

Journal of
Economics and Political Economy
econsciences.com

Volume 12

December 2025

Issue 4

**SASE 2025 Conference in Montreal.
Québec, Montréal, Canada**

By ESL Editorial [†]

Abstract. The SASE 2025 Annual Conference, titled "Inclusive Solidarities: Reimagining Boundaries in Divided Times," serves as a vital intellectual forum for addressing the fragmentation of the global socio-economic order. Set against the backdrop of Montreal's unique social economy, the conference explores the dual nature of solidarity—its power to unite and its historical tendency to exclude. As the global community navigates a "polycrisis" characterized by climate instability, rapid technological disruption, and rising geopolitical tensions, the event seeks to redefine collective action beyond traditional national or class-based silos. The proceedings prioritize a multi-disciplinary approach, integrating insights from political economy, sociology, and institutionalism. Key thematic pillars include the governance of the digital economy, where algorithmic management threatens traditional labor bonds, and the financialization of essential social sectors. Furthermore, the conference emphasizes the "Just Transition," arguing that ecological sustainability cannot be achieved without social equity. By highlighting "Inclusive Solidarities," the 2025 program aims to showcase how intersectional perspectives—encompassing gender, race, and geography—are essential for building resilient institutions. Ultimately, these conference notes synthesize the shift from neoliberal market-centrism toward a model where the economy is intentionally re-embedded within societal values. The gathering provides a roadmap for policymakers and scholars to foster "transnational support networks" and "platform cooperativism," offering a proactive response to the crisis of democratic and economic trust. This summary highlights SASE 2025 as a decisive moment for reimagining the boundaries of our shared economic future.

Keywords. Inclusive Solidarity; Socio-Economics; Digital Economy; Just Transition; Political Economy.

JEL. A13; J53; P16; O33; Z13.

Conference Notes

The SASE 2025 Annual Conference arrives at a critical juncture in global history. As we move into the second half of 2025, the world faces a paradox: unprecedented digital connectivity alongside deepening ideological, economic, and geopolitical fissures. The central theme, "Inclusive Solidarities," serves as both a diagnostic tool and a normative goal. It challenges the socio-economic community to move beyond the "neoliberal consensus" and explore how collective action can be restructured to be more equitable, sustainable, and resilient against the rise of exclusionary nationalisms.

[†] EconSciences Library Editorial.

 |  |  |  **CRediT** (article last page)

Received 8 Sep. 2025; Received in revised from 9 Oct. 2025; Accepted 1 Dec. 2025.

© 2025 The Author(s). Published by EconSciences Library.

  <https://doi.org/10.1590/xxx-2025-xxx>

Journal of Economics and Political Economy

Unlike traditional economics conferences that prioritize mathematical modeling and market efficiency, SASE 2025 emphasizes the embeddedness of economy within society. It draws heavily from Polanyian tradition, institutionalism, and feminist economics to argue that a healthy economy is impossible without a robust social fabric.

Deep Dive into the 2025 Theme: "Inclusive Solidarities"

The concept of "solidarity" has historically been Janus-faced: it creates internal cohesion (within a union, a nation, or a class) but often does so by excluding "others" (migrants, non-members, or foreign competitors).

The 2025 Montreal conference focuses on breaking this binary:

- **Reimagining Boundaries:** The conference investigates how the boundaries of "us" are being redrawn. This includes the shift from national welfare states to transnational support networks and the way digital platforms create virtual solidarities across borders.
- **Solidarity in Divided Times:** In an era of "polycrisis"—referring to the simultaneous occurrence of climate change, inflation, and democratic backsliding—the conference asks how solidarity can survive when resources are scarce and trust in institutions is at an all-time low.
- **The Role of Diversity:** A significant portion of the 2025 program is dedicated to how intersectionality (race, gender, and class) complicates and enriches the potential for inclusive solidarity.

Key Research Networks and Thematic Pillars

The intellectual architecture of SASE is built around its Research Networks. For the 2025 conference, several key pillars have emerged as the vanguard of socio-economic research:

Digital Economy and Algorithmic Governance: This network examines how AI and platform capitalism (Uber, Amazon, TaskRabbit) are rewriting the social contract.

The Challenge: How do workers organize when they are managed by algorithms rather than humans?

The Solidarity Angle: Research into "Platform Cooperativism" and digital labor unions that use the same technology that oppresses them to build new forms of resistance.

Finance and Society: As interest rates and debt levels remain volatile in 2025, this network focuses on the "financialization of everything."

Focus: The impact of private equity on healthcare and housing.

Key Question: Can "Social Impact Bonds" or "Green Finance" truly serve the public good, or are they merely new frontiers for capital accumulation?

Labor Politics and the Future of Work: This network remains the heartbeat of SASE. In Montreal, there will be a specific focus on the "Great Resignation" legacy and the rise of "Pro-Labor" sentiments in North America (e.g., the UAW and Hollywood strikes' influence).

Discussion: The transition from "job security" to "income security" through Universal Basic Income (UBI) or Job Guarantees.

Gender, Race, and Diversity in the Economy: Moving beyond identity politics, this network analyzes the economic cost of exclusion. It explores how care work (mostly performed by women) remains the invisible engine of the global economy and how inclusive solidarity must start with the valuation of this labor.

Journal of Economics and Political Economy

Mini-Conferences: Specialized Arenas

The 2025 program features 13+ "Mini-Conferences" which are highly competitive, specialized tracks. Highlights include:

- The Socio-Economics of the Climate Transition: This track focuses on the "Just Transition"—ensuring that the move to a green economy does not leave coal miners and industrial workers behind.
- Global South Perspectives: Breaking the Eurocentric bias, this track invites scholars from Latin America, Africa, and Asia to discuss "post-development" theories and indigenous economic practices.
- The Political Economy of Populism: Analyzing the link between economic precarity and the rise of far-right movements in Europe and the Americas.

Geographical Context: Why Montreal?

The choice of Montreal, Quebec is intentional. Quebec represents a unique "Social Model" in North America:

- The Quebec Model: A system characterized by strong labor unions, a massive network of cooperatives (such as Desjardins), and state-led social investment.
- Language and Identity: The tension between French and English cultures in Quebec serves as a live laboratory for studying how cultural identity interacts with economic policy.
- Institutional Partners: The collaboration with Université de Montréal and McGill ensures a bridge between Francophone and Anglophone academic traditions.

Emerging Trends for 2025-2026

Based on the SASE 2025 agenda, we can identify the following trends that will dominate the economic discourse in the coming years:

- Industrial Policy is Back: Governments are no longer "leaving it to the market." The return of state-led investment in microchips and green tech is a major research focus.
- Degrowth vs. Green Growth: A heated debate is expected between those who believe we can decouple growth from carbon emissions and those who argue that "endless growth" is fundamentally incompatible with a finite planet.
- The Crisis of Expertise: In an era of "fake news," how do socio-economists regain public trust? The conference will hold workshops on "Public Sociology" and communicating data to a skeptical public.

Conclusion: The Call to Action

The SASE 2025 Annual Conference is not merely an academic gathering; it is a call to re-embed the economy in human values. The findings presented in Montreal are expected to influence policy briefs for the OECD, the ILO, and various national governments.

By focusing on "Inclusive Solidarities," SASE 2025 provides a roadmap for a world that is currently struggling to find common ground. It asserts that while boundaries—physical, economic, and social—are inevitable, they are not immutable. They can be reimaged to foster a more inclusive global community.

Journal of Economics and Political Economy



Open Access This article is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License, which permits any non-commercial use, sharing, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons licence, and indicate if you modified the licensed material. You do not have permission under this licence to share adapted material derived from this article or parts of it. The images or other third party material in this article are included in the article's Creative Commons licence, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the article's Creative Commons licence and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder. To view a copy of this licence, visit: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by- nc- nd/4.0/>



ESL Editorial, JEPE, 12(4), 2025. pp.227-230