

IIPPE 2016 COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

1. 2016 IIPPE Lisbon Conference (Al Campbell)

IIPPE's 7th International Conference in Political Economy will take place September 7-9, 2016, in Lisbon. It is being hosted by the Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão, (ISEG, School of Economics & Management), University of Lisbon. This will be our largest conference to date, with 86 academic panels, and we have expanded to 13 activist panels, for a total of 99 panels. The activist panels include a presentation of films over the course of the entire conference, plus activist workshops and panels, with 29 presenters (some of them also giving academic presentations). There are 316 academic presentations, given by 329 presenters (13 presentations have co-presenters). (We lost 15 to 20 planned presentations because of the restrictions on Turkish participants.) Each day closes with a plenary session with two speakers. The six plenary speakers are Diane Elson, Malcolm Sawyer, Aleksandr Buzgalin, Samir Amin, Nuno Ornelas Martins and Ana Cordeiro Santos.

The conference will be preceded on September 6th by a one-day training workshop as in past years. This year the topic will be "Value and Price," led by Simon Mohun.

The Local Organizing Committee has organized a tour, "Places of History and Revolutions in Lisbon" for the Saturday following the conference. The tour will visit some of the historical places of the 20th century revolutions and major conflicts in Lisbon, and end with a visit to the past political prison and museum (Museu do Aljube).

IIPPE particularly thanks the Local Organizing Committee, without which this conference would, of course, have been impossible. The two central local organizers were Francisco Louçã (a past IIPPE plenary speaker, incidentally) and Nuno Teles. They will also assemble the team of people necessary for the operation of the conference at the event itself.

2. 2017 IIPPE Berlin Conference (Trevor Evans)

Suggested Conference Theme: "The Political Economies of Inequalities and Instabilities in the 21st Century"

Co-organiser: Critical Political Economy Research Network, CPERN

Proposed dates: 13-15, September, 2017

Host institution: Berlin Institute for International Political Economy, Berlin School of Law and Economics

Local Organising Committee: Trevor Evans (chair), Eckhard Hein, Markus Wissen, Finn Cahill-Webb

The conference will take place in the main teaching building of the Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR), at Badensche Str. 51-52, 10825 Berlin. This is just south of the centre of West Berlin and close to two underground stations giving easy access to both Berlin airports.

There is one large hall on the first floor which holds several hundred (seating is flexible) and would be suitable for plenaries and perhaps also for registration and for

serving lunch and coffee at breaks (registration and refreshments could also be in the main entrance hall directly below on the ground floor).

There are a large number of seminar rooms for workshops, but probably most convenient would be to use the fourth floor where there are four large seminar rooms and four smaller seminar rooms.

Lunch and coffee could be provided either by the student café or (and possibly better) by the catering department of the borough town hall (where Kennedy spoke from the balcony in 1961!). Last year the Feminist Economists conference had a basic sandwich and drink from them at a very moderate price.

For the conference dinner, there is an old pump station which is within walking distance which the Feminist Economists used last year for their conference dinner and which they recommend, both for being near and for the interesting industrial fixtures. They had a large buffet with drink for around €40 per person.

There are also some interesting places to recommend/reserve tables as wished for participants on one or other of the other evenings (a decaying Ball Room with a large garden) in the highly renovated/gentrified centre of old (i.e. East) Berlin.

There are a number of hotels within walking distance of the Berlin School of Economics. The largest, the NH Hotel, will give a special rate for university events, but it is not actually better than the advance rate on their website. One issue to bear in mind is that, if there are other events on in Berlin at the same time, this and other hotels could be booked out early. There are also many hotels on and around the Kurfurstendamm, West Berlin's main shopping and café zone, which are only a couple of stops on the underground.

Possibilities for a social programme include:

- tour of Berlin, West & East (hip, bourgeoisie, gentrified, proletarian, sites of struggles, where Rosa was murdered, the massive Soviet war memorial ...)
- excursion to Potsdam, site of 1945 Potsdam conference, summer palace and grounds of Frederick II (the developmentalist monarch with whom Voltaire hung out for months at a time)
- on a darker side, there is also a former Nazi concentration camp about 45 minutes to the North of Berlin, for which a young friend does guided tours.
- Berlin is surrounded by lakes, many with forests, and the weather is usually good until at least mid-September. A cycle ride round one of the large lakes to Potsdam, stopping at the site of the Potsdam conference, and returning by train (or by bike) is very enjoyable. There are many places that hire bikes, but very large numbers could cause complications!

3. 2018 IIPPE Conference (Dimitris Milonakis)

One possibility we are looking into is the **University of Toulouse** with Prof. Gabriel Colletis in the lead. Any other suggestions/proposals are welcomed.

4. IIPPE Status and Treasurer's Report (Kate Bayliss)

On 1st March 2016 IIPPE became a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) registered in England and Wales, after our application to become a charity was rejected by the Charity Commission. CLG is the normal status for non-profit organisations. The four members of the Executive Committee (Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and General Secretary) are the registered directors of the CLG.

We have appointed a firm of Chartered Accountants as our agents – Cardens Accountants, 28 Fourth Avenue, Hove, BN3 2PJ. They set up the CLG for IIPPE and will help to prepare and file the required documentation with Companies House and HMRC including company accounts and tax returns. This is for a fixed annual fee of £550 plus VAT initially and subject to negotiation. Our registered address is the address of Cardens.

IIPPE was set up using model Memorandum and Articles of Association as this is the quickest and easiest way to set up a company but we have included a modification clause to state that we will uphold the IIPPE Constitution that was approved at the AGM in 2014. In the coming year we may amend the Memorandum and Articles to reflect the Constitution more closely.

We are in the process of setting up a new business bank account for IIPPE as a CLG with the Cooperative Bank. This should be finalized soon and until then we are using the original bank account.

From now on, the IIPPE year end will be 31 March. Annual accounts will be approved at the following AGM and then filed with HMRC in December each year. The first year end is 31 March 2017 and will be a 13-month period, with the first set of accounts due to be submitted by 1 December 2017. The surplus made in the period before the CLG started will be rolled into the first year's accounts. A summary of income and expenditure for the period before incorporation is shown below.

IIPPE Income and Expenditure 1.1.2015 to 29.2.2016

	£	£
Leeds conference fee income	25,637	
Less: Leeds conference expenses	-24,918	
Leeds conference surplus		719
Donations		12,380
Other income (contributions to training workshop expenses and to IIPPE social events)		619
Total income		13,718
Less: Training workshop expenses		2,637
<u>Surplus (and bank balance at 29.2.2016)</u>		<u>11,081</u>

5. Training Workshops between Leeds September 2015 and Lisbon September 2016 (Simon Mohun and Elisa Van Waeyenberge)

- There have been four TWs since the 2015 IIPPE Annual Conference in Leeds. A list is given below.
- Christina Laskaridis and Pedro Mendes Loureiro have joined us to help organise the TWs.
- Attendance has been around 50-55 for TWs on Marxist political economy, but rather less for the TW on UK austerity (25-30). The latter was partly aimed at SOAS undergraduates, but in terms of attendance this did not work as well as we had hoped.
- TWs remain London-based, and over this last year no IIPPE WG has been in contact. The speaker base remains narrow.
- Following the award of a grant of £2,500 by the Amiel & Melburn Trust in support of Training Workshop activities in March 2015 (reported in last year's annual report), we failed to get a grant in the January 2016 round. This is obviously financially constraining.
- Plans for the future include discussions with *Red Pepper* about a joint series of political economy educational workshops aimed at the surge of activity in support of Corbyn.
- As ever, we welcome feedback on how to make TWs more effective, and we especially welcome suggestions and speakers for future sessions.

TW16: 4 November 2015; SOAS, London
(with financial support from the Amiel & Melburn Trust)

- a) Simon Mohun, The Marxist approach to the analysis of a capitalist economy
- b) Alfredo Saad-Filho, Theories of crisis

TW17: 21-22 March 2016; SOAS, London
(jointly sponsored by the Department of Economics, SOAS, and The Open Economics Forum, SOAS)

Replacing UK Austerity: Towards Progressive Policies

21 March

- a) Simon Mohun, Financial crisis and the Great Recession
- b) Photis Lysandrou, The re-regulation of banking and finance?
- c) Ourania Dimakou, Mainstream theoretical frameworks for fiscal and monetary policy

22 March

- d) Sue Himmelweit, An introduction to feminist economics
- e) Jerome de Henau, Some applications: the gender effects of austerity
- f) Sue Himmelweit, Why austerity? A social reproduction perspective
- g) Jo Michell, Osborne's irrational economic policy and a rational alternative
- h) Jerome de Henau, Plan F: A Feminist Economic Strategy for a Caring and Sustainable Economy

TW18: 27 June 2016; SOAS, London

Imperialism Today

- a) Lucia Pradella: Marx ahead of Lenin: The current relevance of Marx's theory of imperialism

- b) John Smith: Imperialism and the globalisation of production
- c) Tony Norfield: The role of finance in the imperialist world economy
- d) Michael Roberts: Commentary

TW19: 6 September 2016; Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão, Lisbon, Portugal
Value and Price

- a) Simon Mohun, Value and Price in Marx's political economy
- b) Simon Mohun, The 'transformation problem' since the early 1980s: a survey of 'single system' approaches

6. IIPPE/Pluto Book Series (Ben Fine and Dimitris Milonakis)

Two new books have been published:

1. Ben Fine and Ourania Dimakou: “Macroeconomics: A Critical Companion”, 2016
2. Ben Fine: “Microeconomics: A Critical Companion”, 2016

We need proposals for more books in the series.

7. IIPPE Publication Workshop (Alfredo Saad Filho)

IIPPE is organising a one-day Publication Workshop for Ph.D. students in London, 15 September 2016, with support from the Centre for the Study of Democracy (CSD, University of Westminster).

The workshop will bring the editors and editorial board members of top political economy journals together in order to provide detailed feedback to authors on articles that should be made available in advance to the workshop by July 31st. This will be to support the articles for preparation for journal submission. There will also be the opportunity to learn more about journals' remits, interests and peer review processes. Please note that subsequent submissions to a journal will go through the usual review process – the workshop feedback does not imply automatic publication or any form of preferential consideration by any journal. Participants will be expected to read a small number of submitted papers, and to discuss these with participants during the workshop, in addition to feedback from two editors.

The contributors will include: Ben Fine (Journal of Southern African Studies/Development and Change/ and others), Johnna Montgomerie (general expertise), Stuart Shields (Capital and Class), Juan Grigera (Historical Materialism), Tariq Jazeel (Antipode), Hannah Cross (Review of African Political Economy) and Alfredo Saad-Filho (Critical Sociology).

8. External Relations: Critical Political Economy Research Network (Lucia Pradella)

Following our initial contact with the Critical Political Economy Research Network in 2015, we liaised with Mònica Clua Losada, the new CPERN chair, and Phoebe Moore, network liaison officer, regarding IIPPE-CPERN collaboration for the 2017

Berlin Conference. Al Campbell and Phoebe Moore confirmed that there is no clash of dates for the Berlin Conference.

Mònica also proposed that we explore other opportunities for collaboration between our networks/organisations before the 2017 Conference. We have therefore discussed with Phoebe Moore a possible joint one-day event to be held at King's College London in the Spring 2017. The proposed topic is the state of the international trade union movement.