



# 22<sup>nd</sup> Conference System Approach 2017

Call for papers

## Can the system approach be useful in solving current problems of modern technologies?

November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017



University of Economics, Prague and  
Czech University of Life Sciences



[ksa.vse.cz/veda/systemovepristupy](http://ksa.vse.cz/veda/systemovepristupy)

We would like to invite you to the traditional conference on system thinking. We are happy to announce that the system scientist **Peter Bednar** from the **University of Portsmouth** is invited to be the keynote speaker of this year's conference.

### Important dates

- **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017** – Submission starts (<https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=sp2017>)
- **October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017** – Full paper submission deadline (template [on-line](#))
- **October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017** – Notification of the acceptance, deadline for the registration ([on-line](#))
- **November 23<sup>th</sup>, 2017** – Conference – **room 468NB**, University of Economics

### Main organizer

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## Can the system approach be useful in solving current problems of modern technologies?

The system thinking stresses interactivity, interdependence and emergent character of reality. It combines many elements together in an organised way to produce a meaningful whole. There are many types of systems. We can think of a mechanical system like a clock, where parts fit together to produce an external goal. Another example may be the organic system which has an internal aim, is open and can accommodate to its environment. Man is also a system which can set its own goals and organize instruments to achieve them. An information system collects, processes and distributes information in such a way that the system can adapt to its environment, but still remains a whole, i.e. follows a certain pattern of behaviour. The information system deals with different varieties of its elements and the environment. Society is a system, too, which transcends its elements on the one hand, but is influenced by them on the other hand. For many systems the feedback loop is very important as it allows the possibility of learning.

Current reality is composed of many parts that have a lot of various changing interactions. From that it follows reality is very complex, unstable and behaving in not repeating patterns. Its elements are very often people whose actions are only poorly predictable. Solving such a situation may favour soft system methodologies, but their hope in reaching a consensus may not be overestimated.

As reality is so complex the system approach respecting the holistic and pluralistic nature of reality seems to be promising. However, it is not clear what type of system thinking should be used and there is also a doubt that man will be able to understand the complex nature of reality as its complexity may transcend his understanding. The popularity of simple populist solutions may support such a claim.

Current problems with modern technologies comprise non-transparency of their functioning, substitution of amusement to responsibility, distraction of attention from current problems to a virtual environment, loss of privacy etc.

In this year's conference System thinking 2017 we would like to concentrate (but not limit) to the following questions and topics:

#### Conference questions:

- Can the approach of hard systems be used in current situation?
- What is future of work in industry 4.0?
- Pros and Cons of information society?
- Does information ethics influence technological support of sustainable development and digital identity?
- Can artificial intelligence feel emotions?
- Modern technologies – solution for handicapped or ageing people?
- Modern technologies – modern education?

**Conference topics** include, but are not limited to the following:

- Internet of things
- Ubiquitous technologies
- Threats to privacy
- New media and their role in society
- Knowledge management
- Socially responsible IT
- Digital divide
- Big data
- Creativity in problem solving
- ...