Call for Papers:

Expertise, Risk and Decision

The Editorial Board of the Environment, Systems and Decisions, published by Springer, announces a special Call for Papers addressing particular challenges at the intersection of expertise, risk, and decision. The applications of this special issue are expected to span safety, security, environment, and other topics.

Prospectus
For safety, security, environment, and related topics, expertise is used as a support for decision-making to handle natural and man-made hazards. The prioritization of risk management initiatives should be based nowadays on sounded scientific knowledge and transparent decision-making processes. The process should also enable the involvement of different actors impacted and/or concerned by the various related risks and initiatives.

Following the Aquila seismic catastrophe in Italy the 6th of April 2009, seven experts who were members of the major risk commissions in charge of seismic risk assessment in the region were condemned in court. This and many other similar incidents point to a crucial need for robust, sound, reliable processes, methods and tools to support the elicitation and use of risk expertise. The frontiers of expertise and decision-making must continually be reevaluated and the legitimacy of particular expertise could be made more transparent to stakeholders and the public.

The Editorial Board invites submissions in the area of Expertise, Risk and Decision in safety, security, and environmental topics applied to all industrial sectors and natural hazards, including but not limited to:
- Definition, and regulatory background.
- Analysis of case studies where the validity and the legitimacy of risk expertise were questioned.
- Feedback of major catastrophes and accidents.
- Integrated methods to improve the robustness and the reliability of expertise process.
- Governance of risk expertise and risk decision-making.
- Sharing technical and organizational methods and best practices to improve the validity and the legitimacy of institutional expertise as a support for public decision making.
- Policy analysis for government and industry in the above topics.

Contact Details & Schedule
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Manuscripts are encouraged to be submitted prior to September 15, 2013. The review of manuscripts begins immediately. Manuscripts accepted for publication will be published online immediately after the galley proof is finalized, at the Springer ES&D website, and subsequently in the printed version of the Special Issue expected in Summer 2014.

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