

Has the Economic Crisis Changed Political Economy? Should It? A Workshop on an Emerging Research Frontier

Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 4
17-18 May 2012

The financial crisis that began in 2008 and gave way to the sovereign debt and euro crises of today have changed the world. But have they changed the way political scientists and economic sociologists think about the world? The goal of this workshop is to bring together leading scholars of political economy to discuss this question in light of their own shifting research orientations in the wake of these crises.

The aim of the workshop to promote a conversation around a question we all confront in our own research, rather than to present work in progress per se. Speakers are invited to provide a background paper relating to this broad issue, if they have one they deem relevant, or to circulate a short think-piece among participants prior to the meeting (these are options, not expectations). Any papers or memos will be made available to all participants prior to the workshop. We will give speakers 15 minutes each – in a panel format – to address two questions:

- What have these interrelated crises shown as shortcomings of existing approaches to explanation in the field?
- What might future work do to overcome these failings?

All speakers have a broad remit to reflect on their field (not the failings of other fields!) in light of the crisis. Yet we do ask speakers in their comments not to speak only about what they have done, but what they have not done – and what they think should be done – in their own field in order to take account of the changes provoked by the crisis. Discussants, who are mainly EUI doctoral students, will be asked to further enliven the discussion. We very much hope that the panel format works as an organizing device to promote a lively and fruitful interdisciplinary exchange.

Doctoral researchers participating in this workshop will receive workshop credit. To receive such credit, we ask that they write a paper of roughly 1500 words summarizing and critiquing the discussion of any one panel session and relating to productive ideas for future research. Please submit these notes to Paivi Kontinen (paivi.kontinen@eui.eu) by June 8. These will be posted on the website for other participants to read.

Workshop Participants and Speakers

Lucio Baccaro, University of Geneva
Jens Beckert, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies
Dorothee Bohle, Central European University
Laszlo Bruszt, EUI
Pepper D. Culpepper, EUI
Béla Greskovits, Central European University
Philippe Schmitter, EUI
David Soskice, Duke and Oxford Universities
David Stark, Columbia University
Sven Steinmo, EUI
Wolfgang Streeck, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies



Programme

Thursday 17.5.2012

10:00-10:15 Conference Introduction: Laszlo Bruszt and Pepper Culpepper

10:15-12:00 Liberalization and the Power Dynamics of Liberal Capitalism
Speakers: Lucio Baccaro and Wolfgang Streeck
Discussant: Anna auf dem Brinke, EUI

12:00-13:30 Lunch Badia Cafeteria

13:30-14:45 Politics, Policy and the Crisis
Speakers: David Soskice and Pepper Culpepper
Discussant: Raphael Reinke, EUI

14:45-15:15 Coffee

15:15-17:15 Economic Sociology and the Crisis
Speakers: Jens Beckert and David Stark
Discussant: Brooke Harrington, EUI and Copenhagen Business School

20:00 Dinner TBD

Friday 18.5.2012

9:30-11:30 Transnational Governance: Problem or Solution?
Speakers: Laszlo Bruszt, Philippe Schmitter, Bela Gréskovits
Discussant: Stefano Palestini-Céspedes, EUI

11:45-12:45 Concluding Roundtable: Dorothee Bohle and Sven Steinmo

13:00-14:30 Lunch for Participants Pizzeria San Domenico