

# GÉRER & COMPRENDRE

« Se défier du ton d'assurance qu'il est si facile de prendre et si dangereux d'écouter »  
Charles Coquebert, *Journal des mines* n°1, Vendémiaire An III (septembre 1794)

A peer-reviewed series of the *Annales des Mines* journal,  
Indexed by web of science.

## *Call for papers*

For a special issue:

### Corporations facing inflation

Inflation is back. Although Harvard economists consider it to be transitory (Gopinath 2022), there are good reasons to believe that it will last. The relocation of production will further the effects of supply chain disruption (Storm 2022). Energy prices will continue to rise, whether transition starts (this is "greenflation") or the economies remain dependent on depleting hydrocarbons (this is the "fossilflation" of Schnabel 2022). Finally, an ageing population in industrial countries could lead to an increase in the cost of labour (Goodhart 2020). Under these conditions, a 2% inflation in the euro zone would be out of reach for the next twenty or thirty years, unless we opt for a Japanese-style long-term recession scenario.

Is the return of inflation a return to the 1970s? Comparison is no explanation. Business, technology and the economic and social environment have changed a lot since then. New studies on the conducts adopted by economic agents to cope with inflation are therefore urgently needed.

This special issue of *Gérer et Comprendre* seeks to compare the analyses of economists with more qualitative surveys of the behaviour adopted by company managers, employees, subcontractors, service providers, customers, financiers, investors and public authorities to adapt to inflation.

Researchers in management, sociology and anthropology are expected to make useful contributions to this issue with works based on the analysis of management situations where the

problem of inflation is at stake. Historical research can also contribute to contemporary thinking if it makes clear the phenomena at hand are relevant to understand the contemporary situation.

Longitudinal studies showing how companies or sectors adapt to variations in the inflation rate, for instance, are much welcome. More specialised monographs showing how the various functions of the firm take inflation into account: cash management, pricing policy, negotiations with subcontractors and suppliers, purchasing policies, storage and logistics, human resources management, relations with trade unions, or relations with the public authorities with a view to obtaining mitigation measures. Public administrations or associations also face specific management problems, notably the problem of the attractiveness of civil servants' careers.

Investigations into the processes of quantifying and anticipating inflation, the way in which this information is communicated to the public, political debates arising from inflation, as well as decision-making and decisions taken by the public authorities to support businesses or purchasing power could also take place in this dossier, interviews with specialists, or comparisons with inflation periods in other times and places deserve consideration and would be welcome as well.

Qualitative research at the organizational level could be discussed together with economic literature on the dynamics induced by "exogenous supply shocks". The expected inflation is not going to be homothetic, relative prices will be impacted, as well as the wage structure, and the labor share. In addition to prices and flows, the value of accumulated stocks will change: inflation and rising interest rates could sharply reduce financial wealth, and thus wealth inequalities. The value of real estate assets may be impacted as well, with consequences this time on the middle classes. How could the public authorities react? Economists can propose some alternative scenarios both in terms of assumptions on the economic environment and on policy responses, and draw the corresponding macroeconomic and sectoral trajectories.

### **Special issue terms and conditions:**

Papers will be pre-selected by the special issue coordinator before being submitted - like all articles published in the journal - to an anonymous evaluation by two reviewers.

Each decision communicated to the authors will be discussed collectively by the editorial board. Reasons will be given for each decision, with the reviewers' reports as evidence. The opinions sent to the authors will be classified into four categories:

- Accepted for publication (possibly with minor modification).
- Request for a second and possibly a third version.
- Revise & resubmit.
- Rejection.

Submissions should be between 20,000 and 40,000 characters long, accompanied by an abstract of 1,000 characters.

The special issue will feature a maximum of ten articles. Additional articles may be published at a later date, if accepted.

*English-speaking researchers may submit their papers in English.*

## Schedule of the special issue:

- Refereeing: **every 6 weeks**
- Planned publication of the special issue:  
**December 2023**

Submissions should be sent electronically in Word format to:

< [alexia.kappelman@finances.gouv.fr](mailto:alexia.kappelman@finances.gouv.fr) >

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<http://www.annales.org/gc/2022/gc-2022.html>

## Bibliographical information:

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