

Workshop Announcement and Call for Papers

“STATE, FIRMS, AND INNOVATIONS”

Workshop hosted on September 16th, 2022 by Loughborough University London,
Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, The Broadcast Centre, 3 Lesney Ave, London, E20 3BS, UK

Organizers:

Anna Grosman (Loughborough University London, UK)

Ilya Okhmatovskiy (Nova SBE, Portugal)

Gerhard Schnyder (Loughborough University London, UK)

Confirmed speakers:

Alvaro Cuervo-Cazurra (Northeastern University, USA),

Anna Grosman (Loughborough University London, UK)

Aldo Musacchio (Brandeis University, USA),

Pei Sun (University of Manchester, UK)

Geoffrey Wood (Western University, Canada).

(More speakers will be added once they confirm their participation)

“State, Firms, and Innovations” workshop will be organized at Loughborough University London on September 16, 2022. This workshop will include keynote presentations, panel discussions, paper presentations, and paper development roundtables. The target audience of the workshop are management scholars interested in understanding how the governments influence businesses and innovations.

While the role of the state in stimulating firms to generate innovations has been studied for decades, currently this topic is attracting more attention than in the past. One reason for that is the high social demand for innovations that can address societal grand challenges – finding solutions to the challenges created by climate change or by a global pandemic requires collaborative efforts of private and public sectors. Another reason for the proliferation of research about the involvement of the state in stimulating innovations is an increasingly visible role played by state-owned enterprises and sovereign wealth funds in the global markets. Some of the largest and technologically advanced corporations operating in global markets are partially owned by the states or otherwise rely on state funding. The states around the world

are also launching programs to facilitate the development of entrepreneurial ecosystems intended to support high-tech start-ups.

While the states are spending billions of dollars to promote innovations, the jury is out on the effectiveness of various approaches used by the states around the world to stimulate firms to pursue innovative strategies. Along with the studies demonstrating positive outcomes of using state budgets to stimulate innovations, there are studies providing evidence that state investments may “crowd out” private investments, that the state is poorly equipped for the task of choosing industry champions, that programs providing financial support for R&D in private firms are creating a fertile ground for corruption, etc. Recent studies highlighted the emergence of new forms of state capitalism and described various tools of state capitalism used around the world. In particular, state investments, state subsidies, loans from state banks, industrial policies that favour national champions, and other tools of state capitalism have been used to stimulate corporate innovations and the outcomes of these efforts range from spectacular successes to complete disasters. Our proposed workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss key factors that determine when tools of state capitalism may foster innovative strategies and when state interventions to stimulate innovations are destined to fail.

With this workshop, we will bring together established scholars and young researchers exploring this topic. The roundtable paper discussions will provide an opportunity for doctoral students and early career academics to receive feedback on their working papers. It is possible to attend this workshop without having a paper accepted for presentation, but we do encourage potential participants (especially, doctoral students and junior scholars) to submit their work in progress. To facilitate submissions, we will subsidize the hotel stay expenses for the authors of the best submitted papers. The financial support for this workshop is provided by the Society for the Advancement of Management Studies (SAMS).

The workshop takes place a day before the start of the Strategic Management Society conference (which takes place in London on September 17-20, 2022), but it is not an SMS conference extension. The workshop will be held at Loughborough University London located in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, which can be reached by taking a subway ride from the center of London to Stratford Subway Station.

Invited submissions

Our intention is to discuss to what extent state capitalism is compatible with innovative strategies. Here are some examples of research questions that could be addressed in submissions to this workshop:

How do state-owned companies innovate? How does state ownership affect the incentives to innovate?

How can privileged access to state resources boost or hamper innovations?

What are the antecedents of successful state intervention in promoting innovative business activities?

How do different tools of state intervention affect firms' innovative activities?

What forms of state-business collaborations can facilitate innovations?

Which factors improve the outcomes of public-private collaborative efforts to generate innovations?

Key dates

Deadline to submit papers / proposals: 20 July 2022

Decisions communicated to authors of submitted papers / proposals: 01 August 2022

Registration deadline: 28 August 2022

Workshop at Loughborough University London: 16 September 2022

Submission format

We welcome submissions in the following formats:

- Full papers that do not exceed 40 pages with double-spaced text following the Academy of Management conference submission guidelines (<https://aom.org/events/annual-meeting/submitting/submission-guidelines>).

OR

- Proposals that do not exceed 7 pages with single-spaced text following the Strategic Management Society conference submission guidelines (<https://www.strategicmanagement.net/london/call-for-proposals/submission-guidelines>).

How to submit

Submissions and related inquiries can be sent by email to the workshop organizers:

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