






# Enhancing Transparency and Replicability in Entrepreneurship Research with Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions: A Call for Papers

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Katharina Fellnhofer<sup>1</sup> , Karl Wennberg<sup>2</sup> ,  
Thomas H. Allison<sup>3</sup> , Pia Arenius<sup>4</sup> ,  
Moren Lévesque<sup>5</sup> , J. Jeffrey Gish<sup>6</sup>, and  
Jeffrey M. Pollack<sup>7</sup> 

## Abstract

*Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice (ETP)* is committed to advancing transparency, replicability, credibility, and rigor in research. To support this commitment, we encourage authors to pre-register their research plans, submit empirical studies as Registered Reports, and engage with our evolving editorial processes, such as Registered Revisions. Drawing on practices across multiple disciplines, we offer guidance for integrating these publication formats into our field. We also provide multiple resources to support authors in adopting these approaches and to address the unique challenges of applying such formats to, for example, secondary data. By more widely embracing the Registered Report approach, we envision a future for entrepreneurship research that is characterized by greater credibility, replicability, transparency, and scientific impact. In this editorial, we motivate and, hopefully, guide future work by making a specific call for manuscripts for a virtual special issue of *ETP* focused on Registered Reports, strengthening *ETP's* longstanding commitment to methodological innovation. We offer a prospective vision—what we believe would be good for future literature—and our aim is to empower scholars to proactively shape new theoretical and empirical foundations in entrepreneurship research that enhance the credibility and replicability of entrepreneurship research.

<sup>1</sup>Research and Innovation Management GmbH, ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

<sup>2</sup>Department of Management and Organization, Stockholm School of Economics, Stockholm, Sweden

<sup>3</sup>Department of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX, USA

<sup>4</sup>Department of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, emlyon business school, Lyon, France

<sup>5</sup>Schulich School of Business, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada

<sup>6</sup>Whitman School of Management, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, USA

<sup>7</sup>Department of Management, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship, NC State University, Raleigh, NC, USA

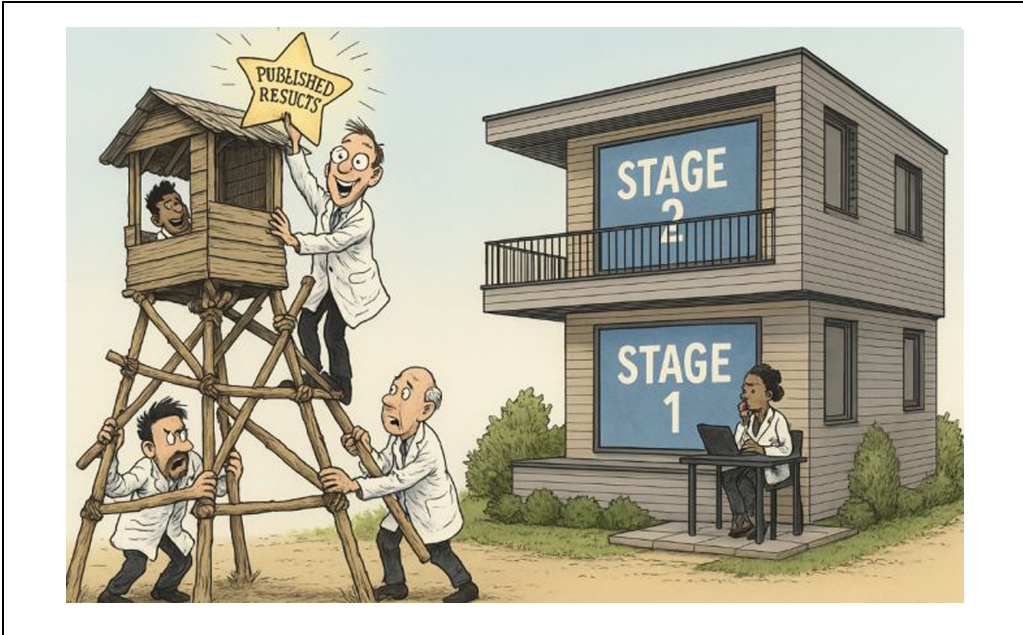
## Corresponding Author:

Katharina Fellnhofer, Research and Innovation Management GmbH, Marktplatz 7a, 3371 Neumarkt an der Ybbs, Austria, ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

Email: [katharina@rim.eu.com](mailto:katharina@rim.eu.com)

## Keywords

preregistrations, registered reports, open science, registered revisions, credibility, replicability



Notes: (1) The above image was generated using ChatGPT's image generation tool 5 (OpenAI, August 2025) to illustrate conceptual distinctions in transparency and replicability within entrepreneurship research. The image is entirely synthetic, not based on real individuals or empirical data, and intended solely for educational and illustrative purposes. The visual concept is inspired by an original illustration by David Parkins, published in *Nature* (2019) as part of an article on improving research reliability: *Nature* 573, 187–189 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-019-02674-6>. Permission granted by Mr. Parkins on August 15th, 2025. (2) AI Disclosure Statement. To support clarity and consistency, we used the generative AI tool ChatGPT-5 (OpenAI) to help polish the manuscript during preparation. All content decisions and interpretations were developed and verified by the authors, who take full responsibility for the final work.

A growing body of literature spanning multiple disciplines including entrepreneurship explores the importance of credibility and replicability in scientific inquiry and how scientific rigor can be improved (B. S. Anderson et al., 2019; Bergh et al., 2017; Camerer et al., 2016; Hensel, 2021; Holzmeister et al., 2025; Maula & Stam, 2020; Open Science Collaboration, 2015). This editorial and associated call for papers aims to advance these efforts in the field of entrepreneurship by specifically advocating for scholars to preregister their research plans, submit empirical studies as Registered Reports, and engage with the evolving editorial process at *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice* (ETP) via Registered Revisions.

Entrepreneurship research addresses relevant, real-world questions. These important questions often present challenges for data access and external validity. Past work has shown innovative responsiveness to meeting these challenges, relying primarily on

secondary data, qualitative primary data, and crowdsourced survey or non-lab experimental data (e.g. mTurk, Prolific). Our efforts to enhance the ability to document data transparency and pre-specifications extend the leadership role our field plays in enacting state-of-the-art methods. To support researchers in navigating this landscape, we provide a comparative overview of Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions, outlining their core features, procedural steps, and practical recommendations. We offer checklists to guide the preparation of manuscripts. These materials are intended to serve as both practical tools and educational resources for authors, reviewers, and editors committed to advancing open science within entrepreneurship research. Overall, we intend to convey the message that these approaches can save researchers time, make the research process more efficient, and improve the chances that research gets published.

### *Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions*

Across multiple disciplines, approaches to address scientific credibility and replicability typically discuss methodological rigor as well as transparency as critical issues. Maula and Stam (2020) point out that transparency enhances the credibility and replicability of research. Perhaps not surprisingly, a suite of publication formats has emerged that provide structures for authors to be transparent about methodological choices: *Preregistrations*, *Registered Reports*, and *Registered Revisions*. Table 1 offers a description of each format. In short, a preregistration is when an author (or author team) submits their research plan online to a repository like Open Science Framework or AsPredicted. Submitted plans include the design of the study, inclusion/exclusion criteria, hypotheses, planned analyses, etc. *ETP* embraces Preregistrations including for abductive and exploratory quantitative studies. A Registered Report is a type of manuscript submission that includes each part of the manuscript except the results and discussion—that is, it is evaluated on the merit of the framing without knowing the results (see Appendix A, Table A1). *ETP* was an early adopter of Registered Reports, as discussed later in this editorial. A Registered Revision is when a manuscript is given a “revise and resubmit” decision, and it is likely that new data will need to be collected and analyzed. In collaboration with the review team, the author(s) develop(s) a plan to collect those new data and register this new plan online (like Preregistration, but during the revision process). *ETP* is currently trialing Registered Revisions.

Transparency-enhancing research formats (Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions) and the systems that enact them not only support credibility and replicability but also rigor. Improved transparency enhances scientific rigor (NIH, 2024) across diverse methodological approaches by mitigating publication bias and ensuring that null findings are recognized as meaningful contributions. The systematization of transparency can also help steer authors toward more rigorous methods and statistical choices by providing a structure for the planning of the empirical approach that is most appropriate for the hypotheses/research questions.

Despite this contribution to rigor, transparency-enhancing research formats need not be more work for scholars. On the contrary, transparency-enhancing practices such as Preregistrations and Registered Reports can be less time-consuming than traditional approaches. By avoiding common pitfalls like HARKing (hypothesizing after results are known), theory-data mismatch, and excessive rounds of revision or rejection, these methods streamline the research and publication process (Chambers & Tzavella, 2022; Field et al., 2020; Lakens et al., 2024). Indeed, in contrast to HARKing and retrofitting theory,

**Table 1.** Overview of Pre-Commitment Publication Formats: Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions.

Format	Definition and key benefits	Process	Practical recommendations
Preregistrations	Registration of a study's research question(s), hypotheses (if applicable), methods, and analysis plan before data collection begins. Enhances transparency, reduces bias, and improves the credibility of research findings (Roloff & Zyphur, 2019).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Authors submit a Preregistration on platforms such as <a href="https://osf.io/">https://osf.io/</a> or <a href="https://aspredicted.org/">https://aspredicted.org/</a>; all co-authors must approve the submission before finalization.</li> <li>2. Preregistrations can remain private indefinitely or be made public at a later time. Researchers can generate an anonymous link to share with reviewers.</li> <li>3. If made public, the Preregistration receives a timestamped, permanent record in a web archive.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clearly define research question(s), methods, and analysis plans, and do so before data collection begins.</li> <li>2. Specify inclusion and exclusion criteria, sample size, and all planned statistical tests. Indicate how you will handle multiple comparisons, missing data, and any deviations.</li> <li>3. Declare whether any parts of the study are exploratory (versus confirmatory).</li> <li>4. Clearly identify unexpected results and any analyses not included in the Preregistration. For example: "Contrary to expectations, we found that ...", or "In addition to the analyses we preregistered, we also ran ..."</li> </ol>
Registered reports	Peer-reviewed research articles in which the introduction, research question(s), hypotheses (if applicable), and methodology are reviewed before data collection begins, enhancing transparency, reducing bias, and promoting the publication of null results (Chambers & Tzavella, 2022; Reich et al., 2020).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stage I Submission: Authors submit an introduction, research question(s), hypotheses (if applicable), study design, and analysis plan prior to data collection.</li> <li>2. Stage I Peer Review: The submission is peer-reviewed. It may be rejected or accepted in-principle. Data Collection: Authors conduct the study strictly according to the approved protocol.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide sufficient detail for full replication, including clear data exclusion criteria and sample characteristics.</li> <li>2. Explicitly link each research question/hypothesis to its corresponding statistical test.</li> <li>3. When testing null hypotheses, consider using Bayesian statistics (e.g. Bayes factors) or frequentist equivalence testing to strengthen interpretability.</li> </ol>

(continued)

**Table 1.** (continued)

Format	Definition and key benefits	Process	Practical recommendations
Registered revisions “Mini-registered report process within the peer-review process” (new publication format at <i>ETP</i> )	This format allows authors to respond to reviewer or editor requests for additional data collection or analysis by submitting a pre-specified Revision Plan. The editor may grant an in-principle acceptance for publication, independent of the final outcome.	<p>3. Stage 2 Submission: The final manuscript is submitted, including results and discussion, and reviewed for compliance with the Stage 1 plan.</p> <p>4. Final Publication: If quality checks are passed, the study is published regardless of the outcome, including null or unexpected results.</p> <p>1. Voluntary Participation: Authors must opt in; templates and guidance are provided.</p> <p>2. Stage 1: Authors submit a Revision Plan outlining how new data will be collected and analyzed before conducting any analyses. The editor may grant an in-principle acceptance for publication, independent of the final outcome.</p> <p>3. Stage 2: Authors implement the approved plan and submit the revised manuscript.</p>	<p>4. Use past tense to describe pilot studies and future tense for the proposed research.</p> <p>5. If applicable, include positive controls or provide justification for their absence; ensure outcome-neutral quality checks (e.g. no floor or ceiling effects) are in place. If applicable, conduct power analyses not only for hypotheses but also for positive controls and manipulation checks.</p> <p>1. Eligible Manuscripts: Typically, hypothesis-driven articles where additional data or analyses are requested during peer review.</p> <p>2. Response: Address all reviewer and editor feedback.</p> <p>3. Track Revisions: Maintain a clear log of all modifications made to methods, data, or analyses throughout the revision process.</p>

Note. For additional guidance, checklists are available (Appendices A–F). For qualitative research, guidance varies depending on study purpose; in some cases, references to “Hypotheses” above may be substituted with “Research Questions.” Consult available authorities for preregistering qualitative studies (Haven & Van Grootel, 2019).  
ETP = Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice.

transparent practices are oftentimes less work and less time-consuming. When considering the time required to conduct multiple analyses of a dataset, search through and adequately learn multiple theories in search of one fitting the results, and the relatively greater chance that HARKed studies will be rejected because of weaker fit between theory and method leading to more time spent revising and more time under review, transparent research practices offer researchers greater efficiency. We believe authors HARK and retrofit theory only because they think this is the way to get published. We are thus pleased to share a roadmap for embracing transparent research practices that offer another way, which is simultaneously less time-consuming and more rigorous.

*Focusing on Registered Reports.* In this editorial and call for papers, we focus on Registered Reports, while also addressing the complementary roles of Preregistrations and Registered Revisions. We view Registered Reports as especially important to the advancement of entrepreneurship research. Considering that entrepreneurship is an exceptionally interdisciplinary field and often benefits from cross-disciplinary methodological input (Scheel et al., 2021; Soderberg et al., 2021), entrepreneurship scholars are well-positioned to adopt transparency-enhancing practices from other disciplines. Registered Reports enable researchers to specify their hypotheses, methods, and analysis plans in advance, thus promoting a stronger alignment between theory and empirical design while reducing researcher degrees of freedom in reporting. In terms of the review process, Registered Reports decouple editorial decisions from study outcomes, mitigating outcome bias.

The Registered Report format has evolved rapidly from a niche innovation to a widely adopted practice. *ETP* has been an early leader in management and entrepreneurship research by publishing pioneering Registered Reports (Arteaga-Fonseca et al., 2025; Brinkerink, 2023; Fossen & Neyse, 2024; Partanen et al., 2025), through previous editorials promoting greater empirical transparency (Maula & Stam, 2020), and by providing Registered Revisions since the beginning of 2025. Since the introduction of the Registered Report format in 2013 (Chambers & Tzavella, 2022), more than 300 journals have embraced the approach (Center for Open Science, n.d.). This approach is a powerful catalyst to enhance transparency, reduce publication bias, and increase methodological rigor—goals that are especially pertinent to entrepreneurship researchers navigating complex, interdisciplinary, and context-dependent phenomena. We suggest that embracing Registered Reports offers a promising pathway to more transparent and thus more credible and replicable knowledge production in our field.

*Our Aims.* Beyond procedural guidance, this editorial identifies thematic and methodological opportunities particularly well-suited to Registered Reports. These include replication studies, research on boundary conditions, prospective data collection, theory elaboration, longitudinal designs, and field experiments, among others such as abductive research, qualitative research as well as exploratory quantitative inquiry. Overall, the special issue aims to contribute not only to high research standards but also to the development of a robust and inclusive foundation for the field of entrepreneurship. By demystifying these formats and lowering the perceived barriers to their adoption, we hope to advance both the quality and impact of entrepreneurship research.

## Guidance for Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions

Below, we outline key considerations that are broadly applicable across Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions. Our Appendices (A–F) present additional details. Throughout, we offer editorial tips and submission hints to assist interested authors in preparing submissions for this special issue.

### *Tip #1. Theoretical Contribution Usually Remains a Central Feature*

While formats such as Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions emphasize research transparency and pre-specified analysis plans, the foundational expectation of a strong contribution to theory or the literature remains unchanged.<sup>1</sup> Contribution to theory may include the robust falsification of an important theory. In the reviewer guidelines for *ETP*, we ask that reviewers: “*Assess whether the manuscript presents novel findings or insights that significantly advance the current understanding within the area of research.*” One of the most common limitations in research is a misalignment between the theoretical framework, research design, and methodological execution. Authors are encouraged to give careful attention to theory building, theory testing, and theory elaboration (Fisher & Aguinis, 2017) in order to make a contribution to the entrepreneurship literature. Because Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions involve evaluation prior to or independent of results, methodological soundness must carry the full weight of scholarly justification. Authors should clearly explain how their sampling strategies, measurement decisions, and analytical techniques derive from and serve their theoretical claims. Reviewers will closely examine the coherence and rigor of this alignment when assessing submissions for acceptance in-principle or preregistration approval. This point is relevant across diverse types of research. *ETP* is equally appreciative of both quantitative as well as qualitative work. *ETP* supports various approaches, from field experimentation (Burnell et al., 2025), to ethnographies (Crosina et al., 2025), to qualitative comparative analysis (Rönkkö et al., 2025). Novel, theory-relevant contributions to research can emerge in numerous ways from multiple research approaches.

### *Tip #2. Replicability and the Importance of the Front End of the Manuscript*

Management research faces growing scrutiny over issues of both reproducibility and replicability,<sup>2</sup> with limited success in reproducing published findings using the same data as in a previous empirical study (Delios et al., 2022), as well as in replicating previously published findings with new data (Bergh et al., 2017). In entrepreneurship research, *ETP* has been a proactive leader in calling for replications through editorials (Maula & Stam, 2020) and notably, the setting up of a process to encourage the conduct and submission of replication studies (as well as Registered Reports) as Research Briefs. This effort has begun to yield fruit, with *ETP* having published an increasing number of replication studies in recent years (Arteaga-Fonseca et al., 2025; Ben-Hafaïedh & Hamelin, 2023; Block et al., 2023; Crawford et al., 2022; Fossen & Neyse, 2024; Linder et al., 2020; Skorodziyevskiy et al., 2025), with some as Registered Reports (Arteaga-Fonseca et al., 2025; Fossen & Neyse, 2024). When prior research fails to replicate, this may be due to contextual influences; identifiable or non-identifiable differences between the original and replication studies; the

original findings being “false positives” (Dreber & Johannesson, 2025); or the replication yielding a “false negative.” Transparency-enhancing formats like Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions can help avoid non-identifiable differences between the original study and a new study by guiding authors to clearly define their hypotheses, methods, and analysis plans in advance. We also would like to highlight the value of replication packages, which some entrepreneurship scholars—and many in fields using experimental methods—share via personal websites or public repositories. These packages help address the computational reproducibility problem by making it easier to move from a written description of methods to executable analysis scripts, and by supporting clear documentation and reporting of research.

Although Registered Reports can—but need not—focus on replication studies, authors must always demonstrate why their research question is important to the field. This is an essential part of crafting the front end of manuscripts, especially for Registered Reports. The structured nature of these formats means that reviewers and editors evaluate submissions before results are known. As such, the front end of submissions—the introduction, theoretical framework, research questions, and hypotheses (if applicable)—carries far greater weight compared to traditional submissions. A clearly articulated theoretical rationale, well-motivated research question, and logically derived hypotheses (again, if applicable) are essential. The front end, along with the proposed methods, planned analysis approach, and anticipated discussion points, is all that reviewers will assess at Stage 1 (see Table 1 and Appendix F). For this reason, authors must develop these sections with clarity and precision to establish the value and relevance of their study. Also, it is important to note that, when it comes to Registered Reports in the form of a replication study, motivating the need for replication is important. Replication should serve a meaningful purpose, rather than being done merely for its own sake.

To further strengthen the methodological foundations of Registered Reports, authors are encouraged to conduct pilot studies. While not mandatory, pilot data can help refine procedures, identify feasibility issues, and inform statistical power calculations (if applicable)—especially when prior evidence is limited. If included, pilot results must be clearly labeled, reported separately from main analyses, and not used for hypothesis testing. This practice enhances the clarity of the research design and supports a more robust Stage 1 protocol. Appendix D (Table A4) offers a pilot data checklist, which is based on methodological recommendations and recognized practices from prior research on pilot studies, statistical power, and Bayesian design planning (Button et al., 2013; Kraemer et al., 2006; Schönbrodt & Wagenmakers, 2018).

### ***Tip #3. Clearly Separate Confirmatory and Exploratory Components***

Registered Reports improve transparency, statistical rigor, and theoretical clarity by requiring that hypotheses (if applicable) and analysis plans be specified prior to data collection. However, they do not guarantee definitive results. Even well-powered studies remain susceptible to Type I and Type II errors, and null results may stem from unknown moderators or contextual differences—especially in replication settings (Nosek & Lakens, 2014). Small-sample studies are prone to inflated effect size estimates, making null findings from larger-sample Registered Reports potentially more informative about the true absence of an effect (Button et al., 2013).

A defining feature of the Registered Report format is its clear distinction between pre-specified confirmatory analyses and *post-hoc* exploratory analyses. Many interesting and, at times, surprising insights can emerge during the research process, for example, during data collection or data analysis. Such insights can and should also be reported but must be clearly delineated as such in the Stage 2 manuscript submission. Authors should explicitly outline which aspects of their study are (were) set (i.e. registered and locked) and which are (were) flexible (i.e. subject to change with transparent justification). Typically, hypotheses, sample sizes, and primary outcome measures are locked in Stage 1, whereas exploratory analyses, robustness checks, or additional secondary analyses may evolve over the course of the research. Blurring the line between *prediction* and *postdiction*—also known as HARKing—can introduce hindsight bias and undermine the interpretability of results (Nosek et al., 2018). Thus, maintaining this separation is essential for safeguarding the credibility and cumulative value of empirical entrepreneurship research.

Authors should also articulate how exploratory insights, when appropriately labeled, might inform future research directions or contribute to theory development. Chambers (2019) offers practical recommendations for how to structure and communicate fixed versus flexible components in Registered Reports, underscoring that flexibility is not prohibited but must be transparent and clearly justified. Wagenmakers et al. (2012) also provide a helpful conceptual framework for this distinction, arguing that Preregistrations play a critical role in maintaining the boundary between confirmatory and exploratory inference, thereby enhancing the credibility and interpretability of scientific findings. Being explicit about confirmatory and exploratory components reduces ambiguity, promotes reviewer confidence, and ensures methodological clarity.

#### **Tip #4. Sample Characteristics, Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria, and Power Analysis**

When preparing to submit a Registered Report, and completing the typical preregistration information, authors should clearly specify how data will be collected and provide explicit inclusion and exclusion criteria. This includes outlining how outliers will be identified and treated, and under what conditions data may be excluded or replaced (Briker & Gerpott, 2024; Cohen, 1992). For instance, authors noting that they will embed a screening filter during data collection to verify that participants meet key inclusion criteria—such as confirming entrepreneurial status—helps improve sample validity and reduce misclassification, while helping reviewers evaluate their approach more effectively. Detailed sample characteristics must be provided, including recruitment procedures and eligibility rules, to ensure clarity and reproducibility. For crowdsourced data (online platforms such as Prolific or mTurk), authors are strongly encouraged to identify whether any of the respondents are inappropriate (e.g. the respondent is a “bot”) by using effective bot detection techniques. At present, effective techniques may include asking factual free-response questions, which are later hand-coded as well as causal-reasoning and image-processing tasks. As bots advance in complexity, the best means of detecting them will continue to evolve.

Equally important is the justification of the sample size. Registered Reports require *a priori* power analysis or an equivalent rationale. Authors should aim for a minimum power level of 0.90 for all hypothesis-driven tests. The assumed effect sizes must be justified based on theory, meta-analytic evidence, or high-quality prior studies. In cases where effect sizes

are uncertain, adaptive designs—such as interim analyses or flexible sample sizes—may be used, but should be pre-specified with appropriate error control procedures (Cohen, 1992).

Underpowered studies threaten the interpretability of both null and significant results. As Button et al. (2013) demonstrate, small sample sizes consistently undermine empirical reliability, reinforcing the need for robust sample planning in high-integrity research designs. Authors must transparently report the assumptions behind their power calculations, including effect sizes, error rates, and potential attrition. In studies involving hard-to-reach populations, or participants with logistical constraints, researchers should openly write about trade-offs and limitations.

For studies using Bayesian approaches, researcher must specify theoretical predictions and the method for calculating Bayes factors (Schönbrodt & Wagenmakers, 2018; Stefan et al., 2019). As discussed in the methods literature, data collection should continue until the Bayes factor reaches at least six in favor of either the alternative or the null hypothesis (Schönbrodt & Wagenmakers, 2018; Stefan et al., 2019). We provide a checklist for Bayesian approaches in Appendix C, Table A3.

#### ***Tip #5. Analysis Protocol, Multiple Comparisons, and Multi-Dataset Integration***

A well-specified and transparent analysis protocol is essential for maintaining methodological rigor in Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions. Authors should predefine all steps of the analysis process, including data preprocessing procedures, multi-dataset integration, model specifications, covariate inclusion, and planned robustness checks. When conducting multiple hypothesis tests (if applicable), appropriate statistical corrections (e.g. Bonferroni, False Discovery Rate) should be applied to control for Type I error inflation. In their guide, Arpinon and Espinosa (2022) highlight both standard and underused practices—such as multiple-testing corrections, smallest effect size of interest, and outcome-neutral tests—that significantly enrich *ex-ante* statistical validity and credibility.

#### ***Tip #6. Preregistrations and Registered Reports with Preexisting Data***

The requirements for a protocol with predefined steps in the analysis (e.g. data preprocessing procedures, model specifications, covariate inclusion, and planned robustness checks) extend to preregistered studies using archival or secondary data. When using secondary data, authors should declare that the hypotheses have not been tested prior to registration. This could be as simple as providing a data history statement stating when the author(s) gained access to the data and confirming that the proposed analyses have not been completed at the time of the preregistration. *ETP* trusts an author's declarations. Alternatively, when a degree of exploration is needed, the preregistration can specify a holdout or split-sample strategy for how the archival data is used, gaining credibility advantages albeit while diminishing the sample size available for confirmatory analysis.

Editors understand that research projects evolve over time. If the author needs to deviate from a plan, it is best to explain why. Being clear about the process helps editors evaluate authors' work while considering the project's evolution. Transparency about changes holds more weight than rigid adherence to what proves to be an impractical plan. As it is challenging to list every discrete data preparation and analysis step in a manuscript,

providing analytical code (open methods) in an online appendix and/or other open material (ideally also the dataset itself, if data can be shared) is an ideal way to ensure transparency.

Another increasingly popular way to examine how empirical results may be shaped by different analytical choices is to use some type of multiverse analysis. This corresponds to performing a wide range of analyses across different sets of alternatively processed datasets representing a large set of reasonable scenarios (Steege et al., 2016) to examine how different variable operationalizations or model specifications may impact the results (Bomark et al., 2024; Engzell & Mood, 2023; Götz et al., 2025). Multiverse analyses not only enhance transparency but it also helps address empirical and theoretical problems in research by uncovering contingencies or methodological issues not addressed in prior research.

Overall, if preregistration seems too complex, we advise strongly focusing on transparency. Document specific analytical choices in a protocol that can be published alongside the study. Authors are encouraged to consult the checklist in Appendix B (Table A2) for guidance on preregistration, data integration, and analytic transparency.

### *Tip #7. Quality Control and Outcome-Neutral Criteria*

We also encourage authors to define and, where appropriate, preregister “outcome-neutral” quality control criteria—that is, checks designed to assess whether the study is capable of adequately testing its hypotheses, independent of the actual results. These criteria are essential for ensuring data quality, model validity, and the interpretability of findings in both experimental and non-experimental research.

In experimental settings, these may include benchmarks such as successful manipulation checks, randomization balance, or the absence of floor or ceiling effects in measured outcomes. For field or survey-based studies, examples might include predefined thresholds for response rates or treatment adherence, or internal consistency for multi-item scales. In studies using pre-existing, archival, or assembled datasets, quality checks might involve verifying the completeness or harmonization of merged datasets, checking for sufficient variance in key variables, or ensuring an adequate number of observations across subgroups.

When testing multiple hypotheses, particularly with an existing dataset, it is good practice to clarify upfront how statistical issues such as familywise error rates or false discovery rates will be handled. Specifying corrections for multiple hypothesis testing (e.g. Bonferroni, Holm, or Benjamini-Hochberg adjustments) helps avoid inflated Type I error and supports credible inference from multiple comparisons. In some cases, authors may also include positive controls or benchmark effects—for example, by replicating a known, theoretically established result within the same dataset—to confirm that the research design and measures are sensitive enough to detect meaningful effects.

All such outcome-neutral criteria should be specified clearly in the Stage 1 submission and assessed objectively prior to hypothesis testing. If a study fails to meet one or more of these benchmarks, the authors should indicate in advance how this will affect the analysis plan—such as by treating the affected test as exploratory or by modifying the interpretation. At Stage 2, these checks should be reported transparently, ideally accompanied by diagnostic statistics, code, or visualizations to demonstrate that the conclusions rest on a valid empirical foundation (Scheel et al., 2021).

### **Tip #8. Identify Constraints on Generality and Consider the Role of Time and Change**

Entrepreneurship research often takes place in dynamic and fast-changing contexts, where environmental shifts—such as policy changes, technological disruption, or market volatility—can influence both the phenomena under study and the interpretability of results. Authors conducting longitudinal, field-based, or intervention-driven studies should anticipate how such changes might impact their design and analysis. Including a brief section that discusses expected variability, temporal contingencies, or planned adaptations can demonstrate thoughtful preparation and strengthen the rationale for positive news after the Stage 1 submission. As Felin et al. (2015) argue, accounting for time, environment, and change is fundamental to the development of robust and context-sensitive theory—particularly in a field like entrepreneurship where timing and context shape outcomes. Along the same lines, it is important to explicitly define the constraints on generality (Simons et al., 2017). Registered Reports do not eliminate the need to define the boundaries within which findings are applicable. Authors should clearly state for whom, when, and under what conditions their conclusions are expected to hold. Doing so strengthens the contribution of the work by making claims appropriately precise, enabling future researchers to build on the study more effectively.

### **Tip #9. Engage with Open Science Practices Beyond the Report Itself**

Registered Reports are part of a broader open science movement. Authors should embed other transparency-enhancing practices, such as: (a) preregistering analysis scripts and survey instruments; (b) using open data and materials repositories (e.g. Open Science Framework, Figshare, Harvard Dataverse, Dryad, Mendeley Data); (c) declaring conflicts of interest and data availability; and (d) providing reviewer-blinded materials during submission. Including these practices increases the perceived credibility of the work and aligns with *ETP*'s goals to foster reproducibility and openness. Nosek and Bar-Anan (2012) outline a comprehensive vision for open scientific communication, emphasizing practices such as preregistration, data sharing, and transparent reporting as central pillars of credible and cumulative science.

## **Future Research Opportunities and the Ongoing Special Issue in *ETP***

Below, we outline key research themes that we consider especially suitable for the Registered Reports format, offering guidance on the types of manuscripts that align particularly well with the goals of this *ETP* special issue. The journal has demonstrated leadership in its promotion of data transparency, most notably through Registered Reports and editorial encouragements (Maula & Stam, 2020). We hereby invite Registered Reports for any type of hypothesis testing articles, as well as quantitative-exploratory articles. These could range from randomized controlled experiments (in the lab or in the field) to observational studies and everything in between. We actively welcome interdisciplinary co-authorship; we aim to publish high-quality interdisciplinary research that connects entrepreneurship with diverse fields, focusing on the following key themes.

### ***Theme #1. Replication and Robustness in Entrepreneurship Research***

This topic focuses on re-examining influential findings in entrepreneurship through replications. The goal is to assess the reliability and generalizability of foundational research in our field. Given concerns about the reproducibility of management findings (Bergh et al., 2017), this topic encourages transparency and rigor, which are core principles of Registered Reports. As per the *ETP* guide for authors (see also Hubbard et al., 1998, for a discussion of different replication formats), authors are advised to:

“distinguish between (a) replication studies seeking to reproduce the results of an earlier study using the identical research design and sample/sampling procedure, and (b) replication with extension studies that seek to replicate an earlier study in a different setting/context, with different data and/or sampling procedure, with empirical and/or theoretical extensions such as *post-hoc* test, contingent tests of hypotheses” (<https://journals.sagepub.com/author-instructions/ETP>).

This theme also welcomes quasi-replications as a valuable approach for testing the generalizability of prior findings. As Bettis et al. (2016) argue, this involves replicating a study in a different empirical setting while keeping the research design, methods, and measures largely consistent. By varying only one or a few contextual factors at a time, researchers can better understand *why* (or *why not*) results replicate, without introducing unnecessary ambiguity.

### ***Theme #2. New Ways to Collect Data for Entrepreneurship***

Novel approaches to data collection in entrepreneurship, such as crowdsourcing, online platforms, sensor data, using AI, big data, or social media analytics benefit from Registered Reports to define the data sources, data collection steps, and analytic approaches. Novel data collection approaches will benefit the field most effectively if new approaches are transparent to facilitate the peer-review process.

### ***Theme #3. Importance of Null Results***

We emphasize the value of adopting a neutral perspective—not rejecting the null hypothesis can be as informative as confirming an alternative. In entrepreneurship research, where complex phenomena are common, null results help refine theories, challenge assumptions, and reduce publication bias. Therefore, we welcome studies that report null results or fail to reject the null hypothesis. When tested with rigorous and appropriate statistical methods, null results contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of entrepreneurship. The Registered Report process ensures that the theory and methods are sound, which helps rule out mismatched theory/methods as a reason for nonsignificant results. A foundational study by Franco et al. (2014) demonstrates that null results are systematically underreported in the social sciences, underscoring the importance of Registered Reports (and Registered Revisions) in addressing publication bias and promoting more balanced scientific reporting.

#### ***Theme #4. Boundary Conditions, Mechanisms, Mediators, and Contextual Sensitivity***

Entrepreneurial processes and outcomes often vary by cultural, institutional, industrial, and temporal contexts. Registered Reports are particularly valuable for studying *when* and *where* certain theories hold—or fail—by ensuring that (to the extent possible) the theory and methods proposed are extremely thorough (i.e. peer-reviewed). Researchers could pre-register contextual moderators (e.g. geographic, temporal, or institutional variations) and explore how well-established findings replicate or diverge across these boundaries. This supports cumulative theorizing and the discovery of boundary conditions that are often overlooked in traditional publishing models. As Zahra and Wright (2011) emphasize, entrepreneurship theory should account for institutional and cultural variation, and future research should explicitly examine such contextual contingencies. Relatedly, many studies in entrepreneurship focus on whether an effect exists, but less attention is paid to *why* or *how* it occurs. Registered Reports are ideal for testing causal mechanisms, as authors can specify theoretical pathways and analysis strategies in advance.

#### ***Theme #5. Longitudinal and Panel-Based Studies (Using Secondary Data)***

Longitudinal and panel studies—such as those examining startup growth, firm survival, or scaling trajectories—benefit greatly from preregistering key hypotheses, model specifications, and data handling procedures. Doing so helps avoid *post-hoc* theorizing and boosts the credibility of causal claims. Given the use of secondary data, all the considerations mentioned in our Tip #6 have relevance here, with the additional complexity that prior to data analysis, the extent of missing data over time, across levels of analysis, or between different sources of data is unknown. A holdout or split-sample strategy may be of value in such cases so that the researcher can ascertain what models may be observable before proceeding to a confirmatory analysis using the other part of the data. On the other hand, if the structure of the data across time, levels, or different data sources is sufficiently complex, we advise authors to focus on transparency and document their analytical choices in a protocol that can be published concomitantly with the study. A danger with such data is the analytic flexibility that large datasets afford. Guarding against this is a key benefit of using the Registered Report format—that is, theory and methods are peer-reviewed prior to data analysis, which strengthens hypothesis testing. This is especially pertinent for studies using matched samples, firm registries, or nationally representative panel data.

#### ***Theme #6. Field Experiments and Entrepreneurial Interventions***

We believe that field experiments in particular—such as training interventions, pitch competitions, or policy evaluations—can benefit from Registered Reports. Pre-specifying hypotheses, treatments, and outcome measures help prevent outcome-driven interpretation, enhancing the credibility of results (Camuffo et al., 2024). As field experiments can be logistically complex, involving multiple sites, actors, and interventions, pre-registration helps by providing a structured roadmap that helps researchers stay organized and consistent across different contexts. Pre-registration of field experiments also help reviewers and readers understand what were the core hypotheses originally set up to be examined, and what inductive or abductive findings that may have been generated throughout the process. Here, entrepreneurship research may learn from developmental scholars pre-registering

field experiments of entrepreneurship in developing economy context (S. J. Anderson & McKenzie, 2022; Campos et al., 2017) to explore for example, the effectiveness of accelerator programs, various funding mechanisms, training program, or decision aids in entrepreneurial contexts.

### ***Theme #7. Theory-Driven Exploratory Studies and Qualitative Studies***

While Registered Reports are often associated with hypothesis testing, they also work well for quantitative-exploratory research when structured thoughtfully. For example, pre-specifying theoretical expectations, variables, and criteria for identifying patterns in the data (e.g. using machine learning or clustering techniques) helps ensure rigor while still enabling discovery. This is useful for studies that leverage large, unstructured datasets or digital trace data from entrepreneurs. Yarkoni and Westfall (2017) demonstrate that pre-specifying structure in exploratory modeling—particularly when using machine learning techniques—clarifies the interpretability and reliability of findings, which is especially relevant for entrepreneurship research involving large datasets. Similarly, holdout or split-sample strategies can allow for a degree of exploration while gaining some of the credibility advantages of preregistration at the cost of reduced sample size for confirmatory analysis.

Preregistrations can also be useful in qualitative research. While preregistration is primarily emphasized for enhancing the credibility of quantitative research by enabling researchers to assess whether appropriate analyses have been formulated *ex ante* to test the research questions and hypotheses, with modifications, preregistration can also benefit qualitative research (Jacobs, 2020). In qualitative research, preregistration helps address credibility by tackling whether the research questions are clear and whether features of the study design are congruent with them, or in Miles and Huberman's (1994) words: whether "the study's general methods and procedures [are] described explicitly and in detail: Do we feel that we have a complete picture, including 'backstage' information?" (p. 278). Guides with templates for preregistering qualitative studies are available (Haven & Van Grootel, 2019).

### ***Theme #8. Meta-Science and Methods in Entrepreneurship Research***

Entrepreneurship scholars regularly reflect on the field's methods, norms, and practices. Registered Reports can support methodological research that tests competing analytic strategies or even a wide range of competing strategies/operationalizations using multiverse analysis (Bomark et al., 2024; Götz et al., 2025), measurement models, or review practices. For example, studies comparing different ways of measuring entrepreneurial success, the reliability of self-reported outcomes, or even bias in peer review can benefit from preregistered protocols. Aguinis et al. (2017) connect broader meta-science concerns—such as reproducibility and transparency—to fields like entrepreneurship, reinforcing the importance of adopting structured open science practices to boost research credibility.

## Next Steps for Submissions to the Special Issue

In this editorial, we issue a call to conduct research with greater transparency, replicability, credibility, and rigor within the field of entrepreneurship. Our hope is that the next generation of research will develop unique and transformative insights for entrepreneurship scholarship. To support this, we have provided suggestions in the previous section for conducting rigorous and successful research using Registered Reports. We also welcome additional ideas that could contribute value to the entrepreneurship discipline and are well-suited to the Registered Report format. As editors, our goal is to help scholars focus their research efforts on developing, publishing, and promoting impactful work that takes advantage of these important publication formats.

### *Step 1: Registered Report Submission*

Authors are required to submit under the “manuscript category” of Registered Report. Manuscript submissions should adhere to *ETP*’s manuscript preparation guidelines.<sup>3</sup> Inquiries regarding proposed topics and their potential alignment with the special issue’s objectives are welcome and can be directed to any of the special issue editors. Authors are welcome to inquire about their studies for advice, although editors will not send manuscripts out for review until authors have submitted a complete Stage 1 submission.

Registered Reports can be submitted through the journal’s submission system<sup>4</sup> on an ongoing basis until December 22, 2026 (early submissions are encouraged and can be made immediately). The submissions will be evaluated by the special issue’s editorial team. The editors will provide initial feedback on desk-rejected submissions. Submissions that are evaluated positively will be sent for in-depth peer review (Stage 1). All submissions will undergo the standard double-blind peer review process.

We strongly encourage authors to carefully review Table 1 and follow the checklists provided in Appendices A–F. For examples of Registered Reports, see a curated collection on Zotero.<sup>5</sup> Templates (Appendix E, Table A5), submission instructions, and up-to-date resources can be found on the *ETP* website.<sup>6</sup>

### *Step 2: Final Submission*

In line with publisher guidelines for Registered Reports, the revised manuscript will be either rejected or “accepted in-principle.” After an “accepted in-principle” decision, the authors should complete their study following the procedures of their submitted, and peer-reviewed, process. Once the study is completed and integrated into the manuscript that was “accepted in-principle,” the finalized manuscript will be submitted for re-review (Stage 2). The same reviewers, if available, from Stage 1 will be invited to review the finalized manuscript. Depending on the manuscript’s quality and the interpretation of the findings, the authors will be asked to revise the manuscript, or the manuscript will be published. Manuscripts should be resubmitted via the journal’s submission system, preferably within 12 months after an “accepted in-principle” decision. In cases where the manuscript is rejected and a reject-and-resubmit decision is not offered by the editor(s), authors may not submit the same manuscript as a traditional article to *ETP*.

Although this process is effective and efficient, we recognize that unexpected things occur with data collection. For example, consider an authorship team who receives an accepted in-principle decision after clearly stating that their study's conclusions depend on a key manipulation check—what if that check fails? Instead of feeling pressure to publish results that no longer meet the original criteria, researchers can honestly report their experience, pivot as needed, and provide the outcome (e.g. “fork” their preregistration)—even if the check did not work. Importantly, such a study need not be discarded or buried. It can be published as a different article type—such as a Methodological Report—that transparently documents what went wrong, what was learned, and why it matters. These contributions are invaluable for advancing cumulative science, refining methods, and helping others avoid similar pitfalls.

### **Step 3: Publication**

This is a virtual special issue, meaning that no arbitrary limit exists on the number of accepted manuscripts. Moreover, no fixed publication deadline exists for the special issue. Accepted manuscripts will be published online as soon as they have completed the typical publication process and will be grouped together cumulatively. Thus, there will be no delay in publication of accepted articles.

## **Final Remarks and Conclusion**

Entrepreneurship research stands at a methodological and conceptual crossroads. As an inherently interdisciplinary field drawing on psychology, management, economics, engineering, and sociology, among others, it faces the challenges and opportunities that come with complex, context-dependent phenomena. To ensure the credibility and replicability of its empirical foundations, the field should continue to move toward more transparent, theory-driven, and rigorous research practices. This special issue promotes the use of Registered Reports as a mechanism for increasing research transparency and credibility. Together with Preregistrations and Registered Revisions, these formats support a growing ecosystem of open science practices that emphasize clarity, replicability, and cumulative knowledge building.

Further dialogue in our field will be needed to address any issues that arise in order to course correct or pivot to new, more effective approaches that come into existence (Logg & Dorison, 2021; Pham & Oh, 2021; Toth et al., 2021). By integrating these insights, practices, and research directions—and future ones as well—entrepreneurship scholars can co-create a culture of transparent, cumulative, high-integrity research. This special issue is not merely a call for contributions—it is a call for educational and cultural transformation. We invite the entrepreneurship research community to embrace Preregistrations, Registered Reports, and Registered Revisions not only as submission formats, but as vehicles for learning, rigor, and lasting scientific impact.

## Appendix A

**Table A1.** Author Checklist for Registered Reports on Initial and Full Submission Process.

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Stage 1: Initial journal submission (before data collection—see also Appendix F)

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**Abstract**  
 Summary of the study rationale, methods, and key research questions/hypotheses  
 No results or conclusions

**Introduction**  
 Clear background and theoretical rationale  
 Specific research questions and testable hypotheses (if applicable)  
 Explanation of significance and expected contribution

**Methods (written in future tense)**  
 Detailed and replicable study design  
 Description of proposed sample characteristics, including inclusion/exclusion criteria (e.g. outliers)  
 Sampling plan and sample size justification (including power analysis or equivalence tests)  
 Materials fully described (e.g. instruments, surveys, manipulations)  
 Data collection plan and procedures  
 Statistical analysis plan: how data will be processed, which models and tests (with covariates and moderators) will be used, how multiple comparisons will be corrected, and what decision rules guide the analysis.  
 Clear distinction between confirmatory and exploratory analyses  
 Outcome-neutral criteria (e.g. no floor/ceiling effects, positive controls)

**Ethics and transparency**  
 IRB/ethics committee approval  
 Data management plan (e.g. data anonymization, storage)  
 Commitment to share materials, data, and code upon publication

**Preregistration**  
 Provide a link to the preregistered protocol (e.g. OSF, AsPredicted)  
 Ensure the preregistration aligns exactly with submitted manuscript content

**Figures and tables**  
 Mock-up results table  
 Diagrams of study procedure and timeline

---

Stage 2: Full submission (after editor/reviewer feedback and when an accept in-principle is granted)

---

**Introduction (unchanged unless justified)**  
 Same as Stage 1 unless updating with clear justification (changes must be flagged)

**Methods (changed to past tense)**  
 Same as Stage 1 unless documenting deviations (clearly explained and justified)

**Results**  
 Present results according to the pre-registered analysis plan  
 Clearly label any exploratory analyses  
 Include effect sizes, confidence intervals, and relevant test statistics  
 Report all preregistered analyses  
 Exploratory or unregistered post-hoc analyses must be clearly labeled, justified, and discussed

**Discussion**  
 Interpret results neutrally and transparently  
 Discuss implications, limitations, and avenues for future research

**Transparency and open practices**  
 Provide links to data, materials, scripts, preregistration, and deposit raw data with logs in a repository  
 Provide supplementary figures/tables either as appendices or via data archive  
 Author contribution statement (CRediT taxonomy encouraged, see <https://credit.niso.org/>)

---

(continued)

**Table A1.** (continued)

## Checklist for deviations

Any deviations from the registered protocol are: (1) clearly marked; (2) justified in a transparent manner; and (3) separated from preregistered analyses

## General requirements (all stages)

Follow guidelines for rigorous quantitative research in entrepreneurship (Maula & Stam, 2020)

Follow journal-specific formatting guidelines

Write with clarity, professional tone, and unbiased language

## Appendix B

**Table A2.** Secondary Data Analyses Checklist for Registered Reports.

### 1. Confirm no prior access or analysis

Authors must declare that they have not analyzed the dataset prior to preregistration of hypotheses and methods

If authors had partial or previous access (e.g. through unrelated projects), this must be disclosed, and steps to reduce bias (e.g. independent coding or blinded analysis) must be described

Submit a letter from a data gatekeeper or custodian verifying the access timeline and control measures.

Alternatively, include a self-certification outlining the authors' roles, timeline of access, and how bias was minimized

For proprietary or administrative data, include terms of access or use agreements as supplementary files

### 2. Pre-specify the analytic plan

In the preregistration document:

Clearly state the research questions and hypotheses

Define all variables to be used

Outline preprocessing steps including sample selection or inclusion/exclusion filters; handling of missing data (e.g. listwise deletion, imputation); and data aggregation or reshaping procedures

Describe the statistical models, control variables, and planned robustness checks

### 3. Specify data management, transformation procedures and checks

If multiple datasets are merged, detail the merging process

Explain how data will be cleaned, including how you handle errors, outliers, duplicates, and which cases or variables you exclude

Specify any data transformations, like scaling, combining variables

Note limits on causal claims, discuss biases or confounding risks, and preregister any special methods and assumptions used to improve inference.

Include outcome-neutral checks (e.g. variable distributions, data coverage, response rates, missingness, and positive controls) to show data quality and ensure null results are meaningful.

*Note.* This checklist was developed based on guidance from published recommendations on Registered Reports and preregistered secondary data analysis (Chambers & Tzavella, 2022; Franco et al., 2014; Nosek et al., 2018; Simmons et al., 2011; Simons et al., 2017), findings from large-scale replication efforts (Field et al., 2020; Open Science Collaboration, 2015), and suggestions for working with archival data (Baldwin et al., 2022; Van den Akker et al., 2021).

## Appendix C

**Table A3.** Bayesian Analysis Checklist for Registered Reports.

---

1. Clearly specify prior distributions

---

Justify all priors with evidence or theory, avoid defaults unless justified, and clearly report their form, parameters, and any differences across hypotheses or parameters.

---

2. Describe the Bayesian model

---

Define the likelihood based on the data process, note any hierarchy for grouped/repeated data, and clearly describe the full model, syntax, predictors, and parameters.

---

3. Define the BF computation method

---

State how BFs are computed (analytical, numerical, or Monte Carlo) and specify the software/packages used.

---

4. Set a stopping rule for evidence threshold

---

Set your evidence threshold (e.g.  $BF \geq 6$  for  $H_1$ ,  $BF \leq 1/6$  for  $H_0$ ), predefine any sequential testing, specify theoretical predictions with their distributions and parameters, and continue data collection until BFs give strong evidence.

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5. Predefine maximum sample size (If applicable)

---

If limits exist (ethical, logistical, funding), set and justify a maximum sample size that still ensures the study gives meaningful evidence, even if BFs are inconclusive.

---

6. Include a sensitivity analysis

---

Do a sensitivity analysis by testing different priors and model structures, and report how results change under these alternatives.

---

*Note.* This checklist was developed based on published guidance for Bayesian analysis (Baldwin et al., 2022; Kruschke, 2014; Rouder, 2014; Savalei & Dunn, 2015; Schönbrodt et al., 2017; Schönbrodt & Wagenmakers, 2018; Simons et al., 2017; Stefan et al., 2019). BF = Bayes factor.

## Appendix D

**Table A4.** Pilot Data Checklist for Registered Reports.

---

1. Clearly label and separate pilot data

---

Clearly label all pilot data in text, tables, and figures, report them separately from main analyses, and note in the preregistration which data are pilot.

---

2. Justify the purpose of the pilot study

---

Explain why pilot data were collected (e.g. to test feasibility, refine tasks, estimate effect sizes, or check reliability) and avoid presenting them as theory tests.

---

3. Describe procedures and participants

---

Provide clear methods, including sample size, recruitment, demographics, criteria, procedures, and any changes made from pilot feedback.

---

(continued)

**Table A4.** (continued)

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**4. Restrict use of pilot data in hypothesis testing**

---

Do not use pilot data in confirmatory tests; if reused, label them clearly and interpret cautiously, and note possible bias if used for sample size estimates.

---

**5. Archive and report pilot materials**

---

Upload pilot data, scripts, and materials to a repository (e.g. OSF), link it in the manuscript, note if pilot results are peer-reviewed or just documented, and report any changes from feedback.

---

*Note.* This checklist was developed based on methodological recommendations from prior research on pilot studies, statistical power, and Bayesian design planning (Button et al., 2013; Kraemer et al., 2006; Schönbrodt & Wagenmakers, 2018). OSF = Open Science Framework.

## Appendix E

**Table A5.** Organization/Design Table Template for Registered Reports.

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Research question	Hypothesis	Sampling plan	Analysis plan	Interpretation
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## Appendix F

### *Content Structure for Registered Reports*

The structure outlined below is recommended to guide manuscript preparation but should be adapted to suit specific research contexts.

#### Title and abstract

- Full title  
Descriptive and precise; should reflect the key research question or contribution
- Structured abstract  
A concise summary of the theoretical framing, research questions/hypotheses, proposed methods, and potential contribution

#### 1. Introduction

- Motivation and research gap
- Importance and relevance to the field of entrepreneurship
- Summary of the intended contribution
- Also note that this section cannot be changed apart from correcting factual and typographic errors, and from altering tense from future to past

2. Theory Development and Hypotheses (if applicable)
  - Theoretical framework
  - Clear derivation of hypotheses or research questions
  - Justification of hypotheses based on prior research and logical reasoning
3. Method (Framed in Future Tense)
  - Proposed participants: Describe who will take part in the study, how they will be chosen, and why the number of participants is appropriate.
  - Proposed procedures: Provide a clear step-by-step plan for how data will be collected. Include any use of random assignment or control groups if relevant.
  - Proposed measures: Explain what will be measured, how it will be measured, and whether the tools used are valid and reliable. If using new tools, justify why they are needed. This section cannot be changed apart from correcting factual and typographic errors, and from altering tense from future to past and adding discussion on deviations (clearly explained and justified).
4. Proposed Results (Framed in Future Tense)
  - Planned analysis strategy: Outline the statistical methods to be used, how the models will be structured, and how missing data, covariates, and control variables will be addressed.
  - Hypothesis testing plan: Link each hypothesis to its planned analysis method. Note any adjustments for multiple comparisons if relevant.
  - Shell tables and figures: Provide draft layouts of tables and figures, showing variable names and structure only, without any results.
5. Discussion (Framed Prospectively)
  - Theoretical implications whether the hypotheses are supported or not?
  - How findings could inform theory building, theory elaboration, or replication?
  - Limitations anticipated and potential future research directions.


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### ORCID iDs


Katharina Fellnhöfer  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8421-1547>

Karl Wennberg  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7279-1006>

Thomas H. Allison  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8873-9798>

Pia Arenius  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3008-348X>

Moren Lévesque  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9815-4192>

Jeffrey M. Pollack  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0704-9531>

## Notes

1. Unless, perhaps, the submission is a methodological brief for ETP, in which case theory is less of a focus.
2. Research is commonly thought to be reproducible when the existing data can be re-analyzed using the same research methods, yielding the same results. Research is commonly thought of as replicable when the result from a study can be replicated in a new study using an identical sampling procedure and the same research methods, yielding the same results. Hence, replicability puts emphasis on the data generating process, whereas reproducibility puts emphasis on the research methods for analysis.
3. Available at <https://journals.sagepub.com/author-instructions/etp>.
4. Available at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/etp>.
5. Aggregated at <https://www.zotero.org/groups/479248/osf/collections/KEJP68G9>.
6. That is, <https://journals.sagepub.com/author-instructions/etp>.

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## Author Biographies

**Katharina Fellnhofer** is the founder of Research and Innovation Management GmbH, an enterprise specialising in EU-funded research and innovation projects. She was a Marie-Curie Fellow and Associate Researcher at the Department of Sociology, Harvard University, and held a senior research role at ETH Zurich. As an Erwin Schrödinger Fellow, she served as a docent at Lappeenranta University of Technology, Finland. She holds a doctorate in social and economic sciences.

**Karl Wennberg** is Professor of Management at the Department of Management and Organization, Stockholm School of Economics, Sweden. His research concerns entrepreneurship and innovation policy, among other topics. He has published in leading journals including *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, *Journal of Business Venturing*, *Journal of International Business Studies* and *Research Policy*. He is an active member of international entrepreneurship research networks and serves on several editorial boards.

**Thomas H. Allison** is a Professor in the Department of Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the Neeley School of Business, Texas Christian University. His research examines entrepreneurial resource acquisition including crowdfunding, narrative strategies, and behavioral foundations of entrepreneurship. His work has appeared in *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, *Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal*, and the *Journal of Business Venturing*. He also serves on multiple editorial boards in the field.

**Pia Arenius** is Professor of Entrepreneurship at the Department of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, emlyon business school, France. Her research interests include nascent entrepreneurs and the interplay between individual actions and contextual factors, shaping outcomes at both individual and venture levels. She has published in *Journal of Management*, *Journal of Business Venturing*, *Research Policy*, and *Small Business Economics*. She brings extensive international experience to both academic and policy-oriented entrepreneurship research.

**Moren Lévesque** is Professor of Operations Management and Information Systems at the Schulich School of Business, York University, Toronto, Canada. Her research examines entrepreneurial decision-making, temporal dynamics in entrepreneurship, and behavioral operations. She has published widely in journals such as *Journal of Management Studies*, *Journal of Operations Management*, *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management*, *Production and Operations Management*, *Research Policy*, *Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal*, or *Strategic Management Journal*. She is also an editor of *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*.

**J. Jeffrey Gish** is an Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship at the Whitman School of Management, Syracuse University. His research focuses on psychology in extreme new venture contexts. He has published research in leading journals such as *Journal of Management*, *Personnel Psychology*, *Journal of Business Venturing*, and *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, among

others. Prior to academia, he founded multiple businesses with successful exits. This experience informs his applied research perspective.

**Jeffrey M. Pollack** is Professor in the Department of Management, Innovation and Entrepreneurship at NC State University, Raleigh, USA. His research investigates entrepreneurial performance, self-efficacy, and motivation, with a focus on psychological and behavioral factors in entrepreneurship. His work has been published in *Journal of Management*, *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, and *Journal of Business Venturing*. He serves on several editorial boards and is actively involved in mentoring early-career scholars.