What is the theoretical basis of social and solidarity economy?

Shoko Chuma*1

1Kokugakuin University – Japon

Résumé

Recently, social and solidarity economy has attracted growing interest, and in parallel with such tendency, the concept of embedded economy by K.Polanyi has been emphasized as one of the main theoretical backgrounds of social and solidarity economy. In order to surmount the contemporary economy with deepening social problems, is it fruitful, however, to set Polanyi’s dichotomous view between embedded and disembedded economy, or between substantial human activities and alienated human labor, as a theoretical foundation for broader solidarity among various kinds of workers? Considering such issues, this paper will discuss the following three points, by referring to the concept of human labor by K. Marx; (1) the process that Polanyi’s dichotomous view on human labor has become one of the main theoretical basis for social and solidarity economy, (2) danger of the dichotomous view to make solidarity among market laborers and nonmarket workers more difficult, and (3) possibility of a new concept of human labor beyond the dichotomy in order to seek for social and solidarity economy as an alternative to capitalist market economy.

Mots-Cls: social and solidarity economy, Karl Polanyi, Karl Marx, labour

*Intervenant