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Edited By Damon Golsorkhi, Linda Rouleau, David Seidl and Eero Vaara

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Cambridge Handbook of Strategy as Practice

Now in its second edition, this extended and thoroughly updated handbook introduces researchers and students to the growing range of theoretical and methodological perspectives being developed in the vibrant field of strategy as practice. With new authors and additional chapters, it shows how the strategy-as-practice approach in strategic management moves away from disembodied and asocial studies of firm assets, technologies and practices to explore and explain the contribution that strategizing makes to people working at all levels of an organization. It breaks down many of the traditional paradigmatic barriers in strategy to investigate who the strategists are, what they do, how they do it and what the consequences or outcomes of their actions are. This essential work summarizes recent developments in the field while presenting a clear agenda for future research.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contents

List of figures	ix
List of tables	x
List of boxes	xi
List of contributors	xii
Preface to the Second Edition	xxv

Introduction: what is strategy as practice?	1
<i>Damon Golsorkhi, Linda Rouleau, David Seidl and Eero Vaara</i>	

PART I ONTOLOGICAL AND EPISTEMOLOGICAL QUESTIONS

1 Practice in research: phenomenon, perspective and philosophy	33
<i>Wanda J. Orlikowski</i>	
2 Epistemological alternatives for researching strategy as practice: building and dwelling worldviews	44
<i>Robert Chia and Andreas Rasche</i>	
3 Making strategy: meta-theoretical insights from Heideggerian phenomenology	58
<i>Haridimos Tsoukas</i>	
4 Constructivist paradigms: implications for strategy-as-practice research	78
<i>Simon Grand, Widar von Arx and Johannes Rüegg-Stürm</i>	
5 Constructing contribution in strategy-as-practice research	95
<i>Katharina Dittrich, Karen Golden-Biddle, Elana Feldman and Karen Locke</i>	
6 The ongoing challenge of developing cumulative knowledge about strategy as practice	111
<i>Ann Langley</i>	

- 7 Practical relevance of practice-based research on strategy 128
Violetta Splitter and David Seidl

PART II THEORETICAL RESOURCES: SOCIAL THEORY

- 8 Giddens, structuration theory and strategy as practice 145
Richard Whittington
- 9 An activity theory approach to strategy as practice 165
Paula Jarzabkowski and Carola Wolf
- 10 A Bourdieusian perspective on strategizing 184
Marie-Léandre Gomez
- 11 An economies-of-worth perspective on strategy as practice: justification, valuation and critique in the practice of strategy 199
Jean-Pascal Gond, Bernard Leca and Charlotte Cloutier
- 12 A Wittgensteinian perspective on strategizing 220
Saku Mantere
- 13 A Foucauldian perspective on strategic practice: strategy as the art of (un)folding 234
Florence Allard-Poesi
- 14 A narrative approach to strategy as practice: strategy-making from texts and narratives 249
Valérie-Inès de La Ville and Eléonore Mounoud
- 15 Actor–network theory and strategy as practice 265
Christopher S. Chapman, Wai Fong Chua and Habib Mahama

PART III THEORETICAL RESOURCES: ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT THEORIES

- 16 An institutional perspective on strategy as practice 283
Michael Smets, Royston Greenwood and Michael Lounsbury

-
- 17 Relating strategy as practice to the resource-based view, capabilities perspectives and the micro-foundations approach 301
Patrick Regnér
- 18 Theory of routine dynamics and connections to strategy as practice 317
Martha S. Feldman
- 19 Identity work as a strategic practice 331
David Oliver
- 20 Sensemaking in strategy as practice: a phenomenon or a perspective? 345
Joep Cornelissen and Henri Schildt
- 21 The communicative constitution of strategy-making: exploring fleeting moments of strategy 365
François Cooren, Nicolas Bencherki, Mathieu Chaput and Consuelo Vásquez
- 22 Analytical frames for studying power in strategy as practice and beyond 389
Stewart Clegg and Martin Kornberger
- 23 A critical perspective on strategy as practice 405
Martin Blom and Mats Alvesson

PART IV METHODOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- 24 Using ethnography in strategy-as-practice research 431
Ann L. Cunliffe
- 25 Researching strategists and their identity in practice: building ‘close-with’ relationships 447
Julia Balogun, Nic Beech and Phyl Johnson
- 26 Studying strategizing through biographical methods: narratives of practices and life trajectories of practitioners 462
Linda Rouleau
- 27 Researching everyday practice: the ethnomethodological contribution 477
Dalvir Samra-Fredericks

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii Contents

-
- 28 Critical discourse analysis as methodology in
strategy-as-practice research 491
Eero Vaara
- 29 Studying strategy as practice through historical
methods 506
Mona Ericson, Leif Melin and Andrew Popp
- 30 Quantitative methods in strategy-as-practice
research 520
*Tomi Laamanen, Emmanuelle Reuter, Markus
Schimmer, Florian Ueberbacher and Xena
Welch Guerra*

PART V SUBSTANTIVE TOPIC AREAS

- 31 Strategic planning as practice 547
Ann Langley and Maria Lusiani
- 32 Meetings and workshops as strategy
practices 564
David Seidl and Stéphane Guérard
- 33 The role of materiality in the practice of
strategy 582
Jane Lê and Paul Spee
- 34 Strategy-as-practice research on middle managers'
strategy work 598
Linda Rouleau, Julia Balogun and Steven W. Floyd
- 35 Participation in strategy work 616
Pikka-Maaria Laine and Eero Vaara
- 36 The role of emotions in strategizing 632
Ethel Brundin and Feng Liu
- Index* 647

Figures

- | | | | | | |
|------|--|-----|------|--|-----|
| 8.1 | Forms of interaction in structuration theory | 148 | 28.1 | Critical discourse analysis as abduction | 500 |
| 8.2 | A structurationist view on <i>technology-in-practice</i> | 154 | 30.1 | Word counts as differing attention allocations, stratified by companies | 527 |
| 8.3 | A structurationist view on <i>organizational practices in a student hall</i> | 155 | 30.2 | Optimal matching analysis for sequence analysis | 531 |
| 9.1 | An activity framework for studying strategy-as-practice questions | 170 | 30.3 | Event history analysis for sequence analysis | 533 |
| 17.1 | An exploded map of strategic management | 304 | 30.4 | Average abnormal returns of strategic plan presentations | 533 |
| 25.1 | Practitioners and their praxis: illustrating the impact of identity | 454 | 30.5 | News analytics framework for studying organizational behaviour and practices under consideration of the industry level | 537 |
| 26.1 | Practices of middle managers in organizational restructuring (underlying types of knowledge) | 469 | 31.1 | A framework for considering strategic planning as a social practice | 549 |

Tables

- | | | | |
|---|-----|--|-----|
| 2.1 Contrasting a building and a dwelling epistemology | 49 | 20.1 Selected studies bridging the strategy-as-practice approach and sensemaking | 351 |
| 3.1 Action, intentionality and strategy-making: a Heideggerian framework | 71 | 21.1 Key aspects of a CCO perspective on strategy-making | 368 |
| 5.1 Opportunities for contribution in strategy-as-practice research | 102 | 21.2 How a CCO perspective responds to Vaara and Whittington's (2012) research agenda | 377 |
| 7.1 Overview of practice-based approaches | 132 | 22.1 Summary of analytical framework to study power and strategy, strategizing and making things strategic | 392 |
| 8.1 Giddens in the study of strategy practice | 157 | 23.1 A critical research agenda | 416 |
| 9.1 Exemplars of studying organizational practices through an activity theory lens | 168 | 24.1 Three problematics | 440 |
| 11.1 Boltanski's four regimes of action | 202 | 26.1 Narratives of practices according to Balogun, Huff and Johnson's (2003) criteria | 467 |
| 11.2 Summary description of the common worlds | 204 | 32.1 The various roles of meetings | 568 |
| 11.3 Consolidated overview of eight 'worlds' according to the economies-of-worth framework | 205 | 32.2 The effectiveness of workshop designs in ten organizations | 574 |
| 11.4 Comparison of assumptions between institutional logics and the economies-of-worth frameworks | 208 | 33.1 Overview of empirical approaches to materiality | 585 |
| 14.1 Strategy-making from texts and narratives | 259 | 34.1 Strategy-as-practice research on middle managers: a sensemaking lens | 601 |
| 17.1 Research at the intersection between strategy-as-practice and resource-based capabilities and micro-foundations research | 307 | 34.2 Strategy-as-practice research on middle managers: a discursive lens | 602 |
| 19.1 Three perspectives on the role of identity for strategy | 334 | 34.3 Strategy-as-practice research on middle managers: a political lens | 604 |
| | | 34.4 Strategy-as-practice research on middle managers: an institutional lens | 605 |
| | | 36.1 Core articles on strategizing and emotion | 633 |

Boxes

- | | | | |
|---|-----|---|-----|
| 25.1 Practitioners and their praxis:
illustrating the impact of identity | 450 | 30.4 Mechanics explained: event history
analysis | 532 |
| 30.1 Mechanics explained: computer-aided
text analysis | 526 | 30.5 Mechanics explained: event study
methodology | 534 |
| 30.2 Mechanics explained: network
analysis | 529 | 30.6 How to source and study corporate news
streams as a data source | 536 |
| 30.3 Mechanics explained: optimal
matching analysis | 530 | | |

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Preface to the Second Edition

We did not anticipate the first edition of the *Cambridge Handbook of Strategy as Practice* to be followed by a new version this soon. In the five years since the first edition was published, however, the field of practice-based strategy research has moved on considerably. New theoretical perspectives have been advanced, alternative methodologies have been suggested and new topics have been explored. In reaction to these developments, we have put this second edition together. We have included twenty new chapters and have substantially revised and updated all the original ones. In addition, the overall structure of the handbook has been changed: We have added Part III, covering organization and management theory perspectives on strategy as practice (SAP), such as the institutional perspective, alternative strategy perspectives, the routine dynamics perspective, the identity theory perspective, the communicative constitution of organizations perspective, the power perspective and the critical perspective. We have also added Part V, on substantive topic areas in strategy as practice research, which includes chapters on strategic planning, strategy meetings, the role of materiality in strategy, the strategic role of middle managers, participation in strategy and the role of emotions in strategy. Moreover, we decided to drop the original Part IV, on exemplary empirical research, as we felt that it was no longer possible to provide a

representative overview of the wide variety of empirical studies conducted in the area of strategy as practice. Since the respective empirical chapters are still of great value to practice-based researchers, however, we have made them freely available on the website of Cambridge University Press: to access the papers, please visit www.cambridge.org/golsorkhi.

Working on this second edition has been a wonderful journey, as we have had the opportunity to learn new things and get to know new people. This book project has been an important way for us to participate in the development of the SAP agenda, and we are especially happy about the dialogue that has been established with those who have not usually been considered to be part of the SAP community. All this has required a great deal of effort from the authors. We are grateful to the authors of the previous edition, who without hesitation agreed to revise and update their chapters, and to the new ones, for so generously accepting the challenge to join us in this great adventure. This second edition literally would not have happened had not Paula Parish from Cambridge University Press approached us, and she has been a fantastic key person to work with. We also want to thank all the others in the great CUP team facilitating this editing process.

Damon, Linda, David and Eero