



**7th Max Weber Programme
Academic Careers Observatory
Conference**

**‘Academic Careers in the Social Sciences: Entry,
Competition and Advancement.’**

San Domenico di Fiesole

Villa la Fonte, 28 November 2012

The conference aims to assess the process of career progression across EU and a selection of other countries. It will examine opportunities and obstacles to academic career development in a selection of countries. The first section of the conference will address two key questions; Is the traditional tenure-track model of academic career development still relevant and what are the obstacles to career progression in different countries? Secondly, have austerity measures in education exacerbated the ‘brain drain’ effect in universities?

The second section of the conference will flesh out these academic considerations with discussions from those in academic careers across different countries. There will be a structured discussion of career advancement across the various disciplines with a concluding roundtable debate on comparisons or contrasts between different experiences in different countries.

For further information and registration email MWPacademiccareers@eui.eu

Conference Programme

08.45-09.00: Registration and Welcome Coffee

09.00-09.15: Welcome from Marise Cremona, President EUI

- Introduction, **Ramon Marimon**, Director of the Max Weber Programme¹

09.15-10.30: Panel 1: Is the tenure track model of academic career development still relevant? What counts now as advancement in an academic career? How is the traditional academic career structure affected by recent changes?

Speakers (10 mins each):

- **Barbara M. Kehm**, INCHER, Kassel University, Germany.
- **Antonio Cabrales**, Universidad III, Madrid, Spain.
- **Jochen Fried**, Director of Education, Salzburg Global Seminar, Austria.

Chair: Daniel Horn, Max Weber Fellow.

Comments by invited speakers and other participants.

10.30-11.00: Coffee break

11.00-12.15: Panel 2: Are the global economic recession and austerity measures in universities exacerbating the ‘brain drain’ effect in third level education?

Speakers (10 mins each):

- **Christopher Hale**, Universities UK.
- **Joerg Friedrichs**, Department of International Development, University of Oxford.
- **Diego Muro**, Assistant Professor, Institut Barcelona d'Éstudis Internacionales (IBEI), Barcelona.

Chair: Simon Jackson, Max Weber Fellow.

Comments by invited speakers and other participants.

12:15-13.30: Lunch

¹ Background paper: The May 2008 ACO Report, Towards an Open and Competitive European Area for Research Careers: <http://www.eui.eu/Documents/MWP/AcademicCareers/ACODocument2008.pdf>

13.30-14.45: Panel 3 (Parallel Sessions): Academic Careers by Region:

Division into 4 interdisciplinary regional groups to discuss:

- (i) What are the best ways through which to pursue a career in academia, e.g. through an emphasis on research, teaching, etc.?
- (ii) Is advancement determined by competition or within the same institution? And if the latter, what are the determinants?
- (iii) Are conditions the same across countries and/or disciplines?
- (iv) Lessons from personal experiences.

Group 1: Northern & Western Europe: Chris Armbruster, Peter Blossfeld, **Valentina Fava (Rapporteur)**, Barbara Kehm, Kristin Surak. **Chair: Aiden Regan.**

Group 2: Anglo-Saxon & US System: Arolda Elbasani (**Rapporteur**), Joerg Friedrichs, Christopher Hale, Peter Hansen. **Chair: Adam Bower.**

Group 3: Southern Europe: Antonio Cabrales, **Andrea Ichino (Rapporteur)**, Diego Muro, Paolo Pin, Miguel Maduro. **Chair: Maria Laura Sudulich.**

Group 4: Eastern & Central Europe: Jochen Fried, Igor Guardiancich, **Wojciech Zaluski (Rapporteur)**, Marek Weretka. **Chair: Tomas Dumbrovsky.**

14.45-15.05: Coffee break

15.05-16.45: Panel 4: Regional and Disciplinary Comparisons, Plenary Session

Part 1: Is there an open international market in the different SSH disciplines?

- **Max Weber Fellows (2012-13)** (5m by one MWF from each discipline)
- **Economics:** Michael Rousakis
- **History:** Stefan Link
- **Law:** Thomas Beukers
- **SPS:** TBC.

Presentation of Results of Regional Discussions, How do academic careers develop across different disciplines and countries? Rapporteurs (10 mins each):

- **Arolda Elbasani**, Robert Schuman Centre, European University Institute, Florence.
- **Valentina Fava**, Collegium for Advanced Studies, University of Helsinki, Finland.
- **Andrea Ichino**, Dipartimento di Scienze Economiche, Università Di Bologna.
- **Wojciech Zaluski**, Jallegonian University, Poland.

Chair: Fabien Le Bot, Max Weber Fellow.

Part 2: General Conclusions: Can any comparisons or similarities between different obstacles or opportunities be drawn? Which are the best experiences?

20.00: Dinner (by invitation only)