

Call for chapters to an edited volume: “Work and Labour in the Digital Future”, to be published in 2019.

The editorial team at the WORK2017 Scientific Committee aims to publish an edited volume consisting of original papers that contribute to the theme of the conference, *Work and Labour in the Digital Future*. Edward Elgar has informed us of its initial interest to publish the edited volume, subject to blind peer review of the chapters.

Technological development and digitalization are expected to fundamentally change the future of work and the ways work gets organized in societies and economies. These changes do not only concern the way we work and make a living, but more generally, the ways in which public and private sector institutions organize work. Some of the current debates concerning future development predict profound and disruptive changes, while other debates emphasize gradual and incremental change.

There are number of topics that have remained un(der)explored, and number of topics that are worth re-visiting. These can relate, but are not required to relate, to the following:

How to understand the new ways of organizing of work in the platform economy and within new types of companies. Current concepts dissecting and separating the elements of work and skills of the worker may not be applicable in the analysis of digital work in the future or in the gig economy, to mention one example. Changes in working life also require fundamental change in terms of skills. It has been estimated that transformative trends capture new values and skills – which ones, is under debate – to the extent that the future of work is “all about skills”. However, discussion of skills may disguise those elements in future work that relate to the ways work becomes organized, regulated and paid for, which are all equally important to the future of work. Digital work tends also to transform the culture of work by changing work practices, and enabling new cultures to emerge. Begging the question: can we already see trends in relation to new working cultures and digitalization?

The edited volume will deal with three to four main umbrella themes under which the chapters are accepted. The themes relate to the following topics: I) Work in the Digital Economy; II) New Skills and Digital Work; III) New Forms of Work; IV) Culture of Digital Work.

Submissions should be previously unpublished manuscripts of approximately 7,000 words.

Publication timeline:

Full chapters deadline – 1 March 2018

Publication decision – 1 April 2018

Reviewer comments returned to accepted authors – 1 June 2018

Revised chapters deadline – 1 September 2018

Publication – January 2019

How to submit? Interested contributors are highly encouraged to contact the editorial team at the WORK2017 Scientific Committee by email before submitting their manuscripts/papers. Contributors should indicate which theme their paper belongs to. The email address is: work2017@utu.fi