

Inaugural Lapland Investment Fund Summit (LIFS)

Call for Papers

March 21-23, 2023 Levi Summit, Levi (Kittilä), Lapland, Finland

aalto.fi/lifs2023

The objective of this boutique conference is to present state-of-the-art academic research on topics related to all types of investment funds. There will be one track of presentations for two days. The relatively small scale and exotic location of the conference will not only provide an environment for in-depth discussions, but also an opportunity to together enjoy winter activities in the beautiful scenery and ski resort that lies above the Arctic Circle, and with some luck, a possibility to see Aurora Borealis.

ORGANIZERS: Juha Joenväärä (Aalto University) and Russ Wermers (Center for Financial Policy at the Smith School of Business, University of Maryland).

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: George Aragon (Arizona State University), Daniel Barth (Federal Reserve Board), Nick Bollen (Vanderbilt University), Greg Brown (University of North Carolina), Mila Getmansky Sherman (University of Massachusetts at Amherst), Wei Jiang (Emory University), Juha Joenväärä (Aalto University), Petri Jylhä (Aalto University), Robert Kosowski (Imperial College), Veronika Krepely Pool (Vanderbilt University), Chris Lundblad (University of North Carolina), David Robinson (Duke University), Cristian Tiu (University at Buffalo), and Russ Wermers (Chair; Center for Financial Policy at the Smith School of Business, University of Maryland).

TOPICS: We welcome submissions from all areas related to investment funds. Complete papers in an early stage will also be considered. Sample topics include, but are not limited to:

- Fund performance measurement and manager selection
- Capital raising, clientele effects, compensation contracts, and fees
- ESG and sustainability, especially in private equity funds and hedge funds
- Machine learning and artificial intelligence in predicting fund risk and performance
- Trading activity, transparency (reporting), conflict of interest, and due diligence
- Broad macroeconomic issues such as systemic risk, liquidity, and contagion
- Innovations in fund design (e.g., theme-based ETFs)

PAPER SUBMISSION PROCEDURE: Interested authors should submit their papers as a pdf-file by November 20, 2022, to lifs@aalto.fi. Authors of accepted papers will be notified by end of the year 2022.

SISTER CONFERENCES: On March 22-23, there is a Lapland Household Finance Summit, and on March 23-24, the Ph.D. Nordic Finance Workshop at Levi Summit. Conferences have overlapping non-academic programs.

EXPENSES AND PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS: Travel expenses are expected to be covered by presenters. The conference has a negotiated price with the conference hotel (<https://www.levi.fi/en/services/hotel-levi-panorama>). There is no conference fee. Please contact the organizers (email: lifs@aalto.fi) for any queries on practical arrangements. Levi is served by Kittilä-airport (KTT) with four daily flights from Helsinki. Some international destinations may also offer direct flights to Kittilä during the season 2022-23.