

**DOING RESEARCH IN EXTREME CONTEXTS: WHAT CAN BE LEARNED?
3RD INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP**

Organized by:

GREGOR, IAE Paris Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, France

CEROS, Université Paris Nanterre, France

GéPS: Study Group of Strategy-as-practice, HEC Montréal, Canada

Triple ED: Extreme Environments and Everyday Decisions, Umeå School of Business and Economics, Sweden

Thursday and Friday, October 19-20, 2017

PARIS, FRANCE

IAE Paris Sorbonne Graduate Business School

8 bis rue de la Croix Jarry 75013 Paris

This third workshop in the *Organizing and Strategizing in Extreme Contexts* series will focus on what can be learned from extreme contexts. Recent events remind us on an almost daily basis that any organisation could be threatened by extreme events that interrupt the “normal” life – from natural disasters (Matthew Hurricane in Haiti) to social crisis (refugee in Europe, Zika epidemic) or occurring abruptly (terrorist attacks in Paris and Nice). These events also inform us that extreme contexts are one of today’s societies grand challenges (Van de Vegt, 2015). Extreme contexts refer to “an environment in which one or more extreme events are occurring or are likely to occur that may exceed the organization’s capacity to prevent and result in an extensive and intolerable magnitude of physical, psychological, or material consequences to organization members” (Hannah et al., 2009:897).

These contexts “outside the norms” raise fundamental challenges to usual ways of organizing (Lyng, 2005; Christianson, 2009; Giannantonio & Hurley-Hanson, 2013). Extreme contexts offer stimulating opportunities to go deeper into different and sometimes hidden aspects of organizing and strategizing. Still, relatively few studies have explored what can be learned from these contexts. To understand the key issue of what can be learned, different forms of knowledge are central. This knowledge includes everything from the production of academic knowledge to knowledge used by practitioners. This workshop will be devoted to engaging more specifically with issues such as, but not limited to:

- How do we organise for a resilient society?
- What do we learn from extreme contexts?
- How do we learn? - What kind of methods do we need to produce knowledge about extreme contexts?
- What are a skilful performance in extreme contexts? What enables and constrains such a performance – and how do we research it?
- How do we translate our insights from extreme contexts to more conventional industries?

The workshop will be organized around plenary sessions where distinguished scholars will present published papers related to extreme contexts, and parallel sessions where researchers will share and discuss their work-in-progress. In addition, roundtable sessions will also give participants the opportunity to discuss specific challenges and issues raised by doing research in extreme contexts. Ian Colville (University of Bath, UK), Sylvia Gherardi (University of Trento, Italy), Hervé Laroche (ESCP Europe, France) and Annie Pye (Cardiff University, UK) are our confirmed distinguished guest speakers and chairs.

If you are interested, please e-mail to extremecontexts2017@gmail.com before the **15th July**, and submit the title and an abstract of no more than 1000 words by September 4, 2017. There will be no more than 45 participants in the workshop.

Organizing committee:

Frédéric Gautier, GREGOR
Geneviève Musca, CEROS
Markus Hällgren, Triple ED
Linda Rouleau, GéPS