Political Institutions:
What is ‘political’ about institutions and what are ‘political’ institutions?

Workshop, 3rd term 2015-2016
11-12 April 2016
Seminar room 3, Badia Fiesolana

Organised by Stefano Bartolini

Please register online
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Description
The workshop is intended to discuss the specific nature of the ‘political institutions’ with respect to other kind of institutions as interpreted and understood by the sociological and economic literature and by the varieties of ‘institutionalism’. The discussion will be based on the readings and on the professors’ introductions of the relevant topics. The provisional list of topics includes:

- Confusions about political institutions
- The origins of political institutions
- Political institutions as ‘policy institutions versus non-policy institutions
- Institutions constitute actors?
- The specificities of political institutions
- Political institution as ‘generating’ institutions
- Scope of political institutions
- Political institutions as ‘deliberately’ inefficient’.
- Political institutions as internal ordering, as external ordering, and as interaction ordering.
- A succinct discussion of pure political institutional forms

Internal ordering rules
1) nomination rules and selectorates
2) organizational tasks rules
3) information access rules
4) decision rules (hierarchy, voting, negotiations) (common to all organizations, associations, etc.)

External ordering rules (distribution and protection of entitlements)
5) rules of inclusion /exclusion (who is a member, citizenship)
6) rules of delegation
7) competence rules
8) distribution rules
9) Enforcement rules
10) Sanctioning rules (specific to political institutions)
Inter-institutional rules (relation with other institutional orders)

12) accountability rules
13) countervailing power rules (chief versus sorcerer, pope versus emperor, council of the elder versus parliament versus constitutional courts. Etc.
14) stabilization (anti-disequilibrium) rules (the president of the republic dissolving the parliament; the impeachment of the president, the conflict regulation among regions and states, etc.)

Audience
This workshop is intended as a completion and a follow up of the second semester seminar on ‘Institutions, social economic and political’. Though the readings and discussions of the seminar are an important background, the workshop is also open to researchers who have not followed the seminar.

Requirements
This workshop is worth 10 credits. In order to be credited for this workshop, participants must attend all sessions.

Schedule
The workshop takes place on Monday 11 April and Tuesday 12 April, in Seminar Room 3 in the Badia. The full schedule is as follows:

Day 1: Monday 11 April
10:00 – 13:00 Seminar Room 3
Lunch break
14:00 – 16:00

Day 2: Tuesday 12 April
10:00 – 13:00 Seminar Room 3
Lunch break
14:00 – 16:00

READINGS


Last updated 07.04.2016