The Interplay of Social Capital and Career Trajectories: A Theoretical Examination

Mouhssine Rifaki¹ and Walkens Sainval¹

¹Paris Dauphine - PSL Research University

Abstract

We study a theoretical framework examining the dynamic relationship between social capital accumulation and professional career paths. We integrate quantitative economic modeling with sociological insights through a hybrid methodological approach combining Bayesian econometric techniques with ethnographic observations. The research design uniquely bridges macro-economic analysis with social network theory, offering new perspectives on career mobility patterns and social capital formation. Our theoretical framework identifies crucial mechanisms in the co-evolution of professional networks and career trajectories, examining both feedback effects and causal pathways. By synthesizing mathematical modeling with qualitative insights, we provide a more comprehensive understanding of how social capital influences career development across different organizational contexts. The findings contribute to both theoretical advancement and practical applications in career development strategies.