

Special Issue "Sharing Economy and Its Role in Fostering Sustainability: How Trust and Regulation Shape Relations of Providers and Consumers"

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Guest Editor

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Interests: cooperation in the economic context specifically on the sharing economy

Special Issue Information

Dear Colleagues,

Adopting a sustainable lifestyle can put a stop to exploitation of natural resources. Part of such a sustainable lifestyle, which has become popular, is to share goods. The hope is that it will foster sustainability due to resource efficiency and reductions in waste. In the sharing economy, instead of buying goods and owning them, consumers gain temporarily access to goods they need. Today, people can engage in the sharing economy in almost all business areas, including tourism (e.g., AirBnB), entertainment (e.g., public book shelves), food (e.g., food coops), and transport (e.g., Zipcar). Thus, the sharing economy is on the rise.

For the sharing economy, the relationship between providers and consumers, and consequently trust building measures and adequate regulations, such as reputation systems, are crucial. Trust is important in the sharing economy, where traditional market rules are abrogated and respective legislation has not been generated yet. If the interaction between providers and consumers cannot be regulated comprehensively with trust, regulations become essential.

This Special Issue aims to explore and explain how, why, and when a sustainable lifestyle is adopted and participation in the sharing economy becomes key. It further shows how this affects businesses, platforms, and consumers by following an interdisciplinary approach. The Special Issue will provide deeper insights for businesses, legislators and researchers how to design and regulate the sharing economy. These aims will be met by calling for both conceptual and empirical research on either of these concepts and encouraging meta-analysis or systematic literature reviews. Specifically, we look for contributions regarding:

- Relationship between sustainability and sharing economy: resource efficiency and waste reduction
- Building of consumer communities engaging in the sharing economy with the aim to foster sustainability
- Challenges for organizations in the sharing economy with regard to trust building and regulation
- The design of sustainable virtual environments as market place of sharing economy

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elfriede Penz
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Guest Editors

Manuscript Submission Information

Manuscripts should be submitted online at www.mdpi.com by [registering](#) and [logging in to this website](#). Once you are registered, [click here to go to the submission form](#). Manuscripts can be submitted until the deadline. All papers will be peer-reviewed. Accepted papers will be published continuously in the journal (as soon as accepted) and will be listed together on the special issue website. Research articles, review articles as well as short communications are invited. For planned papers, a title and short abstract (about 100 words) can be sent to the Editorial Office for announcement on this website.

Submitted manuscripts should not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere (except conference proceedings papers). All manuscripts are thoroughly refereed through a single-blind peer-review process. A guide for authors and other relevant information for submission of manuscripts is available on the [Instructions for Authors](#) page. *Sustainability* is an international peer-reviewed open access monthly journal published by MDPI.

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[Keywords](#)

- Sharing economy
- Sustainable lifestyle
- Trust
- Regulation
- Provider and consumer interaction

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This special issue is now open for submission.