policy implications of their analyses.

All submissions will be peer-review.

Papers must be submitted at the following link:

<https://submission.rivisteweb.it/index.php/ind/about/submissions>

## THE STATE AND PROSPECTS OF REGULATION: THEORIES, EMPIRICS, POLICIES

**Associate Editors:** Nicola Matteucci, Marche Polytechnic University; Claudio De Vincenti, Sapienza University of Rome.

**Permanent call:** no deadline for submission.

In the last twenty years, the topic of the economic regulation of markets has greatly evolved, with new theoretical and empirical approaches; at the same time, regulatory experiences have broadened out, both extensively (in terms of new sectors) and intensively (involving new operations and segments of the value chain). In parallel, new sectoral authorities have been introduced, beside those created in the first phase of liberalisation (for most of the EU countries, the 90's). To date, almost all the sectors of natural monopoly and those providing services of general economic interest (including utilities) have been submitted to entry and competition regulation (both wholesale and retail), and to revised universal service obligations.

The received wisdom acknowledges that these experiences, when analysed in the medium term and put into perspective, show important achievements but also unsolved questions. Past and recent contributions dealing with political economy and behavioural regulation have even formulated radical proposals of reform of regulation, and its boundaries (responsive regulation, regulatory capitalism, the Regulatory State, nudge regulation, to mention the most discussed hypes). Taking into account the different schools and perspectives, time has come to carry out a critical systematisation of the field and survey the current regulatory models, in order to strengthen the positive results so far achieved, and to avoid the most negative instances of failure, featuring regulatory capture and the collapse of the agenda of the public intervention into the market. This permanent call for papers addresses theoretical and empirical aspects of the most recent models and experiences of economic regulation – including works that

survey the field and empirical contributions focusing on Italy. In detail, it calls for contributions which:

1) Systematise the knowledge acquired on a particular regulatory instrument (for eg. price cap), by analysing its theoretical or empirical evolution, or by evaluating its implementation performance with reference to a particular sector (for example, telecommunications, energy, water, transports, etc.).

2) Systematise and update the knowledge acquired on the regulatory experience of a particular sector. For example, by highlighting the evolution of the regulatory models used, of the market structure and of the indicators of regulatory performance; or by proposing frameworks and methodologies for the evaluation of the concerned authorities, according to the most recent scientific debate.

3) Analyse the interplay between the tasks of the sectoral regulator and the general competition scrutiny performed by the antitrust authority. The aim is to assess the potential synergy and overlapping between the two subjects, the effectiveness and efficiency of the current division of labour, and the prospective coherence between their distinct mandates.

4) Equally, the call welcomes papers that, being grounded on the latest scientific debate and regulatory experience, treat in a rigorous way the main regulatory dilemmas, and propose an *ex ante* analysis of the models of reform or other normative initiatives under discussion.

5) Last, papers addressing empirical evidence and topics sitting at the intersection of the fields of regulation, public policy and governance are also welcomed.

Interested authors are welcomed to submit a complete extended abstract (2-3 standard pages, including the paper title, the name, contact address and affiliation of the author/s, the key-words and JEL codes), detailing the nature of the analysis and the main issues tackled in the proposed paper, together with essential references. The abstract should be sent by mail attachment to Nicola Matteucci, at: n.matteucci at univpm.it. Upon acceptance of the abstract by the editors, submissions need to be made at the following link:

<https://submission.rivisteweb.it/index.php/ind/about/submissions>

All submissions will be peer-reviewed.

## INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY AND REGIONAL GOVERNANCE: IMPLICATIONS FOR GROWTH PATHS AND FIRMS' PERFORMANCE

**Associate Editors:** Annamaria Nifo, Università del Sannio; Laretta Rubini, Università di Ferrara.

**Permanent call:** no deadline for submission.

The aim of this call is to deepen the role of institutions in determining economic growth at a subnational level. With respect to the traditional approach emphasizing the relevance of the institutional context in shaping differences in the development performance across countries, here the focus is especially on regions.

As recently outlined for example by Rodríguez-Pose (2014), diversity in institutional endowment may be relevant even at the regional level, especially when spatial heterogeneity is large enough (Tabellini 2005). In addition, the recent devolution of economic policy and planning responsibilities at a regional level in the European Union regional policy framework has brought about increasing differences in regional governance, enhancing the likely overall impact of institutional factors on regional economies (Tabellini 2010; Lasagni *et al.* 2015).

The influence of institutions seems to be even more crucial for new entries in high-technology industries, where the co-evolution of economic, institutional and technological forces matters and shapes knowledge sharing processes, industrial dynamics and supporting structures. Indeed, entrepreneurship in high technology involves adequate individual capabilities in terms of human capital and propensity to innovation, but also a favorable context characterized by good institutions, positively conditioning the effectiveness of innovation investments, providing right incentives to the actors possibly involved, that is a coordinating structure of rules and constraints for firms, higher education institutes, public research centers, and other subjects (unions, central and local governments and so on) constituting the natural habitat fostering entrepreneurship in high-tech industry (Anokhin and Schulze 2009; Rodríguez-Pose and Crescenzi 2008; Rodríguez-Pose and Di Cataldo 2014).

Despite the relevance of the issue, to date most of the analyses on the effects of institutional factors remain at the national level (Hall and Jones 1999; La Porta *et al.* 1999; Rodrik *et al.* 2004), with the regional perspective being still too little investigated, with a few notable exceptions (Agostino *et al.* 2019; Álvarez *et al.* 2011, Werkerand and Athreye 2004; Arrighetti and Serravalli 1999; Dall'Aglio 1999; Barro and Sala-i-Martin 1995; Heliwell and Putnam 1995).

We invite research contributions on context specific factors affecting at the micro, meso and macro levels (Uyarra 2010) regional economic performance. Also, papers dealing which policy issues related to the connection between institutional elements and economic performance are welcome, as development strategies specifically tailored to the conditions of different regional institutional environments across regions may yield greater returns.

More specifically, we invite research contributions on the following thematic areas:



- Regional governance effectiveness and economic performance
- Regional governance effectiveness, migration and human capital accumulation
- Regional institutions and labor markets
- Politics, corruption in regional economy
- Rule of law, certainty of right, trial times, judicial productivity
- The relationship between institutional endowment and firms' types and behaviors
- Local institutional quality and firms' productivity and efficiency
- The role of historical patterns in the formation of institutional context
- Organized and conventional crime and the impact on the economy

Potentially interested authors are encouraged to submit an abstract of 2 or 3 pages outlining the main issues addressed in the proposed manuscript. Abstract should be sent electronically to the editors (Annamaria Nifo nifo@unisannio.it; Laretta Rubini rubini@unife.it). If invited to proceed with a full manuscript, the final paper must be submitted at the following link:

<https://submission.rivisteweb.it/index.php/ind/about/submissions>

Submissions will be peer-reviewed.

STRUCTURAL INDUSTRIAL POLICIES  
AND THE PATH OUT OF THE CRISIS.  
IS A NEW PARADIGM POSSIBLE FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION?

**Associate Editors:** Cesare Pozzi (Università degli Studi di Foggia) e Alessandro Sarra (Università degli Studi di G. D'Annunzio di Chieti e Pescara).

**Permanent Call:** no deadline for submission.

The structural dynamics of the most developed countries has long since been characterized by gradual downsizing of the manufacturing sector, in terms of both employment and value added, as well as by a generalized increase in the weight of the service sector. For many years the literature in the field of service economics considered this evolution as a typical feature of mature economies. It was perceived to be closely related to the diffusion of well-being among citizens and to the preservation of the competitive advantage against emerging countries in international markets, thanks to the integration of services into the production of high-quality, hightechnology tradable goods. The 2008 crisis, however, resulted in a steep intensification of this trend in the more fragile European economies. Such evidence triggered a broad debate on the role that the manufacturing sector plays in supporting

economic growth and generating welfare and on the risks associated with its decline.

The centrality of the manufacturing sector has been reaffirmed in a number of influential contributions highlighting that it represents the main source of innovation, technological progress, and productivity growth; it is responsible for a relevant share of the demand for services in general; and it helps to sustain value-added exports, providing a fundamental carrier function for non-tradable services. Moreover, in the long run, the contraction of manufacturing activities can determine a loss of technical knowledge, industrial capabilities, supplier networks, and so on – the so-called «industrial commons» – which can strongly limit the ability of firms to enter new markets and embrace production based on new technologies. It is mainly for these reasons that the preservation of a thriving manufacturing sector has finally been perceived as an imperative also in the European Union and that, after at least two decades of neglect, industrial policy has regained academic attention and re-entered the political agenda.

The scarlet thread running through this debate is that the horizontal approach followed since the early 1990s has proved to be ineffective in preserving broad, widespread, and diversified manufacturing sectors within the Member States, especially in relation to the challenges posed by the 2008 crisis. A well-established strand of research has evidenced the many structural imbalances that have emerged during the last two decades, threatening the competitiveness of the European economy and even compromising regional convergence. Rising pressure from emerging economies, technologically better equipped than in the past, affected the European countries unevenly, causing more problems for the lagging economies than for the more developed ones; the generalized fall of the investments in research that followed the 2008 crisis and that was mainly concentrated in the weaker economies put at risk the ability of the European latecomers to reach, and remain on, the technological frontier; a gradual process of polarization due to a number of interrelated (macroeconomic as well as microeconomic) causes led to the formation of a German-centred core with a strong competitive position on medium- and hightechnology production and a quickly degrading southern periphery; finally, a widespread process of offshoring affected the European industrial systems to different degrees according to the technological level of their leading sectors (medium- and lowtechnology manufacturing suffered more) and had uneven impacts on the qualitative composition of the domestic employment. With these developments in mind, a rapidly growing strand of literature suggested the adoption, at the European Union level, of «structural policies» – industrial policies aimed at actively influencing the sectoral, technological, and geographical structure of the production system – to rebalance the unfavourable structural dynamics triggered by the manufacturing crisis.

An accurate analysis of the process of structural change that occurred in the European Union's economic system, and in particular in the manufacturing sector within it, can therefore be of great help in defining the actual features of the industrial policy problem. According to the framework just presented, some empirical questions emerge as being especially relevant. How intense has the crisis of the manufacturing sector really been throughout the EU? Which transformations have characterized the technological level of the European manufacturing sector? Which segments of the manufacturing sector have suffered the most? Which national imbalances emerged? How to redefine a European approach to structural industrial policies? Which were the implicit costs of the horizontal approach to industrial policy and how they were distributed?

Submissions will be peer-reviewed.

Papers must be submitted at the following link:  
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IL POSIZIONAMENTO DELL'ITALIA  
NELLE GLOBAL VALUE CHAIN:  
UN FOCUS SUI SETTORI DEL MADE IN ITALY

**Associate Editors:** Laretta Rubini (Università di Ferrara) and Francesca Spigarelli (Università di Macerata).

**Permanent Call:** nessuna scadenza per l'invio dei paper.

In molti settori del made in Italy è in atto un cambiamento radicale delle dinamiche competitive nazionali ed internazionali. Processi di acquisizione da parte di gruppi stranieri ed accordi di collaborazione contrattuale internazionale stanno ridisegnando sia l'industria sia l'interazione, a livello di impresa, tra clienti-fornitori-subfornitori. Emblematico è il caso della moda, in cui da un lato, gruppi internazionali stanno assorbendo marchi e know how formando mega agglomerati di imprese (es. caso LVM e Kering) che tendono a dominare il mercato. Dall'altro lato, anche piccole e medie aziende acquisiscono capacità ed opportunità di crescita in posizioni ad alto valore aggiunto nella filiera produttiva, favorite dalla frammentazione e specializzazione delle attività e dalla tecnologia.

Questa sezione tematica de *l'industria* è dedicata ad identificare le principali traiettorie in atto nei settori del made in Italy, per comprendere la posizione dell'Italia e delle sue imprese ed identificare possibili interventi di policy utili a supportare la competitività del settore e del paese. La crescente

complessità nella gestione dei rapporti di fornitura e di distribuzione su scala transnazionale, oltre che il sistematico impatto sui territori di investimenti diretti esteri di gruppi stranieri rendono sempre più rilevanti lo sviluppo di politiche coordinate a livello locale e transnazionale per la definizione di sentieri di crescita compatibili con il mutato assetto globale. In particolare, nella sezione tematica sono invitati contributi di ricerca sulle seguenti linee tematiche:

- descrizione e valutazione delle dinamiche delle catene globali del valore in settori tipici del made in Italy (tra cui a titolo esemplificativo la moda, l'agroalimentare, il mobile e il sistema «casa», la nautica, la meccanica);
- attrazione degli investimenti, sviluppo locale ed impatto sulla competitività dei territori ad alta vocazione imprenditoriale;
- evoluzione dei distretti e dinamiche internazionali nei settori del Made in Italy;
- politiche per la competitività dei territori e valutazione del loro impatto;
- casi di studio relativi ad imprese italiane che analizzano il tema delle relazioni internazionali nelle catene del valore;
- politiche industriali di supporto allo sviluppo delle value chain: comparazioni e valutazioni.

Tutti i paper saranno sottoposti a valutazione finale attraverso le consuete procedure di peer review.

Gli autori devono inviare i paper a l'industria utilizzando la seguente piattaforma:

<https://submission.rivisteweb.it/index.php/ind/about/submissions>

## POLICIES TO ATTRACT FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT: CHALLENGES FOR INDUSTRY AND TERRITORIES

**Associate Editors:** Francesca Spigarelli (Università di Macerata) and Elisa Barbieri (Università di Udine).

**Permanent call:** no deadline for submission.

Foreign direct investments (FDIs) are considered a major catalyst to development, but benefits vary across countries, sectors and local communities. When host country is a developed economy, the impact of FDIs is still debated in terms of economic development, as well as effects on employment and local knowledge. Concerns arise usually when investors belong to emerging markets. In the last decade, several countries and local governments started to develop specific policies to attract foreign direct investments, in search for

opportunities for growth or for stimulating mature industries and stagnating sectors. Sometimes they acted without considering the level of development, geographical location or industrial structure (OECD 2008). We welcome contributions that identify, describe and analyze the main challenges and opportunities related to the development of attraction policies for FDI, at regional and local level.

We intend to shed light on different kind of policies launched by single Countries or Regions to attract investments and on the risks of crowding out effects between territories. We intend to stimulate discussion around the effects of disparities/asymmetries of policies among countries of the same area (within the EU for examples) and regions, as well as on the impact of FDI on local knowledge embedded in local areas/districts/industries: depletion, blending, transformation? More specifically, we invite research contributions on the following aspects:

- regional comparisons of the impact of inward FDI on local development and growth;
- cases and best practices of local government attraction policies to support specific industries or firms (for ex fashion, high tech, etc.);
- impact of policies developed to attract foreign investment within specific areas;
- the role of national screening agencies in the attraction process.

Submissions will be peer-reviewed.

Papers must be submitted at the following link:

<https://submission.rivisteweb.it/index.php/ind/about/submissions>

## THE «STATE OF THE ART» IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY. A CROSS-COUNTRY PERSPECTIVE

**Associate Editors:** Francesca Spigarelli (Università di Macerata), Alessandro Sarra (Università degli Studi di G. D'Annunzio di Chieti e Pescara), Alessandro Marra (Università degli Studi di G. D'Annunzio di Chieti e Pescara), Massimo Beccarello (Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca), Giacomo Di Foggia (Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca).

**Permanent Call:** no deadline for submission.

In recent times, a general consensus emerged among academics, governments, and institutions that a transition towards a Circular Economy is necessary in order to face global sustainability issues in the long run, and that it needs to be fostered by effective and pervasive policy measures.

Among the limited number of countries/regions which started to face the problem, this recognition gave rise to a variety of policy approaches, with different focuses as well as different time horizons for the objectives to be reached. The emphasis ranges from measures which address specific elements in the circular chain, to general policies focusing on value chains as a whole (Dutch Council for the Environment and Infrastructure 2017).

In part, this situation depends on the fact that driving the transition to a resource efficient and climate change resilient economy has required strategies carefully adapted to the cultural and productive specificities of each country. But to the same extent, it probably depends on different socio-economic factors, which influence the local, supranational, or regional case-political awareness of its urgency and the perception of the centrality of CE to sustain long-term economic growth (Merli *et al.* 2017; McDowell *et al.* 2017).

This call is aimed at collecting contributions that explore policies and practices adopted in different countries/regions in the field of CE, as well as on the results obtained. We deem that the dissemination of such knowledge – with particular reference to success cases – is still limited among the community of the economists, and this situation can affect the diffusion of policies for the CE and the cooperation among policy-makers and researchers in the design and implementation of effective policies at country level (McDowell *et al.* 2017).

Authors are invited to submit papers related to the following topics:

1. Comparative analyses of national strategies for the transition toward a CE
2. Analyses and comments on strength and weaknesses of national/regional/local policies for the implementation of a CE
3. CE policies impact assessments
4. Description of case studies
5. Best practices for the transition toward a CE

Submissions will be peer-reviewed.

Papers must be submitted at the following link:

<https://submission.rivisteweb.it/index.php/ind/about/submissions>

L'IMPATTO DELLE INNOVAZIONI DIGITALI NEI SISTEMI  
PRODUTTIVI LOCALI DI PICCOLA E MEDIA IMPRESA:  
TENDENZE DI LUNGO PERIODO E INCROCI CON LA  
RICOSTRUZIONE IN USCITA E DOPO L'EMERGENZA SANITARIA

**Associate Editors:** Marco Bellandi (Università di Firenze), Giancarlo Corò (Università di Venezia), Gianfranco Viesti (Università di Bari).

**Permanent Call:** nessuna scadenza per l'invio dei paper.

Negli ultimi decenni, i sistemi produttivi locali hanno mostrato segni di reazione molto diversificati alle sfide competitive, in generale e in particolare quelli di piccola e media impresa. Tale eterogeneità si è combinata in Italia con storici divari socio-economici Nord-Sud e nuove divergenze fra aree «interne» e territori con elevata connessione alle reti europee e globali della conoscenza. In particolare, l'onda pervasiva delle innovazioni a base digitale, delineando i tratti di una quarta rivoluzione industriale, ha cominciato a sollecitare, già prima della grande crisi del 2008, rilevanti cambiamenti nei rapporti di potere industriale e finanziario, e nuove sfide sociali e ambientali scuotono l'identità di luoghi e sistemi produttivi locali, pure considerando il quadro comparativo e di relazioni con altri paesi europei ed extra-europei. In tale contesto, un ruolo crescente è stato assunto da strutture e politiche che permettono il dispiegarsi delle capacità evolutive dei sistemi produttivi più dinamici, in termini di relazioni manifattura-servizi, con radicamento sociale e ambientale sostenibile, entro aree integrate metropolitane aperte a reti internazionali. Per altro verso, politiche di sviluppo appropriate a un coinvolgimento progressivo di sistemi produttivi meno reattivi hanno tardato ad emergere. Queste avrebbero dovuto investire anche aree dove infrastrutture e reti di conoscenza sono relativamente più deboli, come nel Mezzogiorno d'Italia. Su questi temi la rivista *l'industria* è impegnata da tempo con molti contributi. Una call specifica è stata pubblicata nel 2019 e sta portando all'uscita di un primo insieme di quattro contributi.

In questo contesto si è inserita, con immediati effetti catastrofici, l'emergenza Covid-19. È opinione comune che l'uscita dall'emergenza non sarà una pur complicata ripartenza. Stanno emergendo ipotesi sui nuovi scenari, che incrociano gli impatti di breve periodo e quelli più profondi dell'emergenza, con le tendenze di lungo periodo delineate sopra, producendo ripieghi, rafforzamenti, mutazioni. I percorsi possibili sono molteplici e dipendono più che mai da come politiche e contesti istituzionali riusciranno a valorizzare dotazioni di capitali tecnici, umani e sociali nei territori e fra territori.

Con la presente call permanente invitiamo dunque a presentare nuovi paper, su uno o più dei temi qui richiamati, favorendo avanzamenti utili a definire adeguati quadri interpretativi sulle tendenze in atto e appropriate politiche di ricostruzione e innovazione in distretti e sistemi produttivi locali, italiani e non.

I paper, in italiano o in inglese, sono sottoposti a valutazione finale con le consuete procedure peer-review. I paper sono inviati a l'industria utilizzando la piattaforma:

<https://submission.rivisteweb.it/index.php/ind/about/submissions>

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