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MICROFOUNDATIONS

Nature, Debate, and Promise

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Abstract: 'Microfoundations' has become prominent in the discourse of management scholars. But what is it and how does it matter? This Element provides a characterization of microfoundations based on classical work on the methodology of social science and documents and discusses its manifestations in management research over the last one and a half decades. It also covers the relation of microfoundations to multilevel research; criticisms of microfoundations; and empirical research strategies for microfoundations.

Keywords: management; methodological individualism; microfoundations; research methodology; strategy

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