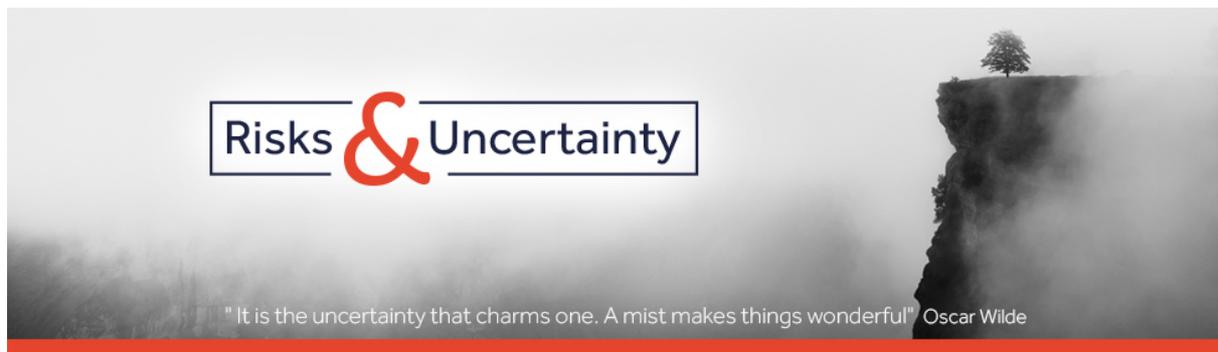


## Symposium

Le Mans, November 2021



30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Institut Universitaire de France  
17, 18 & 19 November 2021 - Le Mans Université

### Call for Papers

The Covid-19 pandemic and its related lockdown have dramatically displayed the extreme speed with which a crisis can spread at a global scale and how drastic behavior changes or adjustments are enforced by the unknown. During such events, we need to differentiate between *risk* and *uncertainty*: “a measurable uncertainty or ‘risk’ [...] is different from an unmeasurable one” (Knight 1921) [1]. Scientific research across all fields navigates under non-measurable or radical uncertainty. Its main goal is to mitigate radical uncertainty through knowledge building thus defining a subset of risky events for which uncertainty becomes measurable.

However, the “knowledge about the lack of knowledge” (Hansson, 2005a) [2] remains ambiguous and as the equation of science with certainty is misleading, the result might be a misunderstanding between experts and society. Indeed, “society needs to do a better job of deciding what kind of world it wants to make with the opportunities science offers [...] But the task is as hugely difficult as it is hugely important. And a large part of the difficulty lies in the uncertainties that are an inseparable part of science at the frontier” both enormous and extremely difficult. And a large part of the difficulty lies in the uncertainties that are intrinsic components of science at the frontier” (May 2001) [3].

The pluri as well as interdisciplinary conference allows for a retrospective assessment, as well as a focus on potential new knowledge about “Risks and uncertainty”. It opens up – from the perspective of each and every scientific field – to the broad spectrum of its heuristic values as well as representations within the analysis of social, economic, physical, biological and environmental interactions.

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[1] Frank Hyneman Knight “Risk, uncertainty and profit” pg.19, Hart, Schaffner, and Marx Prize Essays, no.31. Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin. 1921.

[2] Hansson, S., 2005a, The epistemology of technological risk, *Techné*, 9, 2, pp. 68-80.

[3] May, R. Risk and uncertainty. *Nature* 411, 891 (2001).

This event is particularly important in the context of the IUF's 30th anniversary, an institution that allows scholars to fully dedicate themselves to their research activities. This commitment to the most fundamental values of research aims to reduce radical uncertainty and develop tools to support both scientific and public decision.

Thus, we should consider, among other possible questions, what are the risk-related decision models in contexts of uncertainty? How might we confront these models to real life social or natural experiences? Can we make them available to decision-makers? What are their limits? Which different realities and topics does the notion of risk encompass in different scientific communities and research domains? Are some by definition unknown and potential uncertainties of primary concern with respect to others? What are researchers' relationships to risk and uncertainty? How do they manage it, and is interdisciplinarity a valid approach?

## Paper proposals

The proposals will be selected by the scientific committee based on the submitted abstracts. The communications can take the form of individual oral presentations (20 minutes max), panels, demonstrations, participatory research, experimental proof of concept, field work, etc. They are expected to provide feedbacks and perspectives on issues related to risks, including scholarly knowledge risks. (At least one plenary session will be open to the broad public).

## Why organizing this Conference at University of Le Mans ?

Prior to being worldwide known for its 24 Hours car endurance racing, Le Mans was one of the first cities in France where a *mutualist* insurance group was created in 1828. Thus, the history of Le Mans is tied to the development of risk management in developed societies

Based on this history leading to a significant both social and human knowledge about risks, Le Mans University has naturally dedicated part of its teaching and research activities to risk-related issues. Thus, for the last 30 years, it has developed several partnerships with the insurance sector and many of Le Mans alumni – whether in science or the humanities – work on risk-related topics. Given that risk is also a crossover notion, it equally encourages interdisciplinary approaches.

At Le Mans University, interactions between different fields of knowledge have flourished. This has led to the foundation of various institutes, among which the Risk and Insurance Institute (Institut du Risque & de l'Assurance) which brings together research, training and innovation. Other recently created interdisciplinary institutes focusing on different subject matters, are also likely to include research on environmental, public or societal risks at large.

This IUF focused conference will be held during “The **Risks & Uncertainties Week**” running from November 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> 2021 at Le Mans University and which will also include the closing conference of PANORisk program, as well as other research activities related to risks stemming from research on waste (MSHS), on noise (school of acoustics), on emergency (Law school), etc.

### Steering committee

- **Mathieu DURAND**, Lecturer and researcher at Espace et Société (ESO – UMR CNRS), Le Mans Université, IUF Junior 2018
- **François LANGOT**, Professor and researcher at Groupe d'Analyse des Itinéraires et Niveaux Salariaux (GAINS), Le Mans Université, IUF Senior 2018
- **Brigitte OUVRY-VIAL**, Professor and researcher at Langues, Littératures, Linguistique (3.LAM), Le Mans Université, IUF Senior 2015

### Scientific committee

- **Corinne BONNET**, Professor of Greek History and Researcher (PLH) – Université de Toulouse – Jean Jaurès
- **Nicole EL KARAOUI**, Professor and Researcher in Mathematics (École Polytechnique)
- **Laurent FONTAINE**, Professor and Researcher at Institut des Molécules et Matériaux du Mans (IMMM – UMR CNRS), Le Mans Université
- **Patrick GIRAUDEAU**, Professor and Researcher at UNNEWS, Université de Nantes, IUF Junior 2014
- **Jin-Kao HAO**, Professor and Researcher at Laboratoire d'Etude et de Recherche en Informatique (LERIA), Université d'Angers, IUF Senior
- **Meglana JELEVA**, Professor of Economics (EconomiX – UMR CNRS), Université Paris Nanterre
- **Anthony LARCHER**, Professor and Head of Institut d'Informatique Claude Chappe (IICC), Le Mans Université
- **Frédéric LE BLAY**, Senior Lecturer and researcher, Director of Ange Guépin MSH, Centre François Viète, Université de Nantes
- **Anis MATOUSSI**, Professor and Head of Institut du Risque et de l'Assurance (IRA), Le Mans Université
- **Pierre-Carl MICHAUD**, Professor in Applied Economics, Head of Retirement and Savings Institute (HEC Montréal)
- **Jean-Michel RAIMOND**, Professor and Researcher in Atomic Physics (LKB - UPMC), Sorbonne Université
- **Nathalie RICHARD**, Professor of Contemporary History and Researcher (TEMOS - UMR CNRS), Le Mans Université
- **Michèle SEBAG**, Senior Researcher in Computer Science (LRI), Université Paris Saclay
- **Marc SCHOENAUER**, Senior Researcher in Applied Mathematics (INRIA Saclay)
- **Vincent TOURNAT**, CNRS Senior Researcher in Acoustics and Head of Institut d'Acoustique – Graduate School (IA-GS), Le Mans Université
- **Nizar TOUZI**, Professor of Applied Mathematics (Centre de Mathématiques Appliquées – UMR CNRS), École Polytechnique

Date of the Conference: November 17, 18 and 19, 2021 - Le Mans - France

### Submission Process

Submission deadline via the conference website <a href="https://risques.sciencesconf.org/">https://risques.sciencesconf.org/</a>	April 30 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Notification of Acceptance/Rejection	May 31 <sup>st</sup> 2021
Conference Registration opens on	June 10 <sup>th</sup> 2021

### Partners

City of Le Mans | Le Mans Métropole | Maison des Sciences Humaines Régionale Ange-Guépin | Région Pays de la Loire | Musée d’Art et d’Histoire - Carré Plantagenêt - Le Mans

Le Mans Université : Institut du Risque et de l’Assurance | Maison des SHS | Institut d’Acoustique-Graduate School | Institut des Molécules et Matériaux du Mans

### Campus Access

You can reach Le Mans in 50 minutes by TGV train from Paris (Le Mans is directly linked to Lille, Nantes, Rennes, Roissy TGV, etc.). You can get to the Campus by tram from the train station/city center (20 mn ride; tram every 5 mn).

### More Information



<https://risques.sciencesconf.org/>

<http://www.univ-lemans.fr/fr/>

