



The 39th World  
Congress of the  
International Institute  
of Sociology  
Yerevan, Armenia

JUNE 11-14, 2009

[www.iisoc.org/iis2009](http://www.iisoc.org/iis2009)

## REGULAR SESSION INFORMATION

**Title of Session:** Open innovation, closed societies

**Name of Session Convener(s):** Steffen Roth; Jari Kaivo-oja

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**Comments:** URL: Berne Business School: <http://unternehmensfuehrung-en.bfh.ch> - Turku School of Economics: <http://www.tse.fi/EN>

### **Session Abstract (up to 250 words):**

“Globalization is a major driver for open innovation processes not only because it means more intense and global competition but also because it creates a more global landscape for innovation” (OECD 2008: 27). Nonetheless, in post-cold war Europe we still experience the logics of competitive and, therefore, closed innovation regimes: classical forms of open innovation, i.e. B2B innovation co-operations or co-patenting, are mostly set-up between partners within the same industry, country, or economic area.

The contradiction between the vision of open innovation and the reality of social borders thus provokes the central questions to be discussed at the session:

- What forms of transnational open innovation and what corresponding strategies do we know both from literature and from case studies?
- What opportunities does transnational open innovation provide for the establishing international justice in terms of a more balanced access to resources, competencies, and markets.
- What impact do political, economic, legal, educational, scientific, or further social borders have on both intra-national and transnational open innovation project?
- What are the ethical dimensions of open innovation in general and transnational open innovation in particular (keywords: working consumer, prosumer)?

- What borders do open innovation strategies have to cross at the intra-national level? In what spheres of society does open innovation (not) work successfully? Are open innovation projects closed for certain organizational forms, professional groups, ages, or genders?

All submitted papers will be object to a double blind peer-review. Selected papers will be both invited for presentation at the 39th IIS World Congress and included to a special issue of the International Journal of Innovation and Sustainable Development on the session's topic.

### **General information**

During each afternoon of the congress, there will be room for a large number of parallel regular sessions. Each session is 90 minutes long and consists of an oral presentation of 4 to 6 papers. Session conveners are expected to administer and chair their session at the 2009 IIS World Congress.

Starting in mid-December, calls for papers to participate in approved sessions will be posted on the website. Interested participants will contact the session convener (you) directly with an abstract no later than February 28, 2009. The session convener should take in all submissions and select the best 4 to 6 papers to be presented and forward this information, including e-mail addresses of accepted authors, to the IIS Secretariat no later than March 15, 2009.