

Press release

## Hot off the press: Crowdfunding in Europe – State of the Art in Theory and Practice

*European Crowdfunding Network AISBL (ECN) and Förderkreis Gründungs-Forschung e.V. (FGF) publish first state-of-the-art academic resource on crowdfunding in Europe with Springer. The contributed volume is ECN's first attempt identifying and connecting crowdfunding researchers all over Europe.*

Brussels | Ilmenau | Krefeld, 23. September 2015. Crowdfunding is becoming an increasingly popular method to finance projects of every kind and scale. Simultaneously, the scientific research underpinning this phenomenon has been gaining ground but still is far away from being an elaborated research field. Recently published, the contributed volume *Crowdfunding in Europe – State of the Art in Theory and Practice* is one of the earliest books presenting scientific and research-based perspectives of crowdfunding, its development, and future. The European Crowdfunding Network (ECN) and its Scientific Work Group, together with Förderkreis Gründungs-Forschung e.V. (FGF), invited both researchers and practitioners to contribute to this first state-of-the-art edited volume on crowdfunding in Europe. The book contributes to a better comprehension of crowdfunding, encourages further fundamental research and contributes to a systematization of this new field of research. The book also features expert contributions by practitioners to enhance and complement the scientific perspective. The book can be used as a guideline and shall advance classification in an emerging research field.

Dennis Brüntje, editor and Head of the Scientific Work Group on crowdfunding at the ECN said, “This edited volume is our first step identifying and connecting crowdfunding researchers all over Europe. We are proud to have been able to work together with FGF and Springer who gave us the opportunity to showcase the relevance of crowdfunding within research and practice. Our editorial board, all renowned experts in their particular field, ensured in a double-blind peer review process the high quality of our publication.” Oliver Gajda, co-editor, founding Chairman and current Executive Director of the ECN said, “We believe academic research will play an important role in the increasing professionalisation of crowdfunding, and we are very happy to have been able to contribute with views from practitioners on selected topics.”

*Crowdfunding in Europe* is the first volume in the new Springer book series *FGF Studies in Small Business and Entrepreneurship* which includes interdisciplinary works from management, finance, innovation, marketing, economics, sociology, psychology and related areas, reflecting the breadth of different approaches to small business and entrepreneurship research. Prof. Dr. Andreas Kuckertz and Prof. Dr. Joern Block, Series Editors and members of the steering committee of the FGF, invited the ECN to set with the volume on crowdfunding the starting point for their book series. “We are happy to be able to start the series with an edited volume that achieves all of the goals that we have in mind with the series in an exceptional way. Readers will find a useful combination of rigorous, evidenced-based academic perspectives and seasoned professionals’ views on crowdfunding. This unique combination of timeliness and perspectives makes the volume really stand out in the emerging stream of literature on crowdfunding – which is why we are convinced that it will develop to become a standard reference for everyone interested in this exciting phenomenon,” said Prof. Kuckertz.

The **European Crowdfunding Network AISBL (ECN)** is the professional industry network promoting adequate transparency, (self) regulation and governance while offering a combined voice in policy discussion and public opinion building about crowdfunding. The objectives of ECN's interdisciplinary Scientific Work Group on crowdfunding are to contribute to a better comprehension of crowdfunding, encourage further fundamental research and to contribute to a systematization of this research field.

But mostly the group wants to bring together scientists in Europe doing research about crowdfunding. The work group is supported by the Media and Communication Management Group at Technische Universität Ilmenau, Germany.

The **Förderkreis Gründungs-Forschung e.V. (FGF)** is the largest and leading association of entrepreneurship and innovation scholars in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Liechtenstein. Today, FGF provides an established platform for the exchange of ideas and results of entrepreneurship research and related phenomena such as innovation, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and family businesses. Various work groups and networks within the FGF address topics such as the development of entrepreneurship research, entrepreneurial finance, cultural entrepreneurship, sustainable entrepreneurship and innovation, corporate entrepreneurship, or entrepreneurship education. Based on this, recommendations for policy- and decision-makers are developed and disseminated widely.

#### Further Information

- Product website (with access to review copy): <http://www.springer.com/en/book/9783319180168>
- SpringerLink to book chapters: <http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-3-319-18017-5>
- Dedicated book series: <http://www.springer.com/series/13382>

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