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# 10th International Congress of the French Association for Political Economics (AFEP)

## RESOURCES

**Organised by LEREPS & LISST labs,  
Sciences Po Toulouse & Univ. Toulouse Jean Jaurès**

From 30th June to July 3rd, 2020 in Toulouse (France)

Website: [afep2020.sciencesconf.org](http://afep2020.sciencesconf.org)

### Call for papers

The AFEP is a scientific association whose objective is to promote pluralism in the field of economics. The AFEP annual congress is an important moment for the association and for the community of economists. It allows the pluralism of theories, methods and objects to be brought to life. Beyond that, this approach encourages dialogue and interdisciplinarity within the humanities and the social sciences. For that reason, proposals from other disciplines than economics (economic sociology, management, anthropology, geography, planning, political sciences, history, philosophy, etc.) are welcome and encouraged.



## Topic of the 2020 Congress: “Resources”

The multiple environmental, migratory, social, financial, productive, banking etc. crises contemporary societies are experiencing today are multifactorial and interconnected. Resources lie at the heart of these episodes, highlighting major issues related to their definition, distribution, mobilization and management either strategic or political. While all these social and economic phenomena may not be limited to resources issues, it nevertheless seems **necessary to question “what makes a resource” in various circumstances**. This requires considering the multifaceted political, economic and institutional dynamics that governs their (re)production, appropriation, mobilisation and activation, use and related conflicts, as well as their economic and/or social valorisation. In short, the aim is **to question and understand the processes that make it possible to constitute and qualify objects and/or devices as resources, and to (privately or collectively) manage them, but also to question the processes by which resources may empower and/or constrain**.

Questioning resources allows both disciplinary and thematic crossovers. Indeed, resources refer to the conditions of the possibility of individual and collective action, which is at the heart of most human and social sciences. They obviously concern economic phenomena, particularly, in a very traditional way, market transactions (initial endowments, access rights, income, decision-making capacities, etc.). This theme also opens up to institutionalist approaches, which consider all the resources available to organisations (especially firms, whatever their form) to perform their economic and/or social functions: labour (human resources, work organization and qualification modalities, knowledge resources, etc.); capital (financial assets, manufactured capital, land, etc.); knowledge (collective productive assets, local know-how, intellectual property rights); cooperation mechanisms and public regulation; institutional regimes for accessing resources, etc.

Thus, implementing a resource-based approach makes it possible to (re)introduce at least three main analytical issues into economic debates:

1. A resources perspective makes it possible **to update ecological issues, via the problem of the scarcity of environmental resources and their renewal or resilience thresholds, as well as their destruction**. Given the common-good nature of these resources, this theme also invites us to re-examine the forms of appropriation and the property regimes in which they are registered. More generally, entry through resources invite us to reconsider the (productive or not, use or not) relationships that human societies have with their natural environment, but also the power relations that constitute the links between societies and nature.

2. Addressing economic and social phenomena through the prism of resources leads us **to emphasise a process-based approach, inscribed in history, by which objects, institutions or devices become resources**. Indeed, resources can only be qualified as such once they have been “activated”, i.e. devices have been arranged and configured to serve a defined purpose. These processes raise many questions. What is the nature of these devices? To what extent and how do they structure or organise collective and/or public action? How and by whom are the activation arrangements and processes implemented? How were the objectives negotiated? With what degree of legitimacy? etc.

3. The theme of resources invites us to **(re)question the role of spaces, both geographical and organisational, in the activation, management and preservation of resources**. Industrial and regional economics, geography and sociology (social networks), have drawn lessons of the roles played by geographical, organisational and cognitive proximity in coordination processes and transactions. This theme thus invites us not to neglect the political dimension of the qualification process (capital, assets, heritage...) according to the objects considered (natural, human, cognitive, relational, territorial, economic, financial resources, etc.).

The ongoing social movements, particularly in France, but also recently reported all over Europe, the reconfiguration of multilateral agreements, environmental mobilisations and international migration issues have brought the issue of resources to the forefront of the debate. They also highlight their economic and political nature (distribution of resources, issues related to inequalities, type of resources needed to activate, emancipate, make oneself heard, influence socio-economic power relations, etc.). Finally, resources refer to all the political and institutional mechanisms that frame the organisation of collective action. As such, they are a heuristic object relevant to current and future economic and social phenomena, particularly those related to ecological transition.

**In the spirit of openness that characterises the pluralist approach promoted by AFEP, the congress remains open to any theme or approach. Proposals not explicitly related to the theme of the congress are therefore also welcome and expected.**

## General organisation and timelines

- dates: from July 1st to 3rd 2020, preceded by the “AFEP Doctoral Day” held on June 30th, 2020
- website: <https://afep2020.sciencesconf.org>. You will find all the information related to the congress (regularly updated)
- contact: for any questions, and for the submission of your communication and panel proposals, please send your message to the following address: [afep2020@mailoo.org](mailto:afep2020@mailoo.org)
- the congress will alternate plenary sessions and thematic workshops in parallel.

### Three types of submissions are possible

- **proposal for a scientific presentation**: each author submits a proposal (with an extended abstract: one page + bibliographic references)
- **proposal for a closed thematic workshop**: each workshop coordinator selects and manages the list of speakers he/she will have established, and he/she will collect the papers
- **proposal for an open thematic workshop**: papers that will be part of thematic workshops will be selected from non-targeted presentation proposals and/or will give rise to specific calls for papers.

### Timeline of the call for papers

- release of the call for papers: **October 15th, 2019**
- proposals for thematic workshops (one page + bibliographic references + list of contributions for closed workshops): by **January 15th, 2020**
- proposals for papers (extended abstract: one page + bibliographic references): by **March 1st, 2020**
- for open thematic workshops, a specific call for papers will be sent by the coordinators, extended summaries will then be requested by **March 15th, 2020**
- notification of acceptance of presentations: **March 31st, 2020**
- full papers are expected by **June 1st, 2020** (to be posted on the congress website, unless otherwise advised by the authors).

## Organising committee

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