

**COMPETENCE-BASED STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT –  
STRATEGISCHES KOMPETENZMANAGEMENT**

**10<sup>th</sup> SKM Symposium**

**Call for Papers**

**Understanding Transformation:**

**Theoretical, methodological, and practical challenges and implications  
from a competence-based perspective**

**September 28/29, 2017**

**Freie Universität Berlin, Germany**

**with executive seminar (September, 28, afternoon)  
and pre-conference Ph.D. workshop (September, 27)**

We are living in the age of disruptions. “Digital transformation” is the latest buzzword that loudly raises awareness with regard to ongoing change processes, attributed as “fast”, “radical”, “fundamental”, or “game changing”.

The aim of the 10<sup>th</sup> SKM symposium is to further explicate the **reflection and understanding of transformation in relation to competence-based strategic management**. In this regard, in-depth discussions of various phenomena are fostered. These are, for example:

- (a) types, causes, and drivers, but also rigidities and barriers of transformation (e.g., technology and “digital transformation”, lobbying and regulation, globalization, emerging service-dominant logics, business model innovations, institutional innovations)
- (b) the role of resources and competences, but also agency, entrepreneurship, and leadership in practicing and organizing transformation as well as framing or determining constructs or mechanisms (e.g., dynamic capabilities, absorptive capacity, routinized action of organizational renewal, market shaping, but also uncertainty awareness and decision anomalies like hubris, or self-reinforcing effects like “path dependency” as “micro-foundations of change”)
- (c) multi-level explanations and methodological contributions
- (d) industry-specific studies of transformation (e.g., in healthcare, mobility, banking, education)
- (e) the role of regional actors, clusters, ecosystems, or institutions. and the relevance of particular projects that shape transformation

**Key Notes**



**Prof. Dr. Gerd Gigerenzer**  
(Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin)



**Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Georg Schreyögg**  
(Management Department, Freie Universität Berlin)

Since introducing and combining more and more perspectives, variables and constructs to the field of research does not prove to be helpful to clarify the above-mentioned issues; it is therefore essential to further elaborate a **consistent theoretical, as well as methodological basis**, within **fitting research designs**. **This will provide** a better understanding of transformation as well as resulting challenges for a competence-based strategic management. Therefore, **each paper** should clarify its conceptual / theoretical grounding, the addressed research question(s), the relevant independent and dependent variables on named level(s) of analysis, as well as – in case of an empirical paper – the adequate design of data acquisition and analysis. Moreover, empirical analyses are appreciated in order to focus variables of **clearly strategic impact**.

The symposium will be organized in parallel tracks with focus on transformation issues. A further specification depends on focus of submitted papers and results of the review process.

#### Members of the program committee



*Prof. Dr. Jörg Freiling,  
University of Bremen*



*Prof. Dr. Jochen Koch,  
University Viadrina Frankfurt/O.*



*Prof. Dr. Martin Gersch,  
Freie Universität Berlin*



*Prof. Dr. Birgit Renzl,  
University of Stuttgart*



*Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Güttel,  
University of Linz*



*Prof. Dr. Uta Wilkens,  
Ruhr-University Bochum*

**Conference languages** are English and German. In order to accommodate international participants, continuous sessions in English are guaranteed. However, it is possible to submit contributions in German. German-speaking discussion groups will complete the conference activities.

#### Submission

Please submit abstracts (max. 500 words) via email to [skm2017@wiwiss.fu-berlin.de](mailto:skm2017@wiwiss.fu-berlin.de) **by March 31, 2017 at the latest**. The submitted abstracts will be reviewed in a double-blind review process organized by the members of the program committee. Acceptance decisions will be communicated by **May 15, 2017**. Full paper submissions (max. 6000 words) are due by **August 15, 2017**.

#### Publication Opportunities

For the best conference papers we offer a fast-track review process and publishing opportunity in the Journal of Competence-based Strategic Management (JCSM) ranked in VHB-Jourqual.

**Conference Venue:** Freie Universität Berlin

**Contact Information:** [skm2017@wiwiss.fu-berlin.de](mailto:skm2017@wiwiss.fu-berlin.de) (Prof. Dr. Martin Gersch; Alexandra Kruse)

**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBPAGE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** [www.skm2017.de](http://www.skm2017.de)