

NA 2-2011

Editoriale: I diritti ed il Rischio (D.P. Errigo)

Editoriale: Serendepity: global emergencies and immergencies (M.R. Astolfi)

Ecologia, sviluppo sostenibile ed etica aspecista (V.Pocar)

Abstract

Evolution and boarding of fundamental rights during the past three centuries have brought to conceive new translational and global rights such as the ecological ones which begin to be recognised by Constitutions and international treaties. Ecological rights however seem to be incompatible with other fundamental rights such as the right to development and the idea itself of sustainable development. In search of a new paradigm for relationships between mankind and environment the paper proposes to give up the use of animal and to abandon farming which are responsible of more than the half of air and water pollution and represent the most relevant factor of wasting and destroying natural resources. Refusal of products coming from animals seems to be a moral duty of mankind in order to guarantee the fundamental rights both of human and non human beings.

A fatal consensus (A consensual but unfeasible model) (M. S. Pérez Schael)

Abstract

Our interest is to illustrate the negative impact of a common sense and political consensus on decision-making regarding energy use and transformation. We want to identify some of the obstacles that might be faced by elucidated and responsible communication in energy matters. This path, which is the path describing failure, is fully illustrated by the paradoxical "rents" model established in Venezuela; a model that reduced the complex nature of oil energy to money and income, and excluded subjects related to work, technology, knowledge and innovation, causing society to lose its direction towards progress and modernity.

Scope and aim of Non-financial Reporting for Third Sector Organizations: some theoretic paradigms and considerations upon the Italian case (G. Antonucci)

Abstract

Non-financial reporting, increased in the last decade, as a voluntary accounting system approach developed, thanks to appropriate measures and reporting techniques, to give an account upon organization's activities related with the identification of socially relevant behaviours. In this sense non-financial reporting is considered as a way for accounting the choice, made by an organization, to go over and above legal requirements, showing the importance given by a company (either private or public) to different issues (environment, workers' conditions, relations with its stakeholders, etc.). In the case of third sector organizations non-financial reporting can play an important role, due to the fact that it can be seen as a strategic tool that plays an important legitimizing role. The aim of this paper is to go further in this analysis considering in particular the Italian situation where, thanks to the Law 155/06 on social enterprises, there has been the first case of law obligation for writing also non-financial reporting. The aim is to develop some basic theoretic paradigms in order to show what should be reported in a non-financial reporting for a third sector organization, starting from the consideration that non-financial reporting might show, in a better way, organization's performance in terms of social rating. The paper presents some basic theoretical indications that ought to be challenged, but anyway it represents a way of looking in a new way upon the role and importance of non-financial reporting for third sector organizations in Italy, giving some indications on how it should be made and used to improve organizations' results, being in this way an important tool to measure their performance and helping in legitimising their role and importance.

A systemic approach to the Risk Management (Michele Infante)

Abstract

In this article I try to rebuild the historical background at the base of concept of "risk". Starting from the classical Greek word rizikon through the Arabic semantic of the terms until the modern time, the concepts of social risk assume different meanings. In the modernity, I make reference to the concept of risk in the Niklas Luhmann and Piotr Sztompka's work. Moreover, I describe the different relation between risk and financial crisis, communication, health and psychology. Finally, I apply the systemic approach to the Risk Management; in this way I deal with the contingency of risk on which the society are foundend.

Analisi delle bolle speculative e crisi sistemiche (G. Ercolanese)

Abstract

The history of financial crack is quite long. It is as long as financial history itself. Several theories about the origin and the spread of cracks, crashes, defaults and collapses have been produced. Although the cyclical presence of crisis is a constant in the worldwide economic history, it shows new features whenever it happens. Most people consider the "speculative bubble" to be the common base for many a event of crisis. What are these events of crisis? And, above all, what are these "speculative bubbles"? What does feed them? Where do they come from? Which systems do they hit? John K. Galbraith, in his famous "A Short History of Financial Euphoria" puts as the basis of these events greed and eager for money and human stupidity. These elements are all necessities and sometimes they are sufficient to get a default phenomena but they don't allow us to get other significant elements, as for instance, knowing which fuse can light a crisis or what makes a speculative bubble explode in order to provoke a systemic crash. After a short historical analysis, starting from the first speculative bubble, the one recorded in the 1600 and named the Tulip's, this essay dwells on the last crisis, called Subprime's, and to the related and still present consequences. All that concerning the government's policies which have been characterizing the last 40 years of the economic history and analyzing, by means of the systemic key, the economic-political and social collapse which has been overwhelming the world since 2007. As the author claimed, talking about crisis, only from an economic and financial point of view, would be minimizing and misleading for two reasons; As it does not allow us to get the whole issue. Never revealing the dark side of the Moon which hides responsibilities even more important, or at least as important as, the previous one. It does not tell us which systems are involved. Hyman Minsky's "Financial fragility" must take into account even the worldwide system fragility, as this is the result of little complexity and of a range of practicable options that is getting narrower and narrower. Thus this work wants to dig into the political substratum which laid the basis of 2007 events. Events which are a heavy burden on worldwide economy still today. It wants to observe these events from another, new and almost unexplored point of view, including political joint responsibilities in cracks, crashes and defaults, looking for the differences which make the difference.

Fear, laziness and pride (A. Pitasi)

Abstract

This article is not aimed to portrait a whole generation. It is aimed to focus on the key bifurcation, inside a generation, between an oligarchy of tomorrow's freelance to brain and wide horizon leaders and the gigantic mass of cognitive proletarians. The key idea of this article is that the big mass will be composed of those people who will fall in a two step trap because of their attitude towards fear, laziness and pride. As far as that generation will be able to evolve a wide horizon strategy, the most likely they will avoid to become irrelevant numbers of the cognitarian (thus cognitive proletarian) mass.

Il patrimonio cibernetico della sistemica (M. Ruzzeddu)

Abstract

Il saggio costituisce una breve rassegna dei principali autori che hanno elaborato e sviluppato la cibernetica. A partire dalle origini, esaminano i principali processi epistemici cui la cibernetica ha cercato di fornire una risposta, nonché gli strumenti elaborati dai principali autori. Particolare importanza viene data al contributo che la cibernetica ha fornito alla teoria e alla ricerca sociologica.

Il metodo simulativo e le scienze della complessità nella ricerca sociale (Alberto Trobia)

Abstract

Nelle pagine che seguono, introduco il lettore alla simulazione nelle scienze sociali, definendo questa tecnica d'indagine, classificandone le varie articolazioni, riassumendone il metodo generale, e chiarendone lo statuto metodologico e il posto rispetto ai classici dilemmi della teoria sociale. Uno spazio particolare è dedicato alla simulazione multi-agente, che si è dimostrata molto feconda nelle scienze sociali, producendo risultati robusti e in alcuni casi di grande rilievo, in uno stretto dialogo con le scienze della complessità. La parte finale è dedicata alla questione della validazione dei modelli e ad un bilancio metodologico.

La Social network analysis e la complessità (V. Milia)

Abstract

The network analysis is not an exclusive prerogative of the social sciences, but is the subject of interest to a multidisciplinary scientific community which studies the complex systems (natural, biological, physical, computer, epidemiological, communicative, social systems, etc.). The network is assumed by these researchers as a theoretical and methodological abstraction, a way to analyze the complexity of the relationship between individual behaviour (the units that form a system) and the effects detected at the collective level. The network is intended like a model capable of detecting the structural form of complexity, which is considered intrinsic characteristic of the systems. The Social Network Analysis (SNA),

under the influence of these new contaminations, deals with these new topics on the basis of a strong tradition of research on differentiated and specialized social structures and therefore complex structures. This work aims to illustrate the analytical and applicative potentiality of SNA to the issue of systemic complexity. For this reason we will approach the methodological and technical elements of the SNA useful to understand and to represent the structural form of complex systems and to explore the internal dynamics considering the circular system of interdependencies of levels involved: the actors' social relations that they connect and networks that form the structural whole. At first, we will give an outlook to the Social Network Analysis outlining the main aspects of the network perspective within the tradition of sociological and social studies. Then, we will present an overview of the methodological tools of the SNA, underlining to the most advanced techniques and new design, such as those used in studying network dynamics. In conclusion, we will attempt to illustrate a synthesis about the study of complex networks under the interdisciplinary contamination and scientific discoveries occurred that this research has produced until today.

WCSA - MEETINGS INFORMATIONS

NEWS: Complessità, forme emergenti del capitalismo (Benevento 17 maggio)