



CIRIEC & its Research Activities

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Dorothea GREILING

President of the International Scientific council

Eoin REEVES

President of the International Scientific Commission of Public Enterprises/Public Services

Barbara SAK

Director of CIRIEC





OBJECTIVES of this scientific NGO

CIRIEC develops activities of interest for both managers and researchers

with opportunities for mutual enrichment

on economic sectors and activities oriented towards the service of the general and collective interest:

- action by the State and the local and regional public authorities in economic fields (economic policy, regulation);
- public utilities;
- public and mixed enterprises at the national, regional and municipal levels;
- the so-called “social economy” (not-for-profit economy, cooperatives, mutuels, and non-profit organizations); etc.



FUNDAMENTALS - WHY ARE WE TOGETHER?

CIRIEC's members share the **conviction** that:

- public, social and cooperative economy has a place in society that needs to be affirmed and developed;
- their reflections and actions, as well as the synthesis of knowledge, are made in the name of the values to “safeguard the general interest and to strive for the ideal of economic democracy as these are actual aims of the public, social and cooperative economy”;
- this joint reflection, between academics and practitioners, “on public, social and cooperative economy, in its various forms and relationships throughout the world” is all the more relevant in these times of **instability** and **post-pandemic structural changes**, which require a strong mobilisation of the services and infrastructures of public and social economy organisations and their workforce.



CIRIEC topics

1. Cross cutting topics covering public social and cooperative economy:

- Plural economy, i.e. the cooperation between the private, the public and the social economy sector (non-profit, mutuels, cooperatives, etc.)
- Governance systems/regimes and general interest within social services and health care
- Contemporary crisis and renewal of public action
- Joint production and co-production of public goods and commons: complementarity between organisations and paradigm shift for collective action?

2. Public economy (public services / public enterprises)

3. Social and cooperative economy

MEANS

- International secretariat (located in Liège, Belgium) with a “hub” function.
- International scientific journal, the *Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics*
- Documentation centres (at national level)
- Publication of books, special issues of scientific journals, working papers and research results
- Organisation of scientific events and conferences
- Activities inside the respective national sections of CIRIEC (national scientific committees, platform for political debates, auditions by the executive authorities, achieving of researches for government agencies,...) and contacts with their members who sometimes hold leading functions in national governments, European bodies, international and apex organizations.
- Numerous **international contacts & partnerships**



CIRIEC leaders

President (and former ones)

- Bernard THIRY, Professor of Economics at University of Liège, former CEO of Ethias (Mutual Insurance Company), former Director of the CREG (Gas and Electricity Regulatory Commission in Belgium)
- Alain ARNAUD, Former President of the Mutualité Fonction Publique (MFP); President of CIRIEC-France
 - Léopold BEAULIEU, former President and CEO of FondAction, Development Fund for Cooperation and Employment of the Confederation of National Trade Unions (CNTU); President of CIRIEC-Canada
 - Willi HANSS, former CEO of Leipziger Verkehrsbetriebe, Germany
 - Leona DETIEGE, Former Mayor of Antwerp, former President of CIRIEC-Belgium
 - Jacques FOURNIER, former CEO of Gaz de France, former President of SNCF, public civil servant in numerous functions, former President of CEEP (1988-1994)
 - Fritz GAUTIER, former CEO of Kölner Stadtwerke, President of CIRIEC (1994-98), President of CEDEC

Director general (and former one)

- Barbara SAK, Secretary General of CIRIEC-Belgium (since 2008), and formerly acting Secretary General (since 2000), and Deputy Director of CIRIEC international (since 2000)
- Guy QUADEN, former Governor of Belgium's National Bank (1999-2011)



Institutional Partnerships



International
Labour
Organization



UNRISD
United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
Institut de Recherche des Nations Unies pour le Développement Social



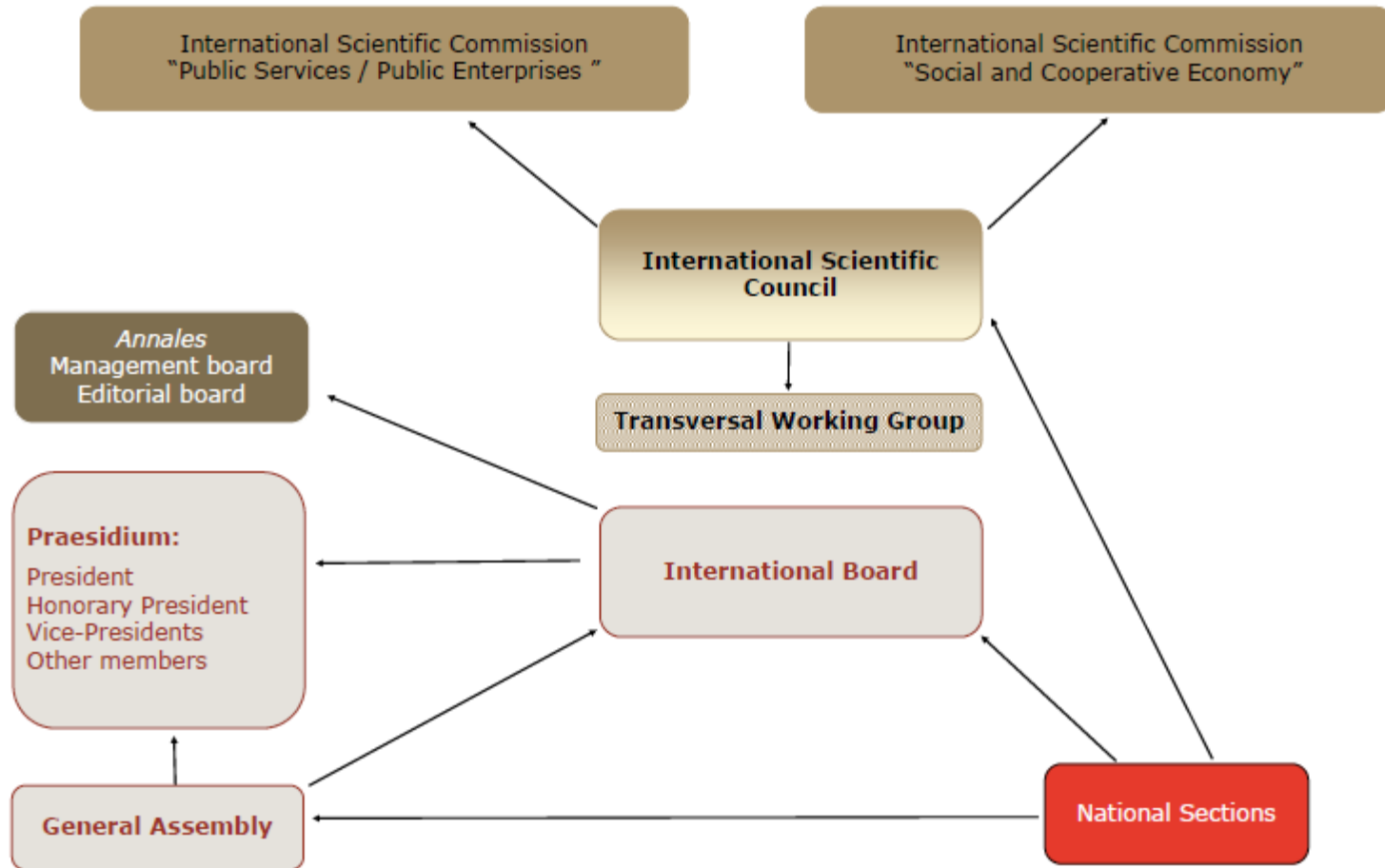
Inter-Agency Task Force on
Social and Solidarity Economy

 Social
Economy
Europe



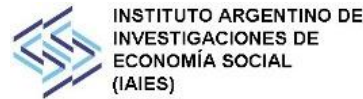
- **UNRISD & UNTFSSSE Knowledge Hub on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**
- Cooperation with various **European institutions** (EESC, EP, various DG of EU Commission)
- + Partnership with **CEDEC**:





MEMBERSHIP AND RESOURCES OF CIRIEC

International Centre of Research and Information on the Public, Social and Cooperative Economy





RESEARCH STRATEGY

- 20 years of MEEW Workshops as the backbone for the ISC on Public Enterprises/ Public Services.
- Commitment to rigorous, high impact research at the high end (APCE) and
- other publication outlets for CIRIEC's working groups (CIRIEC Studies Series: in open online access, REPEC-indexed and CIRIEC Working Papers (6 in 2021, 17 in 2020, all available in open access))
- Openness to all rigorously applied research methods.
- Observation and topics:
 - Traditional distinction between PE and SSE has been blurring for quite a while-> transversal topics.
 - PE and SSE as actors for addressing the Grand Societal challenges.
 - Pe and SSE as enablers for implementing the SDGs.
 - Public utilities as the backbone for secure service provision.
- Call for papers disseminated in the working groups



CURRENT WORKING GROUPS

PUBLIC ENTERPRISES / PUBLICS SERVICES

continued working group

Accountability, anti-corruption, and transparency policies in Public owned enterprises (POEs)

Andrea Zatti (coord.) (IT)

Newly established in 2022:

- **Governance and accountability (Governability) of multiple values of municipal corporations (MCs)**

Daniela Argento (SE), Giuseppe Grossi (SE), Anna Thomasson (SE), Marieke Van Genugten (NL) (coord.)

- **Public Enterprises and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**
Eoin Reeves (IE) & Christina Schaefer (DE) (coord.)



CURRENT WORKING GROUPS

PUBLIC ENTERPRISES / PUBLICS SERVICES

Short term objectives for Working Groups:

Other potential WGs and new participants?

- Public investment banks.
- Re-municipalisation (reverse privatisation).
- State Capitalism.

WGs to hold online Workshops (Autumn, 2022).

Plan SOE track (IRSPM, 2023 in Budapest).

Develop plans for Journal Special Issues (SI's).

Explore Research Funding Possibilities.



Publications - APCE

2020 Impact Factor: 1.905

Special issues: LINK WITH CIRIEC RESEARCH PROGRAMS

The Continuing Importance of State-Owned Enterprise in the 21st Century: Challenges for Public Policy, ed. by L. Bernier & E. Reeves (2018)

The Performance and Potential of Public Private Partnerships,
ed. by E. Reeves, D. Palcic & M. Siemiatycki (2019)

The New Age of Commons – Innovation or Necessity?,
ed. by Ph. Bance & J. Schoenmaeckers (2021)

Knowledge Creation: New Frontiers for Public Investment, ed. by M. Florio (2021)

ISC SSE

Social Economy under Influence : isomorphism or innovation?,
eds. Marie J. Bouchard (CA), Ignacio Bretos (ES), Alberto Zevi (IT), 2020/3

Social Impact Measurement of the Social Economy,
eds. Marie J. Bouchard (CA), Damien Rousselière (FR), 2022/2

Scientific Commission

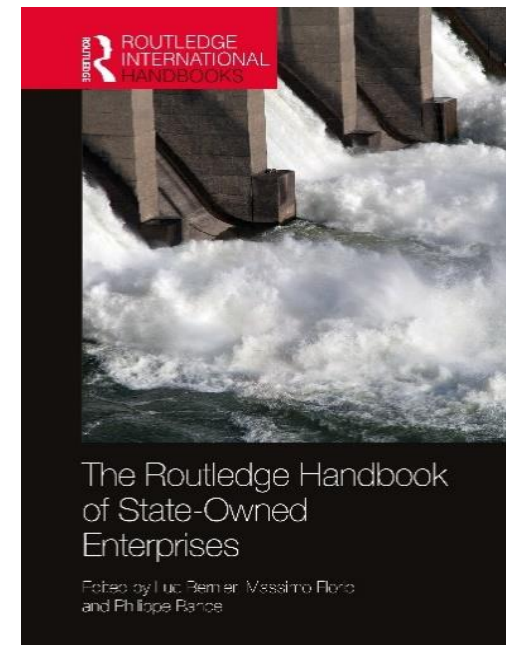
“Public Enterprises / Public Services”

➤ *Routledge Handbook of State-Owned Enterprises*

discussion/presentation seminars

➤ Topics:

- Scope of the phenomenon
- History & geography
- Approaches to study SOEs
- Financial dimension of public ownership
- Governance issues
- Activities & performance of SOEs
- SOEs and innovation: a new frontier





CURRENT WORKING GROUPS

SOCIAL AND COOPERATIVE ECONOMY

- **Gender Issues and Social Economy**

Juan F. Alvares (CO), Marie J. Bouchard (CA), Isabelle Guérin (FR), Carmen Marcuello (ES) (coord.)

- **SSE Utopias and Imaginary Narratives**

Alexandrine Lapoutte with Eric Dacheux, Thimothée Duverger (FR) (coord.)



UPCOMING CIRIEC INTERNATIONAL EVENTS (2022-23)

- *Post-Covid-19: Public enterprises and the social economy at the forefront of economic, social and environmental recovery*
Conference in Thessaloniki (Greece), 22-23 May 2023
- **Knowledge creation, public entrepreneurship and social justice**
XX Milan European Economy Workshop (23-24 June 2022)
- **9th INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL ECONOMY:**
Building Forward better: Social and Solidarity Economy for a peaceful and fair world, Seoul (KR) (4-6 July 2023)



International Centre of Research and Information
on the Public, Social and Cooperative Economy

<http://www.ciriec.uliege.be/en/> - ciriec@uliege.be