



## **Max Weber Programme**

### **8th Academic Careers Observatory Conference**

#### **‘The Academic Contract:**

#### **How Careers and Universities are Changing’**

#### **San Domenico di Fiesole**

#### **Badia Fiesolana, Common Room, 19-20 November 2013**

The conference will examine the various dimensions of the academic contract and how it is changing, from the point of view of both the individual and the university. It will examine the current status of both academics and institutions, and incentives for change, together with the way they affect academic careers. Across four panels, bringing together academics from different university systems, different regions and different career stages, the conference will discuss the current system from a comparative perspective, including the challenges of online teaching. To conclude, participants will reflect on the desired path for future change.

Organizing Committee: Ramon Marimon, Tamara Popic, Ann Thomson, Simon Jackson

For further information and registration email [MWPacademiccareers@eui.eu](mailto:MWPacademiccareers@eui.eu)

## Conference Programme

### Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

**14.00-14.15: Registration, MWP Common Room (bank corridor, Badia Fiesolana)**

**14.15-14.30:** Introduction, **Ramon Marimon**, Director of the Max Weber Programme

#### **14.30-16.30: Panel 1: Academic Careers: Status and Incentives.**

The panel compares development of academic careers across different university systems and disciplines. It reflects on topics such as careers in public institutions, tenure-track hiring, responsibilities and career advancement. It asks to what extent academic careers are being affected by globalization and current financial restrictions and, in some countries, reforms.

Speakers (15 mins each):

- **Alexey Bessudnov**, National Research University, Higher School of Economics, Moscow
- **Daniele Checchi**, University of Milan
- **Regina Grafe**, Department of History, European University Institute
- **Nehal Bhuta**, Department of Law, European University Institute
- **Alexandre Afonso**, Kings College London

Chair: **Athanasios Psygkas**

Comments by invited speakers and other participants.

**16.30-17.00:** Coffee break

#### **17.00-18.30: Panel 2: MOOCs, Open Access and Online Teaching and how they affect the academic contract.**

The panel looks at the Massive Open Online Courses, Open Access and Online Teaching and their impact on academic careers and universities.

Speakers (15 mins each):

- **Konrad Lawson**, University of St. Andrews
- **Joris Larik**, Leuven Centre for Global Governance Study

Comments by invited speakers and other participants.

Chair: **Aranzazu Crespo**

**20.00: Dinner (by invitation only)**

**Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**

**09.00-11.00: Panel 3: Universities: Status and Incentives for reform.**

The panel looks at universities as institutions of higher education and compares the changing dynamic of university governance and funding across different university systems. Issues such as university autonomy, or the role of institutional rankings, are part of this discussion, which aims to analyse the impact of this dynamic on academic careers.

Speakers (15 mins each):

- **David Dill**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- **Howard Hotson**, University of Oxford
- **Antonio Villar**, Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Económicas
- **Andreas Frijdal**, European University Institute
- **Ann Thomson**, Department of History, European University Institute

Comments by invited speakers and other participants.

Chair: **Simon Jackson**

**11.00-11.30:** Coffee break

**11.30-13.30: Panel 4: Future perspectives.**

The panel offers some general reflections on the future of Higher Education in Europe.

Speakers (15 min each)

- **Liviu Matei**, Central European University
- **Hans Micklitz**, Department of Law, European University Institute
- **Hans Peter Blossfeld**, Department of Social and Political Science, European University Institute
- **Diederik Boertien**, Max Weber Fellow, European University Institute

Chair: **Ann Thomson**

Comments by invited speakers and other participants

**13.30-14.30:** Lunch for all registered participants.