



## Bottom-up Workshop

3<sup>rd</sup> term 2017-2018

## Class politics in Peripheral Capitalism after the Crisis

April 26-27, 2018, Seminar room Villa Malafrasca

**Organized by** Valentina Petrović (EUI) and Francesco Bagnardi (EUI)

**Sponsor:** Prof. Dorothee Bohle (EUI)

*Deadline for abstract:* March 4, 2018 - *Deadline for draft-paper:* April 12, 2018.

Please register [online](#).

### Workshop Outline

The Great Recession has led to a surprising decline of class politics. While in the immediate aftermath of the crisis labor parties, left wing social movements and organizations were able to mobilize and formulate policy responses, the left wing moment was short-lived. Soon technocratic and (often right wing) populist responses to the crisis prevailed. Academic discussions reflect this. Here, the debate is currently focussed on the rise of “identity based” populism rather than class politics.

This bottom-up workshop, by contrast, seeks to bring class back in. It asks whether and how class politics and the study of the wider structural changes of capitalism have analytical clout in explaining responses to the crisis. Specifically, the workshop aims to address the following questions: what is the role of organized labour in the time of austerity and populism? What has been the effect of the recession and austerity on labour parties, trade unions and the welfare state? What was labour’s response in the aftermath of the crisis, when the tensions between unregulated capitalism and democracy emerged more clearly?

The workshop aims to address these issues based on a dialogue among different theoretical approaches and fields such as political economy, developmental and democratization studies, historical analyses and economic sociology. The geographical focus of the workshop is the periphery broadly understood as both the EU periphery and the global South. This includes Southern and Eastern Europe, MENA countries and Latin America. The focus on *peripheral capitalisms* (characterized by precarious employment, cronyism, and low institutional comparative advantages) reflects the conviction that at the margins the crisis triggered its most destabilizing effects.

The workshop will include five keynote speeches by Bela Greskovits (Central European University, EUI Robert Schuman Fellow), Guglielmo Meardi (Warwick Business School), Line Rennwald (University of Geneva), Sanna Salo (Stockholm University) and Benjamin Selwyn (University of Sussex, currently visiting fellow at EUI), - and paper presentations by young researchers.

EUI researchers can apply for credits (10) upon participation either as paper presenter or discussant, or upon writing a short response paper on the topic of discussion.

Scholars interested in presenting their research have to send an abstract of their paper by March 4th, 2018 and submit a complete draft by April 12, 2018 to [Valentina.Petrovic@eui.eu](mailto:Valentina.Petrovic@eui.eu) and [Francesco.Bagnardi@eui.eu](mailto:Francesco.Bagnardi@eui.eu) (putting in copy [Jennifer.Dari@eui.eu](mailto:Jennifer.Dari@eui.eu)).

## Workshop Programme

Time	Speakers	Title of presentation
<b>Thursday, April 26</b>		
9:00-9:15	V. Petrovic; F. Bagnardi (EUI)	Introduction
9:15-10:15	Guglielmo Meardi (Warwick Business School)	Labour and Democracy in Europe's periphery. Reflections on Central Eastern Europe and North Africa
10:15-10:45	Ester Sigillò (SNS)	Struggling for dignity in post-authoritarian Tunisia: old untreated wounds and a fragile democratic consolidation  <b><u>Discussant: Erse Kahraman</u></b>
10:45-11:15	Chiara Milan (SNS)	"Sow hunger, reap anger". From neoliberal privatization to new collective identities in Bosnia-Herzegovina  <b><u>Discussant: Jasper Simons</u></b>
<b>Coffee Break</b>		
11:30-12:00	Edgar Ehimanis (EUI)	Learning to tax foreign banks post-crisis: the unlikely case(s) of Central and Eastern Europe  <b><u>Discussants: Jonas Huus Ervik and Maciej Sobocinski</u></b>
12:00-12:30	V. Petrovic; F. Bagnardi (EUI)	Post-socialist labour and the dual logic of collective action: workers' contention and unions' strategy in Fiat Automobiles Serbia  <b><u>Discussant: Roger Fernandez-Urbano</u></b>
12:30-13:00	L. Zamponi; L. Cini (SNS)	"Workers of all apps, unite!"  Gig economy platforms and labour activism in the case of Italian food delivery workers' struggles  <b><u>Discussant: Francesco Bagnardi</u></b>

Lunch Break		
14:30-15:30	Line Rennwald (University of Geneva)	Paper Stones Revisited: Class Voting, Unionization and the Electoral Decline of the Mainstream Left
15:30-16:30	Sanna Saalo (Stockholm University)	Radical right and the labor movement in the Nordic countries: a comparative study
Friday, April 27		
9:30 – 10:00	F. Bulfone; A. Tassinari  (EUI; Warwick University)	Democracies without choice? Exogenous pressure, partisanship and labour market reforms in Southern Europe 2010-2017  <b><u>Discussant: Jonas Huus Ervik</u></b>
10:00-10:30	Gemma Scalise (EUI)	The Governance of Active Inclusion: An Opportunity for Industrial Relations' Actors? Insights from a case-study in Spain  <b><u>Discussants: Maciej Sobocinski and Roger Fernandez-Urbano</u></b>
10:30-11:00	Donato Di Carlo (MPIfG)	<i>Hubris &amp; Nemesis</i> : The Politics of Public Sector Wage Inflation in Ireland and Italy  <b><u>Discussant: Jasper Simons</u></b>
Coffee Break		
11:15-12:15	Benjamin Selwyn (Sussex University/ EUI)	Poverty Chains and Global Capitalism
12:15-12:45	Christine Bernhold (University of Zurich)	Who's upgrading? Class differentiation and labor relations in Argentinian agribusiness  <b><u>Discussant: Erse Kahraman</u></b>
12:45-13:15	Dorothee Bohle (EUI)	Conclusion and final discussion

Keynote lectures: 30 minutes lecture + 30 minutes discussion.

Paper presentation: 15 minutes presentation + 15 minutes discussion (one discussant will be assigned to each paper).