INTERNATIONAL
INITIATIVE FOR
PROMOTING POLITICAL
ECONOMY (IIPPE)

WHAT IS IIPPE?

iippe

IIPPE was founded in 2006 aiming to strengthen the presence of political economy across the social sciences through critical and constructive engagement with mainstream economics, heterodox alternatives, interdisciplinarity, and activism

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IIPPE IN BRIEF

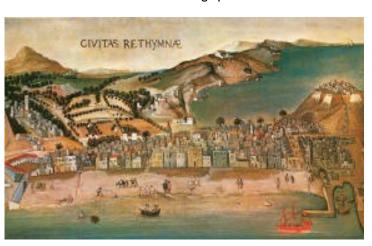
ISSUE 4 MARCH 2010

BEYOND THE CRISIS

First International Conference in Political Economy, Crete, 10-12 September 2010

The global economic crisis has now entered what is arguably its third phase. Following the acute financial crisis of September 2008 and the ensuing economic depression, we are now experiencing the debt crisis stage where whole nations face the threat of

the world "how he became a Keynesian". So where is the global economy going following the crisis, and what are the reactions to the crisis both intellectually and in material developments? And, chiefly, what are the alternatives opening up before us?



bankruptcy (with Greece currently at the forefront following the troubles of Iceland, Ireland and Dubai among other countries) and the EU project facing its toughest challenge yet. At the same time, neo-liberalism is losing (or has already lost) much of its confidence, with Keynes, Minsky and Marx gaining currency, and Richard Posner, leading Chicago proponent of the economics of law, telling

These are the main questions that the First International Conference in Political Economy co-organised by the International Initiative for Promoting Political Economy (www.iippe.org) and the Greek Scientific Association of Political Economy will address, following the three previous highly successful IIPPE annual international workshops in Crete,

Naples and Ankara. It is to be held at the University of Crete in Rethymnon, Crete, Greece, between 10-12 of September 2010. The Conference will be open for interventions across all areas of political economy even though the crisis and its aftermath are its focus. The indications so far point to a successful, fruitful and oversubscribed event. Tony Lawson, Gerald Epstein and Jayati Ghosh have al-

JUST TO REMIND YOU:
The deadline for submis-

prominent.

ready accepted our invitations to serve as keynote participants. Participation of

IIPPE Working Groups will be

sion of both abstracts of papers and proposals for panels is the 31st of March (submissions should be sent to iippe@soas.ac.uk). Early submissions, even if only provisional, are essential both to avoid disappointment and to help in the appropriate allocation of papers to designated panels and streams that will themselves be strengthened through solicited contributions and the plenaries.

Local Organising Committee

TAKING POLITICAL ECONOMY FORWARD IN FRANCE

Launch of the French Association of Political Economy

The launch of the French Association of Political Economy (FAPE) - Association Française d'Economie Politique (AFE) - in Paris on the 17th December 2009 is the latest important initiative for the promotion and development of political economy. FAPE joins the likes of the Greek Scientific Association of Political Economy – launched in December 2008 – in a growing international network with close associations with IIPPE.

The launch of FAPE attracted more than 120 participants from across a spectrum of disciplines and approaches to political economy including post-Keynesian, regulationist, conventionalist, institutionalist, Marxist and Austrian schools. The launch also attracted several colleagues working within mainstream approaches.

Despite the obvious flaws in mainstream economics that have been clearly illuminated by the recent economic crisis, the dominance of autistic mainstream economics persists within French academic institutions both in terms of curriculum and career development of academic staff. Promotion and recruitment are based on a narrow evaluation of publications with a bias in favour of American neoclassical publications and strongly against non-English and heterodox journals. The material and symbolic rewards are thus concentrated on an ever more limited group. Whatever the social process by which a self-proclaimed "elite" has been able to become judge and jury, and to accumulate so much money and control, in a professional community where relative equality and collegiality has prevailed until recently, it is a fact that more and more colleagues are becoming conscious of and opposed to this monopolisation of a coterie on a whole profession.

Headed by André Orléan, FAPE intends to be a collective entity devoted to the promotion of pluralism in economics. Indeed, intellectually open-minded debates in the profession are necessary for collective thinking. According to

André Orléan, "Over the last few years, economic reflection has progressively shut itself down around dogmatic propositions and methods. We believe that the absolute hegemony of the neoclassical approach over the research and teaching institutions in our country is an obstacle that has to be fought because it leads to a dangerous impoverishment of the economic discourse, as illustrated by the current economic crisis". He adds that, "[t]he blindness of [neoclassical] economists has been brought to light by the crisis. Their inability not only to anticipate the crisis but also simply to consider it as plausible is for us the direct consequence of this hegemony. Such a failure shows how much our community is going badly.... It is obvious that we will not avoid a reflection on the role of our discipline. ... Pluralism is a way for the community of economists to think about its social role. It is a mechanism that renders visible the vested interests which try to manipulate it. The FAPE will promote pluralism towards three directions: pluralism of intellectual approaches, pluralism of viewpoints and pluralism of disciplines. ... The aim of the FAPE is to bear upon the institutional evolutions of both economic research and teaching towards pluralism. To do so, it has to be a credible actor by representing and federating the main trends of thought in the community of economists.'

FAPE will hold its first symposium in Lille in December 2010. In the meantime, five working groups are starting to prepare alternative propositions on different themes such as: teaching, careers, evaluation, journal ranking, etc. FAPE members are also looking forward to developing links with other political economy associations around the world.

Bruno Tinel

"From Economics Imperialism to Freakonomics" wins the Isaac and Tamara Deutscher Memorial Prize for 2009

We are pleased to announce that From Economics Imperialism to Freakonomics: The Shifting Boundaries between Economics and other Social Sciences, by Ben Fine and Dimitris Milonakis, has been awarded the Isaac and Tamara Deutscher Memorial Prize for 2009. This news follows the announcement of the award of the Gunnar Myrdal Prize for 2009 for their book, From Political Economy to Economics: Method, the Social and the Historical in the Evolution of Economic Theory, in the last issue of IIPPE in Brief. The authors will deliver the Memorial Lecture at the Historical Materialism Conference at School of Oriental and African Studies, London, in November 2010. Details of these books, together with discount for IIPPE members on both of them can be found at http:// www.iippe.org

We are also delighted to announce the launch of the IIPPE Book Series with Pluto Press, with the publication of the first book in the series by Ben Fine, Theories Of Social Capital: Researchers Behaving Badly. For details, visit, http://www.iippe.org

If any IIPPE member would like to review this book and help to promote the series by doing so, please contact iippe@soas.ac.uk, preferably but not necessarily nominating a journal that you have in mind.

This book, is available at a huge discount of 40% to IIPPE members as are a number of other books from Pluto as a result of a generously negotiated deal between IIPPE and our publishers. Visit www.iippe.org for details.

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Pluto Press offer IIPPE members discounts of 40% or more on selected titles. This includes all books in the IIPPE series and other titles in political economy.

The promotion is being launched with the inclusion of the following I0 titles: Theories of Social Capital, No Way to Run an Economy, The Credit Crunch, Global Political Economy, The World Bank, Tax Justice, Basic Income, Let Them Eat Junk, Economics Transformed, and Inequality and the Global Economic Crisis.

Pluto Press will add more titles to the offer list on a monthly basis. We look forward to the addition of the 5th edition of Marx's Capital in the near future.

To view books included in the offer go to www.plutobooks.com/promo.asp. Visit www.iippe.org for the promotion code

Financialisation working paper series

The IIPPE Financialisation Group is pleased to announce its Working Paper Series on political economy and heterodox research in finance. This working paper series aims at offering Ph.D students and young researchers the possibility to have their papers reviewed by two academics who are working in their field of research. Submission of work on all aspects of heterodoxy and finance is encouraged, with a special but not exclusive focus on developing and emerging countries. Upon submission, the paper will be assessed by two referees, one senior and one junior academic, according to the topic of research at hand. If the paper is accepted, it will be - after necessary revisions - published as IIPPE Financialisation working paper series. This process should give young researchers the chance to get feedback on their work in addition to their supervisor's and make their work available to a broader audience. Confirmed senior academics currently include:

Ben Fine, Victoria Chick, Tom Marois, Alfredo Saad Filho and Jan Toporowski. This broad range of people should allow an efficient matching of the paper and the expertise of the selected referee. Please visit http://www.iippe.org/wiki/Financialisation_Working_Group to download the first five papers in

Reading List on the Crisis and Developing Countries

the series

The IIPPE Financialisation Group is also pleased to announce the launch of its Reading List on the Crisis and Developing Countries.

This reading list aims at offering a comprehensive overview of the literature on the international financial crisis and developing and emerging countries. To distinguish from already existing sources of information, it exclusively focuses on academic literature, both mainstream and heterodox, and contains short critical summaries of the papers included. An initial list of around 20 references has been compiled, part of which has been supplemented with critical comments. To facilitate searches and location of relevant articles, the articles are subdivided into five categories: Regional Studies, Empirical Literature, Theoretical Literature and Outlook/Policy Notes. This list is conceived as an on-going project. In order to expand on this initial reading list, the contribution of all members of the IIPPE Financialisation Group, and others, is encouraged. The idea is to post articles, which have been read by members and are not on the reading list yet, on the IIPPE Financialisation Google group website. Ideally this would be with a small critical comment and a proposed classification to build on the informational content of the reading list. Either Jo or Nina will then add the reference to the reading list, which will thus hopefully expand to a comprehensive resource on the international financial crisis and developing/emerging countries.

Please visit http://www.iippe.org/wiki/ Financialisation_Working_Group to download the Reading List

To post an article on the reading list contact Jo (jo.michell@soas.ac.uk)or Nina (ak82@soas.ac.uk)

Visit www.iippe.org

PROBING 'BLOOD AND FIRE'

A Political-Economic History of the Bougainville Conflict

Bougainville, the site of a decade long civil war, is an autonomous province of Papua New Guinea (PNG). It forms the northern most tip of the Solomon Islands archipelago. Bougainville's rich social history extends back around 28,000 years, nevertheless, its 'modern' history



started with an extended period of colonial rule, following the Anglo-German Declaration of 1886. It was administered as part of German New Guinea.

The Australian government – eager to consolidate its northern approaches – militarily seized Bougainville in 1914. With the exception of a brief, traumatic period of Japanese administration during WWII, Bougainville remained under Australian trusteeship until 1975, when PNG achieved independence.

Forming part of the North Solomons Province (as it was then known), Bougainville assumed disproportionate geopolitical significance for the independent PNG state owing to a sizeable copper and gold mine in the Panguna region of Bougainville's Crown Prince Ranges which began operating in 1972. The Panguna mine was the principal source of the national government's internal revenue.

Complicating the state's administration of this essential resource was the peculiar form of political rule which had evolved out of PNG's colonial history. While the Australian government constructed a substantive bureaucratic apparatus, overseen by an elected parliament, rule in PNG's rural areas remained largely in the hands of customary institutions. However,

this complex power sharing arrangement has never found adequate expression in the nation's constitution or in the organisation of government.

In the Panguna region of Bougainville, the informal power villagers wielded proved a useful lever for community leaders to extract benefits from the mine's operator, Bougainville Copper Limited (BCL). With around one billion US dollars invested in Panguna and the surrounding regions, BCL's management was prepared to adapt to the power reality in Bougainville, and work with community leaders to shape the operation in a way that saw greater returns to the landowning village population (albeit 'small beer', compared to the national government's share of revenues).

Not only did this entail that more compensation/rent was distributed to the landowning villages affected by the mine, BCL's progressive stance also meant that local communities became more rapidly absorbed in petty commodity production, trade and wage-labour during the 1970s and 1980s.

Nevertheless, this process was mediated through local kinship structures, which remain one of the central organising principles for rural villages in PNG. Senior clan-mates, therefore, were better positioned to take the lion's share of arable land, compensation/rents, and small business opportunities opened up by central Bougainville's development. Moreover, owing to an intensive process of material and cultural change during the post-war period, the pursuit of wealth in its general form (i.e. money) was no longer subject to customary obligations of reciprocity and balance, it could now fuel individual accumulation strategies.

For a generation of Bougainvillean youth coming to age in the 1980s – whose dreams and hopes were firmly hooked to market success – unemployment, landlessness and crime became palpable realities. However, the dispossessed and disenfranchised members of this generation found a voice in a number of radicalised young leaders from the mine area of Bougainville, where the peculiar antagonisms of capitalist development had been felt most acutely.

(Continued on page 5)

Two of the most outspoken leaders, Francis Ona and his cousin Perpetua Serero, decried the greed of 'traditional landlords', national businessmen, foreign capitalists, the mining company and the national government. Their solution? Evict the latter parties from Bougain-ville, peacefully if possible, violently if necessary.

During November 1988, after the former strategy had proven fruitless, the latter option was deployed. The Panguna mine was closed through a campaign of industrial sabotage. In early 1989 the Bougainville Revolutionary Army was formed, secession from PNG was now the instrument through which the rebels' aims were to be fulfilled.

The PNG government initially responded with offers of increased benefits. However, the nation's precarious fiscal situation when combined with the hawkish lobbying of efforts of BCL and the Australian government, proved too great a force and a counter-insurgency campaign was initiated.

It was a desperately brutal affair. The Papua New Guinea Defence Force cleared villages in the BRA's heartland to starve the rebels of support. Assault rifles, 81mm calibre mortars and Australian supplied helicopters rigged with machine guns and grenade launchers were employed to assault mine communities. Traumatised villagers were placed in detention centres, while dozens of young men were tortured and executed on the slightest suspicion of BRA involvement. To add to the suffering, Bougainville was military blockaded, not even medical aid was allowed through to the island's beleaguered population.

Fuelling the hostilities was the clandestine military support of the Australian government, supplemented by the direct logistical support of BCL. Here Australia's strategic aim to remain a credible middle-power who 'punches above its weight', coincided with the needs of Australian mining capital which was inextricably bound to this unstable region of PNG through a large investment that remained to be fully valorised. As the conflict generalised across the island in 1990, pro-government paramilitaries formed, led by local businessmen and former provincial politicians. A complex hotchpotch of loyalties developed across the island, leading to a bloody and protracted conflict that formally ended in 1998, at the cost of around 10,000

ives.

Explanations of the conflict abound (unfortunately original empirical research does not!); some identify greed, others grievance, then the eclectic enters, perhaps it was greed and grievance!

Very little has been said about the relations of capitalism, their peculiar historical fusion with the 'traditional' structures of PNG, the specific form of political rule that has evolved upon this foundation and the opportunities this process as a whole opened up for a class of dispossessed youth to intervene politically in their historical situation.

Nor are probing questions directed towards the powerful. What concrete role does state terror play in administering the power sharing arrangement between formal and informal authorities in PNG? What were the acute valorisation cycles which drove mining capital to play an intimate role in the state's violence? How can Australia's geopolitical interest in PNG be properly understood without resorting to economic reductionism or attributing geopolitics autonomy?

As a result this sad episode, like many political conflicts, remains profoundly misunderstood. This is not only a great tragedy in itself, it is also a loss for contemporary communities attempting to secure a more peaceful future in the face of social conditions analogous to those which provoked the Bougainville conflict.

Kristian Lasslett

Further reading

Lasslett, K. (2010) 'Winning Hearts and Mines: The Bougainville Crisis, 1988-90', in Jackson, R., Murphy, E., and Poynting, S. (eds.), Contemporary State Terrorism: Theory and Practice, Oxford: Routledge.

Lasslett, K. (2010) 'Materializing Social Responsibility: The Bougainville Conflict and the Limits of Corporate Responsibility', in *Labour, Capital & Society*, 43(1), Forthcoming.

WORKING GROUPS PAGE

Working Groups form the backbone of IIPPE. The purpose of the working groups is to facilitate discussion and collaboration in order to strengthen and further the development of political economy. We currently have working groups organised around 17 topics (see box below for a full list of the WGs as well as contact details for each). IIPPE working groups are at various stages of development with each running itself subject to conforming to broader IIPPE aims. So far, activities that have been

organised by IIPPE working groups include workshops, panels at conferences, online debates and exchange of literature and other resources. The IIPPE working groups have brought together researchers from across disciplines, institutions and countries. A number of working groups are planning working paper series and other collaborative work. IIPPE is looking to expand the diversity and scope of the working groups, and we welcome suggestions and offers to organise new working

groups as well as collaboration with other working groups from outside the initiative. Those interested in this should contact individual working groups or, for more general enquiries, those interested in setting up new groups please contact iippe@soas.ac.uk.

Note that, whilst the IIPPE website is already available, it is still under construction and is being modified in response to the rapidly evolving expansion of IIPPE activity.



Current Working Groups

Agrarian Change

Beyond Developmental State

Commodity Studies

Financialisation

Heterodoxy

International Financial Institutions

International Political Economy

Marxist Political Economy

Minerals-Energy Complex / Comparative Industrialisation

Neoliberalism

Political Economy of Conflict and Violence

Political Economy of Institutions

Political Economy of Work

Privatisation

Social Capital

Socialism

Transition as Development

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J. Marangos (marangos@econ.soc.uoc.gr)

Featured Working Group: Beyond the Developmental State

In the wake of the global financial crisis, issues and considerations surrounding the role of the state in directing economic development have again come to the fore in both the developed and developing worlds. However, the underlying, if unintended, lesson drawn from the only significant body of recent work on successful state intervention – the developmental state school based on East Asian industrialization – is that such state-led success was contingent on a preglobalized world economy, the wider geopolitics of the Cold War, authoritarian governments and submissive, homogenous societies.

Drawing upon members' research the Beyond the Developmental State Working Group is actively engaged in overcoming this impasse which it deems more analytical and intellectual than empirical and concrete.

With a cohort of researchers investigating a wide-range of case-specific studies cutting across a variety of sectors and nations, the working group is generating a number of research and discussion papers detailing the economic and political interests behind the form and content of specific state interventions and exploring why ostensibly similar types of interventions can engender radically different developmental outcomes.

The current emphasis of the working group is in finalizing an edited collection of members' research. Beyond the Developmental State: Crisis, Neo-liberalism and Industrial Policy into the 21st Century (eds. Ben Fine, Jyoti Saraswati and Daniela Tavasci) is due to be completed later this year. The book will be of significant interest for students, scholars and practitioners in the fields of development and political economy, as well as pro-

gressive governments, NGOs and international organizations that are looking for an analytical and policy framework for making industrial policy, in particular in the wake of the global crisis.

If you would like to be involved with this working group and/or require more information on the book, please contact us at iippe@soas.ac.uk.

Jyoti Saraswati

Please contact individual working group coordinators for more information on specific working group activities and events





THE METAPHYSICS OF CAPITALISM

BY ANDREA MICOCCI

THE METAPHYSICS OF CAPITALISM



-Mino Vianello, University of Rome

Andrea Micocci reinterprets materialist philosophy and Marxist critique of political economy in a provocative synthesis that commands the most serious attention from anyone worried about the increasingly disastrous world capitalism has made."—Alex Callinicos, King's College London

means a concrete-based, man-centered, non-hypostatizing, anti-dialectical approach to the apprehension of the material, i.e. nature in general. This constitutes an emancipation from culture-based understandings of reality, dominant mode of thought of capitalist times. From these bases, the social sciences can also be reformulated. The objective of this book is to construct an individually emancipatory economic and political philosophy. This philosophical emancipation means individual liberation from the logically flawed, massifying character of the and in particular from the metaphysically biased type of culture represented by capitalism. The proposed

marxist and mainstream. Political economy in fact, being a most representative instance of dialectical thinking Micocci describes capitalism, in sum, as an intellectually constructed culture (a metaphysics) which preserves Micocci argues that capitalism can be conceptualized as a limited and limiting socialized mode of thought, an ntellectuality whose dialectical features are effectively identified by using the proxy of political economy, both activities, which are performed in a metaphysical, intellectually isolated environment. In capitalism, therefore, the materials, the concrete, i.e. nature itself, is not considered as a whole but only as occasional instances. mirrors the dialectical nature of capitalist economic and political relationships. According to Micocci, nondialectical occurrences in capitalism are simply excluded from normal social, economic, and intellectual tself, and props itself up, by means of its iterative (market-like) functioning.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Andrea Micocci is professor of economics at University of Malta Link Campus

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR PAPERS

Varieties of Neoliberalism and Alternative Regional and Urban Strategies

Regional Studies Association Research Network - In association with the IIPPE Neoliberalism Working Group and the FP7 Shrink Smart project—will be holding two workshops in order to explore a number of key contemporary problems and issues around varieties if neoliberalism and alternative regional and urban strategies.

The first network meeting (Glasgow, summer 2010) will aim to develop the theoretical insights from the literature on neoliberalism and neoliberalisation by exploring specific regional and urban examples of these processes. In so doing, the aim is to consider how different regional and urban strategies have been affected by neoliberal imperatives and whether (and how) they have resisted neoliberal restructuring.

The second network meeting (Leipzig, summer 2011) will also consider the effects of neoliberal restructuring, but it will mainly focus on discussing alternative and emergent strategies for regions and cities. In particular, the meeting will consider the problematic effects of the current economic crisis and what socio-economic development strategies might ameliorate the impact of the neoliberal-induced financial crisis and help us move away from free market policies.

If you are interested in presenting a paper at either workshop, or want some more information, then please get in touch with one of the organisers. We have a number of travel bursaries available for presenters and participants, especially for doctoral students, early career academics and non-academics. Bursaries are restricted to members of the Regional Studies Association; however, participants will get 20% off RSA territorial membership fees should they decide to join the association (please, claim you discount whilst applying at www.regional-studiesassoc.ac.uk/join/territorial.asp.)

Organisers:

Kean Birch, kean.birch@strath.ac.uk Vlad Mykhnenko, vlad.mykhnenko@nottingham.ac.uk Danny MacKinnon, Danny.MacKinnon@ges.gla.ac.uk

Feminist Economics

"Critical and Feminist
Perspectives on the Financial and
Economic Crisis"

Special Issue Call for Papers

Guest Editors: Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, James Heintz, and Stephanie Seguino

The 2008 financial crisis and the subsequent global economic recession have prompted significant reflections on the workings (and failures) of the global economic system and inspired consideration of fundamentally different policy options. In the wake of growing evidence of gendered effects of the crisis, feminist scholars have the potential to provide important insights into appropriate policy responses and systemic reforms.

This special issue, planned for publication in 2013, will illuminate the multiple and gendered dimensions of the global financial crisis of 2008 and ensuing economic recession in economies of both North and South countries. Of particular interest are contributions that will explore the causes of the crisis, its human costs, and needed policy responses.

Contributions may cover diverse topics, including but not limited to:

- Gendered and racialized effects of the crisis on human development and gender equality.
- Feminist critiques of the political processes shaping global institutional change and systemic reform in governance.
- Feminist critiques of policy responses to the crisis.

- Lessons from earlier financial crises, including the East Asian crisis of the late 1990s.
- Macroeconomic policy alternatives to prevent recurrent crises and promote equitable growth.
- Social protection policies to mitigate social costs and aid rapid recovery.

Deadline for abstracts: 15 April 2010. Please direct queries and abstracts (500 words maximum) to the Guest Editors: Sakiko Fukuda-Parr (fukudaps@newschool.edu), James Heintz (jheintz@peri.umass.edu), and Stephanie Seguin (sseguino@uvm.edu).

After approval of abstracts, final papers will be due 15 September 2010 and should be submitted to Feminist Economics through the submissions website (http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/rfec). Questions about these procedures may be sent to feministeconomics@rice.edu, +1.713.348.4083 (phone), or +1.713.348.5495 (fax).

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website
www.iippe.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Erasmus Journal for Philosophy and Economics (EJPE)

EJPE is a peer-reviewed academic journal publishing research which improves our understanding of the methodology, history, ethics, and inter-disciplinary relations of economics. EJPE is an open access journal supported by the Erasmus Institute for Philosophy and Economics and the Department of Philosophy at Erasmus University Rotterdam.

Research domains:

(I) Methodology of economics

Issues falling within the analytical philosophy of science tradition, related to the methodological analysis and appraisal of the concepts, theories and techniques of economics, both mainstream and heterodox.

Contributions on methodological issues in evolutionary and institutional economics are especially welcome.

(2) History of economic thought Issues in the historical development of the ideas, theories, and methods of economics.

(3) Ethics and economics

Issues in the social and political philosophy of economics, concerning for example the ethical presumptions and implications of economic concepts, theories, and reasoning, written in the style characteristic of contemporary analytical philosophy.

(4) Inter-disciplinary approaches to economics

Issues that arise from the intersection of other disciplines and economics, which bring valuable new perspectives for our understanding of the study of economic phenomena. For example, phenomenological approaches to economics, sociology of economics, economics of science, economics and literature.

All contributions should show a clear connection to the study of economic phenomena and focus on conceptual or philosophical issues.

Further writing and submission guidelines can be found on the EJPE website at http://ejpe.org Deadline for winter issue: April 15th, 2010

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

Berliner Institut fuer kritische Theorie (InkriT)

Invitation and Pre-Announcement of XIV. International InkriT-Conference

"Democratic Planning and Solidary Economy"

3-6 June 2010 in the Tagungshotel Esslingen

The conference will be followed by workshops on article drafts for the Historical-Critical Dictionary of Marxism. Starting from the discrepancy between the new actuality of Marx in in the crisis of capitalism and the absence of concrete alternatives the InkriT invites contributions to reduce this gap for more informations see http://www.inkrit.de/hkwm-int/index-EN.htm

For more information contact thomasweber@inkrit.org

FORTHCOMING SPECIAL ISSUES

Science & Society
Special Issue
"Marxism and Crisis in
21st Century Capitalism"

Guest Editors: Justin Holt and Julio Huato Forthcoming, July 2010 (Vol. 74, No. 3)

This Special Issue covers the spectrum of Marxist positions on the current crisis, and has articles with both theo-

retical and empirical/data emphases.

Contributors: Ergodan Bakir and Al

Campbell; Paul Cockshott and Dave Zachariah; Ann Davis; Jerry Harris; David Kotz; David Laibman; Mingi Li;

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INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR PROMOTING POLITICAL ECONOMY (IIPPE)

AND

GREEK SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN POLITICAL ECONOMY

RETHYMNON, CRETE, SEPTEMBER 10-12, 2010

"BEYOND THE CRISIS"

The global economic crisis has now entered what is arguably its third phase. Following the acute financial crisis of September 2008 and the ensuing economic depression, we are now experiencing the debt crisis stage where whole nations face the threat of bankruptcy (with Greece currently at the forefront following the troubles of Iceland, Ireland and Dubai among other countries) and the EU project facing its toughest challenge yet. At the same time, neo-liberalism is losing (or has already lost) much of its confidence, with Keynes, Minsky and Marx gaining currency, and Richard Posner, leading Chicago proponent of the economics of law, telling the world "how he became a Keynesian". So where is the global economy going following the crisis, and what are the reactions to the crisis both intellectual and in material developments? And, chiefly, what are the alternatives opening up before us?

These are the main questions that the First International Conference in Political Economy co-organised by the International Initiative for Promoting Political Economy (www.iippe.org) and the Greek Scientific Association of Political Economy will address, following the three previous highly successful IIPPE annual international workshops in Crete, Naples and Ankara. It is to be held at the University of Crete in Rethymno, Crete, Greece, between 10-12 of September 2010. The Conference will be open for interventions across all areas of political economy even though the crisis and its aftermath are its focus. The indications so far point to a successful, fruitful and oversubscribed event. Tony Lawson, Gerald Epstein and Jayati Ghosh have already accepted our invitations to serve as keynote participants. Participation of IIPPE Working Groups will be prominent.

<u>JUST TO REMIND YOU</u>: The deadline for submission of both abstracts of papers and proposals for panels is the 31st of March (submissions should be sent to iippe@soas.ac.uk). Early submissions, even if only provisional, are essential both to avoid disappointment and to help in the appropriate allocation of papers to designated panels and streams that will themselves be strengthened through solicited contributions and the plenaries.

Local Organising Committee

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