

Transnational Entrepreneurship

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Panel organizers:

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Panel description:

As a result of the European integration process, and in light of the pertaining differences in prosperity of individual European regions, we see new opportunities emerging for people who are ready to migrate and to become entrepreneurs. Their migration and employment projects are potentially transnational, in the sense that individuals access resources across nation state borders. These individual strategies has not be convincingly covered by previous studies of ethnic or migrant entrepreneurship.

We invite papers which address individual and social embedding of entrepreneurial activities of migrants in local political and institutional contexts in their countries of origin, destination, or third countries. We seek contributions which make use of the most recent literature on migrant entrepreneurship that shows the transformations of independent employment strategies due to multiple processes of globalization, glocalization and transnationalisation, including easier access to transportation and communication. We are particularly interested in papers that address the following questions:

- 1) if and under which conditions self-employment is a way of improving migrants' life chances and situation, and why for some migrants this strategy is a 'mobility trap';
- 2) why and under which conditions migrants opt for independent employment, and how political and economic conditions and biographical aspects such as the need for autonomy, family planning, self-realization desires, shape transnational entrepreneurship;
- 3) what are the aspirations of migrant entrepreneurs, which status they aspire to, and whom do they compare themselves to, nationally or transnationally;
- 4) to what extent and why the entrepreneurial activities of migrants and individual biographies of entrepreneurs can be classified as "European" or "transnational".

Paper proposal submission should be completed through the congress system by **March 31, 2016**. The link is available at <http://16zjazdpts.pl/en/#blocks>