



## Invitation

to the book presentation

**Helmut Staubmann and Victor Lidz (Eds).**

***Rationality in the Social Sciences.***

***The Schumpeter/Parsons Seminar 1939/40 and  
Current Perspectives.*** Springer 2017

## Contact

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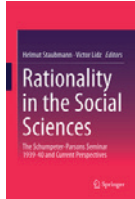
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**Wednesday, 11th of October 2017, 6pm**

Faculty Meeting Room, Social Science Faculties, 3rd floor  
Universitätsstraße 15, 6020 Innsbruck



This volume presents for the first time a collection of historically important papers written on the concept of rationality in the social sciences. In 1939-40, the famed Austrian economist Joseph A. Schumpeter and the famous sociologist Talcott Parsons convened a faculty seminar at Harvard University on the topic of rationality.

The first part includes their essays as well as papers by the Austrian phenomenologist Alfred Schütz, the sociologist Wilbert Moore, and the economist Rainer Schickele. Several younger economists and sociologists with bright futures also participated, including Alex Gerschenkron, John Dunlop, Paul M. Sweezy, and Wassily W. Leontief, who was later awarded the Nobel Prize for developing input-output analysis. The second part presents essays and commentaries written by today's internationally noted social scientists and addressing the topic of rationality in social action from a broad range of perspectives. The book's third and final part shares the recently discovered correspondence between the seminar principals regarding the original but failed plan to publish its proceedings. It also includes letters, not previously published, between Walter M. Sprondel, Richard Grathoff and Talcott Parsons on the rationality seminar and the exchanges between Parsons and Schütz.

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### **Program**

Introduction and background information on the Schumpeter-Parsons-Seminar  
**Univ.-Prof. Dr. Helmut Staubmann** (editor and author)

The Problem of Rationality in the Contemporary Theory of Action  
**Em.Prof. Dr. Victor Lidz** (editor and author)

Discussion and commentary from an economic perspective  
**Univ.-Prof. Dr. Markus Walzl**

Afterwards you are invited to a small reception.