THE VIRTUALIZATION OF ECONOMY AND ITS CRISIS

The crisis conundrum

How to reconcile economy and society?

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Convegno

5-9 June 2015 Room G016 Maria Immacolata Largo A. Gemelli 1 - Milano





Segreteria organizzativa Laura Gherardi

he systemic crisis that began in 2008 calls for new economic, social and political balances. In this historical transition, some urgent questions concerning our future need to be faced.

The conference comes as a conclusion to an interdisciplinary research developed on this topic at UCSC Milan, and at the same time it aims to open up further lines of inquiry. The conference, held in Milan, revolves around four days (from Friday to Tuesday), divided in two half-day working sessions each. An introduction

working sessions each. An introduction by a keynote speaker and a position paper prepared by the internal research group will start each session. A selected group of scholars attends the sessions to develop a qualified and in depth discussion.

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PROGRAMMA

June the 5th - First day The issue of growth

The Great Recession comes with the crisis of the model of growth characterizing last decades. That is, a model based on debt, consumerism and rising inequalities. The first session deals with the theory of a new model of growth – not merely economic – and on its implicit social exchange. Its general issue is the distribution of productivity gains, where economic inequalities within and between nations are still growing. The second session is focused on how a new model of growth could lead to higher standards of social justice.

Morning session (10.00-13.00)

From consumer economy to the economy of contribution

Keynote speaker: Prof. B. Stiegler, IRI Director, Centrepompidou Research Group Speaker: Prof. M. Magatti, UCSC, Dept. of Sociology

Afternoon session (14.00-17.00)

Inequality

- Keynote speaker: Prof. P. Hammond, Stanford University, Dept. of Economics
- Prof. J. McCombie, Univ. of Cambridge, Dept. of Land Economy, CCEPP Director
- Research Group Speaker: Prof. L Campiglio, UCSC, Institute of Economic Policy

June the 6th - Second day

The issue of money

The crisis shows the financial system is unable to meet its task of sustaining exchanges, investments and value creation. We need to rethink the nature of money, its relation with credit and the all architecture of the financial system. The first session is devoted to a theoretical reflection about the meaning of money and its role within the economic system. The crisis has pushed us "back to Keynes", but the debate has not been focused yet on monetary reform – whose central issues are the function of money as a store of value, the preference for liquidity and the fetish for liquidity highlighting the problematic nature of interest rate and financial markets. The second session deals with reform proposals. Traditional monetary policies, even New Keynesian ones, show their weaknesses and unconventional monetary policies seems

inevitable to many. This session will therefore focus on some concrete reform proposals for monetary and financial institutions.

Morning session (10.00-13.00)

Interconnectedness, systemic risk and monetary policy

Keynote speaker: Prof. G. Urga, Cass Business School and Univ. di Bergamo Research Group Speaker: Prof. C. Bellavite, UCSC, Dept. of Economics

Afternoon session (14.00-17.00)

Money and finance in contemporary society

Prof. P.H. Dembinski, Observatorie de la Finance (Geneva) Director" e "Prof. G. Giraud, C.N.R.S. et Centre d'Economie de la Sorbonne

Research Group Speaker: Prof. M. Amato, Univ. Bocconi, Dept. of Economic History

June the 8th - Third day

The issue of wealth

The Great Recession comes with a renewal of big questions like what is wealth and how to create it. People claiming that enterprises, States and civil society must cooperate to build a new prosperity – by seeking sustainability and innovation – are in fact redefining the idea of growth. In this scenario, the first session is devoted to explore the possibility for a new political economy oriented towards social and technological innovations. A pivotal point is the need for a substantial growth of investments in education and ICT, to cut down costs of new knowledge and to improve, at the same time, its quality. The second session revolves around the implicit question: why people think of something as precious, as worth to be possessed and accumulated? Opposite to the classical tradition, the new anthropology of wealth starts with observing human agency as it unfolds. First step is the analysis of the reasons that bring the human being to value something as precious, second step is the analysis of the specific reasons that bring the human being of our late-capitalist age to value something as precious.

Morning session (10.00-13.00)

The future of innovation policy: from a competition to a transformative change agenda

Keynote speaker: Prof. J. Schot, SPRU Director, Univ. of Sussex Research Group Speaker: Prof. M. Vivarelli, UCSC, Institute of Economic Policy

The limits of the market society: what we consider precious

Keynote speaker: Prof. P. Chanial, Univ. Paris Dauphine, IRCE Director Research Group Speaker: Prof. S. Petrosino, UCSC, Milan, Dept of Philosophy

June the 9th - Fourth day

The issues of social and human flourishing

A major economic crisis is always, to some extent, also a social and cultural one. The diffusion of the utilitarian and individualistic culture characterizing last decades has impoverished our social and human development. How can we overcome this involution?

The first session is devoted to the search for new forms of social exchange to be built upon a serious reconsideration of the basic premises that constitute the grounds of civil life: the fundamental forms of social recognition and a shared perspective over the common good. In this light, the issue of the common good is the issue of the good that is our being in relation with others, insofar as that being in communicative and operative relation with others is the basic condition to evaluate and generate every other kind of human good. The second session deals with the notion of human and social flourishing. that is the development of human capabilities - notably to act creatively, to take responsibilities and to establish and maintain social relations. To overcome a purely consumerist society and to sustain widespread human and societal flourishing. social and institutional innovation is needed as well as policies sustaining human development, social solidarity and common aood.

Morning session (10.00-13.00)

Global, universal, common

Keynote speaker: Prof. M. Hunyadi, Université Catholique de Louvain, Dept. of Philosphy, Europé Director

Research Group Speaker: Prof. F. Botturi, UCSC, Dept. of Philosophy

Afternoon session (16.00-19.00)

Economic growth and human flourishing: lessons from the crisis

Keynote speaker: Prof. J. P. Dupuy, École Polytechnique, C.R.E.A. Director, and Stanford University

Prof. O. Bobineau, The Olive Branch Director

Research Group Speaker: Prof. M. Martinelli, UCSC, Dept. of Sociology

Scientific Directors of the conference: Prof. Francesco Botturi, Prof. Luigi Campiglio, Prof. Mauro Magatti

Scientific Coordinator of the conference: Dr. Laura Gherardi