Entrepreneurial Competences Across Boundaries: Education, Internationalisation and Business Innovation

Thematic Area: Entrepreneurship

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Summary:

Entrepreneurial competences, the knowledge, skills and attitudes that enable individuals to identify and act upon opportunities (Shane & Venkataraman, 2000; Mitchelmore & Rowley, 2010; Mai & Thai, 2025), can be developed in one setting and applied in another. They are acquired in classrooms, incubators and international mobility experiences, and deployed in new ventures, family firms and established small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Yet research on entrepreneurship education, international entrepreneurship and innovation management has largely examined these settings separately, and impact studies still rely mostly on short-term, self-reported outcomes such as intentions rather than on entrepreneurial action (Nabi et al., 2017). Research on entrepreneurship education has also highlighted the need to move beyond short-term, self-reported outcomes towards entrepreneurial action (Nabi et al., 2017).

This Special Track aims to bring together scholars investigating the development, mobilisation and transfer of entrepreneurial competences across different contexts and levels of analysis. Attention will be paid to the mechanisms and conditions that enable or constrain their application across educational, organisational and national boundaries. This includes examining how individual competences contribute to organisational capabilities and how ecosystem conditions shape these processes. Relevant settings include universities, entrepreneurial ecosystems (Stam, 2015; Lira & Guerrero, 2026) and their connections beyond territorial boundaries (Fischer et al., 2025).

The track welcomes contributions exploring, among other topics, entrepreneurial learning and education; entrepreneurship and internationalisation; entrepreneurial intentions and actions; intergenerational entrepreneurship; university-business collaboration; knowledge transfer; innovation in SMEs; and the role of educational and institutional ecosystems in fostering entrepreneurial capabilities. Contributions addressing digital transformation, artificial intelligence, sustainability, inclusion and emerging approaches to experiential learning are also encouraged (Kolb, 1984; Nabi et al., 2017).

The added value of this Special Track lies in its cross-disciplinary and multilevel perspective, connecting individual learning and competence development with entrepreneurial behaviour, organisational innovation and broader ecosystem outcomes. By bringing together

complementary theoretical perspectives and diverse methodological approaches, the track aims to advance understanding of how entrepreneurial capabilities emerge, evolve and translate into value creation. It also seeks to generate insights for educators, business organisations and policymakers interested in strengthening entrepreneurial talent and supporting firms' adaptation to industrial transitions.

Keywords:

Entrepreneurial competences; Entrepreneurship education; Internationalisation; Entrepreneurial ecosystems; Entrepreneurial action.

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