Stefan is full professor for Science of Complex Systems at the Medical University of Vienna, where he chairs Section for Science of Complex Systems. He is external professor at the Santa Fe Institute, senior researcher at IIASA, and president of the Complexity Science Hub Vienna. He obtained a PhD in theoretical physics from the Technical University of Vienna and a PhD in economics from the University of Vienna. He held postdoc positions at Humboldt Universität zu Berlin and Boston University before joining the faculty of the University of Vienna and later Medical University. His habilitation is in theoretical physics.

Stefan started his career with contributions to theoretical particle physics and gradually shifted his research focus to the understanding of complex systems. He published more than 200 scientific articles in fundamental physics, applied mathematics, network theory, evolutionary systems, life sciences, network medicine, gene regulatory networks, economics and finance, systemic risk and lately in social sciences. He holds 2 patents. His work has been covered by media such as the New York Times, BBC world, Nature, New Scientist, Physics World and is featured in more than 400 newspaper, radio and television reports.

Why it Could Make Sense to Understand How Evolution Works — Finally — After $10^{10}$ years

Having reached the presence in the journey of evolution over the past $10^{10}$ years, we are now struggling to understand how evolution works scientifically. Understanding evolutionary dynamics would not only help us to understand how to manage innovation processes better, understand how opinions form and spread in societies, it would also allow us to prevent socio-economic systems from crashing. I will try to show that the understanding of evolutionary processes is key to understand resilience and systemic risk - concepts that are much talked about but little understood. I will present a few recent new ideas from complexity science that help to uncover the mystery of the dynamics of evolutionary systems beyond Darwin and biology.