



EUTIC 2026 International Conference
(International and multidisciplinary research network on ICT
issues and uses)

*Convergence and digital mediation:
Co-constructing in plurality*

3 and 4 november 2026

**Université de Nîmes
Site Vauban**

EUTIC Site Web <http://conference-eutic.org/>



Avec le soutien de la Fondation Anthony Mainguené

Call for papers

Convergence and digital mediation: Co-constructing in plurality

The *National Research Council* (2014) defines convergence as ‘*a comprehensive synthetic framework for addressing scientific and societal challenges that exist at the interfaces of multiple fields*’. Roco et al. (2013) characterise it as ‘*part of a fundamental dynamic, the convergence-divergence cycle, which has existed throughout the history of scientific and technological development*’.

Unlike purely interdisciplinary approaches that juxtapose expertises, convergence conveys the idea that multiple functions are synthesised into a new body of knowledge distinct from its constituent parts. Complementarity then emerges as an organising principle. The parts thus solve different aspects of the same problem in different ways, their composition producing solutions that neither could achieve alone.

However, as highlighted by the *Multiscale RECIPES Network* (2024), convergence is not consensus, and individual members must embrace divergence as an integral part of the convergent process that aims to deeply integrate various disciplines such as social sciences, design, engineering, modelling, law, circular economy, etc. to solve today's complex problems.

The convergence-divergence duality questions how scientific and societal challenges are resolved in practice in a transdisciplinary context. Convergence requires deliberate cycles of convergence-divergence and necessitates spaces designed to enable collaboration between actors, where design plays a significant role. Ultimately, convergence is both a process and a result, never fully complete.

In the field of ICT (Information and Communication Technologies), this convergence is embodied in hybrid communication practices where digital devices and human cognitive processes co-construct new forms of distributed intelligence (from collective intelligence to swarm intelligence and the co-construction of new modes of governance). Information and communication technologies are no longer mere mediators, but are becoming cognitive actors actively participating in the processes of knowledge production, validation and circulation.

These theoretical questions find concrete expression in the uses of information and communication technologies that today mediate transdisciplinary collaborations. Digital devices are not mere technical supports, but configure spaces of convergence and modes of negotiation between paradigms.

Several lines of inquiry (non-exhaustive list) structure the analysis of these socio-technical mediations:

Axis 1 – Effects of convergence on society and the economy

How does convergence influence human and ethical aspects, social relations, inequalities and citizenship? What new models and mechanisms does it generate to resolve unprecedented situations? Beyond the consequences on usages, there is the question of the potentially negative effects of convergence, such as regulatory issues, security concerns and the risk of widening the digital divide.

Axis 2 – Digital mechanisms and mediation of heterogeneous paradigms

How does the use of collaborative platforms (shared workspaces, wikis, co-design environments) enable the emergence of digital boundary objects? What communication practices stabilise mutual intelligibility between divergent epistemic communities (engineers, social scientists, designers)?

Axis 3 – Digital traces and observability of convergence

How do users leave computable traces of collaborative activity? Which indicators extracted from interaction logs, browsing histories, and contribution patterns reflect convergence-divergence dynamics? How can we instrument the observation of co-construction cycles without reducing the complexity of the processes?

Axis 4 – Conversational AI and the ecology of knowledge

How are conversational agents transforming the practices of knowledge production and circulation? Can AI, through its uses, amplify epistemological diversity rather than produce a homogenising consensus? What algorithmic mediations preserve the heterogeneity of source knowledge?

Each of these themes should provide avenues for reflection or solutions to two crucial questions:

- **How do the uses of information and communication technologies shape the conditions for convergence?**
- **How do digitally mediated communication practices transform the modalities of collaboration between heterogeneous paradigms?**

We are seeking contributions that explore:

- **Digital architectures and devices:** hybrid (symbolic-connectionist) systems, collaborative platforms, co-design environments, shared research infrastructures, mediation interfaces between heterogeneous paradigms
- **Observation and instrumentation:** methodologies for measuring convergent processes, analysis of digital traces of collaborative activity, convergence-divergence cycle indicators, visualisation of transdisciplinary dynamics, longitudinal studies of usage
- **Empirical and field studies:** sectoral analyses (health, environment, education, industry), transdisciplinary research projects, hybrid epistemic communities, innovative organisational mechanisms, feedback from SHS-engineering collaborations
- **The convergence-divergence dialectic:** productive tensions between unification and heterogeneity, paradigmatic negotiation cycles, digital boundary objects, stabilisation/destabilisation of frameworks of thought, role of cognitive conflict in innovation
- **New configurations of cooperation between actors:** support for consultation and dialogue, taking into account the plurality of expertise (specialists/user and field expertise). Integration of civil society in the face of the decline in participatory methods.
- **Epistemological and ethical dimensions:** transformation of knowledge production and validation systems, hybrid ontologies, responsibility in socio-technical assemblies, preservation of epistemological diversity in the face of algorithmic smoothing, ethics of knowledge sharing
- **Organisational issues:** governance of convergent projects, management of hybrid collective intelligence, transformation of research structures, institutional policies to support transdisciplinarity, evaluation of digitally mediated collaborations.

Contributions may take the form of theoretical analyses, reflective feedback on mechanisms, empirical case studies, or methodological proposals that shed light on the conditions for success and the obstacles encountered in convergence processes.

EUTIC Conferences 2005–2025

Twenty conferences have been organised in collaboration with the partners of the EUTIC Network, which was established as an association in June 2023. The aim of these conferences is to raise awareness of the interdisciplinary nature of research into ICT developments. Today, the network is growing with new participants and continues to explore the diverse range of perspectives addressing the role of ICT in the changes and transformations of organisations, society and culture.

EUTIC Website <http://conference-eutic.org/>

Date	Lieu	Theme
XX. 22-24 oct 2025	La Manouba (Tunisie)	Orchestrating intelligence and organisational dynamics
XIX. 21-23 oct. 2024	Tenerife (Espagne)	Digital generations: complexity, controversies and challenges
XVIII. 11-13 oct. 2023	Bordeaux (France)	Digital humanism and social sustainability
XVII. 13-15 oct. 2022	Corfou (Grèce)	At the intersection of art, science and technology: dialogue between humans and machines
XVI. 25-26 oct. 2021	Bruxelles (Belgique)	The challenges of the digital transition
XV. 16-18 oct. 2019	Dakar (Sénégal)	Smart regions and learning societies
XIV. 17-19 oct. 2018	Bordeaux (France)	Adaptability, flexibility and agility of information systems
XIII. 18-20 oct. 2017	Recife (Brésil)	Digital cultures and the convergence of knowledge
XII. 15-17 sept. 2016	Zakynthos (Grèce)	Network logic and new forms of governance
XI. 3 et 4 nov. 2015	Fort de France (Martinique)	Digital ecosystems and the democratisation of information
X. 29-31 oct. 2014	Lisbonne (Portugal)	The role of ICT in the design of information and cognitive processes
IX. 23-25 oct. 2013	Waterford (Irlande)	Engagement of the public and businesses in a dynamic environment. The role of global networks

VIII. 17-19 oct. 2012	Metz (France)	Audiences and media practices
VII. 23-25 nov. 2011	Bruxelles (Belgique)	Transformation of organisations, evolving issues and functional changes
VI. 25-27 nov. 2010	Dakar (Sénégal)	Digital technology at the heart of partnerships
V. 18-20 nov. 2009	Bordeaux (France)	Strategies for change in systems and territories
IV. 23-25 oct. 2008	Lisbonne (Portugal)	Development dynamics: at the crossroads of worlds
III. 7-10 nov. 2007	Athènes (Grèce)	Media and information dissemination: towards an open society
II. 13-15 sept. 2006	Bruxelles (Belgique)	Social cohesion & professional integration
I. 22-23 sept. 2005	Bordeaux (France)	Social and cultural aspects

Registration

Only online bank transfers will be accepted (please check the registration details on the conference website).

Participant	Before 1 st september	After 1 st september
Teacher-Researcher	150 €	180 €
PhD student	75 €	100 €
Non-academic	200 €	250 €
Conference dinner	50 €	60 €

Further details regarding payment for the lunch on 4 November 2026 will be provided at a later date

EUTIC Partners Rate: a special rate offering a reduction on the association membership fee (€25) will be applied to members of the EUTIC association.

Registration under the 'EUTIC Partners' rate is reserved exclusively for members of the association who can provide online proof of their EUTIC membership at the time of registration.

Submissions

1. Submission of paper proposals

- Up to 2 contributions per author
- Maximum of 4 authors per paper
- Contributions must be in French, English or Spanish.
- Proposals must be submitted as follows: Author's details, name of university, research laboratory/organisation, affiliated institution or company, position held, email address, telephone number. Title of the presentation, 5 keywords, an abstract of 5,000 to 6,000 characters (including spaces) outlining the subject of the contribution, the methodological framework, the corpus of data analysed and the expected or obtained results.
- Selected proposals may be subject to modifications or revisions requested by the scientific committee.

Send to association.eutic@gmail.com AND lamia.badra@uca.fr

Please state in the subject line of the email: 'EUTIC2026 Paper Proposal'.

Deadline for submission of proposals: 20 June 2026.

2. Submission of the full text

- The full text must be submitted **by 15 September at the latest**, in accordance with the organisational guidelines set out and published on the EUTIC website.
- The final text for publication in the conference proceedings must not exceed 35,000 characters (including spaces) plus the bibliography. The style guide can be downloaded from the EUTIC website. Texts may be subject to modifications or revisions requested by the scientific committee.
- All accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings in digital format, provided the author(s) are registered and present at the conference.

3. In-person presentations

- Presentations must be delivered in person at the conference.
- In the case of multiple authors, at least one author must be present at the conference to deliver the presentation. Each author must pay the registration fee.
- Presentations via synchronous or asynchronous videoconferencing will only be accepted in very exceptional circumstances and on a case-by-case basis, subject to justification. The registration fee will be payable in all cases.

4. Publication des actes en format numérique avec DOI/ISSN

TIMELINE

- Deadline for submission of papers: **20 June 2026**
- Date of notification to authors: **7 July 2026**
- Deadline for early bird registration: **1 September 2026**
- Deadline for submitting papers prior to the conference: **15 September 2026**
- Conference: **3 and 4 November 2026**

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