The PRI Academic Network Conference 2020

The UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) works to understand the investment implications of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors and to support its international network of investor signatories in incorporating these factors into their investment and ownership decisions. The PRI acts in the long-term interests of its signatories, of the financial markets and economies in which they operate and ultimately of the environment and society as a whole. The conference will again be alongside PRI in Person, the largest global conference on responsible investment, and will be held on **5 October 2020 in Tokyo**.

The PRI Academic Network is a vibrant and flourishing international community of over 4,000 academics and investment practitioners on ESG and investment. Academics are from RI-related disciplines, spanning accounting, economics, finance, law, management, sociology, and other subjects in the social and natural sciences.

The conference focuses on the latest research on responsible investment practices. The event is for academic researchers in sustainability and will also be an opportunity for academics and investors to engage with each other, learn and discuss the latest insights, and to network.

Call for Papers

Aligning with key themes at PRI in Person, we invite submissions of papers that focus on responsible investment, especially inviting submissions on the following topics:

The development of a sustainable financial system

- ESG investing and investment horizons
- Risk management in the context of RI
- ESG-related regulatory developments (for e.g. EU sustainable finance)
- Fiduciary duty
- Sustainable pension systems
- The role of financial regulators
- Transition Risks

The role of responsible investment in meeting global goals

- SDGs
- Investing for impact / outcomes
- Diversity and inclusion
- Lobbying
- Artificial intelligence
- Climate change
- Energy transition
- Biodiversity and Conservation

ESG integration

- Financial performance
- Fixed income and ESG investment performance
- Behavioural finance and investment biases: implications for RI

ESG engagement

- Corporate reporting (e.g. TCFD) and ESG disclosure
- Engagement strategies
- Hard to abate sectors and corporate emission reductions
- Incentives, corporate culture and long-term value creation

We encourage both theoretical and empirical contributions from diverse disciplines such as accounting, economics, finance, law, management, and other subjects in the social and natural sciences.

Submission information

Submit your paper via email to cflammer@bu.edu and adhere the following guidelines:

- Subject line: indicate "2020 PRI Academic Network Conference – Paper Submission"
- Copy all co-authors on the submission email
- For each paper submission, submit i) one anonymized PDF, and ii) one PDF that lists all coauthors
- Use separate emails in case of two submissions (a maximum of two papers are permitted per author)

Please note

- Full papers only. Extended abstracts will not be considered
- Only papers in English can be submitted, with a page limit of 60 pages
- Working papers only. Published or forthcoming papers should not be submitted
- A maximum of two papers per author will be considered

Accepted papers will be featured on the PRI website unless otherwise agreed. Past conference papers and conference prize winners can be found here: www.unpri.org/academicresearch

Reviewing criteria

Submissions will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

- Contribution to responsible investment research
- Originality of subject of study or approach
- Methodological strength
- The practical significance of the research

Conference papers and conference prizes will be judged in a double-blind review process by the PRI Academic Network Committee, which is composed of academics and practitioners, and the Conference

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PRI Principles for Responsible Investment

Committee chaired by:

- Caroline Flammer
  Associate Professor of Strategy & Innovation
  Questrom School of Business, Boston University

- Christina Ahmadjian
  Professor of Management
  Graduate School of Business Administration, Hitotsubashi University

- Laura Starks
  Professor of Finance, Charles E. & Sarah M. Seay Regents' Chair in Finance
  McCombs School of Business, University of Texas Austin

- Pedro Matos
  Professor in Finance, John G. Macfarlane Family Chair and Professor of Business Administration
  Darden School of Business, University of Virginia

The PRI Award for Outstanding Research

Submitted papers will be considered for the following prize categories:

- The best qualitative paper
- The best quantitative paper
- The best PhD student paper (papers considered for this award cannot have non-student coauthors)

PhD Travel Funds

The PRI will provide partial travel funds for accepted submissions by PhD students. Papers considered for this PhD travel fund cannot have non-student coauthors. (In case of coauthored papers, only the presenting author will be funded). Please indicate in the application process if you are a PhD student and would require travel assistance.

Timeline

1 May 2020	Submission deadline for all papers
15 June 2020	Notification to applicants
1 October 2020	Presentation slides to be sent to the PRI ahead of the conference

Contact

For questions regarding submission, please contact cflammer@bu.edu
For questions about the conference, please contact events@unpri.org

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