



European Association for Comparative Economic Studies

NEWSLETTER

No. 42

September 2006

Contents

1 Official News	p.1
1.1. Minutes EACES Executive Committee meeting 7th September 2006	p.1
1.2. Minutes EACES Executive Committee meeting 9th September 2006	p.1
1.3. President's Message	p.2
1.4. The European Journal of Comparative Economics	p.3
1.5. EACES Working Paper Series	p.3
2 Michael Kaser honorary member of the EACES	p.4
3 Conferences, Workshops and Seminars	p.7
4 Fellowships, Competitions and Other Issues	p.16
5 News from the Association for Comparative Economic Studies (ACES)	p.17
6 Bibliographic Information	p.22
7 Bibliographic Information about <i>Acta Oeconomica</i> and <i>Economic Systems</i>	p.26
8 EACES Officials	p.27

1. OFFICIAL NEWS

1.1. Minutes of EACES Executive Committee meeting 7th of September 2006, Brighton.

Participants

EC members: Milica Uvalic (president), Will Bartlett (vice president), Horst Brzezinski (treasurer), Hubert Gabrisch, Bozidar Cerovic, Marek Dabrowski, David Kemme, Yorgos Rizopoulos and Marcello Signorelli (secretary).

Advisory Council: Vittorio Valli.

EJCE: Michael Keren

Local organisation of EACES conference: Jens Hölscher

Beginning of meeting: 12:10

Agenda

1) The EACES President Milica Uvalic briefly presented the initiatives of the last two years (bi-annual conference organisation, workshops, EJCE, WP, etc.) and introduced the main topics to be discussed.

2) As for the election of the new E.C., the proposal to return to 13 members, according to art. 7 of the Statute, was approved.

3) As for the Journal of EACES, some questions regarding the new on-line review "The European Journal of Comparative Economics" (diffusion, referee, etc.) and "Economic Systems" were discussed

4) The new conditions of institutional membership were defined: 250 euros for two years and 400 euros for four years (with the possibility of five young researchers delegated by the institution).

5) As for PhD award, the proposal by Milica Uvalic to raise the award to € 1,000 was approved.

6) Some E.C. members illustrated proposals for future activities and bi-annual EACES conference.

7) The vice-President Will Bartlett accepted to be proposed as EACES President to General Assembly.

8) Jens Hölscher accepted to be proposed as EACES vice-President to General Assembly.

9) Hubert Gabrisch accepted to be designated as EACES Secretary.

End of meeting: 13:30

Minutes of General Assembly meeting 7th of September 2006, Brighton

Beginning of meeting: 19:00

1) The EACES President Milica Uvalic presented to the General Assembly the main initiatives of the last two years: bi-annual conference organisation, workshops, EJCE, WP, etc.

2) Horst Brzezinski presented the Treasury Report for the last two years, especially as regards membership.

3) The proposals of Will Bartlett as President, Jens Hölscher as vice-President and Hubert Gabrisch as Secretary were approved by the General Assembly.

4) The following nominations for the new E.C. members were proposed: Andrei Yakovlev, Ichiro Iwasaki, Boris Najman, Iraj Hashi, Slavo Radosevic, Marcello Signorelli, Lucjan Orłowski, Tea Trumbic, Koen Schoors and Urman Varblane.

5) The elections produced the following results:

Ichiro Iwasaki: 48 votes

Andrei Yakovlev: 41 votes

Marcello Signorelli: 40 votes

Tea Trumbic: 39 votes

Urman Varblane: 37 votes

Koen Schoors: 33 votes

Boris Najman and Slavo Radosevic: 32 votes

Iraj Hashi and Lucjan Orłowski: 30 votes

6) According to art. 7 of the Statute, the following candidates were elected to the Executive Committee: Ichiro Iwasaki, Andrei Yakovlev, Marcello Signorelli, Tea Trumbic, Urman Varblane and Koen Schoors.

End of meeting: 20:00

Marcello Signorelli (Secretary: 2005-2006)

1.2. Minutes of EACES Executive Committee meeting 9th of September 2006, Brighton.

Participants

EC members: Will Bartlett (president), Jens Hölscher (vice president), Horst Brzezinski (treasurer), Hubert Gabrisch (secretary), Bozidar Cerovic, Ichiro Iwasaki, David Kemme, Koen Schoors, Marcello Signorelli, Tea Trumbic, Urmas Varblane, Andrei Yakovlev.

Advisory Council: Milica Uvalic, Vittorio Valli.

EJCE: Michael Keren

Beginning of meeting: 12:45

Business

(1) The EC considered some issues important for its further work during the next two years. Among them are: the location of the next conference, organisation of various workshops in the meantime, institutional membership, revisions and amendments to the statute, website.

(2) The participants presented themselves and their fields of interest in working for the Association.

(3) With respect to location of the 10th bi-annual conference, the EC expressed its interest to have it organized in Moscow. Member Andrei Yakovlev declared his willingness to organize the conference in late August 2008, if he will obtain support from his home faculty (State University – Higher School of Economics, SU-HSE). This matter will be clarified as soon as possible. Other proposals were Slovenia and Montenegro. The committee expressed its

sympathy for Ljubljana, if Moscow were not feasible. In the meantime any other proposals for the location of the next conference would be considered up to the end of this year.

(4) Some members declared their willingness to organize EACES workshops:

- A workshop in Paris next spring will be organized by Xavier Richet (former EC member),

- Koen Schoors proposed to organize his workshop, planned for Ghent on 1./2. September 2007 on FDI, as an EACES workshop.

- Ichiro Iwasaki declared his willingness to organize a workshop in Asia with contributions of Japanese, Indian and Chinese members and participants from the Region and Europe, preferable in December 2007.

It was noted that proposals for additional workshops would be welcomed and would be considered by the EC.

(5) The EC considered the revived tool of institutional membership, and took up well Urmaz Varblane's idea to use institutional membership as a tool to expand membership to Central and Eastern Europe. The perspective is, to offer universities and other research institutions the opportunity to delegate young researchers to the association at lower cost. Will Bartlett suggested that he would draft a standard letter to be sent to universities.

(6) The EC expressed its willingness to improve substantially the association's website. It underlined that the website needs frequent updates, a professional layout, and professional English. EC member Horst Brezinski filed the application to change the location of the website and to have it either with the president (Bristol) or vice-president (Brighton). Both, Will Bartlett and Jens Hölscher, declared their willingness to have the website at their universities, assumed that administration will agree. The EC voted unanimously for this application. Measures will be undertaken to install the website by the end of the year at one of these locations.

(7) Hubert Gabrisch offered to draw up a new book of rules for the Association, in lieu of expensive revisions and amendments to the statute.

(8) The next meeting of the EC is intended to take place in Paris next spring in connection with the envisaged workshop.

End of meeting: 13:30

Hubert Gabrisch (secretary)

1.3. President's Message

The past two years have seen a strong development of the Association which culminated in the 9th conference, held at the University of Brighton in September. The conference, organised by Jens Hölscher, was attended by around 160 participants. We were privileged to receive a keynote speech from Professor Michael Kaser of Oxford University, a scholar who has inspired many others in the field, who spoke about "Harmony and Discord in Transition Strategies". The speech was particularly welcome since Michael had earlier addressed the first EACES conference in Verona in 1990. The second keynote speech by Wendy Carlin, addressed the issue of "Institutions and Economic Reforms". The role of institutions has become more accepted within the economics profession due in part to analyses of the transition process by members of this Association over the last decade. The conference was further enriched by a plenary lecture given by Milica Uvalić, outgoing president, who spoke about "Transition in Southeast Europe", a region of special interest due to the confluence of transition, development, post-conflict reconstruction and European integration. A further indication of the lively activity in the field was given by the strength of submissions to the Doctoral Award, ably organised by Klaus Meyer of Reading University. The competition was won by Bruno Merlevede from the University of Ghent, for his thesis "The Effects of Economic Reform and Foreign Direct Investment on the Domestic Economy and Domestic Companies of Central and Eastern Europe Transition Countries". Many interesting papers were presented during the conference in parallel sessions. Those presented at the sessions which I was able attend were extremely interesting and high quality, and have encouraged my belief that the Association provides a vibrant and active forum for some of the best academics in our field not only in Europe itself, but from around the world. It was encouraging to have colleagues from as far afield as Japan and India, as well as colleagues from the USA, and I welcome the expansion of the Association's global connections and networks.

Following the election held at the general Assembly in Brighton we now have a new Executive Committee. Three of the former members remain – Antonio Sánchez-Andrés, Božidar Cerović, and David M. Kemme – to complete their four-year term of office. The six newly elected members of the Committee are Ichiro Iwasaki, Koen Schoors, Marcello Signorelli, Tea Trumbić, Urmaz Verblane and

Andrei Yakovlev. I would like to record my thanks here to the retiring committee members – Yorgos Rizopoulos, Marek Dąbrowski, Xavier Richet and the outgoing president Milica Uvalic. I am delighted that Jens Hölscher accepted to become vice-President, and Hubert Gabrisch to become Secretary. Horst Brezinski continues his important work as Treasurer.

The Association has also been strengthened by the launch of the e-journal, the European Journal of Comparative Economics, EJCE, edited by Michael Keren and Vittorio Valli published by EACES and the Università Carlo Cattaneo - LIUC. The journal is a semi-annual publication, provided free on the internet, with articles subject to a double blind refereeing process. This has now established itself as a valuable forum for the publication of research in the field and is a useful outlet for the speedy dissemination of research findings to a global audience. I would like to sincerely thank the editors and all involved in the process of editing and refereeing for their strenuous efforts to make the journal such a success.

The Newsletter, edited by Antonio Sánchez-Andrés of the University of Valencia, will continue to be a vital part of the ongoing activity of the Association and is a relevant and informative networking tool. It goes without saying that all members of EACES are warmly invited to contribute items of news or analysis to it.

Over the last two years EACES has held a number of workshops on Foreign Investment (Freiberg), Privatisation (Belgrade) and the Lessons of Transition (Amiens) organised by Horst Brezinski, Božidar Cerović and Yorgos Rizopoulos. The workshops have made an important contribution to the growth and development of the Association. A number of further workshops are planned over the next two years, details of which will shortly be announced in the Newsletter. I would encourage members who are thinking of organising similar workshops to contact me, Jens Hölscher, or any member of the Executive Committee to discuss their proposals to be included in the programme of events. As is normal in any academic association, planning for future events is an ongoing process and discussions are continuing on the venue for the next conference – the Association's tenth! I would be happy to hear from any members with ideas about the

organisation of the next conference, and of course suggestions for additional sources of funding especially for new and junior scholars would be most welcome.

Will Bartlett
University of Bristol

1.4. The European Journal of Comparative Economics.

1.4.1. *The European Journal of Comparative Economics* is proud to inform that in 2005 the 4 issues of the journal – years 2004 and 2005 – have totalised 28,540 downloads (mean per article: 1241.13; best article: 4470 downloads). The distribution of downloads per month follows:

January:	789
February:	3861
March:	2779
April:	2072
June:	2041
July:	1590
August:	1554
September:	2147
October:	2831
November:	2699
December:	3847

1.4.2. *The European Journal of Comparative Economics* staff is proud to inform that the journal has been accepted for indexing and abstracting in the following services:

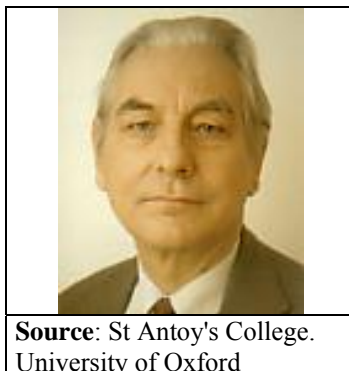
- EconLit, JEL on CD and e-JEL (Journal of Economic Literature)
- IBSS (International Bibliography of Social Sciences),
- EBSCO Business Source Premier
- DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals)

1.5.- EACES Working Paper Series.

The EACES Working Paper Series is a European Association for Comparative Economic Studies project. *EACES Working Papers* (ISSN: 1815-0055) is a way of circulating the scientific research of EACES members. The articles to be published in *EACES Working Papers* must be original, but they can later be published or presented in journals, books, etc. EACES encourage the EACES members to submit papers to be published in the EACES Working Paper. Please, send the papers to <wp-eaces@uv.es>.



2.- MICHAEL KASER HONORARY MEMBER OF THE EACES



Professor Michael Kaser, KSG - Introduction

By Professor Stephen F. Frowen, KSG

Honorary Research Fellow, Department of Economics, University College London, and St. Edmund's College, University of Cambridge

It is with the utmost pleasure that I am introducing Professor Michael Kaser to mark the occasion of his election as an Honorary EACES member.

Michael's and my life have crossed on many occasions throughout our professional life – in more recent decades through our joint work with Dr. Jens Hölscher first at the Institute for German Studies at the University of Birmingham and subsequently at the University of Brighton.

The European Association for Comparative Economics Studies is indeed fortunate to have Michael Kaser as an Honorary Member. Right from the very beginning of EACES he participated actively in its Founding Conference in Verona in September 1990 and has been its strong supporter and contributor ever since.

It would be difficult to find a scholar more predestined for an Honorary Membership of EACES than Michael Kaser. With a Cambridge economics degree, he was only 21 when he joined the Economic Intelligence Department of HM Foreign Service in 1947 and became Second Secretary at the British Embassy in Moscow in 1949.

Then followed in 1951 his appointment as Economic Affairs Officer of the UN Economic Commission for Europe in Geneva, a position he held for 12 years until 1963, combining it with a Visiting Professorship at the Graduate Institute of International Studies at the University of Geneva from 1959-63. Much of his work in Geneva consisted of analysing Soviet-type economies, participating in missions to five of the Soviet Republics and all East European states.

As will be known to you, the UN Economic Commission for Europe in Geneva has made its mark as one of the foremost economic research bodies at which economic analysts from both the Western and Eastern Europe could fairly harmoniously work together even during most of the East-West Cold War period.

This post-second-world-war period provided Michael Kaser with a considerable experience of the economic affairs of East European countries, much of which found its way into many of his subsequent academic writings. In fact, apart from his extensive unsigned publications during his diplomatic career and at the UN, there are 7 books with 3 of them translated into several languages, 16 edited volumes and articles into professional journals going on to nearly 400.

Today, at just over 80, Michael Kaser is as active as ever as Reader Emeritus in Economics at Oxford University, Honorary Professor in the School of Social Sciences, University of Birmingham, and Associate Fellow of Templeton College, Oxford. He became a Fellow of St. Antony's College Oxford as early as 1960 and an Emeritus Fellow in 1993 and is still engaged there heavily in the work done at the centre since 2003 called the 'Russian and Eurasian Studies Centre'. He has also been awarded the Papal Knighthood of St. Gregory the Great (1990), the Order of Naim Frashëri Albania (1995) and the Order of Merit Knight's Cross Poland (1999).

While Michael Kaser's work in earlier decades has concentrated on political and social aspects of the Soviet Union and East European countries, including the Cambridge Encyclopaedia of Russia and the Soviet Union and the Economic History of Eastern Europe from 1919 to 1975, his current work on the Caucasus and Central Asia develop recent research commissioned by NATO and the UN, with that on EU Enlargement commissioned by the EC. It is indeed a heavy workload he is still coping with.

It is scarcely surprising that throughout his academic career, Michael Kaser has frequently served both international organisations and governments as advisor and also served on the Councils and committees of many public bodies and charities – in fact, too many to list here. However, despite his extensive public

work he has never neglected his students - neither in the UK nor in so many other countries throughout the world where the high quality of his teaching and advice is widely recognised and appreciated. If I may add as a colleague that I, too, and no doubt many other colleagues, have always greatly benefited from Michael's wise counsel.

Ladies and Gentlemen, those of you who have heard Michael Kaser before will be much looking forward to his keynote speech today on 'Harmony and discord in transition strategies.' Those who will hear him for the first time will no doubt be in for one of their deepest experiences.

"St Antony's College, University of Oxford, and European Research Institute, University of Birmingham

Harmony and discord in transition strategies".

Keynote Speech at the EACES Conference on 'Development Strategies: a Comparative View', University of Brighton 7 September 2006

By **Michael Kaser**

The Soviet-type economy was in compulsory harmony. Lenin's 'democratic centralism' postulated that the minority should obey the majority until the policy was changed and that decisions of the upper structures were mandatory on the lower structures. Central planning applied this principle to the economy and rendered it operational by state ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange, and their management by appointed officials, not by democratically-elected or market-responsive managers or entrepreneurs. We all know that this was a formalised image, which in reality was disrupted by such forces as ministerial rivalries, self-interest of officials, counteracting preferences of consumers and the market sectors of the 'second economy' and of foreign trade. A short-lived regional devolution of the Soviet system in 1957 was revealingly characterised by the Soviet government as 'waywardness and wilfulness' when it was discarded in 1965 and the ministerial system was re-established. The reinstated 'industrial' ministries comprised no less than 125 central administrations, each subdivided into five or six further levels, and many with Union-Republican subsidiaries.

Nevertheless, the complexity of centralised Soviet-type planning was at least a template that could be contrasted with the interaction of a myriad of decision-makers in a free market, solving the 'millions of simultaneous equations'. A decade and a half ago that centralised template was discarded, though it had already been much eroded in eastern Europe and the USSR by the political and economic changes facilitated by the death of Stalin in 1953 and by the Polish and Czechoslovak revolts of 1958. The ensuing paths of partial change, erratically followed by the governments of the Soviet Union and the eight People's Democracies, culminated in the 1989 revolutions, when market-friendly and politically-democratic structures replaced formal centralism. Other Soviet-type economies underwent change, but China, North Vietnam and North Korea are not on my menu today.

Rather, my theme this afternoon is to identify, 17 years after the key systemic changes, relations among the institutional stakeholders in the reformed economies. The diversity of 15 ex-Soviet republics and 12 east European states and Mongolia justifies a monograph on each – and such studies have of course appeared – but my 'broad brush' approach may help to raise questions for more intensive and knowledgeable analysis in the three days of this Conference. If I can suggest a typology, the systems adopted in transition states are of three forms

- those which are post-Soviet path-dependent (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan);
- those which have been borrowed from contemporary Western capitalism (Albania, Armenia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Serbia-Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine and the Baltic States);
- and two which have evolved under specifically national conditions (Bosnia-Herzegovina and Russia).

I can exemplify the first set of contrasting interest groups by those in the Russian Federation, roughly the *apparatchiki* versus the New Russians, each group having derived, or deriving, higher incomes, wealth and societal influence from the political-economic structure respectively of the Soviet and of the post-Soviet periods. Although a single phrase is inadequate to express a complex process, the *apparatchiki* lost out, while the New Russians gained, from the collapse of the Soviet system.

Secondly, in the nationality-designated regions of the Federation, as also in the other Republics of the CIS, those of the eponymous nationality gained at the expense of those who were perceived as instruments of Moscow's power. Combined with the constriction of employment during the recessions that marked transition, a consequence of enhanced influence of local nationalities was substantial migration. In the CIS between 2000 and 2004, well over two million people quit their Republic: three out of four for another CIS state, the rest to the world outside, despite the many restrictions imposed by

recipient states, and in Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan by their own governments. Some left because they were replaced by locals, others entered to gain from the new political dominance of locals.

There are losers and gainers from every socio-political restructuring revolution. The Old Guard *against* the New Russians is but an example of historically-frequent conflict but it exemplifies the contrasting empowerment or marginalization of different groups of stakeholders since Soviet *perestroika* and the east European revolutions.

Thirdly, I draw attention to two conflictual relationships which marketisation has itself engendered, although similar dichotomies existed in the Soviet-type system. One is that of managers *versus* workers and the other is that of regulatory agencies *versus* entrepreneurs.

'Collective agreements' were the institutional structure for enterprise-level contracts between managements and trade-union agents in the Soviet-type microeconomy, but with each side bound by Party supervision to adhere to the targets and requirements of the planning and ministerial authorities. Such impositions dissolved in the transition process and the bulk of labour agreements are now with private firms. In 19 transition countries two-thirds or more of GDP is generated in the private sector. A majority for the state in the ownership of production persists only in Belarus, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, in each case politically associated with authoritarian presidential rule.

As the strength of *Solidarność* showed by inflaming revolution in Poland, political power can be mobilised by trade unions at key historical moments, but in most transition countries they appear in general to be fulfilling their normal role. Nowadays, low rates of unemployment strengthen union bargaining power, and registered unemployment is low save in South-eastern Europe. In the latter, it may continue high under the restructuring that association with the EU will bring, but eventual membership should reduce it.

A fourth group of institutional confrontations that transition engenders arise from radical shifts in the distribution of income and wealth. They include the countering of imperfect competition in retailing by the creation of consumer associations, and the vested interest of tenants in publicly-owned apartments *versus* urban incomers or new generations of home-makers. With the abolition of 'closed shops' ('shops with yellow curtains' as they were known) and most consumer-good subsidies, save in Belarus, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, there is no longer a separation of privileged from ordinary shoppers: rationing is no longer by status but by the purse. The much widened distribution of income since transition has of course widened the distribution of consumption, putting significant strata into poverty. The impact among transition economies has been diverse. The EBRD estimates the share of population living in poverty as ranging from 64 per cent in Moldova and 49 per cent in Armenia down to less than 2 per cent in Belarus, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia.

The final discord which I select is in international relations and I choose but one of many: the membership of Western 'clubs'. Until 1989, European Clubland was NATO/OSCE/EC on the one side and Comecon/Warsaw Pact on the other. The dissolution of the two latter left the path open for east/Central Europe to participate in the former. As all of us know, the three Baltic States, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia joined the EC in 2004. They were already on a sound growth path and this year should together be generating 40 per cent more real GDP than in 1989. By contrast, it is only this year that the seven states of SE Europe reach and just surpass the pre-transition level (by a bare 1.6 per cent on an EBRD forecast). The two regional rates of growth over 2003-06 have been almost identical around 5 per cent annually.

Yet it is of course the poorer countries which by greater dynamism should be 'catching up' with the West. Foreign direct investment exacerbates the divide: it understandably flows into the richer economies, and in the transition period FDI per capita has been 2.6 times greater into east/Central Europe and the Baltic States than into South-east Europe. Macroeconomic stability is one of the criteria for receiving FDI, an indicator of which is inflation – at 5.1 per cent this year in SE Europe, it is almost double the 2.8 per cent of the Central/Baltic region. Nevertheless, both groups have done well by comparison with the early transition period: ten years ago average inflation was 17 per cent in the Central-eastern/Baltic bloc and 46 per cent in SE Europe. Even in the CIS, where average inflation is still running at 9 per cent, budget deficits sum to only 1.5 per cent of their GDPs, against nearly 6 per cent ten years ago.

Posing goals on growth and inflation demands elaboration of corresponding sets of empirical policies and of incentives to influence agents to conform to policy, but international agencies and governments face many socio-economic and political constraints. Structural reforms that disturb the extant distribution of wealth, income and political influence or their authoritarian revocation have not always been peaceful. The list of riots and repressions runs from Poznań in 1956 to the Fergana Valley two years ago. The cycle of conflict brings large expenditure on the security services, where the costs and the benefits are both welfare-reducing. Other conflicts latent in implementing change are impacts on the natural environment and on intergenerational equity.

The programme for this Conference allows a wide gamut of problems of transition economies to be studied by experts: they will surely reveal both evenness and discordance among countries and policies. The papers and their discussion here should influence those policies.

Finally, I must thank the organisers for bringing me back to the Association's rostrum. Having addressed its first conference in Verona in 1990, I am glad to have been with it during a decade and a half of explaining, and hence helping, the historic process of systemic transition.



3. CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Summary

3.1.	International Conference on Long-Term Perspectives on Business, Finance and Institutions: What Can We Learn from the Past?	Antwerp (Belgium)	19-20 October 2006
3.2.	Rethinking Marxism 2006	Amherst (USA)	26-28 October 2006
3.3.	XVII Federator Symposium of CEDIMES Institute and Valahia University of Targoviste. <Europe Without Borders: Enlargements and cooperation>	Targoviste (Romania)	3-4 November 2006
3.4.	European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy (EAEPE) Conference	Istanbul	2-4 November, 2006
3.5.	63rd International Atlantic Economic Conference	Madrid	14-18 March 2007
3.6.	Internacional Workshop "Various Approaches to Assessing the Evolution and Impact of Alternative Institutional Structures"	Michigan (USA)	15-16 March 2007
3.7.	5th International CASE Conference 'Winds of Change: The Impact of Globalization on Europe and Asia'	Kiev (Ukraine)	March 23-24, 2007
3.8.	10th conference of the Swiss Society for Financial Market Research	Zürich	30 March 2007
3.9.	Annual Conference of The British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES)	Cambridge	31 March-2 April, 2007
3.10.	VIIIth International Scientific Conference "Economic Modernization and Social Development"	Moscow	3-5 April 2007
3.11.	"Transnationalism and the Post-Socialist Subjects"	San Francisco (USA)	7-21 April 2007
3.12.	International Confederation of Associations for Pluralism in Economics (ICAPE) Conference		1-3 June 2007
3.13.	5th International Conference on "Politics & International Affaire"	Athens	25-26 June 2007
3.14.	III International Conference of "The Social Capital Foundation".	Waikiki (Hawai-USA)	15-19 November 2007

3.1. International Conference on Long-Term Perspectives on Business, Finance and Institutions: What Can We Learn from the Past?. Antwerp (Belgium), October 19-20, 2006.

Organizers: The Studiecentrum Onderneming en Beurs - SCOB and the Centrum voor Bedrijfsgechiedenis of the University of Antwerp, Belgium

Focus: The objective of this conference is to bring together recent economic and historical research that investigates the development of business and finance over the past centuries, how it interacted with legal, economic and political institutions, and the impact on economic performance. The organisation welcomes all contributions that study any aspect of accounting, business, corporate governance, finance and economic performance from a historical perspective. The organisation particularly welcomes contributions that focus on the role of institutions, and contributions based on long time series analysis.

Paper Submission Procedure:

The deadline for submitting a paper or an abstract (500-800 words) is May 1, 2006.

The submissions will be selected by the members of the scientific committee. Authors will be notified of acceptance by July 1, 2006. Full papers should be submitted by September 1, 2006.

For further information, please visit our website at: <http://www.ua.ac.be/longtermperspectives> or Marc.Deloof@ua.ac.be (Marc Deloof)

3.2. Rethinking Marxism 2006. University of Massachusetts, Amherst (USA), October, 26-28, 2006

Join Ernesto Laclau, Susan Buck-Morss, Trebor Scholz, Sut Jhally, Kojin Karatani, Liza Featherstone, Joseph Buttigieg, Ella Shohat, Bread and Puppet Theater, Stephen Cullenberg, Julie Graham, Stephen Resnick, Richard Wolff, Susan Jahoda, Antonio Callari, Warren Montag, David F. Ruccio, Carole Biewener, Jonathan Diskin, Bruce Roberts, and many others at Rethinking Marxism 2006. Rethinking Marxism: a journal of economics, culture & society is pleased to announce its sixth major international conference, to be held at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst on 26-28 October, 2006. The conference is entitled Rethinking Marxism 2006.

Rethinking Marxism's 5 previous international conferences have each attracted between 750 and 1200 participants, and they have included keynote addresses and plenary sessions, formal papers, workshops, art exhibitions, video presentations, activist sessions, and

performances. Versions of all of these events are planned for Rethinking Marxism 2006.

In keeping with the title, the conference is dedicated to the state of contemporary Marxism and its many current correlates and derivatives. The past few years have been fascinating and momentous for the fortunes of contemporary Marxism, as can be seen in the many theoretical traditions and activist movements that remain, in some way, inspired by and indebted to a wide range of Marxian ideas and strategies. The renewed and continued vitality of Marxian, left, and socialist concepts and practices in current-day Latin America (and elsewhere) is just one indication of the ways in which Marxism remains a source of international inspiration and struggle. In addition, the continued, growing reactions—in the form of diverse anti-globalization movements—to capitalist globalization and its consistent denial of or aversion to economic justice; to the persistence of class exploitation; to worsening labor and environmental conditions; to the continued precarious global position of women; to the economic, social, and personal endangerment and abuse of children; and to the ever-widening gap between the rich and the poor, draw partly, as well, from rich traditions and current new thinking stemming from Marxism. The loud and uniform international opposition to the U.S. (and its “allies”) wars in Iraq and Afghanistan—growing in both anger and outrage at the human and economic costs of the new imperialism—have also been sources for, and have taken from, a plethora of Marxian ideas and strategies. Indeed, the increased tendency to call these wars “imperialist” is an indication that Marxism is proving indispensable for popular thinking and reacting to these international events.

Of course, international events have also presented new challenges and causes for the never-ending rethinking of old and new Marxian concepts. For example, the increasing calls for “democracy” revive older dreams of economic and political justice and rights for all. However, they also bring into relief the great distance between the present aggressive imposition of such ideas, burdened with the realities of continued economic exploitation and social oppression, and the dreams and desires of many who wish for economic and political enfranchisement in all nations. Additionally, many new and old Marxian traditions need to take heed of and think through, as a major “conjunctural” event, the turning away from liberal secularity and its many broken promises and contradictions and the turning toward religious and ethnic ideals and movements. These ideals and movements, at times, promise more “just” and communal forms of living. Yet,

at other moments, they are avatars of intolerance and internal—sometimes violent—repression and reaction. And, as another salient concern, the notable dynamic growth of China and India needs to be reviewed in light of these nations' long and deep historical engagements with communism, socialism, and Marxism. What, if anything, have these engagements contributed to, or, alternatively, obstructed in, the recent forms of growth and the distribution (or not) of their benefits?

The organisation invites—indeed, enthusiastically welcome—any and all who are interested in these and other pressing questions to send in proposals for papers and panels for Rethinking Marxism 2006

Structure of the Conference

Rethinking Marxism 2006 will be held over three days, beginning on Thursday morning 26 October 2006 and ending on Saturday night 28 October 2006. In addition to three plenary sessions and performance art, there will be concurrent panels and art/cultural events. The organisation invites the submission of pre-organized sessions that follow traditional or non-traditional formats (such as workshops, roundtables, and dialogue among and between presenters and audience). Since contemporary Marxism covers fields from literature to physics and forms of political practice from environmental organizing to opposing global inequality, anyone engaging with Marxism in any discipline or form of activism is encouraged to submit paper and panel proposals. The organisation encourages those working in areas that intersect with Marxism, such as feminism, political economy, cultural and literary studies, queer theory, working-class and labor studies, postcolonial studies, geography and urban studies, psychoanalysis, social and natural sciences, philosophy, and around issues of class, race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexuality, and disability, to submit paper and panel proposals. The organisation welcomes video, poetry, performance, and all other modes of presentation and cultural expression. The organisation encourage paper or panel submissions from those working on any and all subjects that take an interest in a world without exploitation and oppression.

Submission of Proposals

Proposals for papers should include:

- * Paper title
- * Presenter's name and contact information (mail, email, phone, fax)
- * Brief abstract (no more than 200 words)

Proposals for panels should include:

- * Panel title
- * Name, contact information, and paper title for each presenter

* Brief abstract (no more than 200 words) explaining the panel's focus

* Names and contact information for any discussant(s) or respondent(s)

* Title, contact, and address for any sponsoring organization or journal

The appropriate registration fee must accompany all proposal submissions. Unfortunately, any submitted proposal not accompanied by the appropriate preregistration fee cannot be considered. Proposals which are not accepted will have their preregistration fees returned in full. If you are submitting a proposal for an entire panel, please make sure you include the preregistration fee for all members of the panel.

The deadline for proposal submission is 1 August 2006.

The best way to submit a proposal and to pay the preregistration fee is to follow the instructions on the conference website: <http://www.rethinkingmarxism2006.org/submission.html>.

Preregistration Rates

Full Regular Rate \$90 (at Conference \$100)

Full Low-Income Rate \$40 (at Conference \$45)

Two-day Regular Rate \$70 (at Conference \$80)

Two-day Low-Income Rate \$30 (at Conference \$35)

One-day Regular Rate \$50 (at Conference \$60)

One-day Low-Income Rate \$20 (at Conference \$25)

You may preregister online at <http://www.rethinkingmarxism2006.org/registration.html>, or download a preregistration form at <http://www.rethinkingmarxism2006.org/MarxismRegForm.pdf>.

Publications

Selected papers, poems, art, and other forms of presentation from RM06 will be published in Rethinking Marxism and/or in a separate edited volume of contributions. Read more about the journal at: <http://www.rethinkingmarxism.org>.

Conference Website

All information pertaining to RM06, including paper and panel submission instructions, preregistration and on-site rates, lodging suggestions, travel directions, possible childcare arrangements, cultural events, the conference program, and much else will be posted on the conference website when details become available. The web address is: <http://www.rethinkingmarxism2006.org>.

Special Conference Rate for RM Subscription Registrants for RM06 can receive a special conference rate of \$45 on individual subscriptions to Rethinking Marxism. Non-registrants may subscribe online at:

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/08935696.asp>

More information:

<http://www.rethinkingmarxism2006.org>

3.3. XVII Federator Symposium of CEDIMES Institute and Valahia University of Targoviste. <Europe Without Borders: Enlargements and cooperation>. Targoviste – Romania, November 3 – 4, 2006.

Partnership:

Faculty of Administration and International Exchanges, University Paris XII

Chair Jean Monnet of the « Sorbonne-Nouvelle » University Paris III

Faculty of Economics, University of Rijeka

MIME of ICHEC, Brussels

«Dimitri and Maria Delivanis » Foundation

Call for Papers

The symposium organised by Valahia University of Targoviste and CEDIMES Institute «Europe without borders» raises two present questions concerning the construction and enlargement of the European Union.

First, internal borders. The recent enlargements, those in course, on the one hand, the failure of the vote on the European constitution in France and Holland generate many questions focused on the administration of the area in expansion, the dilemma between a powerful Europe and an Europe as a broad market, the question of modes of regulation and integration (unique market, unique currency, convergence), that of levelling of the new member countries and the future adherents.

Then, external borders: what is the position that Europe should take within globalisation, as to the hegemony of the American economy and the vision of the one pole world developed by Washington? Could Europe resist to the massive Asian spread, especially Chinese? The Lisbon agenda, could it contribute to the construction of new comparative advantages especially in the field of the economy of knowledge? Is the policy of new neighborhoods an initiator for fruitful cooperation and for effects of regional polarization? How is the growth of this regional pole compatible with the new solidarities with the Southern countries?

These are some of the questions that will be debated in November in Targoviste – Romania during the 17th symposium of CEDIMES Institute.

Scientific Committee

Abdalah Akari – Tunis University, Tunisia – Claude Albagli, Paris XII University Val-de-Marne, France - Alain Bienayme – Dauphine University, Paris IX, France - Ion Cucui – Valahia University of Targoviste, Romania - Pierre Dupriez – MIME - Ichech, Brussels, Belgium - Camelia Fratila – Valahia University of Targoviste, Romania - Yvon Gasse – Laval

University of Québec, Canada - Jean Pierre GERN – Neuchâtel University, Switzerland - Afifa Ghamgui – Tunis III University, Tunisia - Driss Guerraoui – Rabat University, Maroc - Jean-Paul Guichard – University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis, France - Vinko Kandzija – Rijeka University, Croatia - Daniel Labaronne – Montesquieu University Bordeaux IV, France - Maria Negrepointi Delivanis – Democritus University, Thrace, Komotini, Greece - Leon Olzsevski – Wroclaw University, Poland - Xavier Richet – Sorbonne – Nouvelle University, Paris III, France – Ana Lucia Ristea, Valahia University of Targoviste, Romania - Ion Stegaroiu – Valahia University of Targoviste, Romania - Dorina Antoneta Tanasescu – Valahia University of Targoviste, Romania - Adam Török – University of Veszprem and Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary - Paraschiv Vagu – Valahia University of Targoviste, Romania - Blandine Vanderlinden – MIME - Ichech, Brussels, Belgium - Abderrazak Zouari – Tunis III University, Tunisia

Organization committee

President - Ion Cucui

Rector – Valahia University of Targoviste, Romania

Co-president - Claude Albagli

President CEDIMES, Paris XII University, Val de Marne, France

Members:

Yves Marie Laulan (France), Maria Negrepointi-Delivanis (Greece), Ion Stegaroiu (Romania), Xavier Richet (France), Jean-Charles Sida (France), Rose Catherine Lucchi (France), Laura Marcu (Romania), Loredana Tanase (Romania), Valentin Radu (Romania), Sanaa Abed (France)

Thematic fields

Workshop 1 –Enlargement of the European Union

- The geographical limits of Europe
- The geopolitical analyze of the Union evolution
- The politics of accession to the European Union
- The dangers of uncontrollable enlargement

Workshop 2 –The efficacy and the limits of the economic politics

- Advantages and disadvantages of the integration
- EU's monetary politics
- Europe's institutional future
- The weakness of growth in the euro zone
- Economical sovereignty and social reasons

Workshop 3 – The attractivity and the limits of entrepreneurial politics

- European Union and the world goals of the entrepreneurial competition
- Enterprise's strategies in the enlarged Europe

- The fiscal competitions
- Inside and outside Europe delocalisations
- Delocalisation of the European enterprises (inside and outside of Europe)

Workshop 4 – Europe beyond its influencing area

- Transatlantic relationships
- Agreements of Cotonou and the partnership with sub-saharian Africa
- Euro-Mediterranean's follows of Barcelona
- Asian challenge and the new international division of labour
- The Francophone, Hispanic and Anglo-Saxon network

Workshop 5 – Identity, enterprise culture and management in the European area

- Identity and identities in the European area (nationals identities and European identity; cultural goals of globalization)
- Enterprise identity and enterprise management (concepts, instruments and methods for analyzing the cultural dimension of organizations; enterprise objective(s) and taking into consideration of the cultural dimension: how to reconcile?)
- Management in attempt of change (enterprises cultures; models and realities; managerial approach through project management and cultural diversity; multicultural teams management)

Participants

The symposium is aimed at the teachers and researchers interested in sharing their research results as well as to the specialists and all people motivated by the thematic fields.

A special meeting will be organised for the PhD candidates and the young researchers in order for them to present the stage of their research work.

Submission of abstracts

The abstract has to be sent in by latest June, 30th 2006 by filling the form of participation attached (in French or English). After this deadline, all abstracts will be forwarded to the Scientific Committee. The letter of acceptance to the symposium will be sent by July, 25th 2006 and will contain the invitation to prepare the article as well the elaboration conditions concerning the article.

Because the selection of articles will be made on the basis of the abstracts, all authors should draw up the abstracts in maximum 250 words by presenting:

- a brief description of the problem studied and the main objectives to attain;
- the main features of the methodology used;
- a summary of results and the stating of the main conclusions.

Acceptance of articles and instructions for the authors

The authors who have received the letter of acceptance on behalf of the scientific committee will be asked to prepare their article before September, 10th 2006. For the articles by several authors, at least one of the authors has to be present at the symposium.

The articles can be prepared in either French or English. The technical conditions and the methodological directives that have to be followed for drawing up the articles will be sent to each author accepted by the Scientific Committee.

Conditions for participation

Those interested in the symposium are invited to fill in the attached form and send it by mail or fax to the mentioned contact persons.

The participation fee is 100 EURO for CEDIMES members and 140 EURO for non-members. Fees for students, members of the CEDIMES network are 80 EURO.

The fee will be paid by September, 10th 2006, for those who received the acceptance of their abstract. The account number is RO53RNCB2500000001600008 (Banca Comerciala Romana, sucursala dambovita, bd. Mircea cel batran, nr. 1, Targoviste, Romania) with the note «SIMPO CEDIMES». *This is a EURO account and concerns only the foreign participants.* A copy of the document issued after the money transfer is to be sent to the secretariat of symposium.

The participation fee is applied by person and not by article and include organisation of the conference, scientific papers (programme and volume), the two lunches and suppers as well as the coffee breaks.

Valahia University of Targoviste will ensure the transport fee from Bucharest airport to Târgoviste for all foreign participants.

Within the conference, a cultural program is scheduled to take place on November, 5th 2006 and it includes visiting Targu Jiu, the open air master-pieces of the Romanian sculptor Constantin Brancusi (Column of infinite, Table of silence, Gate of kiss), as well as his birth place, the house in Hobita. If interested, please keep in mind additional fees which will be communicated at the time of the abstracts confirmation.

Dates to remember

- June, 30th 2006 – deadline for sending the abstracts and the participation form
- July, 25th 2006 – confirmation of the accepted abstracts
- September, 10th 2006 – deadline for sending the article and the payment of the participation fee

Secretariat for symposium

Mrs. Laura MARCU: lauram_0200@yahoo.fr

Ms. Loredana TANASE:

loredanatanase@valahia.ro

Cedimes Târgoviste

Valahia University of Târgoviste, Faculty of
Economic Sciences

35, Lt. Stancu Ion Street, Târgoviste, 130105,
Romania

Phone: 00 40 245 213 920; Fax: 00 40 245 211
809

http://eco.valahia.ro/cedimes2006_en.doc

3.4. European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy (EAEPE) Conference. Istanbul (Turkey), November, 2-4, 2006

Developing Economies; Multiple Trajectories,
Multiple Developments

One of the most salient aspects of the contemporary globalization process is the widely shared understanding of the economy as an autonomous domain isolated from the cultural, political and social domains. Both the economists who advocate exclusively market-oriented policies and the social scientists who take the dominant discourse in economics as given, agree that matters pertaining to the 'economy' has to be left to the 'experts'.

In practice, this process has led to the treatment of different economies as homogenous entities and this has been particularly harmful for the developing economies. However, as the problems associated with the globalizing market forces have become increasingly difficult to overlook, the analysis of the evolution of and diversity between national trajectories has become one of the biggest challenges faced by social scientists in general and political economists in particular.

The need for an interdisciplinary, multiple level research agenda in order to put together an integrated analytical framework has been recognized, but the challenge is far from being met. Development studies constitute one important area where the attempts made to understand the complexity of the evolutionary process could be especially fruitful.

The need for multiplicity is to be met through the integration of a broad range of categories into the analysis. A suggestive list of these categories may be:

- market regulation
- market structure (sectoral/inter-sectoral, labor/product)
- governance
- role/implication of the public sector
- fairness, justice, distribution
- labor market regulation and welfare systems
- financial sector
- international context (insertion, interaction).

These issues may be treated at different levels: as theoretical/empirical, micro/macro/meso,

comprehensive analysis/case study, comparative studies/ historical analysis.

At these different levels, the common aim would be the reappraisal of the multiplicity of development processes in a political economy framework. The development of a wide range of tools for economic analysis drawing on the recent theoretical and empirical analyses could be helpful in giving a new impetus to the area and to bring about a greater range of choice in policy design.

Submission of Proposals:

The organisation invites proposals for papers or sessions that address themes situated in the above mentioned categories.

The organisation also invites proposals for the topics on the Research Areas; in that case please indicate the closest research area in which your proposal is situated. (see: www.eaep.org or the newsletter).

For papers: upload a 600-1000 word abstract to www.eaep.org (conferences-abstracts) by April 30 of 2006 (The upload facility will be operational as off 10 February 2006). Send your abstract in any case to the general secretary of EAEPE John Groenewegen <johng@tbm.tudelft.nl>

and to the chair of the scientific committee Ahmet Insel <aincel@gsu.edu.tr>

For sessions: Please send your proposal to Economic Department of Galatasaray University at: <econ@gsu.edu.tr>. For questions concerning the sessions please contact Ahmet Insel, the programme organizer, at: <econ@gsu.edu.tr> or <aincel@gsu.edu.tr> .

The program of accepted papers will be published in the July Newsletter.

A final version of accepted papers will be requested by August 31 of 2006, in order for papers to be included in the proceedings, published on CD-Rom.

See www.eaep.org for information concerning the conference.

Please note that you have to be an EAEPE member in order to attend the Conference. Payments should be made in euros by credit card (provide number and expiry date) or bank transfer. If you do not have the 2006 conference booking form or the 2006 EAEPE membership form, please download it from www.eaep.org

3.5. 63rd International Atlantic Economic Conference. Madrid, Spain, 14-18 March 2007

Submission Deadline: 1 November 2006

Submit a paper summary (500 word limit; no full papers) including: (1) Title (not to exceed 80 characters); (2) Objectives; (3) Data/Methods; (4) Results/Expected Results. Submit either as an attachment file by e-mail to

iaes@iaes.org, on disk using WordPerfect or Microsoft Word, or online at http://www.iaes.org/conferences/future/madrid_63/paper_sub/index.htm.

On a separate cover page, list: (1) Conference location; (2) Name; (3) Academic rank or title; (4) Affiliation; (5) Mailing address; (6) Phone, fax, and e-mail address; (7) Category number of topic; (8) Macro or micro focus; and (9) Category numbers to discuss or chair.

NOTE: Papers previously published or those scheduled for publication prior to the conference are ineligible.

The submission fee for members is \$80 (\$130 for non-members) for each paper and must be paid at the time of submission. Submission does not include conference registration. All attending conference participants are required to pay the registration fee.

For more information on the Madrid conference, submission, or registration, please go to http://www.iaes.org/conferences/future/madrid_63/index.htm or E-mail: iaes@iaes.org (Jennifer McBride)

3.6. Internacional Workshop “Various Approaches to Assessing the Evolution and Impact of Alternative Institutional Structures”. Michigan (USA), March 15-16, 2007

Organisation: Henry Center for Executive Development, Michigan State University Campus, East Lansing, Michigan

Registration & Program Information: <http://www.msu.edu/user/mercuro/workshop/index.html>

Workshop focus: There are a variety of strands of what now comes under the moniker Institutional Law and Economics, Neo-Institutional Economics, or just Institutionalism. The purpose of this two-day workshop is to have representatives from these several approaches or strands of Institutionalism present an original paper that describes their respective approach and answer questions from advocates of alternative approaches.

In addition, there will be a roundtable discussion addressing such questions as: How different are the presented approaches? Do these different approaches have their own value-added? or are we saying the same thing using different language and perspective? Could parts of different approaches be integrated for even more insight? or Do different problems require different approaches?

The following individuals have been invited and confirmed as our presenters: Nathan Berg (Senior Research Scientist, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin; Associate Professor of Economics, The University of

Texas at Dallas), Daniel Bromley (Anderson-Bascom Professor of Applied Economics, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison); Neil K. Komesar (John and Rylla Bosshard Professor of Law, University of Wisconsin Law School Madison, Wisconsin 53706); Claude Ménard (Director - Centre Analyse Théorique des Organisations et des Marchés, Maison des Sciences Economiques, University of Paris Pantheon-Sorbonne); Elinor Ostrom; Arthur F. Bentley (Professor of Political Science, Director -Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, University of Indiana) and Warren Samuels (Professor Emeritus, Department of Economics, Michigan State University).

3.7. 5th International CASE Conference ‘Winds of Change: The Impact of Globalization on Europe and Asia’. Kiev (Ukraine), March 23-24, 2007.

Organisation: CASE and CASE Ukraine

With high growth rates in China, South-East Asia, India and Central Asia the economic centre of gravity of Eurasia is quickly shifting to the East. The same is true as regards population. At the same time most of Europe faces serious growth barriers in the long term. These come from excessive welfare provision, population aging and institutional rigidities. Europe is also losing competitiveness to Asia in many sectors and industries. This raises uncertainty not only about the economic and social perspectives for Europe, but also in respect of what has been called its "external modernization mission". The future of the European integration project, which attracted less developed countries into the European "core" and helped them achieve rapid modernization, is unclear at the moment. Both a fast completion of ongoing EU enlargement in the Balkans and Turkey and, even more, prospects for the integration into Europe of CIS countries, are under question. On the other hand, fast growing countries of East and South East Asia are discussing deeper economic integration in their region, which may in future create another center of integration on the Eurasian continent.

The conference will look at the causes and consequences of this major shift in economic power and political potential and consider options faced by policymakers at various parts of Europe and Asia. Discussion will include themes such as differences in growth performance, the nature of global imbalances, changing directions of goods, capital and aid flows, the challenges of migration and emerging regional integration models.

The conference will contain 6 thematic sessions and 3 keynote addresses. It will gather 200-250 participants from various countries, mostly from Europe, Asia, the Middle East and North America. For more information: <http://www.case.com.pl/strona--ID-winds,nlang-710.html>

3.8. 10th conference of the Swiss Society for Financial Market Research. Zürich, March 30, 2007.

Submission of a paper

The organisation would like to invite both academics and practitioners to submit papers on all topic areas of financial market research by November 1, 2006. Papers must be in English. Please submit your paper via the online tool on our website www.fmpm.ch <<http://www.fmpm.ch>>. Detailed information on the conference as well as the format requirements can also be found there. There will be a Best Paper Award.

Submission of a Speech

Additionally to the academic sessions the conference also features a practitioner's workshop with speeches on current trends in financial markets. Practitioners are invited to submit an abstract of their speech via the online application tool on www.fmpm.ch <<http://www.fmpm.ch>> by November 1, 2006. Abstracts should be in English and should not exceed 1000 words. It should contain your name, address, phone number, and email address. Speeches must not be longer than 25 minutes.

Registration

There is no deadline for registration. The conference fee is 100 CHF. In case you do not register for conference participation beforehand, the walk-in rate amounts to 150 CHF. On March 29, 2007 there will be a pre-conference dinner in the restaurant Kaufleuten in Zürich. Please register through the online tool on www.fmpm.ch <<http://www.fmpm.ch>>.

For further questions please contact

Dr. Matthias Muck or Miriam Begtasevic
Wissenschaftliche Hochschule für
Unternehmensführung (WHU), Dresdner Bank
Chair of Finance, Burgplatz 2, D-56179
Vallendar

E-Mail: miriam.begtasevic@whu.edu
<<mailto:miriam.begtasevic@whu.edu>>

Phone: +49 - (0)261/ 6509 428

Fax: +49 - (0)261/ 6509 409

3.9. Annual Conference of The British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES). Cambridge, 31 March-2 April, 2007.

Organisation: Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge.

Proposals for paper or panel sessions should be submitted to the appropriate member of the conference organising committee by 1st October 2006. Papers on Central and Eastern Europe will be especially welcome.

The organisers are keen to hear from postgraduate students who may wish to present work-in-progress. All UK postgraduate members of BASEES who deliver conference papers are eligible to apply for financial support towards registration and accommodation costs. See the website for details on how to become a member of BASEES: <http://www.basees.org.uk/index.html>.

More information concerning the 2007 conference, together with both panel and individual paper application forms can be found at:

<http://www.basees.org.uk/conference/>

3.10. VIIIth International Scientific Conference "Economic Modernization and Social Development". Moscow, April 3-5, 2007.

Organisation: State University - Higher School of Economics, jointly with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

High-level Russian Government officials, representatives of the President Putin's Administration will participate in the plenary session on April 3. The plenary session will also host senior representatives of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and heads of the largest Russian and international companies.

Presentations of research papers and expert round tables will be held in parallel sessions on April 4 and 5.

Conference sessions and round tables will focus on the following priority problems:

- Modernization of state and institutional development.
- Economic growth: background and perspectives.
- Economy and natural resources: social and political perspective.
- Integration: global and local context.
- Centralization and decentralization in social development.
- Civil society, self-organization, social capital and consolidation of elites.
- Modernization and post-industrial society.
- Interrelation of political, economic and socio-cultural processes in transitional societies.

Additional sections and round tables may be organized, depending on the participants' interests and the topics of accepted papers.

The VIIIth International Scientific Conference will be followed by the Students' Scientific

Conference, featuring the best papers written by the students of SU-HSE and other universities in Economics, Management, Law, Sociology, and Political Science.

The working languages of the Conference will be Russian and English; simultaneous translation will be available during all plenary and parallel sessions.

Submissions

Foreign participants are invited to submit extended abstracts of their original research papers by December 1, 2006 by e-mail to interconf@hse.ru and mariam@hse.ru. The application should include the following information: full name of the researcher, job title and current position, address, contact phone, fax, and e-mail address, title of the presentation. Abstracts should be in RTF or Microsoft Word, and should not exceed 7,000 characters (about 3 pages long).

Applications of foreign participants without presentations should be mailed to mariam@hse.ru by March 10, 2007. The application should contain the following information: full name of the participant, job title and current position, address, contact phone, fax, and e-mail address, as well as the conference session he or she would like to attend. The application form may be downloaded from www.hse.ru/ic8. Corporate Governance: International

Group applications for a session or round table are welcome as well as personal applications. Please submit to interconf@hse.ru and mariam@hse.ru the following information:

- Titles of proposed session;
- Titles and short abstracts of papers (up to 2500 characters per abstract);
- Full names, job titles and positions of presenters and discussants (opponents);
- Full name, postal address, phone and fax number, E-mail address of the session coordinator.

Sessions will last for 1,5 – 2 hours. Deadline for group applications is 1 December 2006.

The Programme Committee will notify the authors of accepted papers by February 1, 2007.

Russian citizens from outside of Moscow whose papers have been selected for presentation may be provided with accommodation in the SU-HSE guesthouse free of charge. Expenses of invited presenters from the CIS and Eastern Europe may be partially covered by the World Bank Office in the Russian Federation, Moscow.

Programmes and papers of the previous conferences organized by SU-HSE are available at

<http://www.hse.ru/science/main.htm>

3.11. “Transnationalism and the Post-Socialist Subjects”. San Francisco, CA, April 17-21, 2007.

Organizer: Marianna Pavlovskaya, Hunter College

As the previously thick boundaries that separated the West and the East had fallen and the new ones were erected within the post-soviet space, the post-socialist subjects have entered the previously unknown to them world of everyday transnational existence. Large numbers of immigrants from post-socialist countries have recently settled in many European and American cities but in contrast to the Cold War era émigrés they do not have to cut all the connections with their former home country. No longer stripped of their citizenship and without restrictions on their movement across the border and they are able to maintain active family, social, business, political, and cultural ties with their country of origin, a process also facilitated by advances in communications technologies and the internet. On the other hand, despite the massive out-migration of ethnic minorities (including Russians) from the former Soviet Republics, many families still remain spread across post-soviet space where different international regimes are found today. The newly independent states have enacted different laws, immigration and employment policies, property regimes, currency systems, and language requirements. All actors involved (including individuals, households, institutions, businesses, etc.) now have to negotiate the new forms of transnational existence within the post-socialist space.

Papers are invited that address new transnational experiences of post-socialist actors - both internationally and within the former socialist world itself.

If you are interested in presenting such a paper, please notify Marianna Pavlovskaya (mpavlov@hunter.cuny.edu) about your intent as soon as possible and email me your abstract by September 30.

3.12. International Confederation of Associations for Pluralism in Economics (ICAPE) Conference, 1-3 June 2007

The next ICAPE conference is on the horizon, and I hope you will consider participating in it. Soon to celebrate its 13th birthday, ICAPE (the International Confederation of Associations for Pluralism in Economics) is an international consortium dedicated to the active promotion of intellectual pluralism in economic education and scholarship. Next June (1-3) on the campus of the University of Utah in beautiful Salt Lake City, ICAPE will host its second international

conference, "Economic Pluralism for the 21st Century." The organisation invites proposals for papers and panels that address the value (or costs) of economic pluralism in any of its domains: economic theory and philosophy, economic institutions and policies, or economic education. For further details -- including a list of plenary sessions -- please see the attached documents or visit our website (www.icafe.org).

3.13. 5th International Conference on "Politics & International Affaire". Athens (Greece), June 25-26, 2007.

The Politics Research Unit of the Athens Institute for Education and Research (AT.I.N.E.R.) organizes its 5th annual international conference on Politics and International Affairs, June 25-26, 2007. The registration fee will be 250 (euro), covering access to all sessions, 2 lunches, coffee breaks and conference material. Special arrangements will be made with local hotels for a limited number of rooms at a special conference rate. In addition, a number of special events will be organized: A Greek night of entertainment, a special one-day cruise in the Greek islands and a half-day tour to archaeological site and area.

The aim of the conference is to bring together scholars and students of Politics and International Affairs and other related disciplines. You may participate as panel organizer, presenter of one paper, chair a session or observer. For programs of previous conferences and other information visit the conference website

www.atiner.gr/docs/Politics.htm

Papers (in English) from all areas of education are welcome. Selected papers will be published in a Special Volume of the Conference

Proceedings or Edited Books as part of ATINER's mass media and communication book series. For Books and Proceedings of previous conferences you may visit http://www.atiner.gr/docs/POLITICS_PUBLIC_ACTIONS.htm for table of contents and order forms.

Please submit a 300-word abstract by December 3rd, 2006, by email (atiner@atiner.gr), to Dr. Ioannis Stivachtis, Head, Politics & International Affairs Research Unit, ATINER and Director, International Studies Program Virginia Tech - Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, USA. Please include: Title of Paper, Full Name (s), Affiliation, Current Position, an email address and at least 3 keywords that best describe the subject of your submission. If you want to participate without presenting a paper, i.e. chair a session, evaluate papers to be included in the conference proceedings or books, contribute to the editing, or any other offer to help please send an email to Dr. Gregory T. Papanikos (gtp@atiner.gr), Director, ATINER.

3.14. III International Conference of "The Social Capital Foundation". Waikiki (Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii), November 15-19, 2007.

The organisation invites to submit papers for this conference; participation as a discussant or attendant is also encouraged. More information: <http://www.socialcapital-foundation.org/conferences/synopsis.htm>.



4. FELLOWSHIPS, COMPETITIONS AND OTHER ISSUES

4.1. Corporate Governance: A Contractual and Organizational Perspective. Professor Oliver Williamson (University of California at Berkeley) will give the 2nd Malthus Lecture at 6pm on Thursday 19th October 2006 at the University of Hertfordshire, in the Fielder Centre in Hatfield, UK.

The title of Professor Williamson's lecture will be: "Corporate Governance: A Contractual and Organizational Perspective".

All are welcome. Refreshments will be served at 5.30pm for pre-registered participants. Hatfield is on the London King's Cross to Cambridge railway line, and there is easy access to all London airports.

To register: please email your name, title, organisation and address to mdp@herts.ac.uk
The First Malthus Lecture - commemorating the Hertfordshire economist Thomas Robert Malthus - was given by Nobel Laureate Douglass C. North in May 2005.

4.2. Critique of Political Economy. Critique of Political Economy (www.copejournal.org) (COPE), a new, interdisciplinary, refereed journal devoted to the critique of political economy, is a project of the International Working Group on Value Theory (www.iwgv.org). Edited by Alan Freeman (University of Greenwich, UK) and Andrew Kliman (Pace University, New York, USA), with the assistance of a working editorial board, COPE will initially appear annually and be

primarily an online journal. The first volume is scheduled for publication in March 2007.

COPE seeks to challenge and break down the separation between political economy and social knowledge as a whole. Our editorial board includes scholars in the fields of education, philosophy, political science, sociology, as well as economics and accounting. The organisation invites submissions from researchers working in these and related fields, including researchers from outside of academia. Contributions from the whole gamut of heterodox economic traditions – including (but not limited to) the Marxist, post-Keynesian, Evolutionary, Schumpeterian, and Institutionalist traditions – are welcome.

The organisation particularly encourages contributions that interrogate the production of economic “knowledge” and contributions that help to challenge the received “Whig History” of economic thought. We also particularly encourage papers from scholars in the global South, papers dealing with the temporal single-system interpretation (TSSI) of Marx’s value theory, and other TSSI-informed theoretical and empirical research.

COPE is steadfastly committed to pluralism. The organisation intends to challenge other journals’ exclusionary practices, and the acceptance of such practices, by demonstrating that critical pluralistic norms promote quality research and genuine development of ideas. The organisation upholds authors’ right to appeal editorial decisions before a panel of disinterested persons, and the right of authors to reply to critiques of their work. The

organisation employs a “double-blind” review process, and COPE’s editorial board will work with authors to improve and clarify their work, not act as “gatekeepers.” Although only submissions “accepted for publication” become part of COPE, other submissions that conform to the Scholarship Guidelines of the International Working Group on Value Theory, our parent organization, will be made available on our website as “working papers.”

The organisation encourages you to read our complete Mission Statement, available on our website, www.copejournal.org.

Contributions to the Critique of Political Economy.

The editors welcome articles, essays, and review essays up to 10,000 words long, and we accept book reviews. In keeping with our commitment to pluralism, we ask that submissions conform to the IWGVT Scholarship Guidelines. Manuscripts should be submitted as attached Microsoft Word files, and sent to our e-mail address, mail@copejournal.org.

In a separate attached file, please provide a 100-200 word abstract along with the name(s), affiliation(s), address(es), e-mail address(es), and telephone and fax number(s) of the author(s). Prospective contributors should consult the Scholarship Guidelines and our “Instructions to Authors,” both of which are posted on our website, prior to submitting to COPE.

The editors will be happy to answer inquiries sent to our e-mail address. For detailed information: COPE.doc.



5. NEWS FROM THE ASSOCIATION FOR COMPARATIVE ECONOMIC STUDIES (ACES)

ACES is the *Association for Comparative Economic Studies*, i.e. the American sister association of the EACES. Both associations share a common aim: promote comparative economic studies and the analysis of the economic transition. As part of the process of growing relations between the associations we are opened this new section in the *EACES Newsletter*. Here we will publish news about the ACES.

5.1. ACES – ASSA 2007 Meetings, Chicago, IL, January 5-7.

ACES Sessions

Jan. 5, 8:00am

Private Ownership and Public Service Provision

Presiding: JOHN BENNETT, Brunel University, West London

KATHERINA GASSNER, World Bank, ALEXANDER POPOV, University of Chicago, and NATALIYA PUSHAK, World Bank—An Empirical Assessment of Private Sector Participation in Electricity and Water Distribution in Developing Countries

EDUARDO ENGEL, Yale University, RONALD FISCHER, University of Chile, and ALEXANDER GALETOVIC, University of the Andes--The Basic Public Finance of Public-Private Partnerships

JOHN BENNETT and ELISABETTA IOSSA, Brunel University--Contracting Out Public Service Provision to Not-for-Profit Firms

RUSSELL PITTMAN, U.S. Department of Justice and New Economic School, Moscow--Will the Train Ever Leave the Station? The Private Provision of Freight Railway Service in Russia and Central and Eastern Europe

Discussants: MARK SCHAFFER, Heriot-Watt University

CHRISTA HAINZ, University of Munich

AL SLIVINSKI, University of Western Ontario

Jan. 5, 10:15 am

Comparative Economic Systems at the Regional Level (In memory of John Michael Montias) (R1)

Presiding: WOLFRAM SCHRETTL, Free University of Berlin

NICOLA FUCHS-SCHUENDELN and RIMA IZEM, Harvard University--Explaining Low Levels of Labor Productivity in the Region of Eastern Germany: A Spatial Analysis

MONIKA SCHNITZER, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, and CLAUDIA BUCH, University of Tuebingen--The Drive for German Cross Regional Investment to Transition Economies

ANDREA BOLTTO, Magdalen College, University of Oxford--Why Do Some Regional Differentials Persist and Others Do Not? Italy and Spain Compared

Discussants: To be announced.

Jan. 5, 2:30 pm

The Decline of Soviet Growth: The Impact of Non-systemic Factors (P2)

Presiding: PAUL GREGORY, University of Houston

MARK HARRISON, University of Warwick, UK--The Soviet Economy: War, Growth, and Dictatorship

GUR OFER, Hebrew University of Jerusalem--Looking Back at the Burden of Defense and Military R&D

MARTIN SPECHLER and DINA SPECHLER, Indiana University--The Burden of Empire on the Soviet Union: New Calculations

CLIFF GADDY, Brookings Institution, and BARRY ICKES, Pennsylvania State University--Addiction and Withdrawal: Resource Rents and the Collapse of the Soviet Economy

Discussants: PAUL GREGORY, University of Houston

VLADIMIR KONTOROVICH, Haverford College

Jan. 6, 8:00 am

Foreign Direct Investment and Development (O0)

Presiding: KATHERINE TERRELL, University of Michigan

LAURA ALFARO, Harvard Business School, AREENDAM CHANDA, North Carolina State University, SEBNEM KALEMLI-OZCAN, University of Houston, and SELIN SAYEK, International Monetary Fund--FDI and Economic Growth: The Role of the Local Financial Markets

JENS M. ARNOLD, Bocconi University, Italy and World Bank, and BEATA SMARZYNSKA JAVORCIK, World Bank--Gifted Kids or Pushy Parents? Foreign Acquisitions and Plant Performance in Indonesia?

MEGHANA AYYAGARI and RENATA KOSOVA, George Washington University--Effect of FDI on Entrepreneurship: Evidence from the Czech Republic

YUIRY GORODNICHENKO, JAN SVEJNAR, and KATHERINE TERRELL, University of Michigan--Vertical and Horizontal Spillovers from FDI: Evidence from 15 Transition Economies

Discussants: ANN HARRISON, University of California-Berkeley

GORDON HANSON, University of California-San Diego

FREDRIK SJÖHOLM, Stockholm School of Economics

Jan. 6, 10:15 am

Changes in Incentives and Organizational Performance (J3)

Presiding: DEREK C. JONES, Hamilton College

DEREK C. JONES, Hamilton College, PANU KALMI, and ANTTI KAUKANEN, Helsinki School of Economics and HECER, Helsinki--Teams, Performance-Related Pay, Profit Sharing and Productive Efficiency: Evidence from a Food-Processing Plant

EDWARD P. LAZEAR, Stanford University, Hoover Institution and Council of Economic Advisors, and KATHRYN SHAW, Stanford University--The Effects of Tenure on Output

TOR ERIKSSON, Aarhus School of Business, Denmark, and JAIME ORTEGA, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid and Center for Corporate Performance, Denmark--Is Performance Pay Changing Employees' Private Lives?

JOHN S. HEYWOOD, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, UWE JIRJAHN, University of Hannover, and XIANGDONG WEI, Lingnan College--Teamwork, Monitoring, Absence and Productivity

Discussants: AVNER BEN-NER, University of Minnesota

ERIK POUTSMA, Radboud University Nijmegen

RICHARD FREEMAN, Harvard University and London School of Economics and Political Science (to be confirmed)

VIRGINIE PEROTIN, Leeds School of Business

Jan. 6, 2:30 pm

ACES

Causes and Consequences of Gender Imbalances in Asia and Russia (J1)

Presiding: JOSH ANGRIST, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

BETSY BRAINERD, Williams College--Uncounted Costs of World War II: The Effect of Changing Sex Ratios on Marriage and Fertility of Russian Women

LENA EDLUND, Columbia University--Sex Ratios: The Case of Hong Kong

EMILY OSTER, University of Chicago--Does Increased Access Increase Equality? Gender and Child Health Investments in India

NANCY QIAN, Brown University--Missing Women and the Price of Tea in China: The Effect of Sex-Specific Earnings on Sex Imbalance

Discussants: JOSH ANGRIST, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

MARK ROSENZWEIG, Yale University

DAVID BLOOM, Harvard University

DENNIS YANG, Virginia Tech

Jan. 7, 8:00 am

Why Has the Chinese Transition Experience Been Different From the Experience in the CEEC and FSU? (P5)

Presiding: JEFFREY MILLER, University of Delaware

STOYAN TENEV, International Finance Corporation, and JEFFREY MILLER, University of Delaware--China, the CEEC and FSU: Is Government the Key to the Differences in Performance?

JOHN BONIN, Wesleyan University--Developing Effective Banking in Central/Eastern Europe and China

STEVEN ROSEFELDE, University of North Carolina--The Illusion of Westernization in Putin's Russia and Wen's China

JUDITH THORNTON, University of Washington, and ELLIOTT PARKER, University of Nevada-Reno--Fiscal Centralization/Decentralization in Russia and China

Discussants: GERARD ROLAND, University of California-Berkeley

WING THYE WOO, University of California-Davis

Jan. 7, 10:15 am

AEA/ACES

Comparative Economics at the Firm Level: Effects of Country and Ownership Type (P5)

Presiding: GÉRARD ROLAND, University of California-Berkeley

NICK BLOOM, Stanford University and London School of Economics, and JOHN VAN REENEN, London School of Economics--Measurement and Comparison of Management Practices and Performance across Countries

MARK SCHLESINGER, Yale University--Sorting, Selection and the Role of Organizational Ownership in Consumer Choice

MASAHIKO AOKI, Stanford University--Comparative Corporate Governance and Its Complementarities with Organizational Architecture

AVNER BEN-NER, University of Minnesota--Comparison of Structure, Behavior and Performance in For-Profit, Nonprofit and Government Organizations: A Study of Nursing Homes

Discussants: MARTIN GAYNOR, Carnegie Mellon University

MICHAEL GIBBS, University of Chicago

GÉRARD ROLAND, University of California-Berkeley

JAN SVEJNAR, University of Michigan

Jan. 7, 1:00 pm

Growth, Reform and Political Institutions (P1)

Presiding: NAURO F. CAMPOS, Brunel University, CEPR, IZA and WDI

ROMAIN WACZIARG, Stanford University, and ENRICO SPOLAORE, Tufts University--The Diffusion of Development

KARLA HOFF, World Bank, SHALE HOROWITZ, University of Wisconsin, and BRANKO MILANOVIC, World Bank--Transition from Communism: Political Alternation as a Restraint on Investing in Influence

TIMOTHY FRYE, Ohio State University--Original Sin, Good Works, and Property Rights in Russia: Evidence from a Survey Experiment of Business Elites

FRANCESCO GIOVANNONI, University of Bristol, and NAURO CAMPOS, Brunel University, CEPR, IZA and WDI --Lobbying, Corruption and Political Influence in Transition Countries

Discussants: DANIEL BERKOWITZ, University of Pittsburgh

SAUL ESTRIN, London Business School

JEFFREY NUGENT, University of Southern California

GÉRARD ROLAND, University of California-Berkeley

5.2. Contents of Comparative Economic Studies (vol.48; no.2 and 3)

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Åslund, Anders: "A New Capitalist Order: Privatization and Ideology in Russia and Eastern Europe", *Comparative Economic Studies*, vol. 48, no. 2, 2006, pp. 380-381

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Che, Tuong Nhu; Kompas, Tom; Vousden, Neil: "Market Reform, Incentives and Economic Development in Vietnamese Rice Production", *Comparative Economic Studies*, vol. 48, no. 2, 2006, pp. 277-301

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Filer, Randall K: "Introduction to the Symposium: Comparative Macroeconomic Measurement", *Comparative Economic Studies*, vol. 48, no. 3, 2006, pp. 408-409

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Korovilas, James P: "Is Privatisation in Post-conflict Kosovo Possible?", *Comparative Economic Studies*, vol. 48, no. 2, 2006, pp. 326-350

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Maćkowiak, Bartosz: "How Much of the Macroeconomic Variation in Eastern Europe is Attributable to External Shocks?", *Comparative Economic Studies*, vol. 48, no. 3, 2006, pp. 523-544

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6. BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

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Executive Committee

Bozidar Cerovic Belgrade University Faculty of Economics	Kamenicka 6, 11000 Beograd Tel.:+381 11 3021 184; Fax: +381 11 639 560	cerovi@one.ekof.bg.ac.yu
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David Kemme University of Memphis Department of Economics	405 Fogelman College of Business, 38152 Memphis, TN (USA) Tel.: +901-678-5408; Fax: +901-678-0876	dmkemme@memphis.edu
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Koen Schoors Faculty of Economics and Business Administration CERISE, Ghent University	Hoveniersberg 24, 9000 Ghent, Belgium Tel.:+32 9 264 89 74 / Fax:+32 6 264 35 99	koen.schoors@ugent.be
Marcello Signorelli University of Perugia Department of Economics	06123 Perugia (Italy) Tel: +39-075-5855062/ Fax: +39-075-5855299	marcello.signorelli@tin.it
Tea Trubic London School of Economics	1234 Massachusetts Ave, NW Apt 918, Washington DC 20005 Tel: (202) 340-4911	ttrubic@gmail.com
Urmas Varblane University of Tartu Institute of Economics	Narva 4, 51009 Tartu (Estonia) Tel: (+372) 737 6361/ Fax: (+372) 737 6327	varblane@mtk.ut.ee
Andrei Yakovlev Institute for Industrial and Market Studies State University - Higher School of Economics	20, Myasnitskaya, 101987, Moscow, Russia Tel:+7-495-9288649/ Fax: +7-495-9287931	ayakovlev@hse.ru

Members of the Advisory Board

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Daniel Daianu	The Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest	daiandan@b.astral.ro
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This Newsletter was prepared by Antonio Sánchez-Andrés
Department of Applied Economics - University of Valencia (Spain)