

Review of: "Actual problems of creative activity and new cognitive possibilities: a transdisciplinary approach"

Luca Morini¹

¹ Coventry University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Many thanks to the authors for contribution such an interesting article. I also have a strong interest in transdisciplinarity and systems thinking, and I very much welcome the breadth of ideas you have shared, and your intent to systematise.

However, i think that, in its current version, the article would benefit from some revision, to maximise its clarity and reach.

The first obstacle is the writing style which is very clearly that of a non-native English speak. Now, there's absolutely thing wrong with that per se, I am a non-native English speaker myself and in fact I am proud of being able to frame arguments in a slightly different way. However, sometimes things can really get lost in translation. Is there a native speaker you can engage with to discuss the article in-depth?

Coming to the contents, the terminology you use (in general but particularly in the models) is not always clearly explained. It would be useful if you could provide the reader with more in-depth articulation of the key-concepts, so that they can follow your argument more clearly.

Linked to the above, similar discussion have been advanced in the field of systems thinking and complexity theory, but your selection of references appears to be rather partial. Engaging with authors such as Morin, Bateson, Prigogine, Capra, Meadows, Beer, Laszlo, Barabasi, Bocchi, Ceruti (among others) might help you provide more grounding to your work, and connect it more closely with existing literature.

Finally, it seems to me that your work sidelines the structural, political and economic spheres, sometimes showcasing questionable assumptions. For example, you mention that 21st century economies are circular, but that's sadly not the reality, when we live still in a very extractive and exploitative system which constantly overshoots systemic boundaries. Moving to a more explicitly political stance, I think that many of the issues you mention in terms of a skew towards quantification are a consequence of the hegemony of marketised system which measure while expunging value, so I struggle with your suggestion of establishing a "market of ideas". I believe that by doing that we would reinforce existing patterns not only of epistemological partiality, but of structural and political inequality.

Overall, a very interesting provocation, that I would be interesting in seeing develop in a more clearly organised and explicitly articulated way. Please do feel free to reach out to me (my name and profile are accessible, and you can Google my works), if you believe a conversation could be useful.

All the best,



Luca Morini