

**ISRICH**



**Graduate  
School of Management**  
St. Petersburg State University

*International Society for Research into Innovation and Change  
in Health Care Systems*

*and*

*Graduate School of Management  
St. Petersburg State University*

## Call for Papers

### 2. ISRICH Conference

#### Innovation and Change in Health Care Systems

Saint Petersburg  
8-9 May 2008

The **International Society for Research on Innovation and Change in Health Care Systems** (ISRICH) is an initiative of researchers in various countries who wish to exchange research results and national experiences on a regular basis and in an institutionalized setting. Their main interest is to explain the factors that affect the evolution of health care systems and their interaction with the wider environment in society, politics and culture. It was established on the occasion of the first conference of the predecessor organization, the European Research on Innovation and Change in Health Care Systems, at Budapest, May 10-12, 2007, gathering researchers from India, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Hungary, Romania and Austria.

The common research interest of ISRICH members is to explain the factors that affect the evolution of health care systems and to understand their complex interaction. By applying advanced methods in institutional and evolutionary economics on current health issues, the ultimate objective of ISRICH is to design sustainable policies and give advice to decision-makers in the relevant policy fields.

The results of their research are presented at annual conferences. Following the 2008 conference at Saint Petersburg, the 2009 conference is scheduled to take place at Troyes, France, followed by conferences at India and China in the upcoming years. ISRICH is preparing a working paper series in which the conference results are published as well as related contributions of ISRICH members.

All over the world health care systems face a tremendous pressure for reforms, mainly caused by tightening financial constraints, but also by demographic changes. Given the importance of medical progress in improving the human condition and the increasing share of health care activities in GDP, research on innovation and change in health care is an essential extension of health economics. Accordingly, the ISRICH focuses primarily on (1) institutional and organizational innovation in health care systems and industry evolution, on (2) policy change and competition among health care systems, in particular with an international comparative perspective, and on (3) the demand for health care services and its long-run evolution. The two overarching epistemic interests are:

- How is new knowledge created in health care systems and how does it reach the patient?
- How are new institutions in health care systems crafted in the socio-political system, and how do they impact on the diffusion of new knowledge?

**Paper submission:**

Participants are requested to present an extended abstract of around 1000 words. It should include information on the relevant theories, methodology, data, and (expected) results.

MORE INFORMATION on submission procedures and organizational details of the conference will be soon available at

**[www.isrich.eu](http://www.isrich.eu)**

**Important dates:**

- December 31, 2007: deadline sending extended abstract  
to Martina Eckardt (martina.eckardt@andrassyuni.hu)
- January 31, 2008: notification of acceptance or rejection of abstracts
- March 31, 2008: deadline sending full papers  
to Martina Eckardt (martina.eckardt@andrassyuni.hu)

**Organizing Committee**

Igor Baranov, Saint Petersburg University Graduate School of Management (Russia)  
Martina Eckardt, Andrassy University (Hungary)  
Carsten Herrmann-Pillath, Witten/Herdecke University (Germany)  
Stefan Okruch, Andrassy University (Hungary)

<p><b>Contact:</b></p> <p>Martina Eckardt martina.eckardt@andrassyuni.hu</p> <p>Andrassy University Pollack Mihály tér 3 H-1088 Budapest <a href="http://www.andrassyuni.hu">www.andrassyuni.hu</a></p>	<p><b>Local Organizing Committee:</b></p> <p>Igor Baranov baranov@som.pu.ru</p> <p>St. Petersburg State University Graduate School of Management <a href="http://www.som.pu.ru">www.som.pu.ru</a> 3 Volkhovsky pereulok St. Petersburg 199004 Russia</p>
---	--