

Special Issue of the Triple Helix Journal “Governance of Innovation Ecosystems and Triple Helix” (ISSN: 2197-1927)

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Call for Papers

The governance of innovation ecosystems, particularly within the context of the Triple, Quadruple and Quintuple Helix and similar models, has become increasingly important for regions to solve on economic, social and environmental challenges (Etzkowitz & Zhou, 2017; Cai & Etzkowitz, 2020; Engel, 2020; Pique, Berbegal-Mirabent & Etzkowitz, 2018; Carayannis & Campbell, 2011; Carayannis, Barth, & Campbell, 2012). These ecosystems, which involve the interplay between universities, industries, governments, civil society and other relevant actors are not spontaneous; rather, they are often the result of deliberate governance strategies aimed at fostering collaboration and innovation (Jacobides, Cennamo & Gawer, 2018; Etzkowitz & Leydesdorff, 2000; Carayannis & Campbell, 2010; Rapetti, Pique, Etzkowitz, Miralles, & Duran, 2023).

Effective governance within these ecosystems requires understanding the dynamic and complex relationships between different actors, which evolve over time and across different stages of ecosystem development (Adner, 2017; Piqué, Miralles, & Berbegal-Mirabent, 2019). Governance frameworks shape the direction and outcomes of innovation, guiding the necessary collaboration among diverse stakeholders (Jessop, 2003; Sorensen & Torfing, 2009).

Regions that have successfully stimulated innovation, such as Silicon Valley and Barcelona, demonstrate the importance of tailored governance strategies that accommodate the specific needs of their innovation ecosystems (Engel, 2015; Rapetti et al. 2022; Engel 2020). These strategies not only foster economic growth but also create environments conducive to attracting and retaining talent (Florida, 2006). However, replicating the lessons learned from these successes in other regions requires a deep understanding of the governance dynamics and the stages of development that innovation ecosystems undergo (Walrave et al., 2018; Piqué et al. 2019).

This special issue aims to explore the governance mechanisms within the Triple, Quadruple and Quintuple Helix framework, focusing on how these mechanisms evolve and guide this evolution (for more information about Triple Helix research agenda, see Cai & Amaral, 2021 and Amaral et al., 2023). By integrating theoretical perspectives with empirical case studies, this issue seeks to provide insights into the governance of innovation ecosystems, offering valuable guidance for policymakers and stakeholders involved in fostering regional innovation.

Scope and Topics:

We encourage submissions that address, but are not limited to, the following themes:

1. Governance Structures in Innovation Ecosystems:

- What governance frameworks are most effective in supporting collaboration within Triple, Quadruple and Quintuple Helix ecosystems? (Carayannis & Campbell, 2010)
- Comparative analyses of governance models in different regional, national, or sectoral innovation systems (Cooke et al., 1997; Nelson, 1993).

2. Role of Governance in Regional Innovation:

- How do governance strategies differ in regions with spontaneous innovation (like Silicon Valley) versus regions with induced innovation ecosystems (Engel et al., 2018; Piqué et al., 2019, Engel et al., 2018)?
- Case studies of successful regional governance in innovation ecosystems and the role of local authorities, universities, and businesses (please see Cai & Amaral, 2024, to check what kind of submission is accepted).

3. Evolution of Governance in Innovation Ecosystems:

- How do governance structures evolve as innovation ecosystems mature and grow in complexity (Provan & Kenis, 2008; Wegner et al., 2019, Pique et al., 2020)?
- Examination of the interplay between trust, authority, and governance flexibility in multi-stakeholder networks (Albers, 2017; Thomas & Autio, 2014).

4. Governance Mechanisms in Multi-Actor Networks:

- Analysis of governance models, including shared governance, lead organization governance, and external network administrative organizations (Provan & Kenis, 2008).
- The role of leadership, decision-making, and power dynamics in governance structures within innovation ecosystems (Adner, 2017; Adner & Kapoor, 2010).

5. Innovation Ecosystems in Emerging Economies:

- Governance challenges and opportunities in emerging markets and their impact on innovation outcomes (Vasconcelos Gomes et al., 2018; Dedehayir et al., 2018).
- Comparative studies on how governance practices from developed ecosystems can inform governance in emerging economies.

6. Theoretical Perspectives on Governance:

- Exploration of new theoretical frameworks that advance our understanding of governance in the context of innovation ecosystems (Jacobides et al., 2018; Sorensen & Torfing, 2009).
- Integration of governance theories from political science, economics, and sociology to provide a more robust understanding of innovation ecosystems governance.

7. Governance and Technological Platforms:

- How do technological platforms influence governance structures in innovation ecosystems (Gawer & Cusumano, 2008)?
- The role of digital governance in enhancing collaboration and innovation in Triple, Quadruple and Quintuple Helix ecosystems.

We invite contributions that delve into the governance structures, processes, and challenges within Triple, Quadruple and Quintuple Helix analytical framework. This special issue aims to provide theoretical advancements and practical insights for improving governance in innovation ecosystems, making it a critical resource for policymakers, academics, and practitioners.

Authors should submit their extended abstracts to the guest editors for a pre-review by **January 31st, 2025**, via email. Earlier submissions are encouraged.

Upon acceptance of the pre-reviewed version by the guest-editors, full papers should be submitted following the submission instructions below through the submission system (where they will undergo double-blind peer-review) at:

<https://www.editorialmanager.com/thj/>

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Governance and Triple Helix

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- The APC fee of the papers will be covered by the Triple Helix Association and its partners. At least one author must be member of THA.

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