

Call for Papers

Special Issue on **Resilience**

Edited by

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The COVID-19 pandemic has been perceived as a “stress test” of unprecedented dimensions, challenging the resilience of business models, societal institutions, and entire economies. While the pandemic is still in full swing, plenty of empirical evidence has emerged already. Simultaneously, the extent of the climate and biodiversity crises are becoming increasingly clear, fundamentally questioning the way we have done business up to now. This demonstrates that “going back to normal” may not be aligned with a resilient business world. Now is a perfect time to take stock and analyze the shortcomings and lack of resiliencies of current business models in order to learn from this pandemic and help businesses, institutions, societies, and economies to gain additional resilience.

This call for papers relates to, for example, the following research questions:

- How can the resilience of organizations, supply chains, economies, societies, political systems, and our planet be aligned?
- How can the benefits of diversification be maintained in future production networks, while at the same time the benefits of economies of scale are exploited?
- (How) Should objectives be adjusted to address (undiversifiable) bottleneck risks?
- How to value buffer stocks and reserves for rare disasters?
- How to value flexible production techniques relative to focused specialization?
- How to value general education for flexible tasks (or missions) relative to specialist training?
- How to allocate scarce human resources, e.g. in health care organizations, to provide buffers for unforeseen events?
- How does resilience relate to business processes?
- How to govern supply chains, e.g. pharmaceuticals and medical devices, to avoid shortage of supply?

- What is the role of the organization's managers and strategic decision-makers in organizational resilience?
- How can resilience be related to the time horizon of managers and investors?

Resilience in business and management disciplines has often been interpreted as “engineering resilience” in the sense that individuals, organizations or systems should be able to return to normal condition or functioning after experiencing an exogenous shock that disturbs its state. However, as Davoudi et al. (2013, p. 315) argue, “[t]he emphasis on bouncing back as in engineering resilience or even forth, as in ecological resilience, fails to consider disturbance as a ‘window of opportunity’ for transforming to a radically different and more desirable trajectory”. Acknowledging the role of social actors in business research, in this call we adopt a more contemporary definition of resilience as “the capacity [...] to persist, adapt, or transform in the face of change” (Wieland & Durach, 2021, p. 316, or similarly Ducheck, 2020). We are aware that similarities exist between resilience and concepts and theories such as dynamic capabilities, adaptive capacity, and performance variation and welcome any contribution that connects these areas of research.

We welcome paradigmatic, theoretical, empirical (quantitative and qualitative), and methodological contributions that address the diverse aspects of resilience. All contributions should clearly address the practical and theoretical implications for business decisions and/or societal institutions.

References

- Davoudi, S., Brooks, E., & Mehmood, A. (2013). Evolutionary resilience and strategies for climate adaptation. *Planning Practice & Research*, 28 (3), 307-322.
- Ducheck, S. (2020): Organizational resilience: a capability-based conceptualization, *Business Research* 13 (2020), 215-246.
- Wieland, A., & Durach, C. F. (2021). Two perspectives on supply chain resilience. *Journal of Business Logistics*, 42 (3), 315-322.

Submission guidelines and deadlines

All manuscripts must follow the guidelines of the *Schmalenbach Journal of Business Research*, which are available at: <http://www.springer.com/41471>.

Manuscript submission for the review process should be done in the Editorial Manager of Springer at <https://www.editorialmanager.com/sbur/default.aspx> under the manuscript category “Special Issue Resilience”

Submission deadline:	26 February 2022
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