

## Global challenges and individual decisions. Inquiring the role of technology and digital phenomena

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Immediately prior the global outbreak triggered by the widespread of the Sars-Cov-2, the challenging theme debated within scientific community and society was the protection of the environment. Generally speaking, environmental protection is conceptually connected to an amount of other challenges that are Identified by United Nation as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), i.e. the "blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice". Technology plays a prominent role in both the challenges above described. As management scholars, we are demanded to understand whether the rapid technological change represents either a paradigm shift (Kuhn, 1962), or an evolutionary change (Penrose, 1959; Friedman, 1998). Technological changes and the mounting role played by artificial intelligence and Big Data, upcoming sociological and demographic discontinuities, such as the phenomenon of global migration flows, and growing uncertainties in the political environment, such as the debate on the role of the European Union and the changing attitude towards protectionism, all conjure up to challenge the role of organizations and the understanding of the "organizing for what".

Therefore, organizations face increasing and, sometimes, conflicting ethical and social demands. On the one hand, the pervasive technology usage has restricted the possibility of individual detachment from social connections, on the other, digitalization contributes to create unreleased spaces for work and interaction with each other.

Recent years have been characterised for the simultaneous presence of very ambitious and long-term humanities challenges. Gender equality, environmental changes role of pandemic and so on. Seemingly technology enhances our individual possibility, creating a tension between individual and humanity (Scherer and Palazzo, 2007). Organizations are responsible for mediating between these two dimensions, acknowledging individual about the global challenges and empowering technologies to enrich and raise those global challenges.

Papers can be around the following topics, but are not limited to:

- impact of the use of big data and artificial intelligence on the organizations;
- infrastructures and opportunities for business and society of the internet of thing;
- impact of digital platforms society on equality for both workers and consumers;
- 5G network. From resistance to change;
- employer branding and social/digital technologies;
- new technologies and HR: from smart working to people analytics;
- digital transformation and organizational change;
- digital democracy;
- new digital technologies and methodological adaptation or evolution;
- smart working, new technology and workplaces/workspaces;
- different perspectives on knowledge roots: from the epistemological premises to the demanding boundaries.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

This call for paper is inspired by the Presentation of the WOA 2021 that will be held in Genoa, aimed to inquire the “meaning and purpose of human action”. Accordingly, the call addresses the attention of the workshop attendees, but it is not limited to them. Theoretical and empirical contributions are welcome, provided that something insightful and questioning is proposed.

Full paper submission deadline 30/06/2021.

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