



NORDISK FÖRETAGSEKONOMISK FÖRENING • NORDIC ACADEMY OF MANAGEMENT



**The 26th Nordic Academy of Management Conference**  
Bringing Research Together  
**24-26 August 2022**  
Örebro University School of Business, Sweden

**Call for Papers**

We invite you to submit your research to explore the theme of “*Bringing Research Together*” for the 26<sup>th</sup> biennial NFF Conference in Örebro. We are looking forward to receiving your submissions.

**Track 6.7 – Hybrid Cooperatives - Business and Member Communities**

**Corresponding Chair:**

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**Co-Chairs:**

Iiro Jussila, LUT University, Finland  
Pasi Tuominen, University of Eastern Finland, Finland  
Sanna Saastamoinen, University of Eastern Finland, Finland  
Peter Davis, University of Leicester, UK

**Description:**

A co-operative is an established form of business that globally plays an unquestionable role in contributing to resilient employment, a more sustainable economy and the well-being of people. However, more research is required in order to increase understanding regarding the unique characteristics of this business model. In addition, as people, values and operational environments change, co-operatives also restructure themselves making the reappraisal of co-operative theory topical.

The aim of this track is to bring together researchers, students and practitioners interested in different types of co-operative enterprises and namely their hybrid character that stems from the cooperative mission and purpose.

The dual nature of co-operatives means that the model combines the business role and a member community role in a unique way. In both theory and practice this duality needs clarification: What was the original idea and purpose of this model and how can the business and member community role be theorized? How does the duality manifest itself in practice for example from the perspectives of management, corporate governance, owner-member, customer, employee, region or society?

The combining theme is the unique identity of co-operatives and their significance that goes well beyond economic factors.

[www.oru.se/NFF2022](http://www.oru.se/NFF2022)





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We wish to refrain from following the logic of neoclassical theories that approaches theorization of co-operatives so that the cooperative movement as well as co-operative businesses have been given a status of being abstractions separate from the socioeconomic and historical context in which they exist.

Suggested topics include but are not limited to:

- The cooperative difference: The dual purpose in theory/in practice
- Managing a co-operative
- \* Co-operative governance: Role and responsibilities
- Participation, commitment and a sense of ownership in a co-operative context
- A tripartite role of employees of a co-operative – workers, owners and customers
- The awareness and understanding of the co-operative idea
- Understanding the various forms and unique features of co-operatives: Producer, service, worker, and/or consumer cooperatives

The suggested topics should preferably be looked upon from cooperative difference, the dual purpose, point of view.

**Keywords:**

Co-operative, The Dual Nature, Cooperative Purpose, Cooperative Management, Cooperative Governance

**References:**

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Levi, Y. & Davis, P. (2008). "Co-operatives as the "enfants terribles" of economics: Some implications for the social economy." *Journal of Socio-Economics*, 37 (6), 2178-2188.

Mazzarol, T., Clark, D., Reboud, S. & Limnios, E. M. (2018). Developing a conceptual framework for the co-operative and mutual enterprise business model. *Journal of Management and Organization* 24(4), 551–581.

Novkovic, S. (2012). The balancing act: Reconciling the economic and social goals of co-operatives. *The Amazing Power of Cooperatives*, 289-299.

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Puusa, Anu, Mönkkönen Kaarina & Varis Antti (2013). Mission lost? Dilemmatic dual nature of co-operatives. *Journal of Co-operative Organization and Management* (2013)

Spear, R. (2000). The Co-operative advantage. *Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics*, 71(4), 507-523.

**Author guidelines:**

Go to [www.oru.se/NFF2022](http://www.oru.se/NFF2022) for more information about how to submit a paper. The deadline for abstract submission is 31 January 2022. Full paper due: 20 June 2022.

***We very much look forward to welcoming you in Örebro!***

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