



WELCOME TO THE JOURNAL “STUDIES IN RISK AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”!

Monika Wieczorek-Kosmala¹

Editor-in-Chief

¹ University of Economics in Katowice, Poland, m.wieczorek-kosmala@ue.katowice.pl, ORCID: 0000-0002-7048-0172

We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them

Albert Einstein

On behalf of the University of Economics in Katowice and the Editorial Board, I have great pleasure in welcoming you to the inaugural issue of the journal “Studies in Risk and Sustainable Development” (SRSD).

The concepts of risk and sustainable development are as old as our civilisation, yet, their understanding changes in time, and creates challenges for each generation. The SRSD journal’s mission is to contribute to the growing academic debate over the omnipresent issues of sustainable development and to interlink them to the concepts of risk and risk management.

The wider discussion over the sustainable development as a paradigm was intensified in the 1990s, with the emphasis of environmental and social contexts in the process (growth or change) leading to the achievement of defined objectives (Bolis, Morioka, & Szelwar, 2014; Lélé 1991). In the existing body of literature we observe multidisciplinary approaches to the concept of sustainable development, and thus the vagueness of its definition (Abrahams 2017; Jabareen 2006; Ruggerio 2021). The variety of topics addressed by the academic community refer to a wide range of problems that cover the 17 Sustainable Development Goals by the United Nations (UN SDG, 2022) and the related indicators. The works published in the fields of economics, finance or management also cover a multiplicity of themes that are given considerable research attention. Thus, we hope the SRSD will become the hub for new ideas and concepts of sustainable development, given the perspectives of these disciplines.

However, we also hope that the SRSD will fill the gap in the emerging debate on the links between sustainable development and the discipline of risk management. Gray and Wiedemann (1999) suggested that both concepts, in fact, are very close constructs. One of the recent trends in risk management is the holistic view, that highlights the need to integrate risk-oriented thinking into each aspect of performance, which is widely referred to as the ERM (Enterprise Risk Management) concept (Dickinson, 2001; McShane, 2018). Interestingly, Spedding’s and Rose’s (2008) proposal of the SERM (Sustainable Enterprise Risk Management) system confirms this view, by pursuing the economic, social and environmental performance and the integration of the related risk management activities on the route to sustainable success. In the literature, the links between sustainable development and risk are also framed within the concepts of disaster risk reduction (Kelman, 2017; McBean, 2012) or resilience (Becker, 2014). The SRSD also warmly welcomes contributions that address the very recent anxieties about the achievement of SDG goals, in particular those linked to environmental or climate change risks.

In its new release, the "Studies in Risk and Sustainable Development" continue the rich history of research papers that have been published by the University of Economics in Katowice since 1957 and remain an important part of the 85-year long history of the University itself. Over the years, the research papers have changed their format, title and thematic orientation several times, to meet and respond to the contemporary challenges and sustain their vital role in enriching the academic dispute. The Editorial Team of the SRDS is proud to continue this history and welcomes the confidence placed in our efforts by the University Authorities.

The Editorial Team, with the support of the Editorial Board, aims at establishing the "Studies in Risk and Sustainable Development" as a challenging and thought-provoking platform for the exchange of research ideas. We welcome original contributions and remain inclusive of the perspectives offered by academia and practice, in particular the community of young researchers and graduate students. We hope readers will continue to find SRSD informative, relevant and worthwhile.

REFERENCES

- Abrahams, G. (2017). Constructing definitions of sustainable development. *Smart and Sustainable Built Environment*, 6(1), 34-47. <https://doi.org/10.1108/SASBE-03-2017-0009>
- Becker, P. (2014). *Sustainability science. Managing risk and resilience for sustainable development*. Elsevier.
- Bolis, I., Morioka, S. N., & Szelwar, L. I. (2014). When sustainable development risks losing its meaning. Delimiting the concept with a comprehensive literature review and conceptual model. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 83(15), 7-20. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2014.06.041>
- Dickinson, G. (2001). Enterprise risk management: Its origins and conceptual foundation. *The Geneva Papers on Risk and Insurance*, 26(3), 360-366. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-0440.00121>
- Gray, P. C. R., & Wiedemann, P. M. (1999). Risk management and sustainable development: Mutual lessons from approaches to the use of indicators. *Journal of Risk Research*, 2(3), 201-218.
- Jabareen, Y. (2006). A new conceptual framework for sustainable development. *Environmental Development and Sustainability*, 10(2), 179-192. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10668-006-9058-z>
- Kelman, I. (2017). Linking disaster risk reduction, climate change, and the sustainable development goals. *Disaster Prevention and Management*, 26(3), 254-258. <https://doi.org/10.1108/DPM-02-2017-0043>
- Lélé, S.M. (1991). Sustainable development: A critical review. *World Development*, 19(6), 607-621. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0305-750X\(91\)90197-P](https://doi.org/10.1016/0305-750X(91)90197-P)
- McBean, G. A. (2012). Integrating disaster risk reduction towards sustainable development. *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability*, 4(1), 122-127. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2012.01.002>
- McShane, M. (2018). Enterprise risk management: History and a design science proposal. *Journal of Risk Finance*, 19(2), 137-153. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JRF-03-2017-0048>
- Ruggerio, C. A. (2021). Sustainability and sustainable development: A review of principles and definitions. *Science of The Total Environment*, 786(10), 147481. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.147481>
- Spedding, L., & Rose A. (2008). *Business risk management handbook*. Jordan Hill: Sustainable Approach CIMA Publishing, Oxford: Elsevier (copyright).
- UN SDG (2022). <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>