



Invitation to join in the emmaConnect program

Dear early-stage researchers,

We are happy to invite you to participate in one of the special initiatives by the European Media Management Association: **emmaConnect**.

As you may know, the European Media Management Association (emma) is dedicated to the promotion of media management and economics research. Doing this, it takes an active role in the development of our scholarly community.

The coronavirus pandemic brought significant challenges for research and has particularly impacted early-stage researchers. In-person conferences and events in our field have been cancelled, so it has been challenging for early-stage researchers to present their work to our wider scholarly community and to receive feedback and advice from more senior scholars, as well as to start building their networks of contacts. As a response to these challenges, we launched emmaConnect.

emmaConnect brings together early-stage researchers with more experienced scholars in an informal and temporary set up. This could take the form of a single or multiple online conversations in which the research and/or the career path of the early-stage researcher would be discussed.

This could also, potentially, lead to research collaboration with the more experienced scholar and his or her team, or, possibly, the inclusion of the early-stage researcher in online meetings of other PhD-students or post-doc students at the advanced scholar's university.

How does emmaConnect work?

1. Please check the list of experienced scholars, including their fields of research, published on our emma website. This list is visible only to emma members.
2. From this list, you can choose three experienced academics, in order of preference, with whom you'd like to connect for one-on-one discussions.
3. Fill in the attached application form for emmaConnect. Besides the three names of the experienced scholars, you need to describe your research interest(s) (max. 200 words) as well as briefly explain how a conversation with the selected academics will benefit your research.
4. The emma board will review all received applications and match each early-stage researcher with one experienced scholars, in close coordination with the experienced scholars.
5. Once the matching process is complete, the experienced scholar and the early-stage researcher can arrange a date, time and modality of their virtual meet-up(s).

Who is eligible to join emmaConnect?

- Early-stage researchers are PhD students and postdoctoral researchers up to 5 years after the completion of their PhD.
- The early-stage researchers have to be emma members in order to participate in the program. For anyone who is not an emma member, please find information on how to become a member [here](#).

What do you need to do in order to take part in emmaConnect:

- Please fill in the attached short form with the required information for emmaConnect by **March 18th** and send it to **Denise.voci@aau.at**
- If you have any questions, please contact Denise Voci (Denise.voci@aau.at). Denise is the main contact person for all questions regarding emmaConnect and the “special project” chair of the current emma board.

What can you expect from the programme?

The experienced scholar, in coordination with you, will set the scope, length and frequency of the online meeting(s).

The minimum is one online-meetup.

When will emmaConnect start?

- The emma board will review the applications by early-stage researchers by the end of March. The board will conduct the matching of the pairs in early April.
- Hence, it is probably safe to say that you can plan to schedule your first meeting(s) end of April. How long your relationship with the experienced scholar will last is up to the experienced scholar and you.

The timing does not fit me right now, can I join in this program later?

We are running emmaConnect for the third time. If there is sufficient demand both from early-stage researchers and experienced scholars, we might continue this initiative on a two-yearly basis.

May I connect with more than one experienced scholar?

You may enter into an emmaConnect relationship with only one experienced emmaConnect partner. The emma Board will make every effort to match you with one of the experienced scholars whose expertise would be beneficial for your research and/or for discussing your career path.

We strongly believe that the emmaConnect initiative will benefit the early-stage researchers in our community! We look forward to your participation in the program.

Best wishes from the emma Board!