Global instabilities and the Economic, financial and monetary policies orders

International conference

Paris, June 17-18th 2013
(17 rue Saint-Guillaume)

Call for papers
(deadline for answering: January 15, 2012)

Organizational committee:
Vincent Gayon (IRISSO – CNRS – Université Paris Dauphine)
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Scientific committee:
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Partnerships:
CSO – Sciences Po Paris
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Recent troubles within the European monetary union, such as speculative attacks on public debts and uncertainties about the future of OECD countries’ economic performances and social systems can be seen as clear signs of the instability of finance-based capitalism.

Whereas many commentators still insist on the “necessity” of dismantling Welfare States, deregulating labor markets and promoting competition among and within national economies, such a critical moment could also lead to the conclusion that the current regime of economic, financial and monetary policies is structurally characterized by unsustainable disorders.

Paradoxically, as they relate to the transformations and crisis of capitalisms, these policies are characterized, in their theoretical, institutional, instrumental and human consistency and composition, by a strong capacity of resilience and absorption of critics and disproof. What do social scientists have to say about the (in)stability of the very institutions that perform and maintain monetary, financial and economic policies?

The international conference will analyze the tensions between the resilience of these institutional configurations, the policies they design and implement, and the structural disorders the latter fuel, at the regional, national and transnational levels. The conference will contrast analysis of the present situation with past crisis in Western countries and elsewhere, and hence contribute to existing researches on the constitution of economic financial and monetary policy orders and their transformations throughout time and space. Communications should therefore investigate the different mediations that construe and maintain these orders – social, institutional, technical and financial – by asking questions such as: How is the consistency of economic policy order an issue – of perception, definition and equipment - for the actors themselves in specific configurations? Through which devices, instruments, organizations and actors are the stabilization or de-stabilization of economic policy order enacted? How, when the order is robust, do economic, financial and monetary policies constraint the actions of governments and political actors about monetary and economic matter?

In a more general perspective, the conference will give interdisciplinary insights - history, sociology, economy, political science and science and technology studies (STS) will be mobilized – on the issue of transnational regulation through the analysis of the instruments and ideas, the organizations and institutions as well as the actors that are involved in the power struggles and controversies about the conduct of economic, financial and monetary policies.

Potential contributors are invited to submit abstracts falling into one of the five following categories:

(1) Sociography of economic, financial and monetary policy “elites” – be there political, administrative, corporate, academic or NGO actors.
(2) Epistemology on the “turning point” and “disjuncture” of economic, financial and monetary policies
(3) STS on the instruments that shape the “framing” and “driving” of economic, financial and monetary policies. Devices that make financial, economic and monetary order public, especially with regards to their “risks” and instabilities.
(4) Study of the transnational organizations of capital markets

Young researchers are strongly invited to submit propositions for communications. Abstracts from 3 000 to 6 000 signs should be sent by January 15, 2012 to benjamin.lemoine[at]sciences-po.org and vincent.gayon[at]dauphine.fr.

Authors will be notified of the decision of the scientific committee by the end of January. Final papers (30 000 to 40 000 signs) will have to be sent by 30th May. The conference will be held on 17th– 18th June 2013 in Paris. Publication of the conference proceedings is expected.