
The Diverse Ends-in-View of Research on Business Processes and Organizational Routines (Extended Abstract)

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Extended Abstract

A recent debate in the field of information systems research has raised the question whether the arguments against method articulated by Paul Feyerabend [Fey93] offers a basis for reflecting the methodological foundations of the field [Tre18]. In this research, we build on our recent commentary [MBSG20] that contributes to this debate. More specifically, we reflect on Habermas's pragmatist perspective of social science. We argue that research on business processes and organizational routines exemplifies a pluralism that goes beyond the relativistic conclusions of Feyerabend. Research into business processes and organizational routines exhibits a healthy diversity of epistemological and methodological approaches. Accompanying this diversity is an openness to novelty and change. Yet, at the same time, this does not necessitate the abandonment of rigor and a cumulative tradition implied by Feyerabend's "anything goes." There is not a singular, hegemonic approach to what constitutes strong business process and organizational routines research, but neither have we devolved into anarchy.

Bibliography

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