Bringing principles and values to renew action
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Universidad Zaragoza

Supported by

Teruel Amor
Caja Rural de Teruel
CEPES

Ministerio de Trabajo y Economía Social
Welcoming words

Dear Participants,

Firstly, we want to thank you for joining us on this year’s hybrid, face-to-face and online 8th EMES International research conference on social and solidarity economy. We couldn’t have made it without all your support, kindness, and commitment to the EMES mission.

As you might know, we chose Teruel for hosting this year’s conference for several reasons. Firstly, it is an excellent example of the depopulation crisis affecting the European rural world. Secondly, it was designated as the 2021 Social Economy Capital by the Spanish Ministry of Labour and Social Economy. Nevertheless, as a province city far from urban dynamics, it is a great place to mark the closing of the Empower-SE COST Action after four successful years and to show essential values that EMES represents. After the devastating global Covid-19 pandemic that disproportionately impacted us all, the opportunity to meet again, share our work and discuss among researchers, social entrepreneurs, and policymakers, was inspiring. Also, it was necessary to bring back enthusiasm and re-imagine and renew social enterprise, cooperative and voluntary action principles, and values in this unprecedented global context. During the sessions and outside during the informal meetings, new projects and ideas for multiple collaborations emerged.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes to our partners and supporters in this event; the Empower-SE COST Action, the University of Zaragoza’s GESES Research Group (Grupo de Estudios Sociales y Económicos del Tercer Sector), the Social Economy Laboratory LAB_ES, CEPES Aragon, Caja Rural de Teruel and of course, the City of Teruel, the Aragon Government, the Federations of Cooperatives of Catalunya, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Economy of Spain.

After four years of activities and initiatives, we are successfully closing the Empower-SE COST Action used to empower the next generation of SE researchers and research communities in peripheral countries. Despite the technical challenges and difficulties, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. We are eager to learn based on your feedback and to keep working hard to maintain our EMES community on a high level of mutual understanding, trust, and a common perspective of working together.

Thank you very much for reading and sharing this report and we look forward to seeing you again soon!

Millán Díaz-Foncea & Tracey Coule
8th EMES Conference Co-chairs

Taco Brandsen
EMES President

Rocio Nogales-Muriel
EMES Director
As SE researchers, we were proud to move for this conference to the exact epicentre where the depopulation phenomenon occurs.

There are too many cities and towns that are difficult to access. The international SE research community, which has been meeting for two decades under the umbrella of the EMES Network, wanted to move from discourse to action and celebrate in Teruel its 8th EMES International Research Conference.

Depopulation is causing the rural world to shut down due to strategies guided by a vision of progress that subordinates the well-being of communities and territories to economic development, misaligned with their actual needs. Unfortunately, this is not the only problem: growing inequality; job insecurity; difficulty in meeting basic needs for food, housing, or energy; lack of interest in institutions and community life; violence and exclusion; isolation and anxiety... are some of the conditions that describe our present time. In this context, the social and solidarity economy is shown as resilient, and during the last pandemic, it unfolded its total capacity and potential.

In March 2021, the Ministry of Labour and Social Economy of the Government of Spain designated Teruel as the first Spanish Capital of the Social Economy due to its location and the number of social economy experiences present in the city with a significant local impact and with a substantial historical tradition. This nomination represented the seed of the future Network of Cities for the Social Economy in the country. In this context, Teruel offers an ideal setting for the 8th EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprise, creating synergies that enhance the city’s image together with an academic event of international scope.

It also allowed EMES, as a network of people and research entities, to foster exchanges and connections between the academic field and daily social challenges these territories face.

For more information you can visit: www.teruelcapitaleconomiasocial.es
“From the Ministry of Labor and Social Economy, we want to thank and value the vital role that the EMES International Congress has played in Teruel, the Spanish Capital of the Social Economy 2020.

The Spanish Capital of the Social Economy is a collective project that commits various entities, as public administration, to help advance the ecosystem of the social and solidarity economy in our country.

The days shared in Teruel have shown that this project is a promising journey and that we are living in a promising time for the social and solidarity economy. Research has shown us that we can act together while keeping a dialogue with diverse sectors and public administration. We share the same interest in providing the necessary strength of our ecosystem and help it to fulfil its transformative role.

The 8th EMES International Conference also has shown that EMES is a research community committed to the social and solidarity economy goals. The EMES community is led by promising researchers, who developed an international network that effectively brings proposals for the sector itself and for policymakers.

Teruel has been the first stop on our path. We share more enthusiasm and commitment in this shared journey towards a more present, more powerful social and solidarity economy which is a protagonist of the economic, social, and socio-environmental change that we need.”

Maravillas Espín Sáez
General Director of Autonomous Work, Social Economy and Corporate Social Responsibility, Spanish Ministry of Labour and Social Economy
370 PARTICIPANTS
105 FACE-TO-FACE
(60 TDF ATTENDEES)
205 ONLINE
75 PHD STUDENTS
59 RESEARCHERS FUNDED THROUGH EMPOWER-SE
52 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

We brought together...
And organized...

7 ROUNDTABLES OF THE TDF

5 PLENARY SESSIONS

42 PARALLEL SESSIONS

15 PANEL SESSIONS

228 COMMUNICATIONS PRESENTED
THEMATIC LINES

As usual, EMES conferences are structured along thematic lines as a way to encourage academic debate across fields and disciplines. In the case of the 8EMESconf, there were 11 lines addressing current global challenges and contexts including the Covid19 pandemic, unemployment, social and racial justice, and new patterns of inequality.

They are listed below, together with two presented papers, randomly selected, to provide a taste of the variety of topics and approaches present at the conference. For a complete list of the paper, panels and posters presented, please visit the conference final program, here: https://bit.ly/3CaEkHm

1. Theoretical foundations of social enterprise, cooperative and voluntary action principles, and values: Complementarities, contradictions and their implications
   “Power and conflict in social innovation: A field-based perspective” Authors: Michael Roy, Simon Teasdale, Lars Hulgård
   “Have we agreed on that? Collective values in Community Grassroots Innovations”
   Author: Paola Raffaelli

2. Sustaining and scaling social, cooperative, and voluntary action: Balancing and funding SE principles over time
   “Social enterprise international expansion: Isomorphism or cross-border scaling of social impact?” Authors: Ignacio Bretos Fernández, Anjel Errasti
   “Large Converted Cooperatives: What Survival Patterns?” Author: Esmeralda Gerritse

3. Values-driven social innovation and entrepreneurship
   “Technology-driven social enterprises - towards marking a new category” Authors: Davorka Vidovic, Benjamin Gidron
   “Are social enterprises innovative in the sector of elderly care services? The case of residences in Andalusia” Authors: Teresa Savall Morera, Carmen Guzmán Alfonso, Francisco Javier Santos

4. Multi-Level governance, enabling ecosystems for SE and sustainable development
   “Navigating the For-profit – Non-profit paradox: the case of consulting for social enterprises” Authors: Julien Kleszczowski, Guillaume Carton
   “Nonprofits’ transparency: An integrative framework and research agenda” Authors: Fanny Dethier, Cécile Delcourt, Jurgen Willems

5. SE meets the commons: social technologies, collaborative economy and open data
   “The governance of commons in social enterprises: from organization to impact” Author: Coline Serres
   “Organising the enterprise as a common: an alternative to participatory management in collective enterprises” Author: Kristel Maasen

6. Innovative fields in the SE action: social and health services, sports, etc.
   “On a brink of a new field? Sports TSO’s in Croatia and social entrepreneurship opportunities” Author: Danijel Baturina
   “Social enterprises’ social innovation in Portugal: a strategic relational approach to tackling social and societal challenges” Author: Sílvia Ferreira
7. Unleashing the critical and transformative potential of culture and the arts through SE, cooperative and voluntary action
“Where’s My Change?”: Tensions between art and economics in Glasgow’s Feminist Exchange Network Author: Kai Roland Green
“Situating worker cooperatives in the arts and construction industry: a comparative analysis through a Polanyian lens” Authors: Joana Marques, Luisa Veloso

8. Empowering migrants and harnessing the potential of migration via SEs and voluntary action
“Organisations and stringent institutional framework: the example of associations in the field of reception of asylum seekers in Marseille” Author: Giorgia Trasciani
“Female social entrepreneurs from ethnic minorities: challenges and chances when dealing with social entrepreneurship. Insights from across Europe” Authors: Marie Taylor, Alina Boutiuc-Kaiser

9. SE, popular, and solidarity economies of the Global North and South: transformative movements, radical values and forms of democracy in action
“Transforming society through an ethics of care: solidarity economy experiments in Barcelona” Author: Michela Giovannini

“Social enterprise understandings from a perspective of Geography of Knowledge Production” Author: Sergio Páramo-Ortiz

10. SE research and action under Polanyian principles
“From words to deeds in the Ecuador of ‘BuenVivir’: Analysis of the challenges of the institutionalization of solidarity economy through an institutional and substantive approach” Author: María José Ruiz Rivera
“The collectives of common life self-organization and the value of reciprocity” Author: Luiz Inácio Gaiger

11. Advancements on epistemological, methodological and pedagogical aspects of SE
“Utopian thinking in social innovation for social change and transformation” Authors: Jennifer Eschweiler, Luise Li Långergaard
“Building a transdisciplinary learning community around a SE minor program” Author: Maarten Hogenstijn
Tracey Coule

"Being the online co-chair of EMES's first hybrid conference was certainly an interesting experience. While the preparation and lead up to the event felt very much like "business as usual" relative to the pre-Pandemic conference in Sheffield in 2019, the actual event itself was very different. As many participants know, we faced significant technological challenges which all involved worked tremendously hard to resolve as quickly as possible. Nevertheless, I think my major learning was that the true magic of EMES rests centrally (if not exclusively) on in-person human interaction."

Millán Díaz-Foncea

"In 2019 we assumed the organization of this 8th EMES International Conference; we thought that the complexity would be in managing an academic event of about 400 people, according to our estimates. We did not know that it would coincide with a global pandemic that would force us to simultaneously organize two conferences: one face-to-face and one online—both of them with the complexity of wanting to meet the expectations and needs of participants. In the midst of hardship, there are still positive consequences from the easing of restrictive Covid measures and the digitalization of the event. Firstly, we managed to go back to being face-to-face for those participants who were eager to do so hosted by the Teruel campus of the University of Zaragoza while contributing to the naming of Teruel as the Spanish Capital of the Social Economy 2021. On the other hand, digitalization allowed for the recording of all the sessions (plenary sessions, parallel sessions, Transdisciplinary Forum...), which means that they remain available for on-demand watching. Without doubt, it was a worthwhile challenge as it allowed us to meet in person after difficult months, to enjoy high-quality presentations and generate a positive impact generated in the territory and the social economy sector. As the main Co-chair of the Conference, I would like to thank all the people (attendees, on-site team, the university community, citizens ...) and entities (co-organizers, partners and speakers) for the support provided. The great success that we have been able to achieve is mainly due to your support.

I hope we will see you at the 9th EMES International Conference."
Local Scientific Committee

In Spain, there is a rich and extensive research community in social economy and social enterprises, coordinated through various academic networks. Many Spanish scholars were invited to support the scientific work of the Conference to assess its capacity and work. As can be seen on the map, 10 universities from 8 Autonomous Communities participated in this work.

- Anjel Errasti (The University of the Basque Country)
- Blanca Miedes (University of Huelva)
- Carmen Guzmán (University of Seville)
- Carmen Marcuello (University of Zaragoza)
- Elena Meliá (Valencia Polytechnic University)
- Eloi Serrano (University Pompeu Fabra)
- Francisco López-Arceiz (Public University of Navarra)
- Ignacio Bretos (University of Zaragoza)
- Isabel Saz Gil (University of Zaragoza)
- Maite Cancelo (University of Santiago de Compostela)
- Paloma Bel (Complutense University of Madrid)
- Rafael Chaves (University of Valencia)
- Saioa Arando (Mondragon University)
- Teresa Savall (University of Valencia)
International Scientific Committee

- Anna Ciepielewska-Kowalik (Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland)
- Benjamin Huybrechts (EM-Lyon/HEC-ULe, Belgium)
- Bernard Enjolras (ISF, Norway)
- Danijel Baturina (University of Zagreb, Croatia)
- Ellen Bennet (Sheffield Hallam University, UK)
- Fernanda Wanderley (Instituto de Investigaciones Socio-Económicas, Bolivia)
- Florence Degavre (UCL, Belgium)
- Francesca Petrella (AMU, France)
- Giulia Galera (EURICSE, Italy)
- Jacques Defourny (HEC-ULg, Belgium)
- Jean-Louis Laville (CNAM/LISE, France)
- Juan Fernando Álvarez (Universidad Javeriana of Colombia, Colombia)
- Lars Hulgård (Roskilde Universidad, Denmark)
- Linda Lundgaard Andersen (Roskilde Universidad, Denmark)
- Luiz Inacio Gaiger (UNISINOS, Brazil)
- Malin Gawell (Södertörns Högskola, Sweden)
- Marthe Nyssens (UCL, Belgium)
- Mary O’Shaughnessy (UCC, Ireland)
- Melinda Mihály (HAS, Hungary)
Michael Roy (GCU, UK)
Nicole Göler von Ravensburg (Frankfurt UAS, Germany)
Philippe Eynaud (Université Paris 1 – Panthéon-Sorbonne, France)
Roberto Cañedo (University of Guerrero, Mexico)
Silvia Ferreira (CES-UCoimbra, Portugal)
Sonja Novkovic (Saint Mary’s Universidad, Canada)
Swati Banerjee (Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India)
Taco Brandsen (Radbourg University, The Netherlands)
EMES International Research Network

Has held major international conferences since 2001 and gathers 15 established university research centres and nearly 400 individual researchers from over 50 countries. Together, we aim to build up a body of knowledge around our SE concepts including social enterprise, social economy, solidarity economy and social innovation working on international research projects and exchanging research topics, results and methodologies. We believe in the power of connecting a community of researchers around the world to advance the SE fields.

COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology)

Is a pan-European intergovernmental framework. Its mission is to enable breakthrough scientific and technological developments leading to new concepts and products and thereby contribute to strengthening Europe’s research and innovation capacities. This conference is the closing event of Action 16206 “Empowering the next generation of social enterprise scholars” (EMPOWER-SE).

GESES (Group of Social and Economic Studies of the Third Sector)

Is a research group formed by an interdisciplinary team of professors from the University of Zaragoza, from the departments of Management and Organization of Companies, Accounting and Finance, Psychology and Sociology, in coordination with external researchers. Institutional members of EMES since 2019.
PARTNERS

The Ministry of Labor and Social Economy
The Ministry of Labor and Social Economy of Spain assumes the proposal and execution of the Nation’s Government in matters of employment, labour relations, social economy, and corporate social responsibility www.mites.gob.es

Teruel City Council
Teruel is the City of Love, the world capital of Mudéjar architecture and the cradle of Dinosaurs and a unique tourist destination for unforgettable experience www.sede.teruel.es/portal/

Caja Rural de Teruel
Caja Rural de Teruel is the credit cooperative of the Province of Teruel. It has more than 100 years of history, of closeness and commitment to its territory, creating value for the partners and the clients, while providing personalized ethically and transparently financial solutions that contribute to society’s development www.ruralteruel.com/es

Social Economy Association Aragon (Asociación CEPES Aragón)
CEPES-Aragón is the representative association of the social economy in Aragón. Intersectoral in nature, it is set up to function as a platform for institutional dialogue with the Government of Aragon and other institutions, public and private www.economiasocialaragon.es

Social Economy Laboratory LAB_ES
The Laboratory of Social Economic LAB_ES operates within the framework of the University of Zaragoza. It is a space for students, teachers, administration, and services staff to experience the social economy linked to economic projects based on participation, mutual support, solidarity, and commitment to the environment www.labes-unizar.es

Teruel, Spanish Capital of the Social Economy
In March 2021, the Ministry of Labour and Social Economy chose Teruel as the Spanish Capital of the Social Economy. It is developed under the slogan “knitting social cohesion from territory”, based on social, territorial and intergenerational pacts. It is part of the Ministry of Labor and Social Economic plan, which created 130 measures and axes on which its performance will revolve www.teruelcapitaleconomiasocial.es

In collaboration with:

- Gobierno de Aragón
- REAS Aragón
- Federación de Cooperativas de Cataluña
- Generalitat de Catalunya
- Fundación Espriu
- LABORAL Kutxa
- Fundación Universitaria Antonio Gargallo
From CEPES Aragón, we are very satisfied with the collaboration developed in the framework of the 8th EMES International Conference on Research in Social Enterprise. This event served as a meeting point for professionals and academics from around the world involved in social enterprise, the social and solidarity economy, social entrepreneurship and social innovation research. Together they made it possible to make visible different initiatives, projects, organizations and networks that are promoting the social economy in the city of Teruel and its province.

It has also revealed, once again, the strength, impact and leadership of the social economy, a socioeconomic model that is responsible with its environment, prioritizing the value of people and that abandons the paradigm of “profit maximization”.

The first day of the Conference was especially relevant for the sector with the development of the Transdisciplinary Forum, which we formalized as a Summer Course of the University of Zaragoza in collaboration with a leading entity such as the Antonio Gargallo Foundation. A very enriching meeting between professionals and researchers, which allowed the exchange of opinions and learning about the challenges facing the social economy. We need spaces for reflection like those that the International EMES Conference provides.

Magdalena Sancho, Director
From Caja Rural de Teruel we value very positively, the 8th edition of the EMES International Conference organized in Teruel in 2021, for various reasons.

Firstly, the theme chosen for this 8th Conference, which revolved, among other things, around the cooperative economic model, as well as the so-called social economy, puts in the centre of attention the rural world in economic development. Also, the conference highlighted the importance of cooperatives and their management model in the sustainability and evolution of the Spanish rural provinces, like Teruel.

Secondly, bringing together the academic world, the cooperative business world and rural entrepreneurs, was an opportunity to put together different realities and opinions that gave rise to very relevant conclusions and contributions. For example, one of the areas of improvement in the search for a sustainable model that has come out is the need to put people at the centre.

Finally, I think that Caja Rural de Teruel had a privilege to help and that made this Conference a reality, placing Teruel at the level of cities such as Trento, Helsinki or Liege. By having 52 countries participating, we are sure that Teruel has already become a reference for the social economy.

David Gutiérrez Diez, General Director
Opening Ceremony
Speakers: Yolanda Díaz, José Martín-Albo, Sílvia Ferreira, María Eugenia Díaz Calvo, Emma Buj Sánchez

Second Vice-President of the Spanish Government and Minister of Labour and Social Economy, Yolanda Díaz telematically inaugurated the 8th EMES International Conference.

The Minister thanked EMES, COST and Zaragoza University for the hard work and effort made to organize an event of this magnitude. She also expressed gratitude, equally, to the public and private entities that have contributed to its implementation. Yolanda Díaz stressed the importance that the social economy has to support the achievement of a more just, inclusive and sustainable society. According to her, events such as this EMES International Congress in Teruel are unique occasions for reflection, advancing on the transformative path that the social and solidarity economy lead us. Finally, she added that the social and solidarity economy must be an essential ally in Europe's economic recovery strategy and more effective in implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals for the year 2030.

José Martín-Albo, vice-rector of the Teruel de Unizar campus, highlighted cooperation as one of the core values in the DNA of the social economy and reminded of the importance it has for the University. He points out that the EMES International Conference asks a series of questions that are the root of the scientific process.

Sílvia Ferreira, from the University of Coimbra and president of the Empower-SE Cost Action, highlighted the vocation of the EMES research network to generate scientific knowledge of high academic quality as a result of collecting diverse voices while fostering mutual support among researchers and towards society in general.

María Eugenia Díaz Calvo, Councillor for Science, University and knowledge society, Government of Aragon, thanked EMES for organizing this conference, especially for settling it in Teruel. She insisted on the backbone capacity of the University, clarifying that we all need research that is transferred to society.

Emma Buj Sánchez, the mayor of Teruel moved on to illustrate the potential initiatives like this, adding that it is important to ask the right questions but also to put them into practice. She expects that after the conference institutions will work together to put conclusions generated into practice.

LINK: https://bit.ly/3nQSt7G
The purpose of the Transdisciplinary Forum (TDF) was to facilitate dialogue and exchange between the academic community and SE practitioners typically from social enterprises in the local region. This was the 5th edition of the Forum, following on from Liege (2013), Helsinki (2015), Louvain (2017) and Sheffield (2019).

For this edition of the Transdisciplinary Forum, practitioners, policy-makers and researchers exchanged views and learned from each other about the challenges to which social enterprises are responding, such as the emergence of COVID and the change of socio-economic model that has emerged. Also the actors discussed the challenge of building a truly sustainable and inclusive society. As well as the demographic challenge and the needs of rural female entrepreneurship.
1. COVID AND THE NEW PRODUCTIVE MODELS

Covid-19 a challenge of health and social emergency

This session served as a way of sharing strategies used by different collectives and enterprises to face the effects of the pandemic. The participants shared lessons learned during the pandemic. Preliminary findings from the research project “Citizen-based responses to Covid-19” were presented.

Participants:

- José Luis (Kois) Fernández Casadevante, Cooperative Garúa-Grupo Tangente
- Marianna Martínez, Frena la Curva - LAAB Aragon government
- Samantha Gómez, Acompañando-T, Federation of Neighborhood Associations of Teruel
- Carlos Zarco, Foundation Espriú
- Rosario Pascual, Rural Multiservices Project - Provincial Council of Teruel
- Guillem Llorens, Catalan Social Economy Association - AESCAT


Participants:

- Carlos Ballesteros, Social Consulting Business ICADE
- Vicent García, ALTERNA Cooperative of Valencian electric mobility
- Cristina Freijanes, National Union of Credit Cooperatives - UNACC
- Belén Soler, Agroecological Markets Network of Teruel

LINK: https://bit.ly/3qFzEI
2. GOOD PRACTICES IN SE

Finding common ground between economic activity and life values while incorporating circular economy strategies into the production sector is a goal that requires a very specific approach. While working with bioeconomy or circular economy can tangible goals be established within the territory? What role does the social economy play in achieving these goals? This session opened a debate on how to increase the involvement of different entities.

Participants:

- Marta Barba, The Innovation Center Bioeconomy, Teruel
- Araceli Sierra, Cooperative Cereales Teruel
- Juan José Moles, Cooperative Group Arcoiris
- Davis Gutierrez, Caja Rural of Teruel
- Edurne Caballero, Biela y Tierra


Participants:

- Marisa Esteve, Director of AREI, Association Aragonese of insertion companies
- Ramón Royo, ATADI
- María Longas, Adarve Insertcion Ltd.
- Elena Utrilla, Foundation Térvalis
- Pepe Albors, FEVECTA, Proyect MigraCOOP

3. TRANSFORMATIVE BUSINESS MODELS IN RURAL AREAS

Is the social economy the right response to the shift in our production system that caused 70% of the Spanish population to congregate in large population centres? Are the inhabitants of rural areas more likely to create businesses that revolve around people? This session opened a debate related to those questions and presented initiatives whose focus is on well-being, mutual help and special lifestyles.

Participants:
- Luis A. Sáez, University of Zaragoza
- Silvia Benedí, Grupo Leader ADRI Jiloca-Gallocanta
- Laura Gacón, technical manager for European projects of the Provincial Council of Teruel
- Maria Martínez Lozano, territorial manager of the Aragonese Volunteer Coordination
- Aurelio García, ESNEPI - Pyrenees Business School


Participants:
- Concepción Ramos, CEEI ARAGÓN
- Victoria Tortosa, La Exclusiva - Social logistic (Soria)
- Isabel Félez, Chocolates Artesanos Isabel, Alcorisa (Teruel)
- Lucía López, MALLATA

Conference plenary sessions
Plenary session 1: Supporting transformative research and action through policy: what can be expected?

Chair: Rocío Nogales-Muriel, EMES Director

Speakers: Silvia Ferreira, Ann Branch, Maravillas Espín Sáez, Giulia Galera, Rafael Chaves

One of the Conference co-chairs, Millán Díaz-Foncea from the University of Zaragoza, delivered a short introduction of the conference and explained that Teruel was chosen for hosting this EMES conference due to various reasons, such as the first Spanish Capital of the Social Economy, due to the location in this city and its surroundings of social economy experiences with an important local impact.

Silvia Ferreira, Empower-SE COST Action Chair from Coimbra University (Portugal), shared main activities of COST Actions delivered during these years and highlighted the importance of four working groups in producing new interdisciplinary knowledge and leaving a heritage to new generations of researchers, practitioners and decision-makers.

Rocío Nogales-Muriel, Director of EMES Network, presented new challenges to be encountered in social and solidarity economy and social enterprises, but also new opportunities for supporting research and action through policy. She invited policymakers and researchers to share their opinions and evaluate You can find all sessions available at EMES YouTube Channel. LINK: https://bit.ly/3HejlaD
how we can improve the relationship between the research community and policymakers in upcoming years.

Ann Branch, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion from the European Commission, explained that policy does drive research. Still, she highlighted that research is essential in European policymaking. She also added that regarding relationships between policymakers and the research community, it would help having insights on what are recent trends that researchers are looking at so we all can have a better use of that knowledge.

Maravillas Espín, from the Spanish Ministry of Labour and the Social Economy, illustrated the potential of policymakers and the research community working together. From her perspective, it is important to collaborate so the ecosystem gains transformative power. She highlighted that academia has huge knowledge that can serve the social economy. On the other hand, different organizations and institutions act as recipients of this knowledge while having the responsibility of acting in the interest of the common good.

Giulia Galera from EURICSE shared an opinion that the relationship between the research community and policymakers is still weak, in her opinion. She thinks scholars should make an effort to understand important characteristics of social enterprises and reflect profoundly on public policies to empower local communities.

Rafael Chaves from the University of Valencia reflected on the issues discussed and highlighted that the research community has much to say and help policy to act in front of challenging issues we are facing. According to him the assessment and the feedback process should be taken into account to improve the policy.
Plenary session 2: What are the possibilities for new action based on collective principles and values?

Chair: Danijel Baturina, University of Zagreb (Croatia)

Speakers: Tine De Moor, Swati Barnejee, Fernanda Wanderley

Tine De Moor from Erasmus University was face-to-face present at the Conference. She delivered a presentation called: “Acting collectively for change?”. From her point of view, there is a need for the triple collective action to deal with major societal challenges. Businesses, governments and citizens need to play an important role and to shift actions toward more responsible and prosocial actions. She shared an experience from a project called collective Kraght, a knowledge exchange platform for Dutch Institutions for Collective Actions (ICAs) that helps to exchange knowledge among different actors.

Swati Barnejee from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, greeted us online directly from India. She gave us some examples of micro enterprises that they have been studying as case studies. She also shared that through collective actions in these organizations, actors are able to implement successful transformation based on principles and values.

Fernanda Wanderley from Catholic University of Bolivia. “San Pablo” was presenting online and opened her presentation trying to answer the question why we need new action based on collective principles and values and relate it to her experience from Latin America, especially Bolivia. She called for a global dialogue and collective effort to put all actors together to contribute for future action.


Forum FETSE

The aim of the Forum for Education and Training on SE (FETSE) is to foster the development of high-quality and accessible inter-university educational programmes in the field of social enterprise/social entrepreneurship (SE). This session collaborated with Emerald, EMES and the African Network of Social Entrepreneurship Scholars (ANSES). A session introduced teaching cases and their value to the social entrepreneurship classroom and you as an academic. It was co-hosted by publishing house Emerald.

Participants: Juliet Harrison, Publisher – Cases Lead at Emerald Publishing

Alex Bignotti, Head: African Network of Social Entrepreneurship Scholars and Guest Editor: Social Entrepreneurship in Africa – Special Collection (forthcoming)

Kerryn Krige, Associate Editor. Emerald, Emerging Markets Case Collection, and Guest Editor (2016) Social Entrepreneurship in Africa – Teaching Case Special Collection
Semi-Plenary sessions

Semi-Plenary 1: Applying SE principles and values in policy-making

Chair: Francesca Petrella, Aix-Marseille University
Speakers: Josep Vidal, Antonella Noya, Juan Manuel Martínez-Louvier

Francesca Petrella reminded us that social enterprises are real actors in territories that contribute to local development, social cohesion, job creation and social innovation. Likewise they share many goals with public decision making. All actions taken by SE’s are toward providing general interest and interest of the community. She invited participants for a deeper understanding of this relationship on different levels and opened a discussion on how policymakers can promote social SE’s values and principles.

Josep Vidal, General Director of Social Economy, the Third Sector and Cooperatives of The Government of Catalonia, pointed out that social economy and social enterprises are not represented enough in the media and it is not very well explained in public what is meant by those terms. According to him, it is logical that SEs principles and values are still missing to a great extent.

Juan Manuel Martínez Louvier, General Director of National Institute of Social Economy, INAES from Mexico, talked about the current situation in Mexico and explained why they are trying to reach new levels for social and solidarity economy. He gave some examples on how they are developing and deploying those actions.

Antonella Noy, Head of the Social Economy and Innovation at the Center for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities of the OECD, reminded that the OECD supported policymakers in generating a public policy for the social and solidarity economy for the last 25 years. She highlighted the success that social enterprises marked during the pandemic, Covid-19. During the crisis, social enterprises showed that they can act really as a partner for the government addressing urgent challenges.
María Soledad de la Puente Sánchez, General Director of Labor of the Government of Aragon, told us about views on social economy regarding territory development. She highlighted the importance of the social economy’s global vision for transformative change. She brought to importance a shift in the way of thinking that actually SE actors are not the cost, but rather a valuable asset for the society.

LINK: https://bit.ly/3omL4gG

Semi-Plenary 2: Alternative approaches to reformulate SE in a post-pandemic world
Chair: Sílvia Ferreira, Coimbra University
Speakers: Nadia Johanisova, Juan Fernando Álvarez, Mayo Fuster

Nadia Johanisova from Masaryk University thinks that social enterprises are important in a building block for economic and societal transformation. It would be wrong only to see them as tools for inclusion. The system needs to change and social enterprises can act as agents of that change, said Johanisova. But if SE’s want to play that particular role they need to be seen from another perspective than neo-liberal.

Juan Fernando Álvarez, from The Pontifical Xavierian University, OIBESCOOP told us about how pandemy affected society, mainly through technological shifts but it did not solve the causes of unsustainability. Therefore, according to him, we need alternative approaches that SE can offer to generate transition.

Mayo Fuster, from The Open University of Catalonia (UOC), presented her contribution online, how new technologies, such as platform economy, acted during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. She called participants to re-think the use of platform economy and using non-discriminatory technologies. Mayo reminded us that it is important to find alternatives toward transition.

LINK: https://bit.ly/3FsAqEF

CLOSING PLENARY
Beyond Hybridity: Addressing complex social and environmental problems through multi-level processes
Chair: Millán Díaz-Foncea
Speakers: Silvia Dorado-Banacloche, Marthe Nyssens

The closing plenary session of the conference was introduced by Marthe Nyssens, professor at Catholic University of Louvain and Silvia Dorado-Banacloche from the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

The session aimed to explore the question: How to address complex social and environmental problems through multi-leveling processes?

Silvia Dorado-Banacloche from the University of Massachusetts, presented her work with the title: Does the hybrid nature of social enterprises (their combining of social and commercial goals) help hinder the ambition of tackling Grand challenges?

Regarding Silvia’s presentation, EMES president Marthe Nyssens reminded us about the story of WISEs (work integration social enterprises), which were one of the first EMES research projects twenty years ago, that were and still remain principal social enterprises in Europe. She shared three principal ideas, to address the main question. One of them is the historical background, as we could see from Silvia’s presentation. Also, the institutional dimension of social enterprises is seen as their ability to collectively produce norms. Marthe Nyssens tackles an important question, regarding the hybridity in SEs, how SE practices can shape the dominant regime and contribute to the “great transition”?

After the presentation, Tracey Coule from SHU called on a deeper understanding of the hybridity idea at its implication on the context where it exists. The field needs to learn more about hybridity as a dynamic condition. The debate on the role of social enterprises in tackling grand challenges would be served through better understanding the historical background that formed today’s institutions.

PAPER AND PANEL PARALLEL SESSIONS

A total of 15 panels were presented in Teruel. Capturing such knowledge and energy would be impossible using only words so we have made a selection of these parallel sessions.

There were a total of 15 panels organized:

1. PANEL 1. Harnessing the transformative power of WISEs. To what extent do WISEs contribute to empowering workers that suffer persistent social stigmatization? https://bit.ly/3wDzmlz
11. PANEL 11: Work Integration Social Enterprises Longitudinal Evaluation Study with At-Risk
Youth in Canada: Ongoing Findings and Research Opportunities and Challenges (II)  

12. PANEL 12. New technologies in the social economy sector  
https://bit.ly/3omXG7w

https://bit.ly/3DauKWo

https://bit.ly/30f3SGc

15. PANEL 15. Unlocking the transformative potential of culture and the arts: Innovative practices and policies from social enterprises and third sector organizations active in the cultural sector (II)  
https://bit.ly/3C8IcZB

Given the space limitations, we have included the description of one panel as a way to illustrate their complexity and the way in which this format is conceived within the EMES conference.

**PANEL 1. Harnessing the transformative power of WISEs. To what extent do WISEs contribute to empowering workers that suffer persistent social stigmatization?**

Chairs: Giulia Galera, Leila Giannetto

Papers included:

- Taking stock of the skills of disadvantaged workers. Preliminary findings from in progress research on WISEs (B-WISE project) and Euricse research actions - Giulia Galera
- Work integration social enterprises in Croatian welfare state perspective - Danijel Baturina
- The role of the WISEs in France: tackle social exclusion through socio-economic integration - Giorgia Trasciani
- Refugee tech in the EU: the role of social enterprises in supporting migrants’ labour market integration with ICT solutions - Leila Giannetto.

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**POSTER SESSIONS**

A total of 5 posters were presented during the conference which is listed below. The authors and abstracts are listed in the Conference program.

THE POSTERS PRESENTED ARE LISTED BELOW:

1. [J]TANA: A community-based participatory action research on reproductive justice lead by gipsy female teenagers - Belén Soto Ponce, Manuel Garcia-Ramírez, Lucia Jimenez

2. The role of intermediaries in building social enterprise ecosystem: the case of Hong Kong - Wing Sai Jessica Tam

3. Social enterprise action: an answer to the inaccessibility of care services- a focus on the Moroccan experience - Marwane El halaissi

4. The Social and Solidarity Economy in an Era of Social Isolation: Building Post-Pandemic Futures Through Food in the City of Montreal - Maria Fustic

5. Using Engaged Civic Learning to Aid Social Enterprise Customer Discovery During the COVID-19 Pandemic - Rasheda Weaver, Chyanne Blakely, Riana Khan
Lessons learned

We share recommendations based on the lessons learned in Teruel during the dialogue between the EMES research community and different SE ecosystem agents:

1. To stimulate the exchanges between different departments and units within public administrations through working groups and transversal projects. This cross-sectoral work could be facilitated by public administration itself or in collaboration with the SE and researchers active in this field.

2. To support the interaction of the agents and units of the public administration and the autonomous communities dedicated to promoting SE (increase the multi-level perspective).

3. At the local level, to promote the exchange between SE experiences and the general public and media representatives.

4. To support fundamental and applied research on real issues for the eco-social transitions we face, highlighting and substantiating the plurality of organizational models and citizen initiatives.

5. From universities, to support the exchange of experiences and mobility of research staff to generate synergies, both in future research projects and in possible applications in the public and business sectors.

6. To promote the encounter between existing networks that helps transfer knowledge between the academic, public and professional fields of the SSE. By transferring the biodiversity of natural ecosystems to our economic systems, the SE generates an essential institutional plurality for its proper functioning for society. The counterweight role it plays at a systemic level in our economies is aligned with the alternative that offers citizens participation, empowering and reconquering public spaces for a healthy democratic life. In this way, SE encourages us to be part of something as transformative as economies centred on people.
Opportunities for participants
BOOK SIGNING EVENT

A total of ten books recently published were presented during the conference in English and one in Spanish. The event was very popular and drew lots of attention from participants, who were able to exchange directly with the authors and get their copies signed. The list below includes the seven books presented with the authors at the event as well as a link where complete information can be found.

IN ENGLISH:

- “Social Enterprise in Western Europe: Theory, Models and Practice” (2021), edited by Jacques Defourny, Marthe Nyssens
- “Social Enterprise in Central and Eastern Europe: Theory, Models and Practice” (2021), edited by Jacques Defourny, Marthe Nyssens
- “Social Enterprise in Latin America: Theory, Models and Practice” (2021), edited by Luiz Inácio Gaiger, Marthe Nyssens, Fernanda Wanderley
- “Social Enterprise in Asia: Theory, Models and Practice” (2021), edited by Eric Bidet, Jacques Defourny
- “Social Enterprise, Health, and Wellbeing. Theory, Methods, and Practice” (2021), edited by Michael J. Roy, Jane Farmer
- “Theory of Social enterprise and pluralism: Social movements, solidarity economy, and the global South” (2021), co-edited by Philippe Eynaud, Jean Louis Laville, Luciane Lucas Dos Santos, Swati Banerjee, Flor Avelino, Lars Hulgård
- “Organizing Logics, Nonprofit Management and Change: Rethinking Power, Persuasion and Authority” by Tracey Coule, Carole Bain

IN SPANISH:

- Experiencias Emergentes de la Economía Social en Iberoamérica, Juan Fernando Álvarez y Carmen Marcuello
VISITS TO LOCAL SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

Oviaragón-Pastores, Agrarian cooperative
www.grupopastores.coop

OVIARAGÓN-Pastores is a cooperative group with more than 40 years of existence that brings together 800 shepherds with almost 400,000 sheep. They are artisans of a profession that requires enjoyment as it requires a lot of effort and dedication. Moreover, it also requires the use of new technologies and the improvement of processes that enable shepherds’ quality of life and profitability to exist.

Visit to Fundación Tervalis
www.fundaciontervalis.es

Founded in 2005 within the Tervalis Group, its goal is to create stable employment for people at risk of social exclusion through its non-profit special employment centres, the management of the Teruel Food Bank, which distributes more than 350,000 kg of food among vulnerable people in Teruel, and the development of other international cooperation projects.

Study Visits to SE Experiences in Zaragoza: La Magdalena, a cooperative neighbourhood

The cooperative tradition of Zaragoza has a long history, but in recent years La Magdalena has brought together a significant number of cooperatives, linked to the associations and networks that the neighbourhood has historically had. In just 500 meters around the tower of the Plaza de La Magdalena, there are enterprises that are part of the social and solidarity economy; cooperatives that innovate, such as the vegetarian restaurant Birosta, La Ciclería - Zaragoza's social centre of the bicycle, the Germinal printing company, with more than 30 years of existence, the social bookstore La Pantera Rossa, the vegetarian creperie A Flama, the design studio with recycled materials Recreando, Aupro - cooperative that brings together architecture with engineering, environment and photography, or the tapas bar La Otra, among others.

VISIT TO TERUEL

Conference participants had the chance to meet the wonderful city of Teruel with its exciting sights as Mudejar-style architectural patrimony-La Torre de El Salvador, La Escalinata, Teruel Cathedral, among others. Also, the participants enjoyed walks through the historical centre of Valderrobres, with its views on river Matarraña. Visitors also discover the history of Church and tower of San Pedro.
GALA DINNER

The gala dinner was held at El Milagro Restaurant. Group Milagro is a local company with a long tradition and recognition in Teruel. For the coffee breaks of the Conference, they collaborated with Koopera, a social economy project associated with CáritasTeruel, to offer us fair trade coffee and snacks. During the dinner, the partners of the conference were present together with EMES and the Conference community. President of EMES, Marthe Nyssens, called the Conference Onsite team and Coordination Unit to join her on the stage. She greeted all the team members and expressed gratitude for hard work during the Conference in Teruel and many other projects that EMES is accomplishing, even in difficult times such as COVID 19 pandemic. She especially thanked Director Rocío Nogales-Muriel for her vision and dedication to the Coordination unit and Millan Díaz-Foncea for helping in the organization of the hybrid conference. The Director and Co-Chair thanked all supporters and partners, and representatives such as Caja Rural de Teruel, for their support in bringing the International event to Teruel. All participants enjoyed local food such as Teruel, well-known jamon and cheese and typical red wine. The local flamenco fusion band, D’Colorao (www.dcolorao.com ), ensured that music (and dance) were not missing and kept a long dancing tradition at EMES Conferences.

PHD SOCIAL EVENT

Following the EMES tradition, PhD students gather around social events in Teruel city center to explore the city and to meet each other and exchange ideas, experiences and support each other. Sergio Paramo Ortiz, PhD representative was coordinating the event and evoked the atmosphere:

“In the PhD Social event, all the PhDs attending the conference got together in Teruel’s city centre to enjoy some delicious tapas and Spanish wine (courtesy of the EMES network) to foster kinship ties, meet new members, and do networking. We also used this space to inform about what we do as PhD reps and to announce the coming PhD Reps elections!”

Sergio Paramo Ortiz
EMES 2021 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 2021 annual General Assembly was held at this Conference, and it gathered EMES members in Teruel. This extraordinary General assembly was a unique moment for EMES members to meet face to face after the COVID 19 pandemic.

The objective was to learn about activities and plans from the Board of Directors and the Coordination Unit and dialogue with the EMES community.

The program included some news at EMES. Firstly, the Board welcomed new institutional members, Institutions for Collective Action (Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam), represented by Tine De Moor, Professor of Social Enterprise and Institutions for Collective Action at the Department of Business-Society Management. Also, updates were made concerning the Affinity groups, represented by Taco Brandsen.

The creation process of affinity groups has slowed down given the pandemic, but EMES will put extra effort into relaunching the dynamics.

At this stage, three affinity groups have been constituted: social enterprises and migration, social enterprises in Eastern countries and social enterprises and sport. In addition, Sergio Paramo Ortiz, EMES PhD representative, was in charge of PhD community engagement.

In October, we will be choosing (online) a new PhD representative and in that manner, EMES thanked Sergio for his dedication and work for the PhD community. Also, it was announced that the next PhD school will be held in Seville in June 2022. Silvia Ferreira gave some final words regarding closing the COST action on Empowering the next generation of social enterprises scholars.

The main objective of the COST action was to enlarge this network and strengthen the relationship with PhDs. The goals have been met through different activities: thematic seminars, affinity groups, publication, summer schools and conferences.

Regarding the Polanyi seminar, which is held every two years and will be held on 25-26 November 2022 in Paris, the call for papers will be launched in the following months.

Finally, it was announced that Taco Brandsen was taking the presidency. The Board will remain the same for the next two years, and Marthe Nyssens will remain as a board member.

Lastly, EMES is open for dialogue with its community members, and it is essential to share your opinions, ideas and suggestions. We invite you to share your feedback and comments with us in writing via members@emes.net.
BEST PAPER AWARD & BEST PHD PRESENTATION

Best Conference Paper

For the fourth edition of this Award, the winners of the “Best Conference Paper” are Irene Ciccarino (CARME-IPLeiria), Susana Rodrigues (CARME-IPLeiria), Jorge Ferreira (IAG-PUC, Rio de Janeiro/Brazil with the paper titled: “Social value appraisal: cutting the Gordian knot.”

After receiving the award, they shared with us:

“This paper offers a consolidation path for the research field by focusing on the main theoretical consensus: the prevalence of social value above economic goals. Personally, because this research is so interconnected with my personal and professional path, this award means a lot to me. I am very glad, and I am confident this recognition can pave new opportunities in my career as a researcher. This award encourages me to keep working to favor social value creation and innovative solutions to solve social problems.”

Best PhD Paper

Given the commitment of EMES to emerging scholars, this Award specifically distinguishes a PhD category but it also aims to emphasise the work of researchers who are in the initial phases of their careers. The winner of this year’s “Best PhD Paper Award” is Mirabel Thibault with his paper: “Survival Advantage of Converted Firms over Ex nihilo Firms. An Empirical Appraisal on French Worker Cooperatives”. He explained:

“I would like to thank the scientific committee as well as the organizers and participants. It is a great honor to receive the Best Paper Award in the PhD category of this EMES conference for my paper “Survival Advantage of Worker Buyouts over Newly Created Worker-Owned Firms.” This paper offers a survival analysis of worker cooperatives distinguishing their entry mode, whether they are created from scratch (newly created worker-owned firms) or converted from existing firms (worker buyouts). The main result is that worker buyouts survive on average longer than newly created worker-owned firms, even worker buyouts of conventional firms in difficulty.

Thank you again for this conference, it has been very nice and fruitful. See you at the next one!”

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Thank you again for this conference, it has been very nice and fruitful. See you at the next one!”
Following the Conference, a series of papers were selected based on the evaluation of the session chairs and published on the conference page. Some of them will be available to download to all visitors to the EMES network website. Please note that these papers were reviewed for their potential, and not with a view to publication. They may be at different stages of development within the overall research process. For more information about the papers, we encourage you to contact the author(s) directly. The list below includes the first selection of 11 papers but others might be added in the future.

- "Transition in the making in financial regime: an unexpected role for social enterprises" Authors: Romain David, Sybille Mertens
- "Values-driven Sustainable Innovative Green Entrepreneurship Model for Value Creation and Stakeholders’ Benefits: A Food sector Case Evidence from India" Authors: P.Karthika, M. Karthikeyan
- "Discourses of participatory governance – case study from social enterprises in Nordic-Baltic countries" Author: Heidi Myyryläinen
- "Social Value Appraisal: Cutting the Gordian knot" Authors: Irene Ciccariino, Susana Rodrigues
- "Organising the enterprise as a common: an alternative to participatory management in worker cooperatives" Author: Kristel Maasen
- "Supporting Women’s Empowerment: UK Social Enterprises and Gender Equality" Authors: Lilian Miles, Maria Granados, Joy Tweed
- "Discourse translating definition criteria into legal provisions: Social Cooperative Enterprises of Law 4430/2016 in Greece of participatory governance – case study from social enterprises in Nordic-Baltic countries" Authors: Sofia Adam, Douvitsa Figeneia
- "Boosting social enterprise start-ups; Ingredients and conditions for an enabling ecosystem in Flanders and the Netherlands" Authors: Philip Marcel Karré, Ben Suykens, Bram Verschuere
- "Navigating the For-profit – Nonprofit paradox: the case of management consulting for nonprofit organizations" Authors: Julien Kleszczowski, Guillaume Carton
- "Survival Advantage of Business Buyouts over Newly created Businesses. An Empirical Investigation on French Worker-Owned Firms" Author: Mirabel Thibault
- "If Not for Profit, then for What? Insights from a Faith-Based Social Enterprise in Ghana" Author: Edmond Vanderpuye
- "Building a transdisciplinary learning community around a SE minor program" Authors: Maarten Hogenstijn, Hendrik-Jan Trooster, Bas Jacobs & Claudia Cuypers

https://emes.net/publication-categories/conference-papers/
Following the experience of previous EMES Conferences, both posters and promotional material were produced in electronic and paper versions. They were distributed via email to members and interested stakeholders to promote the Conference in their institutions.

Besides, news about the Conference was included regularly in the EMES News Alert, which was ended to all subscribers.

In addition, promotional material was posted on the social media, mainly Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.
SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

Map Overlay

www.emes.net
June 01, 2021 - October 15, 2021

Visits 17,160
New Visitors 11,949
Pages / Visit 1.94

Pages views 3,327
% New Visits 86.9%
Avg. Visit Duration 00:01:31

Demographic data

Sex

Age

Visits by County
Main 9 countries

United States 3,049 France 529 United Kingdom 395
Spain 1,039 Netherlands 465 China 375
India 561 Finland 408 Italy 369

Source
Google Analytics
Facebook

We followed the results from social media from 1st June until 15th of October 2021. We have reached more than 3000 likes at our Facebook page. Also, the highest interest about the Conference was on 7th of October, during the event.

There were many posts that tackled the attention of audiences. Here, you can see some of them.

Twitter

Concerning EMES Twitter account had more than 30.000 impressions from 1st June until 15th of October 2021. We gathered around 17000 followers and generated engagements from the audience with some posts.

LinkedIn

Our LinkedIn followers number almost doubled! From 157 followers, we have reached 256, before and during the conference. Most of the audience came from the education sector, enterprises and administration.

Source: Facebook page of EMES International Research Network

Source: Twitter for EMES Network

157 followers  256 followers
June 1st  October 15th
8ª CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL EMES

EMES research conference explores the latest social economy trends

The event was also an opportunity for researchers to consider some of the challenges they face.
Yolanda Díaz anuncia un plan de apoyo a la economía de 100 millones en un congreso internacional

La secretaria general del PSOE, Yolanda Díaz, ha presentado un plan de apoyo a la economía de 100 millones de euros en un congreso internacional. Díaz ha afirmado que el objetivo del plan es ayudar a las empresas y trabajadores que se han visto afectados por la crisis del COVID-19. El plan incluye medidas para mejorar la capacidad de adaptación de las empresas a los cambios en el mercado, así como programas de formación y apoyo a la reubicación de trabajadores. La secretaria general ha anunciado que el plan será presentado al gobierno y a las empresas en el transcurso de los próximos días.

Impecable y eficaz: el escudo ante la crisis del COVID-19

La economía social ha sido una de las áreas donde se ha visto más afectada por la crisis del COVID-19. Según datos del Ministerio de Trabajo, la actividad económica de las empresas de la economía social ha caído un 30% durante el primer semestre del año. Sin embargo, la economía social ha demostrado ser un escudo ante la crisis, pese a los desafíos que presenta.

250 congresistas debaten sobre economía social

Entre los participantes en el congreso se encontraban 250 congresistas de diferentes partidos políticos y organizaciones sociales. El objetivo del congreso era debatir sobre las medidas necesarias para recuperar la economía social a pesar de la crisis. Los congresistas han destacado la importancia de la economía social en la recuperación económica y han pedido la creación de políticas que favorezcan su desarrollo.

Economía social: un escudo anticrisis

La economía social ha demostrado ser una opción de desarrollo sostenible y eficaz en la recuperación económica. En el congreso se han presentado diferentes modelos de economía social que han logrado superar la crisis, lo que ha demostrado su potencial en la economía social. Los congresistas han destacado la importancia de seguir promoviendo la economía social en el futuro.

Hospital de economía social

En el congreso se ha presentado un modelo de economía social que ha logrado superar la crisis. El modelo ha sido presentado por el Hospital de la Seguridad Social, que ha logrado aumentar su capacidad de atención y reducir la deuda en medio de la crisis. Los congresistas han destacado la importancia de seguir promoviendo modelos como éste en el futuro.
We conducted different evaluations—one qualitative, where we gathered statements from conference participants, and other quantitative, through surveys. The goal is to learn about things that could be improved for future editions and to know what we are doing well.

We have gathered 97 answers from both online (42%) and on-site (58%) participants. Overall, participants positively evaluated Teruel as a place chosen for conference and hospitality of organizers and support provided. Also, most of the answers showed high satisfaction with gathering diverse sectors and networking and social events opportunities. On the other hand, technical issues and hybrid format were described as challenging for most participants.

### Please tell us a little about yourself

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<td>3 Other</td>
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How did you attend our conference?

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<td>2 I was on campus!</td>
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How did you learn about this event?

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<td>3 Other</td>
<td>26.02%</td>
<td>32</td>
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<td>4 Social Media: Facebook</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Social Media: LinkedIn</td>
<td>2.44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Social Media: Twitter</td>
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Please rank the overall quality of the conference.
1 is Poor and 10 is Just Fantastic

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MEMBERS’ EXPERIENCES

As a qualitative evaluation, we wanted to share the opinions of our online and onsite participants. We ask researchers and PhD students to share their opinions about the 8th EMES International Conference and what they would highlight.

Juliana Rodrigues | PhD (Aalto University, Finland/Brazil)

“The possibility of taking part in the EMES Conference in 2021 was very fruitful and a great opportunity to discuss prominent topics and issues on social enterprises in this scenario after long months of the pandemic. I genuinely appreciate the diversity of voices and exchange between researchers and scholars from the Global South and Global North. The hybrid format made it possible to take part in such powerful conversations even away from Teruel. Thank you for this opportunity!”

Andres Morales Pachon | Researcher (UNIR, Spain)

“The last international EMES conference was fantastic. Having chosen the capital of the social and solidarity economy in Spain, Teruel, demonstrated the coherence of the ideological core of the EMES network. From my perspective, a post-covid19 gathering was necessary, the face-to-face exchange was crucial to widening and strengthening the EMES network. The virtual part was also incredible. I think it was the only way to connect people from all over the world. The event’s team was fantastic; they managed to solve all the vicissitudes of the conference impeccably. All were super helpful. I always suggest to all my colleagues to attend EMES events because they are the best in our sector.”

Sergio Paramo Ortiz
PhD Representative (University of York, UK)

“The 8th EMES conference was a fantastic opportunity to reunite in person the PhD EMES community after two years of COVID19 lockdowns. Three moments are worth highlighting: the EMES PhD Network meeting during the Transdisciplinary forum, the PhD Social event, and the 2nd part of the EMES PhD training school.”
Mihaela Lambru
Researcher (University of Bucharest, Romania)

“It was a great pleasure to participate in the 8th EMES Conference. As one of the online participants, I appreciated the organizers’ effort to help all the EMES members, regardless of their face-to-face or digital participation mode. I enjoyed everything the EMES conference offered in terms of scientific communication and network opportunities.”

Michaela Giovannini | Independent researcher (Italy)

“It was great for me to participate in the Emes conference in Teruel, especially this year, after lockdowns. It was like going back to real life, feeling that we belong to a research community which is, first of all, a place where you feel at home. A place where you meet people you know, and most of the time, the first question we ask each other is, “how do you feel?” “How did you spend these hard times?” This gives you a feeling of belonging, a sense of taking care of each other.

In Teruel, I experienced the beauty of discussing face to face with other researchers again, both in the parallel sessions and out of the formal spaces. New projects and ideas for the collaboration came out, and this was crucial to me to recover and establish new mental energies and enthusiasm.”
Given the hybrid nature of this year’s Conference and other online events, we all wished for the proximity and presence of all our community. EMES conferences are all about meeting with great people and researchers, sharing ideas and knowledge, and transmitting the core values we genuinely believe in. So, a meeting such as this one in Teruel was great in the sense that after an extended lockdown, we could gather and share some unforgettable moments.

This year we had an innovation due to increasing the possibilities for joining online events.

Also, we wanted to tell you a bit about our Solidarity Fund. In Teruel, the Solidarity Fund made it possible to offer participation in the Conference to 9 people. EMES managed to overcome the crisis by creating the Solidarity Fund to provide financial support to people with few resources to still join and participate in EMES activities, such as the Conference.

Heartfelt gratitude goes to:

- Photography and video: Emek Filogullari
  http://www.filogullari.com/

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  https://blackfocus.es/

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  www.culbuks.com

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  https://ideasamares.com/

We thank our partners for making it such a pleasure to work together!
On-site team

Sophie Adam | EMES Coordination Unit

“Participating in the EMES Conference, I also felt—the deep joy of REALLY seeing people again and the concern for each other. In other words, « how are you? » you could see not just an automatic question but the expression of a genuine concern for others. We need this after a strange and challenging period.”

Tamara Bilbija | EMES Coordination Unit

“I think that Galeano’s phrase: many people, in small places, doing small things can change the world, perfectly could describe our 8th International Conference. I feel gratitude and enthusiasm for having a community like EMES and for the opportunity to contribute to the social transformation we are living.”

Javier Perez | University of Zaragoza

“I liked working as a team, where everyone was willing to help, always with great joy, but with excellent order and responsibility. I learned a lot about diversity, and that something may seem difficult but can become a reality.”

Ana Felicitats Gargallo-Castel | University of Zaragoza

“I loved sharing an international experience with the entire EMES team and being able to be a host in my homeland.”

Juan David Gómez Quintero | University of Zaragoza

“Conferences usually address issues and problems analyzed and discussed by relevant experts and social actors, but, typically, the topic is only an object of analysis. In the EMES Conference, there is talk of social, solidarity and cooperative economy, but simultaneously, the participants act in a fraternal, solidarity and collaborative way. In conclusion, it is not just a subject of study; it is a lifestyle and relationship with people and the planet.”
“The conference has taught me that teamwork is fundamental. It has been incredible to see how a group works so well without having rehearsed much, something that I see reflected in the Social Economy in a certain way. Cooperation and good values.”

Tania Elipe | University of Zaragoza

“The EMES international conference has been an unforgettable experience that has allowed me to meet wonderful people. On a professional level, it has made me rethink that there is another way of doing things, that it is possible, and that many people are working for a better world.”

Daniel Millera Espada | University of Zaragoza

“Regarding the experience, I would say it helped me know what the organization of a Congress of these dimensions is like from the inside. I would also highlight the beautiful group that we created from the first minute.”

Bogdan Radu Marhelka | University of Zaragoza

“Jokes, laughter and coffees have compensated for the lack of hours of sleep. The “info point” has left me with a good memory that I will carry with me for a lifetime.”

Alejandro Alcay Martínez | University of Zaragoza

“We find ourselves organizing an event of dimensions that we did not even imagine. Without the human quality and the cooperation breathed in the environment, it would have been impossible to continue. It was a very enriching experience working as a team.”

Mariana Couto | University of Zaragoza

“Being able to support the conference was an advantage. It allowed me to increase my networking skills, be in an international context with different approaches, as well as learn about the latest research in the field of social enterprise and learn from my team.”

Claudia Kenbel | The National University of Rio Cuarto

“The conference was a rich personal and institutional experience. It was the first time I participated in a hybrid event, the theme was of great interest to public policy decision-makers and those who studied these processes. Hopefully, conferences like this one will exist in other parts of the world. It was a pleasure to have been part of it.”

Support team:

Blanca Martínez | University of Zaragoza

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Audiovisual technical support

BLACK FOCUS PRODUCTION

Juan Pazmiño

“The Social and Solidarity Economy is an area that I consider essential if we want to grow as a society. In this regard, this EMES conference helps us value theoretical ideas and the people who share SSE values. I had an incredible feeling with the entire team, which has made this conference possible, and team dedication has been key to success.”

Enrique Navarro

“The personal and professional satisfaction that one feels when approaching an EMES conference is enormous. We participated with our tools to help transform society, and that is our philosophy as producers. Thanks to EMES, we have been able to help disseminate ideas that, without a doubt, are a reflection of the future to which we all together must look for.”

Isabela Cortés

“I adore my work and the performance that I have carried out specifically in the conference, but working here has not been only a professional satisfaction. Sharing the experience in person with the team has made it a personal memory for a lifetime.”
Past conferences

▷ The 1st EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprise in Trento (Italy) was held in 2001

▷ The 2nd EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprises was held in Trento (Italy) in 2009

▷ The 3rd EMES International Conference in Roskilde (2011) called “Social Innovation through Social Entrepreneurship in Civil Society”, was hosted by the Centre for Social Entrepreneurship in Roskilde (Denmark)

▷ The 4th EMES International Research Conference (2013), entitled “If not for profit, for what? And how?”, was hosted by the Centre for Social Economy in Liege (Belgium)

▷ The 5th EMES International Research Conference in 2015 “Building a scientific field to foster social enterprise ecosystem”, was hosted by FinSERN in Helsinki (Finland)

▷ The 6th EMES International Research Conference in 2017 was entitled “Social enterprise and sustainable societies”, and hosted by CIRTES in Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium)

▷ The 7th EMES International Research Conference in 2019, called: “Sustainable development through social enterprise, co-operative and voluntary action”, hosted by SHU in Sheffield (United Kingdom)
8th EMES Summer Training School
The next summer school will take place in 20-23 June 2022 in Seville (Spain), hosted by the University of Seville. The call is available at https://bit.ly/3rHnnCZ. Summer schools are an essential part of EMES where PhD members constitute not only a network of its own but also they spearhead initiatives within the EMES global community.

4th EMES-Polanyi Seminar
The 4th EMES-Polanyi Seminar that was planned for March 2020 had to be cancelled three days before given the announcement of the lockdown. We are happy to announce that the next one will be held on 25-26 November 2022 in Paris. The call for papers will be launched in early 2022. The EMES-Polanyi seminar takes place every two years and the next edition is plan to be hosted by Roskilde University in November 2024.

Next EMES conference
Given the very difficult year and the challenges of organizing the Teruel conference, we are still gathering the lessons learned and planning for our next conference. Please stay tuned and we will let you the board had neither the energy nor the time to prepare for the next conference.

If you have ideas or suggestions that you would like us to consider when preparing this major event, please let us know by writing to us at 8emesconf@emes.net.