WCSA - WORLD COMPLEXITY SCIENCE ACADEMY

INVENTING THE FUTURE IN AN AGE CONTINGENCY

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In an age of contingency, the future seems to be a horizon which moves further and further as one tries to get closer. Risk, contingency, catastrophe and unpredictability turn the "future" into an unusual world in everyday semantics and, for example, in political communication. The word "future" often appears linked to the semantics of pessimism and catastrophism. Nevertheless, inventing the future is becoming more and more strategic in an age in which finance is the metaphor for value and wealth construction, and the convergence of Robotics, Informatics, Nanotechnologies and Genetics, or the so-called RING Singularity, is simultaneously turning the human being itself into contingency and infinite possibilities (Heidegger's Gegnet), clarifying once again that the future cannot be predicted but can be invented. This conference challenges worldwide scholars to, directly or indirectly, answer this question:

How would you utilize the systemic toolkit to design the world in 2030 in its key economical, juridical, sociological and technological aspects?
The official language of the conference is English.
Panel speakers are limited to 15/20 minutes for their presentations and 5 minutes for a roundtable debate of their presentations with the chairperson and the public.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 7 TH

8:15 a.m.	**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**
8:30 a.m.	**WCSA Presidential Address A. PITASI**
9:00 a.m.	**WCSA Scientific Director' speech A. SPILZINGER**

I PANEL:
PANEL CHAIR Andrea Pitasi, WCSA President

PANELISTS

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	**Pierre Delattre's contribution to contemporary systemic epistemology its implications for a complex approach to Law** Andrè Folloni, Programa de Pós-Graduação em Direito – PUCPR, Brazil
9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	**The problem of time and evolution from the perspective of systemic sociology** Jiří Šubrt, University in Prague, Czech Republic
10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	**Grounding CompLawxity: Towards a Dynamic Theory of Law (VIRTUAL PRESENTATION)** Pedro Miguel Mancha Romero, C.U.E.S.A - University of Cadiz, Spain
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	**Understanding Cultural Differences - Avoiding Communication Gaps** Gerhard Chroust, IFSR Secretary General
10:30 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.	**The digitalization of everyday life and the forms of social control** Michele Bonazzi, University of Bologna Emilia Ferone, G. d'Annunzio University, Chieti-Pescara, Italy

Pierre Delattre's contribution to contemporary systemic epistemology and its implications for a complex approach to Law

Prof. Dr. André Folloni – PUCPR, Brazil

Pierre Delattre (1926-1985), as a physicist and a biologist, was interested in the systemic approach and established a theoretical dialogue with major authors of the systems' theories of his time. He was aware of very important epistemological problems when dealing with systems' theories. These issues are examined in various works, especially *Système, Structure, fonction, évolution: essai d'analyse épistémologique* (1971), and are compiled in his book *Théorie des systèmes et épistémologie* (1979). According to Delattre, systems' theories are related to two connected problems: the disintegration of knowledge, caused by the deepening of knowledge and multiplication of disciplines, and the interest about complex systems that cannot be well understood by the traditional analytical method since their emergent characteristics only manifest when the parts are inserted into the whole. This is why systems' theories and interdisciplinary are closely linked. This paper exposes Delattre's most important arguments and examines how they can help on building a Law complex approach on the relations between State intervention and socioeconomic and human development, a deep problem in third world countries. Delattre thinks about scientific language, how concepts are made and how they could be used in different disciplines, and his arguments are useful, *e. g.*, to think about "development" as a legal, sociological and economic concept. He is also worried about analogy and treats metalanguage as an analogy between scientific language and reality, trying to rehabilitate analogy as a scientific partially useful method. Delattre studies the relations between the whole and its parts, reductionism and holism as opposed scientific methods, and aims to define when and how to use analytic and synthetic procedures, which can elucidate some problems of the legal positivist separation of Law and its environment. Delattre examines the relations between a system and its environment, which is a system itself, and the modifications of levels of explanation: from an element to a system, and from this system to its environment – *e. g.*, a rule (part) in law (whole/system) and law (part/system) in society (whole-system). He tries to establish the necessary requirements to understand how a system behaves in the environment and so it helps to comprehend how Law can – or cannot – modify social and economical structures. Delattre thinks about causality, finalism and intentionality in a systemic approach as well and his arguments can be helpful in Law research. He also worries about chaos and order in a complex view, two very important concepts in Philosophy of Law. Delattre studies logic as well, to distinguish "*to be*" and "*to become*" and to claim the importance of time to avoid the confusions of some dialectic approaches that happen in Law study as well. All these issues don't exclude others that Delattre mentions, like ideology and ethics in Science, which are very relevant in Social Sciences' epistemology in general and specifically in Law, since a lot of Law researchers are lawyers and judges as well.

Keywords: Pierre Delattre; System' theory; complexity; development; State intervention