

XXXI ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ITALIAN SOCIETY OF PUBLIC ECONOMICS

The Italian Society of Public Economics (SIEP) announces its XXXI Annual Conference, to be held in Torino, Italy, on September 19th and 20th, 2019. The general theme of the Conference is:

Quality of government, economic development and social welfare

With the expression *Buongoverno* Luigi Einaudi referred to a liberal theory of political economy aimed at defining policies compatible with the existence of a market economy and aimed at maximizing collective welfare. The theme of *Buongoverno* was a comprehensive framework, the main principles of which are the freedom of competition and a policy against monopolies, the 'equality of starting points' and the 'elevation from below', and the optimum tax. Einaudi's intellectual construction may represent now, as then, a precious theoretical structure for addressing relevant questions about economic policy and the nature and content of welfare economics.

In fact, the role of political and economic institutions in securing property rights, effectively providing essential public goods and services in a non-discriminatory and non-corrupt way, and guaranteeing democratic participation and equal access has attracted renewed interest in recent years. However, what the quality of institutions exactly means remains an open issue, ranging from the recent emphasis on the ability to promote economic growth per se to wider ranging objectives of fighting inequality, promoting well-being and fostering the involvement of private for-profit and not-for-profit actors in pursuing the public good.

The Scientific Committee of the Congress invites submissions of papers addressing the theoretical and empirical issues concerning the investigation of the heterogeneity in the quality of institutions, both across countries at the international level and across local and regional governments at the subnational level; how the quality of government ought to be defined and measured; what policies promote and preserve high quality institutions; finally, the impact of the quality of institutions on economic growth, inequality, trust, or specific policy areas (e.g., education, social security, health, arts and culture, and the environment).

In addition, submissions on any of the following or related topics are welcome:

1. Multi-level finance and public budgeting; fiscal federalism
2. Public choice, political economy; voting
3. Theoretical and empirical analyses of taxation and income redistribution; welfare economics; inequality
4. Asymmetric and private information; mechanism design; games and auctions
5. Public policy evaluation; labor market and pension reforms
6. Market structure, pricing, and design; economics of regulation; antitrust issues and policies
7. Role of supranational governments and EU institutions; fiscal competition and international tax coordination and integration; migration
8. Macroeconomic policy-making; monetary policy
9. Externalities; environmental taxes and subsidies; climate change; international agreements

10. Cultural economics
11. Experimental economics and happiness studies
12. Law and economics

Papers on issues that do not fall within the main topic of the Conference might also be considered.

The keynote speaker of the Conference will be Kai Konrad (Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance).

The Scientific Committee of the Conference is chaired by Federico Revelli (Università di Torino) and Gilberto Turati (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore).

The call for paper of the Conference will be published by January 18th 2019.

The deadline for paper submission will be May 20th 2019.

Romilda Rizzo

SIEP President

Pavia, December 2018