

“Max Weber Fellows’ Contribution to Social Sciences and Humanities”
MWP Alumni Conference Abstracts
10 - 12 June 2009

Interdisciplinary Panel

1. Rinku Lamba, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi - *Reflections on the Emergence of a Non-Western Model of Liberalism in Modern India*

Abstract:

This paper seeks to study intellectual trends in colonial India – expressed in the writings of Indian social reformers – that endorsed the emergence of a modern law governed order marked by liberal political institutions. This exercise of articulating elements of what can be called the Indian model of liberalism will involve engaging interdisciplinary scholarship, specifically the disciplines of political theory (for delineating features of liberalism), law (for the place of modern institutions of law in establishing non-dominating political orders) and history (for exploring the views of postcolonial scholars on modes of expression in colonial regimes).

In the course of doing the above, I will also endeavour to reflect briefly on what it means to perform interdisciplinary research

The following is a detailed abstract of the paper I would like to present:

Notwithstanding the burgeoning scholarship on the contentious nature of the historical and analytical links between liberalism and empire, there is still much scope for paying attention to articulations of non-western forms of liberalism that have themselves emerged in the background of encounters with colonialism in regions such as subcontinental South Asia – particularly India. Indeed, insufficient notice has been taken of the rich trajectory of intellectual deliberations that has served as the basis for some distinguishing features of Indian liberalism and secularism, manifest in the role accorded to particular political institutions – for e.g., the constitutionally entrenched mandate for the Indian state to reform Hindu religious practices (Article 25 (2) (b) of the Indian constitution).

Instead of focusing on the extent to which liberalism and colonialism might be intertwined, I want to consider the manner in which the experience of subjugation to relations of colonial domination spurred the consolidation in modern India of an institutional framework for curbing potential abuses of power both public and private. Specifically, I want to probe the intellectual trends which emerged in mid- to late-nineteenth century colonial India with a view to highlighting within them features that anticipated, arguably, elements of a “liberalism of fear.” In this paper I will attempt to do the aforementioned through an analysis of the ideas of Jotiba Phule (1827-1890) and Mahadev Govind Ranade (1842-1901), both of whom were prominent male figures in debates on social and political reform in nineteenth century colonial India.

The humiliation induced by subjection to relations of colonial domination prompted these thinkers toward putting that experience to internal use via a rekindling of the project of examining critically conventional social hierarchies – based on caste and sex, for instance – that generated forms of exclusion and domination. In scrutinizing the evils within their own social system and in seeking to mitigate them these thinkers had to confront the question of whether the pursuit of political reform (i.e. freedom from colonial rule) took priority over securing social reform (transformation of Indian social and religious practices). Both Phule and Ranade stressed the importance of social reform and observed that projects for political emancipation could assist in pursuing regimes of non-domination only when the weak and vulnerable were assured of institutionalized measures of protection from public and private intimidation. Anything short of this could pave the way for a regime that would be, in Judith Shklar’s terms, “passively unjust.” The presence of such elements in their thinking prompted a distinctive conception of the relation between the spheres of the public and the private, the nature of separation between the domains of the religious and the secular and, related to that, of the connection between law and personal freedom.

It is my hunch that a close analysis of selected writings of these two figures – hailing from the same region but from diverse backgrounds and belonging to different segments of Indian society – can contribute toward a theoretical articulation of the “Indian” bases, so to say, for the emergence of a law-governed order that is characterized by an elaborate institutional framework committed to the mitigation of relations of domination (both systemic and interpersonal). Such theoretical articulation can help in discerning and comparing with other law-governed orders some particular features of modern Indian political practice, such as the institution of religion-

based legal pluralism in matters of family law; the openness to state intervention in the reformulation of religion; collective rights for linguistic and religious minorities; and affirmative action schemes, among others.

Much of the deliberations among Indian intellectuals and social reformers in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, to counter sex- and caste-based hierarchies, occurred in the background of a cross-cultural encounter – what with the heightened exposure to western intellectual traditions that accompanied subjection to colonial rule. However, these debates also witnessed the articulation of pluralistic strands of thinking that drew upon the conceptual resources of traditional Indian movements for the egalitarian reform of social and religious practices: Ranade's engagement with the Bhakti tradition provides a good example in this regard. A perusal of such aspects related to the emergence of a variant of liberalism in India can contribute to deepening the transcultural dimensions of the liberal doctrine, whilst also explaining the distinctive institutional form it took on the subcontinent.

Further, I would argue that a critical engagement with the views of these thinkers – an exercise that is part of a broader project seeking to articulate the bases for the emergence of an Indian version of liberalism – can serve to highlight the pre-eminence of a “negative” approach to political philosophy for addressing adequately issues that involve conflicts between values.

Last, but not least, an examination of the views of these thinkers – that posited a positive connection between political institutions (such as the state) and a regime of non-domination even at a time when political power vested with a colonial regime – can provide valuable resources for a suitable defence of the political choice of addressing injustices by taking recourse to public institutions, thereby enabling a response to the postcolonial critique of the disciplinary power of modern institutions.

2. Mariano Barbato, University of Passau /Brigitte LeNormand. Indiana University Southeast /Chiara de Franco, King's London - *How to do God in politics. Lessons from Medjugorje and St. Egidio in Algeria*

Abstract:

In the debate about the return of religion in politics, religious groups and their public arguing are viewed with a certain concern. Whereas some defend the peaceful effects of religion, most contributions understand religious truth claims as a challenge to democratic pluralism that present a tendency toward violence. At best, the debate is summarised by Appleby's argument about the ambivalence of the sacred.

We take the argument of ambivalence one step further. We argue that this ambivalence is not specific to religious claims but inherent to all public claims, religious and secular alike, about best solutions and fundamental questions in politics. The problem is not the claim of direct access to God's will and his truth, but the political use that different actors make of that claim, as it could be equally directed either to enforce peace or to escalate a conflict, like any secular discourse. Thus, we argue that what is relevant to understanding the role of religious discourses in politics is not a formal distinction between secular and religious discourses but the analysis of their substantial argument and its use in the public sphere.

To make good on this claim we choose an indirect way of argumentation. We select two empirical cases where representatives of a monotheistic religion explicitly make very strong religious truth claims, which are usually attributed with a strong anti-democratic and conflictive potentiality. However, the selected cases argue for peace and reconciliation, through their explicit language and reference to God's will,. Therefore, we can argue that even the most explicit truth claims of religious actors do not necessarily have a violent tendency. Like in secular discourses it is the substance of the message and its use which needs to be analysed. In the first case, Medjugorje in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Virgin Mary herself is claimed to appear and to express her demands. In the second one, a catholic movement, St. Egidio Community, (which can be considered as an example of what Gilles Kepel labelled as re-Christianization movements in his seminal “Revenge of God”) acts as conflict mediator in Algeria. In both the religious actors we choose express a clear message of peace and reconciliation, even if they act in areas of massive conflicts which are grounded and expressed in religious terms. However, our argument rejects the idea that religious claims are an automatic cure to all political illnesses and limits itself to the thesis that religious, like secular discourses, have to be judged on their substantial argument. Many other political and social factors are necessary in conflict prevention or resolution. In the cases we select, in fact, the religious truth claims and their representatives were not successful in preventing or stopping violent conflict by other actors using religious based arguments.

3. Wojciech Zaluski, Jagiellonian University, Krakov - *Human Nature after Darwin*

Abstract:

New developments in evolutionary biology and related biological disciplines (for instance, neurobiology, behavioural genetics, primatology) seem to provide the underpinnings for a solid view of human nature (i.e. a view of the structure of the human mind, of the nature of human morality, and of the level of human rationality), which can be useful for social scientists in their research practice. In the first part of this essay the following main theses of this emerging – I call it ‘Darwinian’ – view of human nature are presented: the human mind is not a blank slate, human morality is a biological adaptation, human beings are imperfectly rational. In the second part main controversies around these theses are discussed.

4. Matei Demetrescu, Goethe University, Frankfurt - *Pitfalls of Post-Model-Selection Testing: Experimental quantification*

Abstract:

A careful look at data does not always improve inference. We demonstrate by means of computer experiments when and how severely data-driven model selection can destroy the size properties of subsequent tests. The investigated models are representative of typical macroeconometric and microeconomic workhorses. The model selection procedures include information criteria as well as sequences of significance tests (‘general-to-specific’). We find that size distortions can be particularly large when competing models are close, with closeness being defined relatively to the sample size.

5. Elisa Andretta, European University Institute / Simona Grassi, European University Institute – *Mechanicistic and Holistic Paradigms in Medicine: Between Economic Analysis and Historical Prospective*

Abstract: Missing

In this paper we combine an economic and a historical approaches in order to study the market interaction between physicians and patients in the context of the coexistence of different medical paradigms. The current dominant medical approach is mainly ‘mechanistic’ and aims at treating diseases of the body perceived as a machine. This paradigm became dominant only after the so called ‘scientific revolution’ of the XVII century. Previously, medicine adopted on a holistic vision, in which healthiness was seen as dependent upon the balance among different components of the body and between the body itself and the outside world. ‘Mechanistic’ and holistic approaches place different emphasis on two different aspects of medicine: prevention and cure. Nowadays, the so called complementary and alternative practices (CAM) have become very popular. These practices differ from those of early modern Europe, but share the holistic vision of the body and focus mainly on prevention. In our contribution we focus on the current rise of the market for holistic medical services, considering both the incentives the insurance company and the public health care provider have to sell these services and the characteristics of the demand. Our analysis suggest that a historical prospective could be helpful in two ways. First, by showing that the concept of dominant and institutionalized paradigm in medicine is relative, secondly by providing analytical tools for the investigation of the rise of a new medical market in which the ‘mechanistic’ and holistic approach coexist.

Welfare State, Health, Human Rights

1. Rasmus Hoffmann, European University Institute - *Socioeconomic differences in old age mortality -New evidence from the USA and Denmark*

Abstract:

The impact of socioeconomic status (SES) on health and mortality has been observed many times in mortality research. However, it is unclear if this impact is stable across the life course or decreases in old age. My study aims to answer the question if mortality differences between socioeconomic groups converge in old age. This is a common finding which has been explained by the following arguments: the welfare state, aging as a leveler that neutralizes social differences, the impact of past experiences fades out at old age, the observed mortality differences get smaller in old age because the surviving population is more homogeneous due to selective mortality.

An opposite hypothesis is that differences in SES increase with age because social (dis-) advantages and their postponed consequences for health accumulate during the life course. If this is true, the observed converging may be due to unobserved heterogeneity, the last argument from above.

The US data come from the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) where I use a sample of 9374 persons born before 1934 (ages 59 to 107) followed from 1992 to 2006. The variables allow a detailed and time varying measurement of the socioeconomic status including income, wealth and household characteristics, the health status, the health behavior and some parent's characteristics. The Danish data are register data from the Danish Demographic Database covering the whole Danish population aged 59+ from 1980 to 2002 with annual information. The variables are very similar to the variables from HRS.

I apply event-history-analysis to estimate several models with the mortality hazard ratio as the outcome variable. The modeling procedure uses different steps to analyze the causal relationships between the predictor variables and determines interaction effects. Models that include a term for unobserved heterogeneity and a new method that goes beyond the capability of standard software packages address the problem of mortality selection and the compositional change of the population over age.

The results show for both the USA and Denmark that higher education only slightly reduces mortality as soon as income and wealth are controlled for. However, in the USA an interaction between education and wealth resp. income shows that the impacts of education and wealth are complementary: more money is only beneficial combined with higher education and vice versa. The main results regarding the convergence of socioeconomic mortality differences with age differ between the USA and Denmark: The US data show no convergence whereas the Danish data reveal a clear convergence. After a control for health is added to the model, there are stable mortality differences over age in both countries. A complementary result to this finding is that SES mortality differences are very large in a good health status and almost non-existent in a bad health status. This means that worsening health levels off socioeconomic mortality differences whereas increasing age does not.

Even if the data sources for the two countries are of different kind and quality the assumption can be made that the converging mortality differences in Denmark in contrast to the USA is due to the better social situation for old persons in Denmark. Second, the assumption of a dominant biology (second argument in the introduction) seems to be correct for ill persons. But this should not be understood as a general dominance of physiological conditions over social influences in old age because the social status is incorporated in a more or less severe health decline and only therefore there is less social inequality in the transition from poor health to death.

My findings help to evaluate the four most important explanations for the convergence of socioeconomic mortality differences with age. The analytical separation of increasing age and worsening health gives new insights in the process of aging and health and is justified because age increases for everyone but the health decline is different between social groups. Both factors increase mortality but are very different in their effect on social mortality differences.

2. Margherita Fort, University of Bologna - *Health-Education Gradient in Europe*

Abstract:

In this paper we plan to investigate how early life conditions and outcomes – in childhood and adolescence – affect the health of adults and the elderly. We focus on a relevant example of early outcome, namely education. The potential implications of this research for economic and health policy are clear: if what happens early on in education, health and background conditions turns out to be important for the quality of adult life, and if important differences among individuals emerge that cannot be fully undone later on, focusing public resources on early life conditions and outcomes can reduce future health expenditure and improve equality of opportunity. Early intervention can also affect labour force participation later in life, a key economic variable in an ageing society. Our research has a European comparative perspective. We plan to use individual survey data from different sources to build datasets that allow in depth investigation of the Italian experience relative to the broader European context. We plan to use different datasets – such as the European Community Household Panel, the EUSILC survey, the British Household Panel Survey, the German SOEP and the French Enquete sur la Sante – and the cross country and cohort variability of compulsory school reforms to measure the causal effect of attained education on different indicators of health, including the body mass index and obesity, disability, the intensity of use of medical services and absence from work because of health conditions.

3. Raya Muttarak, European University Institute, *Health and Well-being of Children of Interethnic Unions in the UK: Evidence from the Millennium Cohort Study*

Abstract:

Drawing on social capital theory, this research hypothesises that interethnic partnership enhances *bridging social capital* of children of immigrants, which in turn facilitates their access to socioeconomic resources in a destination country. Previous studies on labour market outcomes of intermarried immigrants found that those who are intermarried have higher earnings and achieve better socioeconomic positions than their non-intermarried counterparts (Meng and Gregory 2005; Meng and Meurs 2006; Muttarak 2007). Here we raise a further question whether this intermarriage premium also applies to their offspring.

In this study, 'interethnic partnership' refers to partnerships (marriage or cohabitation) between a native spouse and an immigrant. 'Native' refers to a member of the majority population in a country with non-immigrant background. 'Immigrant' refers to a first or second generation immigrant whose parents were born abroad.

The empirical analysis is based on the Millennium Cohort Study 2000 – 2006, which is a longitudinal survey of approximately 18,800 children born in 2000 in Britain. Assuming that a native parent can provide access and information for their children in a host country, health (e.g. health care usage and health status) is used as an indicator of well-being. We aim to compare whether children of interethnic unions have better health outcomes than second generation children whose parents have immigrant background.

We focus on the outcomes of children rather than adults to tackle causality problems in two ways. First, being born in and living in a destination country, the children presumably should have equal access to destination country institutions as the native population. Then, we can observe whether any ethnic inequalities are due to differences in social capital and cultural practices. Secondly, we can avoid the endogeneity problem of children's well-being affecting social capital. Generally, an individual's attributes such as socioeconomic attainment or health can also influence their social capital accumulation. Yet, in case of children, their characteristics are unlikely to influence parental social capital except in some extreme cases. Longitudinal data are therefore appropriate for this analysis because of their longitudinal nature and comprehensive information on parental inputs and interactions with children that is available.

4. Paolo E. Giordani, LUISS "Guido Carli" University - *Prejudice and Immigration*

Abstract:

We study immigration policy in a small open receiving economy under self-selection of migrants. We show that immigration policy choice affects and is affected by the migratory decisions of skilled and unskilled foreign workers. From this interaction multiple equilibria may arise, which are driven by the policy makers expectation on the migrant's size and skill composition (and, hence, on the welfare effects of immigration). In particular, pessimistic (optimistic) beliefs induce a country to impose higher (lower) barriers to immigration, which crowd out (crowd in) skilled migrants and thus confirm initial beliefs. This self-fulfilling mechanism sustains the endogenous formation of an anti or pro-immigration "prejudice". These insights may help rationalize the cross-country variation in attitudes towards immigration and choices of immigration policy.

5. Yoko Akachi, WHO Geneva- *Developing civil registration systems in countries with least coverage*

Abstract:

Civil registration provides continuous vital statistics of the country and offers protection of basic human rights. Too many people in the world today, especially the poor, are being born and are dying without their lives ever being counted. It is fundamental of human rights that every life matters. This paper provides an overview of the current status of civil registration, barriers to improvements, examples of how the availability of civil registration contributed to policy and development, ways of creating incentives for individuals, communities, and the countries. Some strategic guidance is available for countries that have civil registration systems in place with non-complete coverage, but there is little available for countries with no system in place or with very low coverage. There may be no single correct answer for civil registration improvement, and past work done in this field provides limited evidence on some of the hypothesis made on the stepwise processes. There are, however, technical areas where most experts agree, and possible strategies and social experiments for civil registration are explored, especially with a focus on countries with least coverage.

6. Juan Raphael Morillas, University of Durham, *The Welfare State and Income Redistribution*

Abstract:

One key question in the political economy of the welfare state is the role that it plays in the reduction of inequality and poverty. By means of tax and transfer systems, welfare states modify the income stratification that is generated in the market. Typically, households at the bottom of the distribution of market income obtain a higher share of final or disposable income, while those at the top experience a substantial reduction in their share of disposable income as compared with that of market income. Therefore, the measurement, description and explanation of redistribution are critical for an evaluation of the 'true' effect of the welfare state on the stratification of households' income.

In spite of the importance of redistribution for the assessment of the consequences of different welfare states, our knowledge about it is very limited. This is due mainly to two reasons. First, until recently, reliable and comparative data on market (income derived from the market) and disposable income (market income, minus direct taxes plus welfare cash transfers from the state) have not been available for most of countries. As an attempt to compensate for the lack of data, the literature has used proxies for redistribution such as social spending as a proportion of GDP (e.g. Hicks, 1999; Huber and Stephens, 2001). However, it is a well-known empirical fact that not all social spending is redistributive (*vid.* Hacker et al., 2004; Lambert, 1993). Social spending as a percentage of GDP, although it is a variable with an interest of its own, does not measure and is not a substitute for redistribution. Indeed, social spending benefits not only the poor, but also, and sometimes to a larger extent, the middle-class (Goodin and Le Grand, 1987; Le Grand, 1982).

More recent attempts at measuring the redistributive consequences of welfare states have compared aggregate measures of inequality for the distributions of market income and disposable income (e.g. Bradley et al., 2003; Mahler and Jesuit, 2006; Korpi and Palme, 1998) and have assumed that the difference between the two or the proportional reduction of the Gini coefficient is a meaningful measure of the effect of redistribution on the reduction of inequality. However, the comparison of aggregate measures of the inequality of market income and of disposable income, by calculating either the proportional reduction (Bradley et al. 2003; Iversen and Soskice, 2006; Korpi and Palme, 1998) or the difference between the two (Mahler and Jesuit, 2006; Kenworthy and Pontusson, 2005), is inappropriate and does not provide a real measure of redistribution. The reasons for this are two. First, we cannot obtain conclusions about micro-processes from aggregate variables such as overall inequality -trying to do so amounts to an ecological fallacy. Indeed, aggregate variables such as overall inequality do not tell us *who* are the winners and losers of redistribution. For example, inequality may decrease not as an improvement of the position of the poor, but because of a reduction in the relative position of the middle-class with regards to the rich. Second, a straightforward comparison of the inequality of market income with that of disposable income violates the assumptions of the axiomatic theory of inequality measurement. As a consequence, measures based on such comparison are inappropriate for the analysis of redistribution.

To conclude, redistribution is crucial both for the social sciences and for society. Scholarly, the analysis of the redistributive effects of welfare states is at the core of disciplines such as sociology, social policy and political science. Furthermore, the social relevance of redistribution is quite clear. Considerable resources are devoted by governments to reduce the inequality generated in the market. For these reasons, developing the tools to assess the extent to which welfare states, by taxing market income and making transfers to households, reduce inequality constitutes a meaningful contribution.

7. Alexander Peine, Utrecht University - *The rise of the "Innosumer" – how baby boomers will shape the future of consumer products*

Abstract:

Aging is among the most striking societal changes that most industrialized economies face. While a number of related challenges, such as the increasing pressure on social security systems, are being widely addressed by policy makers, the consequences of demographic changes for innovation systems and processes have surprisingly not been a major research topic. The implications and challenges of demographic changes for innovation remain a puzzle for public policy-makers, managers and civil society alike: While aging calls for innovative solutions to help solving some of the societal problems associated with demographic changes, it still remains unclear, whether aging societies may prove to stay as innovative as today. To be able to provide innovative solutions companies have to understand changing demand and consumption patterns in aging societies in order to remain competitive. And policy makers have to foster conditions under which innovators can meet the demands of an aging society.

This contribution takes a closer look at some of the issues relevant for innovation in aging societies. It first presents a symmetrical perspective on the relationship between technology and aging that goes beyond the

one-sided perspective of elderly users as mere recipients of assistive technology. Based on insights from the sociology of science and technology, this view is complemented with a more comprehensive perspective on aging consumers as co-creators of new technologies. Secondly, it is shown that this new perspective has pronounced consequences for innovation management and policy. In particular, these consequences ask for new forms of integrating users and knowledge about use in innovation processes. Finally, preliminary data will be presented that demonstrate the relevance and wider implications for European economies.

Panel on Academic experience

- 1. Anna Io Prete, University of Turin - *E-learning platforms: creating and managing an online course in Moodle***
Abstract:
Teaching in a virtual learning environment requires a specific approach to education, based on the delivering of materials at predetermined intervals, and on the possibility of building richly interactive classrooms. Over the past years, the development of free e-learning platforms has fostered the creation of fully online courses. The Moodle platform alone currently accounts for more than 2,5 millions courses, a success stemming from the wide set of activity modules and from the great flexibility in setting-up introductory as well as advanced courses it offers. During this panel we will discuss the pros and cons of e-learning based on the Moodle experience.
- 2. Mariely Lopez-Santana, George Mason University, Fairfax - *The transition from graduate school/post-doctoral fellowship to a full-time position***
Abstract:
The transition from graduate school/post-doctoral fellowship to a full-time position can be difficult and often frustrating. As a professor, a situation that has been especially difficult to handle is students with very low expectations and motivation levels, and an environment that promulgates this behaviour. What are the best strategies to deal with this situation? Throughout these years, I have spent a significant amount of time thinking about this issue. As a professor, I have explored different approaches to deal with this situation in the classroom and at a personal level (as often it is very frustrating). Some techniques have been more successful than others. I wish to share my experience with other fellows. In addition, I wish to start a conversation about this particular issue.
- 3. Stephanie Lee Mudge, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne / UC-Davis - *The American job talk: Notes on interviewing at a research university***
Abstract:
Getting an interview for an American tenure-track position has never been easy, and is going to get harder in bad economic times. This talk will offer some pointers on how to approach and prepare for interviewing in this competitive world, based on my recent experience on the US sociology job market. It will focus in particular on the job talk: how important it is, how to prepare, how to practice, how to deal with the Q&A, and how to save yourself if things start to go wrong. The conclusion will also offer some general commentary on how to market yourself and stay sane in the process.
- 4. Giesela Ruehl, Humboldt University Berlin – *Researching and Teaching in Germany***
- 5. Valentina Fava, European University Institute – *Politics and Academia: Practising Gender Equality in Science.***
Abstract: The paper intends to present and explain the aims and objectives of our involvement in the PRAGES project (Practicing Gender Equality in Science).

PRAGES is a cooperative action funded by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme for research. It represents an active response from a consortium of leading European, US and Australia research and academic institutions to the warnings concerning the “devastating waste of human resources” caused by the “glass ceiling” effect still preventing women from occupying top positions in the world of science and technology. The core objective of the project is, thus, to realize a survey of positive action schemes aimed at promoting women’s access to senior and decision making positions in academia and provide the EC with an European database of good practices.

The research work consists of identifying them, comparing their impact and studying their transferability.

6. Brigitte Le Normand , Indiana University Southeast - *Educating the Majority: teaching in non-top-tier American Universities*

Abstract:

This presentation addresses the lessons I've learned from a year of teaching full-time at Indiana University Southeast, a teaching-focused satellite campus of Indiana University. There are numerous institutions of this nature in the United States, which are teaching focused but provide good support for pursuing a research agenda. At the same time, these colleges are unlike Liberal Arts Colleges in that they draw students that are not necessarily prepared for a college education. In a persistently competitive job market, junior scholars can launch their careers in such institution, but should pay due consideration to the challenges presented by this kind of student body. I focus my discussion on the preconceptions of first-generation university students, both mature and “millennial”; the question of whether or not to adapt learning objectives and evaluation methods to the student body; and the emotional pitfalls faced by the instructor faced with students who are unlike him or herself.

ECO Panel

1. Thomas Hintermaier, Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna - *Debt Portfolios*

Abstract:

We provide a model with endogenous portfolios of secured and unsecured house-hold debt. Secured debt is collateralized by durables whereas unsecured debt can be discharged in bankruptcy procedures. We show that the model matches the main quantitative characteristics of observed wealth and debt portfolios in the US and some of the observed changes over time. Furthermore, we establish two quantitative results. Firstly, modest levels of risk aversion are necessary to match observed debt portfolios. Secondly, durables do not improve consumers access to unsecured credit, and plausible variations of durable exemptions in bankruptcy procedures have very small effects on the equilibrium.

2. Fang Xu, European University Institute - *Testing for unit roots in bounded non-stationary time series*

Abstract:

Many of the key economic and financial series are limited, in the sense that they have bounds either below, or above, or both. Conventional unit root tests are potentially unreliable in the presence of bounds, since they tend to over-reject the null hypothesis of a unit root, even asymptotically. Somewhat surprisingly, very little work has been undertaken to develop unit root tests which can be applied to bounded time series. In this paper we fill this gap in the literature by proposing unit root tests which are valid in the presence of bounds. We discuss new augmented Dickey-Fuller type tests as well as new versions of the modified 'M' tests of Ng and Perron (2001) which, combined with a simulation-based method to retrieve the relevant critical values, allows to control size asymptotically. Numerical evidence suggests that the proposed tests perform remarkably well in finite samples against a range of limited processes. Moreover, the proposed tests outperform the Phillips-Perron type tests originally proposed in Cavaliere (2005). An empirical illustration using nominal interest rates concludes.

3. **Paolo Pin, European University Institute - *On Price Dispersion, Search Externalities, and the Digital Divide***

Abstract:

We propose a model of price competition with a single good, in which consumers are heterogeneous in the number of firms from which they are able to compare prices. We allow for the maximal generalization, so that any consumer is characterized by such a number. We first prove that, under non-trivial conditions, any equilibrium shows price dispersion. We then move to comparative statics of symmetric equilibria, showing that any buyer, by increasing the number of firms she is considering, produces an externality on the other buyers. This externality can be at the same time negative for low-informed consumers and positive for the high-informed ones (the so-called "digital divide"). We provide examples in which some consumers, by sampling more information, may even damage themselves.

4. **Joanna Wolszczak-Derlacz, Gdańsk University of Technology - *The impact of trade on skill specific wage convergence in an integrating Europe***

Abstract:

We propose an empirical study on wage convergence between selected New Member States (NMS-5) and EU15 in the period of time 1995-2005. We use recently released industrial statistics (EU KLEMS, 2008), containing information on wages, patterns of output and employment at relatively disaggregated industry level (NACE, 2 digit sectors).

The research is motivated by the fact that NMS expected that wage convergence would occur as a result of proceeding integration process with the EU. At the same time, Old Member States were increasingly concerned with the possibility that the opening towards Central and Eastern Europe would influence their local labor markets through new channels of imports from low income countries and outsourcing. Applying sigma and beta convergence analysis, we measure the speed of sector specific wage equalization between NMS and EU15. In particular, we are interested in determining if changing patterns of trade between Old and New Member states have influenced wage dispersion at the level of industries.

From the theoretical point of view, three concepts on equalization of factor prices have to be considered simultaneously (namely: trade theory, growth theories and new economic geography models) but, still, they do not provide an unambiguous explanation of the phenomena. Moreover, even though there is a vast literature on the impact of trade on wage inequality in the international context (among others: Feenstra and Hanson, 2001, Slaughter, 2001), the results of empirical analysis are not conclusive and little evidence exists on the dispersion of salaries in least developed countries, NMS in particular. Consequently, in the context of wage dispersion in the enlarged EU, an empirical research performed for as vast group of European countries as possible is highly desirable.

Our research continues the stream of literature on the link between wage convergence and trade within the enlarged EU (Egger and Stehrer, 2003; Egger, 2006; Esposito and Stehrer, 2007), but several features distinguish this work from the previous efforts. To our knowledge this is the first attempt to perform industry level wage convergence study for the set of five NMS (namely: Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic and Slovenia) during the period of one decade. Moreover, what is particularly important, the newest data permit us to trace patterns of overall wage convergence not only at the level of industry but also to measure wage differentials among different categories of labor (high skilled, medium skilled and low skilled) employed within a sector.

The research is structured as follows: we first analyse differentials in medium wages paid in the same sectors in NMS and EU15; then turn towards the dispersion of wages of different skill categories. Next, using a dataset matching industrial and trade statistics at the level of industries we estimate a dynamic model of wage convergence between NMS-5 and EU15, revealing the effects of intraindustry trade and outsourcing on the evolution of skill specific wage dispersion. Our hypothesis is that the speed of wage convergence is higher in trade intensive sectors. We apply system GMM estimator to the extended version of standard convergence equation, including as explanatory variables industry specific measures of trade intensity and outsourcing.

5. **Gianmario Impullitti, IMT Lucca – *Global Innovation Races and Wage Inequality***

Abstract:

The U.S. share of global R&D investment drops substantially in the 1970s and 1980s, while Japan's, and in some industries, Europe's share show record increases. The decline in U.S. share is more pronounced in the most innovative sectors. This suggests that U.S. position as the global leader in R&D investment was seriously challenged by foreign competition in this period. Contemporary to this shift in the pattern of global innovation races takes we observe the increase in several dimensions of wage inequality in the US. I build a two-country version of the quality ladder growth model where domestic and foreign firms innovate to compete for leadership in the global economy. Increases in international competition are defined as entry of foreign innovators in industries where previously only, or mainly, domestic firms were operating. Workers are heterogeneous in their ability and can acquire skills by investing in education. I study the effects of foreign entry in R&D on a 'between' dimension of wage inequality, the college premium, and a 'within' dimension that measures inequality in the same education cohort. The main result is that foreign entry in R&D increases both dimensions of inequality. The quantitative analysis shows that the model can explain sizable shares of the actual increase in US wage inequality: foreign entry in R&D explains about 40 percent of the increase in the skill premium, and about 30 percent of the increase in residual inequality in the period 1979-95.

6. Roberto Galbiati, CNRS, EconomiX and Cepremap, Paris - *Spillover Effects in Crime: Evidence from a Natural Experiment*

Abstract:

This paper addresses two questions: First we identify indirect deterrence effects of a policy increasing expected prison sentences. Second we estimate endogenous social effects in crime. We use a unique dataset of former inmates released pursuant to the Collective Clemency Bill passed by the Italian Parliament on July 2006. We study how an individual's post-release behavior (i.e. recidivism) varies with a) the average expected sentence at the time of exit from prison of former inmates imprisoned in the same facility; b) the prevalence of recidivism of the peers who served the sentence in his same prison. The identification strategy relies upon some features of the Collective Clemency Bill. The bill provides a three years reduction in detention for most prisoners in Italy. Inmates face different expected sentences for any potential crime because of different residual sentences at the time of the release. Indeed, former inmates will have to serve the residual sentence - varying between 1 and 36 months - suspended by the pardon in addition to the sentence given for the new crime if they recidivate. Given that the longer is the residual sentence the lower is the probability that a former inmate recidivates, in the model estimating the recidivism of an inmate we use the residual sentence of his peers as a source of exogenous variation in the recidivism of his peers. We find a negative impact of others' expected sentence on individuals recidivism and a positive endogenous social interactions effect.

7. Maria Heracleous, American University, Washington - *Retargeting conditional cash transfer programs: The case of Oportunidades in urban Mexico*

Abstract:

After an initial assessment of eligibility, conditional cash transfer programs may find it desirable to reassess program targeting since recipients may no longer be eligible, particularly if the program meets its objective of reducing poverty. A program can explicitly re-evaluate whether recipient households continue to meet eligibility requirements or through the use of program conditions may induce a degree of self targeting. Evidence from the urban Oportunidades program in Mexico shows that in the first six years of the program 43% of beneficiaries had dropped out of the program— three quarters for failing to meet program requirements (behavioral dropouts) and onequarter as part of program reassessment of eligibility (administrative dropouts). This process of Retargeting of the program is analyzed using Oportunidades administrative data and a discrete duration model. The results of the analysis suggest that many of those that failed to meet conditions and were thus dropped from the program were the relatively better off beneficiaries indicating that the conditions acted as a self-targeting mechanism. However, there is also evidence indicating that the very poorest recipients are also more likely to fail to meet conditions and drop out of the program suggesting conditions are enhancing the errors of omission of a key target population. For administrative dropouts, the evidence shows that this process tends to lead to dropouts by those who are marginally eligible for the program in the first place. A detailed analysis of the score used by Oportunidades to determine eligibility (known as the *puntaje*) suggests that the households deemed ineligible in the reassessment were actually the ones that had recently obtained basic household durables or had a change in their demographic composition

8. Carlos J. Ponce University Carlos III de Madrid - *Waiting to copy: On the dynamics of licensing*

Abstract:

We study the problem of an inventor who brings to the market an innovation that can be legally copied. Imitators may enter the market by copying the innovation at a cost or by buying a license from the inventor. Licensing dramatically affects the need for patent protection. Indeed, our results reveal that: (i) Imitators wait to enter the market and the inventor becomes a temporary monopolist; (ii) The inventor offers licenses which allow reselling by the imitators; (iii) As the pool of potential imitators grows large, the inventor becomes a permanent monopolist.

HEC Panel

1. Anastasia Stouraiti, Goldsmiths, University of London - *War and the Media in Early Modern Venice*

Abstract:

This paper explores the role of media and communication in the coverage of early modern warfare. While in the twenty-first century spin-doctoring and photo opportunities are routinely associated with media reporting of military conflict, words and images were of equally central importance to the conduct of warfare in the early modern period. This paper seeks to investigate the complex interplay between war and the media in seventeenth-century Venice from a non-Eurocentric perspective. In doing so, it stresses the centrality of the Ottoman Empire as a cultural enemy and the implications of this image on the construction of early modern European culture. The paper also re-examines early modern warfare to show that empire building was not confined to the sphere of high politics but was also a popular cultural event engaging both elites and ordinary people in the Republic of Venice. Finally, the paper aims to contribute to contemporary debates on the questions of war, truth and their representation in infotainment media.

2. Violet Soen, European University Institute – *Patronage and Politics in Civil War: Loyal noblemen during the Dutch Revolt.*

Abstract:

In her study on the Fronde, Sharon Kettering concluded that ‘a client could sever a personal bond with a patron whose political goals or opinions differed from his own, and attach himself to a patron whose political views he shared’. Oddly historiography of the Dutch Revolt has not picked up on her important findings and still assumes symmetry between patronage and politics, especially in the case of loyal noblemen. This paper challenges this assumption of symmetry by juxtaposing of the patronage strategies and political ideas of two noblemen, the barons of Berlaymont and Noircames

3. Sakis Gekas, University of Manchester, Manuel Borutta, University of Cologne / – *A Colonial Sea: The Mediterranean, 1798-1950s*

Abstract

The workshop will explore the modern Mediterranean as a Colonial Sea. We will reconstruct colonial interactions, relationships, entanglements and shared experiences between Europe, the Maghreb and the Middle East from late 18th century, when the European colonization of the Mediterranean began, until the erosion of the imperial order in the 1950s. By bringing together research on colonial histories on both sides of the Mediterranean we wish to get away from a Eurocentric perspective which studies colonialism merely in a one-way direction from the metropoleis to the colonies. By stressing the ambivalences and paradoxes of colonialism, we want to overcome the shortcomings of modernization theory. We will investigate cultural, economic, political and social aspects of Mediterranean colonialism such as representations of the Mediterranean, colonial conquest, rule and administration; migration, settlement and trade; the social reality and cultural complexity of colonial cities and places. By combining comparative and transnational perspectives, asking for differences, similarities and entanglements we wish to avoid the ‘methodological nationalism’ of colonial histories in the Mediterranean. Similar to the ‘thalassological’ approach introduced by Horden and Purcell, we look for a history of the colonial Mediterranean, rather than for histories in the colonial

Mediterranean. Instead of taking 'the Mediterranean' for granted, we will investigate how it was constructed and used as a concept for the colonization of Northern Africa and the Middle East. In this respect the workshop will also historicize Mediterranean studies and highlight their colonial past. The paper at the Max Weber conference will present the results of the workshop, summarizing its findings and suggest ways of pursuing further the research agenda of the workshop.

4. Roberta Pergher, European University Institute – *Differences - Toward a Transnational History of Fascist Imperialism*

Abstract:

The paper examines connections and parallels between Fascist Italian imperialism and German expansion under National Socialism. Both regimes challenged the postwar European order and pursued a particular form of "colonialism", combining their aspirations on the European continent with their aspirations overseas and seeking new territory for their supposedly burgeoning populations. "Living space," i.e. "Lebensraum" in German and "spazio vitale" in Italian, was the concept that the two regimes employed in their quest. Yet the similarities between the two Axis partners went well beyond ideology and encompassed practices of settlement and racial segregation. In this process, the Axis partners learned and copied from each other, though not necessarily in collegial cooperation but rather in aggressive competition.

5. Eszter Bartha, Eötvös Loránd University of Budapest - *The forest for the trees? Challenges to postmodernity*

Abstract:

It is a well known fact that sociology was born as a project of the Enlightenment – as a science which was established to discover the universal laws of the development of the modern, industrial societies. Both the direction of the development of modern societies and the science, which considered these societies as its very object were understood to be universal.

The transition from the modern, industrial societies to the so-called postfordist model of capitalism challenged not only this assumption but also the very object of sociology. The most important challenge came from the postmodern theories, which practically assume that the Enlightenment proved to be an outdated narrative, and its search for universality was likewise mistaken.

It is not only the main object of sociology which has been questioned. The "linguistic turn" called into question the structuralist concept of society. One cannot introduce here the many criticisms of structuralism; most of them observe the lack of human agency arguing that by focusing on the big structures, one cannot explain why structures are actually changing. However, these criticisms fail to show in practice how one can find a link between the micro and macro-levels of analysis. The paper seeks to show the change of paradigms on the example of the theories of socialization. While the 1960s were dominated by structural explanations of inequality, later symbolic interactionism and phenomenological sociology opened up new perspectives. The paper ends by discussing some possible ways of linking everyday social life to the large institutions of society.

6. Katja Haustein, Cambridge University – *From Sight to Site: Walter Benjamin's Self-Portraits*

Abstract:

This paper explores the aesthetic topographies of selfhood in Benjamin's autobiographical work *Berlin Childhood around nineteen-hundred* (1932/33, 1938). Taking into account the experiences of persecution and exile in Benjamin's life, this paper shows how, during the act of autobiographical writing, Benjamin's self-portraits shift their emphasis from sight (the photographic self-portrait) to site (the voided room). Using Lacan, Bhabha and Certeau as main theoretical reference points, the paper argues that it is in the 'folds of the curtain' as it is in the folds of the text – in the space between defined matter as well as between signs – that Benjamin finds the terrain to design new topographies of selfhood that may (or may not) help to survive in an 'unhomely' world.

1. **Anne Rasmussen, Leiden University - *The “heavenly chorus” in European interest group politics***

Abstract:

Long ago Schattschneider predicted that the downside of the pluralist heaven was a biased system interest representation dominated by the stronger ones. Ever since, scholars have largely confirmed his predictions. However, most of this research examines bias by compiling lists of groups that have mobilized without controlling for how much the different types of groups are actually in contact with their political system in practice. This paper presents the first results from a comparative study of the Netherlands, the UK and Denmark, which records information which groups have participated in public government consultations and have been in contact with their national parliaments and government officials. The results show that Schattschneider's fears of bias in the system of interest representation are very real in both corporatist and pluralist systems. They also show, however, that variation in interest representation systems do not fully explain Schattschneider's bias. Meso-level variables, such as the instruments of contact interest groups use and variation across policy areas matter as well.

2. **Marc Berenson, University of Sussex - *Where and How Is Political Culture Relevant to Post-Communist Governance? Deciphering the Whys of Extractive and Distributive Policy Implementation in Poland, Russia and Ukraine***

Abstract:

When exactly does political culture matter with respect to the way states govern? Are legacies of state-society trust important for some types of policy arenas but not for others? Is the absence or presence of such legacies critical with respect to how bureaucrats implement policy or with respect to how citizens comply in state activity? Do ethno-graphic or religious factors matter? This paper will examine the interaction of political culture, legacies of state-society trust and governance through the implementation of extractive (tax compliance) and distributive (social welfare provision) policies in Poland, Russia and Ukraine. Each of these states possesses uniquely different legacies with respect to civil society development; further, while Poland is predominantly Catholic and Russia Slavic Orthodox, Ukraine has a mix of citizens with both religious identities. With respect to tax policy, results from a series of unique Taxpayer Compliance Attitudinal Surveys designed and carried out by this author in 2004/05 (to be followed with a larger survey in 2009/10) illustrate that there is a distinct “Catholic effect” in Ukraine, where Catholics react to their state's tax collection efforts more out of their trust in the state. With implications for Poland and Russia, political cultural differences, born from distinct civil society legacies, are shown to have varying impact in the realm of paying one's dues to the state.

However, in an experimental survey on bureaucratic responsiveness in the social welfare arena in Poland and Russia, social welfare workers in both countries were seen to perform in a manner deemed equally helpful to local Polish and Russian citizens—a key component of effective governance. An explanation based on a civil society legacy would have suggested that greater openness on the part of the state and increased trust in the state on the part of the citizenry would lead to different perceptions of the state's social welfare bureaucracies in the two countries. Russian state agencies, particularly service-oriented ones, should have been shown to provide assistance that is less satisfactory in the eyes of their citizens than those in Poland, which possesses a healthier civil society legacy, but this wasn't the case with the selected social welfare offices. Within this distributive policy arena, then, a healthy civil society legacy appears not to be necessary for local citizens to receive satisfying service.

Thus, the challenge of this paper will be to reconcile these two different findings with respect to political culture variables and to discern whether the differing natures and missions of extractive and distributive policy arenas can account for variations in the necessity of strong historical legacies of state-society trust for explaining governance outcomes.

3. **Jan Meyer-Sahling, University of Nottingham - *Post-accession sustainability of civil service reform in Central and Eastern Europe***

Abstract:

This paper examines the post-accession sustainability of civil service reforms in the new EU member states Central and Eastern Europe. Before accession, the EU had made the development of administrative capacity,

including the reform of the civil service a condition for EU membership. Yet civil service governance is not part of the EU *acquis communautaire*. It therefore belongs to the most likely cases for post-accession reform reversals. This paper investigates whether the new member states have continued their reforms after accession or whether they have reversed pre-accession reforms after their accession to the EU and how we can explain variation in post-accession reform sustainability in Central and Eastern Europe.

4. Joerg Balsiger, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich - *Redundancy in International Politics*

Abstract:

The world of international politics has become populated by a staggering and ever growing number of organizations. As a result, calls for enhanced coordination, streamlining, and even consolidation have greatly intensified during the last ten years, both from scholars and practitioners. In global environmental politics, for example, thematic, institutional, and programmatic overlaps between different regimes have increasingly been viewed as a problematic trend. According to most proponents of international organizational reform, the reduction or elimination of duplication and overlap would increase effectiveness, efficiency, and rationality. In this paper, I propose the exact opposite and make the theoretical argument that redundancy is vital to the long-term sustainability of international cooperation. I draw on a strand of organization theory which maintains that a stable system is one that remains unstable enough to accommodate change by eliciting diversity. Whereas diversity encourages cognitive and behavioral experimentation and thereby helps maintain problem solving capacity, uniformity precipitates a narrowing of options and increases the risk of system stagnation and the persistence of the status quo. I illustrate the argument with examples from international environmental politics, including forestry, climate change, and chemicals management, and conclude with some implications for post-Kyoto climate change politics.

5. Helen Callaghan, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne - *Pride and prejudice? Motives for economic patriotism in the market for corporate control*

Abstract:

This paper challenges rational choice accounts of takeover patriotism by comparing French and British political reactions to foreign bids from 1980 onward. Hellwig (2000) explains opposition to foreign takeovers by noting that outsiders disrupt informal coordination. Citizens are assumed to value informal coordination, and politicians are assumed to cater to citizens because these, unlike outside shareholders, vote in well-defined constituencies. Accordingly, takeover patriotism should grow with capital market integration as the costs of protectionism increasingly fall on foreign shareholders. My case studies challenge this hypothesis in two ways. First, despite similar levels of foreign ownership, political opposition to foreign bids was stronger in France than in the UK. Second, despite strong growth in foreign ownership since the early 1980s, political opposition remained stable in France and declined in the UK. To resolve the puzzle, I distinguish three ingredients of takeover patriotism: rational motives, irrational sentiments, and acceptance of government intervention. To explain why takeover patriotism is weak in contemporary Britain, an institutionalist extension of rational choice arguments suffices. The motives emphasised by Hellwig and others are weaker in arms-length systems of corporate governance because foreign ownership is less disruptive where informal coordination is negligible to begin with. To explain why British takeover patriotism was strong until the mid-1990s, reference to pride and prejudice is necessary. To explain why British takeover patriotism declined over time, the paper shifts from motives to means. Distrust of the government quells demands for intervention even where foreign owners are unwelcome.

6. Ruben Ruiz Rufino, Spanish National Research Council, Madrid - *Understanding Electoral System change*

Abstract:

This paper explores the concept and formalization of an electoral system. Traditionally, electoral systems change has been labelled when any of the elements of a set a criteria is observed. These criteria include a pre-determined increase/decrease of the legislature, a change of the electoral formula (Lijphart 1994) or when between two consecutive elections there has been a non-democratic period (Golder 2005). This approach has been widely accepted for both practical and empirical reasons. Practical reasons include a low level of technology and an almost straightforward way to observe when two electoral systems change. Just by looking at the size of the assembly, the electoral formula or the existence of a non-democratic period between two

consecutive elections, we can determine whether the electoral rules were the same for both electoral periods. Empirically, one can forecast that given a distribution of votes, a change of an electoral formula, say from d'Hondt to Hare quota, will have a significant effect in the allocation of seats. But do we observe these patterns when we change the electoral formula from d'Hondt to, say, Sainte-Laguë? Or why should we consider a variation of 20% of the assembly size as Lijphart suggests and not 15 or 25%? In my paper, I challenge the conventional methodology to label an electoral system change and I will intend to provide an alternative methodology in the following sense. First, I will show that the classical criteria set to measure the change of an electoral system may generate confusing results. If given two consecutive electoral system we observe a change of the electoral formula but we observe exactly the same distribution of votes, are we really measuring a change of the electoral system? Second, if one decides to observe a change in the electoral system depending on whether such a change produces a variation in the number of seat-winning parties instead, then a new tool can be used to look at those changes. Aggregated threshold functions inform about the necessary number of votes to win a given number of seats given the institutional components of any electoral system. Therefore, a variation in those institutional components may produce a variation in the number of seat-winning parties. In this paper, I will present a formalization of these functions that will allow seeing how much variation in the institutional components of aggregated threshold functions are required to qualify two consecutive electoral systems as distinct. An empirical test is performed using 525 democracies in the world. These democracies include a variety of electoral systems such as list-PR, winner-takes-all, multi-tier and mixed electoral systems.

LAW Panel

1. *Stephane Beaulac, University of Montreal - Étude croisée Italie / Canada sur l'immunité des États et le jus cogens en droit international*

Abstract:

In its 2004 landmark decision in the *Ferrini* case, the Italian Court of Cassation has ruled that in contemporary international law foreign States no longer enjoy immunity from the civil jurisdiction of other States when they are accused of serious violations of human rights or humanitarian law corresponding to breaches of *jus cogens*. The Court has inflexibly upheld this position in a series of subsequent decisions, notwithstanding its inconsistency with the jurisprudence of a number of international and domestic courts, including Canada's. After dwelling upon this Italian case law, its context and the reasons given by the Court of Cassation in support thereof, the paper assesses whether lessons may be drawn from it for the Canadian experience. Although the Canadian and Italian legal systems are significantly different with regard to the status and enforcement of the international law of State immunity, the paper concludes that the Italian jurisprudence may provide useful guidance for a reconsideration of the Canadian position. This reconsideration should be primarily based on well-established interpretive techniques (such as the presumption of conformity of domestic law with international law) whereby the Canadian jurisprudence may be aligned with the most fundamental rules of the current international legal order.

2. *Cristina Poncibò, University of Turin - Some thoughts on the methodological approach to EC Consumer Law Reform*

Abstract:

The reform of the Consumer Acquis is underway. In this paper, I aim to contribute to the current debate by focusing upon methodological questions. In particular, I claim that - in order to understand the current problems in consumer protection- comparative private scholarship needs to broaden its horizon and develop a dialogue with public law scholars involved in the field of New Governance. I propose to rely on a new methodology, that I call "hybrid approach", a method that could bridge the current divide between private and public lawyers. I also stress the need to focus on a comparative studies, an approach which promises to deliver helpful guidelines to solve the problem of the federalization of EC Consumer Contract Law.

3. Roman Petrov, Donetsk National University of Ukraine - *The role of the EU in “Europeanisation” of third countries’ judiciary: cases of Russia and Ukraine*

Abstract:

The notion “Europeanisation” is used by contemporary academic community as a concept of interdisciplinary nature, which is perceived in political, historical, economic and, of course, in legal contexts. However, these different contexts do not alter the substance of the “Europeanisation”, which is understood as a process when some subject adopts certain European features. While accepting that the “Europeanisation” is originally linked to the European continent and implies that a subject adopts everything what is truly “European” (culture, history, politics, law) one has to acknowledge that this notion expanded beyond its initial boundaries and is being applied in variety of cases for its internal and external purposes. In internal domain the “Europeanisation” is linked to the influence of the EU dynamic *acquis* on legal orders of the EU Member States and the need to adapt their institutional and legal structures in line with the EU requirements. The report will focus on the future impact of the EU on the “Europeanisation” of judiciary after the adoption of the Lisbon Treaty. In particular, it will analyse the possible impact of the EU revised external competence on the promotions of universal and European common values abroad. In the conclusion it will consider if different objectives of the EU external policies towards its neighbouring countries with common legal heritage as well as different means to export the EU *acquis* abroad led to different impact on the “Europeanisation” of the Russian and Ukrainian judiciary.

4. Ottavio Quirico, European University Institute – *Mapping the Law – An Iconic Legal Ontology*

Abstract:

The paper is conceived of as a simplified formal analysis of fundamental legal concepts (starting from the correlative notions of “right” and “duty”). It is intended as a contribution to answer the question: “What kind of language is law?”

The aim is double: 1) helping to clarify what ideas lawyers have in mind when they utter legal discourses; 2) defining a synthetic and unitary iconic legal logic. For this purpose, I shall firstly sketch a functional picture of recent analytical and formal theories of law, both from the viewpoint of norms (objective discourse) and institutions (subjective discourse). Subsequently, I will develop an iconic representation of basic legal concepts, which should allow building up a synthetic and therefore unitary mental representation of the legal system(s) (a purely formal theory of praxis). Finally, by way of exemplification, I will apply the formal concepts “extracted” from legal wording to different branches of law (international law, constitutional law, private law, criminal law, etc.). As a result, it should be demonstrated that by conceiving of law as an *iconic language*, i.e. a language based on schematic forms, it is possible to draw a “synthetic unitary map” of the legal order(s).