THINKING OUTSIDE OF THE BOX!

How does systemic thinking help creative, inventive
and change processes?

Call to contribute to the journal *Acta Europeana Systemica* (AES), volume 7

1/ THEME

At a time when information and communication technologies[1] are no longer considered to be truly new, our real world is constantly *increased* with all sorts of information (from screen to immersive multimedia), thereby affecting the way we see the world and the way we learn.

What's more, the advancement of science in the field of artificial intelligence not only brings about sophisticated robots that substitute human workforce but also make for innovative strategies reaching far beyond the mere improvement of processes. Obvious advantages are: algorithms making decisions without any human interference, computers take up less space in an office than employees, programmes that operate complex tasks like translating and chess playing, automated cars equipped with sensors and security devices, 'intelligent' robots and learning machines fulfilling logistic tasks, and so on.

Through the use of information and communication technologies our society becomes a virtualized environment; our daily life increasingly depends on smart prostheses. Social changes, thus amplified and globalized, occur at a swift pace. But, if these devices can drive cars, accommodate customers, analyse data and make decisions, what room is left for human beings?

Lots of studies indicate that a great number of existing professions will be gone in a short while and will make way for jobs combining creative, innovative and change processes. This state of affairs should bring about an *economy of creativity* with obvious social consequences on the labour market. The employee of the future will have to associate "creativity" with "social intelligence" and "manipulation" (Bakhshl, Benedikt Frey, Osborne, 2015)[2].

An obsessive question arises from these studies: how can we discriminate the human being's creativity from that of complex, ever-improving artificial intelligence?

Originally, so-called *artificial intelligence* meant a set of algorithms capable of *resolving complicated* problems, whereas today, the very concept of *intelligence* encompasses the ability to *manage complex* issues (security, emergency situations, management, marketing, teaching, etc.). The latter form of intelligence is able to *invent* experiments, methods and strategies.

---

[1] The NICT are no longer considered new and are now called *Information and Communication Technologies* (ICT) to designate the field of telematics.

[2] BAKHSHL, Hasan, BENEDIKT FREY, Carl, OSBORNE, Michael A. (2015). "Creativity versus robots: The creative economy and the future of employment". Rapport Nesta, April. BENEDIKT FREY, Carl, OSBORNE, Michael A. (2017). "The future of employment: How susceptible are jobs to computerisation?". *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, vol.114, January, pp.254-280.

In a complex situation, the agent, submerged by an inflow of information, faces the challenge of describing and adequately shaping his observations while resisting excessive simplification. Freed from the humdrum work – overtaken by algorithms – people will have a prospect for realizing their full potential while taking into account the uncertainties inherent to the human fate[3].

Beyond analytical search for causes, systemic thinking draws models, seeks to identify the features in a system, to describe both components and interactions. It offers the agent tips to understand the real world so as to develop a strategic view in line with the context to foster effective actions that will have lasting *structural* effects. New systems, better adapted to the current worries of humanity, are bound to emerge from these actions.

How do systemic concepts, methods and tools support the agent in his attempt to carry out innovative actions in a complex surrounding?

2/ THE TOPICS

The main topics will be:

(1) systemic modelling of the creative cycle;

(2) identifying types and factors of creation;

(3) relationship between human and artificial intelligences;

(4) creative professions;

(5) transgressions, creative manipulations;

(6) inter/multi/trans-disciplinary emerging creativity;

(7) historical context for the advent of the concept of creativity;

(8) social crisis resulting from the robotization of environment;

(9) inequities stemming from knowledge virtualization;

(10) strategy in the use of *big data*;

…

3/ IMPORTANT DATES

1/ invitation to contribute	31/03/2017
2/ abstracts submissions (max. 300 words: aes@ues-eus.org)	31/05/2017
3/ notification of acceptance	15/06/2017
4/ finals papers submission (max. 6 000 words: aes@ues-eus.org)	15/10/2017
5/ publication of the *AES* n°7	31/10/2017

Authors use the following template: template

4/ SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Pierre BRICAGE (AFSCET), Damien CLAEYS (S&O), Claude LAMBERT (S&O), Alexander MIARIS (HSSS), Gianfranco MINATI (AIRS), Francisco PARRA LUNA (SESGE)

---

[3] AFSCET (2016). *Res-Systemica*, Penser sans modèle ? Émergence, créativité et sérendipité, vol.15, octobre 2016.

5/ THE JOURNAL *ACTA EUROPEANA SYSTEMICA* (AES)

5.1. AES: A JOURNAL OF THE EUS

Acta Europeana Systemica (AES) is the journal of the European Union for Systemics (EUS).

Founded in 1988, the EUS, aims at promoting European research and practice of systemics. The EUS is a community of national scientific societies. The EUS seeks to establish, through its network of companies, a favourable environment to the evolution of systemics (including its theoretical foundations, its methods and its implementation) and its diffusion, in particular by promoting transdisciplinary exchanges.

Active members of the EUS
Association Française de Science des Systèmes (AFSCET)
Associazione Italiana per la Ricerca sui Sistemi (AIRS)
Asbl Systèmes & Organisations (S&O)
Sociedad Española de Sistemas Generales (SESGE)
Hellenic Society for Systemic Studies (HSSS)

Associated member of the EUS
Associazione Italiana di Epistemologia e Metodologia Sistemiche (AIEMS)

Partners societies of the EUS
World Organisation of Systems and Cybernetics (WOSC)
The International Academy for Systems and Cybernetic Sciences (IASCYS)
International Federation for Systems Research (IFSR)

5.2. GOALS OF THE JOURNAL AES

The main objective of the journal AES is to promote systems thinking by providing keys to understanding the complexity of reality. Its mission is to promote the emergence, communication and deepening of systemic thinking.

The existence of the journal AES is necessitated by the realization that the complexity of the society in which we live exacerbates the need to find the tools, methods, an epistemology that allows to understand the functioning of the phenomena around us and able to act.

The journal AES is a place of reflection and exchange that confronts multiple practices, training and systems research. It supports in particular the approaches inter/pluri/multi/trans-disciplinary, openings to cultural diversity, field experiences and references to theoretical work.

5.3. THE COMMITTEES

Comité d'orientation / Orientation Board
Gianfranco MINATI, Président de l'Union Européenne de Systémique (UES)
Andrée PIECQ, Secrétaire général de l'Union Européenne de Systémique (UES)
François DUBOIS, Président de l'Association Française de Science des Systèmes (AFSCET)
Gianfranco MINATI, Président de l'Associazione Italiana per la Ricerca sui Sistemi (AIRS)
Claude LAMBERT, Président de l'Asbl Systèmes & Organisations (S&O)
Francisco PARRA LUNA, Président de la Sociedad Española de Sistemas Generales (SESGE)
Nikitas ASSIMAKOPOULOS, President of the Hellenic Society for Systemic Studies (HSSS)

Editorial Board
Responsible Publisher
Andrée PIECQ (EUS)
Editor-in-Chief
Damien CLAEYS (S&O, UCL)

Editorial Staff

Editorial Staff varies from issue to issue of the journal. They are composed according to the topics covered in the issue.

Reading Committee

Reading Committee varies from issue to issue of the journal. This Scientific Committee provides peer reviewing of the contributions and it is composed according to the topics covered in the issue.

5.4. AUTHOR INSTRUCTIONS

The journal AES uses working languages: French and English. Nevertheless articles in other European languages can be included, to the extent that they are accompanied by a summary result in at least one of the working languages.

Authors wishing to contribute to the journal can use the following template: Template.

The journal AES has an ISSN (online version ISSN 2225-9635 / ISSN 2225-9627 printed version).

All contents of the website and from the issues of the journal AES are protected by a Creative Commons license "Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs" (CC BY-NC-ND). This license allow the downloading and sharing of content as the authors are credited citing their names, but you can not edit such content in any way or use it for commercial purposes.