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**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**First Paper Development Workshop (Hybrid):** **“****Resilience and Digital Entrepreneurship”**

Indiana University Europe Gateway
Gneisenaustraße 27, 10961 Berlin, Germany

<https://global.iu.edu/presence/gateways/europe/index.html>

**12-13 November 2021**

Abstract submission Deadline: 30 September, 2021 (1700 GMT Time).

Acceptance to present – within a week since submission.

**Workshop Organizers:**

**David B. Audretsch**, Indiana University Bloomington, USA

**Maksim Belitski**, University of Reading, UK; ICD Business School, France

**Rosa Caiazza**, Parthenope University of Naples, Italy

**Mark Drapeau,** Catalyst Research, USA

**Matthias Menter**, Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Germany

**William Wales,** University of Albany- SUNY, USA

Sponsors: by University of Reading, Indiana University Bloomington and the British Council “Creative Spark” project.

**Keynotes : Maryann Feldman : 20 years of Entrepreneurship spark legacy**

**Keynotes : David Audretsch: Everything is The Place**

Since the seminal work of Feldman and Francis (2002) on the Entrepreneurial Spark - Individual Agents and the Formation of Innovative Clusters", our understanding of

processes of creating new firms, regional and industrial transformation, organizational and regional resilience has changed.

Entrepreneurs embrace new digital technologies, and models of growth and acceleration. Recent research in entrepreneurship shows that digital technology has changed the way we engage with customers, compete and diffuse knowledge (Nambisan et al. 2017; Kenney & Zysman, 2020; Papadopoulos et al. 2020). Digital tools have modified the mind-set how you do business at different stages of their firm growth continuum.

This workshop will further expand our understanding of how entrepreneurs grow, how they drive industrial transformation and regional resilience (Audretsch & Belitski, 2017), change communities and countries with a focus on alternative models such as adoption of digital technologies (Digitally Driven , 2020, 2021) learning new skills, innovating business models towards more social orientation and capital e.g. family business. The workshop will focus on the new trajectories through which economic and societal value.

In particular we are interested in i) three emerging pillars of creative spark transformation and resilience - values, mainly associated with family firms (Ruf et al. 2021); financial and social capital; the role of digital technology; ii) the role of entrepreneurs in transforming regions and industries making them more resilient and adding value (Boschma, 2015; Cunningham et al. 2018). These factors have been realized to be more important for organizational and regional resilience during crises (Bartik et al. 2020; Thorgren & Williams, 2020).

At the center are new enablers, from social capital, platform-firms, digital technologies to family business, social and human capital, creativity, knowledge and creativity spillovers, knowledge sourcing, infrastructure and regulation that have enabled small businesses to grow survive longer (Acs et al., 2013; Audretsch et al. 2015; Huggins et al. 2015; Cutolo and Kenney, 2019; Ryan et al. 2020; Iacobucci and Perugini, 2021).

**We welcome** theoretical and empirical contributions, using qualitative or quantitative methods, and either a micro, meso, or macro-level analysis **in the areas of organizational resilience, regional economic development, business model innovation and digital technologies in order to facilitate** entrepreneurship and SMEs globally.

**Contributions to the workshop will be considered for a special issue on “Resilience and Digital Entrepreneurship” in Entrepreneurship and Regional Development Journal to be published in the end of 2023**

Please submit an extended abstract (5 pages outlying research question, hypothesis, method, main findings) or a full paper to m.belitski@reading.,ac.uk or by September 30st, 2021, 5 pm to be considered for the workshop.

**Selected references**

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Thorgren, S., & Williams, T. A. (2020). “Staying alive during an unfolding crisis: How SMEs ward off impending disaster”. *Journal of Business Venturing Insights,* 14.