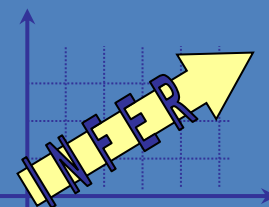


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16thINFER Annual Conference 2014

Dear Friends,

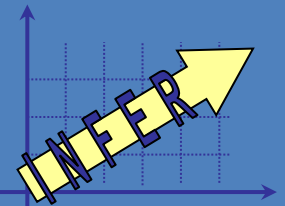
We will be happy to welcome you in Pescara (Italy) shortly at the 16th INFER Annual Conference! This year, the main annual event of the International Network for Economic Research is organized jointly with the Department of Economics of Gabriele d'Annunzio University (**DEC**) and the Italian Association for the Study of Economic Asymmetries (a/simmetrie). The Annual Conference takes place from May 28th to May 31st. The invited speakers this year are: Josef Brada (Arizona State University), Gianni de Fraja (Nottingham University and CEPR), Gary Jefferson (Brandeis University), Dominick Salvatore (Fordham University) and Mathias Thoenig (HEC, Université de Lausanne).

Jan Van Hove
Chair of INFER

Renewal of INFER membership

All INFER members are kindly requested to renew their INFER membership for 2014. The INFER membership is valid for the entire calendar year 2014. The membership fee is 25 euros for individual members and 200 euros for institutional members. Thanks to your membership you continue to receive information on all INFER activities. Moreover INFER members benefit from substantial fee reductions for all INFER events. Your membership can be renewed via the INFER website (payment by PayPal).

In case of questions, please contact the INFER treasurer Cordelius Ilgmann (ilgmann@infer.info).



INFER Workshops Opened Call for Papers

INFER is currently inviting submissions to several forthcoming workshops. See below for details.

International Workshop « European Economic Integration: Present and Future Challenges »

Lisbon (Portugal), June 20th-21th 2014

This workshop is jointly organized by INFER, ISEG-UL (School of Economics and Management of the University of Lisbon) and UECE (Research Unit on Complexity and Economics). The invited guest speakers are Gabriel Felbermayr (CESIFO), Stuart Hollande (University of Coimbra) and João de Sousa Andrade (University of Coimbra). Papers can be submitted by **April 30th, 2014**. For more information, please download the Call for Papers at:

<http://www.infer-research.net/file/INFER%20Workshop%20Lisbon%202014.pdf>

International Workshop « Financial Globalization, International Trade and Development »

Bordeaux (France), July 3rd-4th 2014

This workshop is jointly organized by INFER, LAREFI (Laboratoire d'Analyse et de Recherche en Economie et Finance Internationales) and Université de Bordeaux. The invited keynote speakers are Benoit Mojon (Banque de France) and Jaime de Melo (University of Geneva). Papers can be submitted by **April 15th, 2014**. For more information, please download the Call for Papers at:

http://www.infer-research.net/files/INFER%20Workshop%20Bordeaux%202014_Call%20for%20papers.pdf

INFER Workshop « Urban and Regional Economics »

Reus (Spain), September 4th-5th 2014

This workshop is jointly organized by INFER, CREIP (Research Centre in Industrial and Public Economics) and Universitat Rovira i Virgili. The invited keynote speakers are Philip McCann (University of Groningen) and Andrés Rodríguez-Pose (London School of Economic). You can submit your papers by **May 15th, 2014**. For more information, please download the Call for Papers at:

<http://www.infer-research.net/file/Call%20for%20Papers%20INFER%20Workshop%20Reus.pdf>

INFER Workshop « Banking in Europe: Current Challenges »

Prague (Czech Republic), September 26th 2014

This workshop is jointly organized by INFER and Institute for Economic Studies (IES) at Charles University in Prague. You can submit your papers by **June 15th, 2014**. For more information, visit: www.infer-research.net, <http://ies.fsv.cuni.cz/>

INFER Workshop « Monetary Policy, Asset Prices and the Real Economy in Central and Eastern Europe »

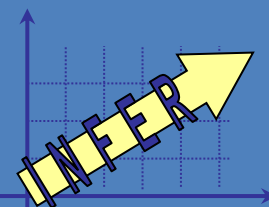
Timisoara (Romania), December 12th-13th 2014

This workshop is jointly organized by INFER, RCEM (Research Centre for Engineering and Management) and ECREB (East-European Centre for Research in Economics and Business). The invited guest speakers are Ansgar Belke (University of Duisburg – Essen, DIW), Jarko Fidrmuc (Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen) and László Halpern (Institute of Economics - Hungarian Academy of Sciences, CEPR). You can submit your papers by **September 1st, 2014**. For more information, please download the Call for Papers at:

http://www.infer-research.net/files/Call%20for%20papers_INFER%20Workshop%20Timisoara%202014.pdf

If you want to organize a workshop at your university, contact Camelia Turcu, Chair of the Workshop Committee, who will be willing to give advice and guidance.

Camelia Turcu, camelia.turcu@univ-orleans.fr



INFER Debate Series

INFER recently launched the *INFER Debate Series*. The first round table debate was hosted by The Leuven Centre for Irish Studies on February 7th, 2014 in Leuven (Belgium). The topic under discussion was the *economic crisis*. The invited speakers were Elias Soukiazis (Portugal), Edward Shinnick (Ireland), Alberto Bagnai (Italy), Andreea Stoian (Romania), Camelia Turcu (France) and Cordelius Ilgmann (Germany). The discussion was moderated by Professor Jan Van Hove (Belgium). During the debate many issues were discussed, including the causes of the economic crisis, the development and the spread of the crisis across Europe, and the reforms recommended for the post crisis era. The speakers also shared the experience of their own countries in dealing with the crisis, and the effects of the consolidation action undertaken by governments in their home countries. Further INFER debates will be organised in the near future. It is envisaged that the Debate Series will act as a platform to assist INFER members to disseminate their research to a wider audience across Europe.



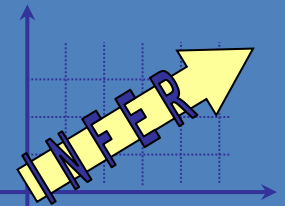
Centre for Firms in the Global Economy (CFGE) the New Strategic Partner of INFER

Loughborough School of Business and Economics in the UK is opening a new **Centre for Firms in the Global Economy**, which will be a strategic partner of INFER. The opening event will be a small conference on *Firm Strategy in the Global Economy*, held in Loughborough on 13-14 May, with *Peter Neary* (University of Oxford), *Carl Davidson* (Michigan State University) and *Mark Casson* (University of Reading) as guest speakers. There will be no charge for INFER members attending the event, though the Centre cannot pay transport or overnight subsistence. If you are interested in attending, please contact **Huw Edwards** (T.H.Edwards@lboro.ac.uk) as soon as possible, since numbers may be limited.

The purpose of the new research centre is to undertake and disseminate high-quality research on firm-strategy and government policy in a global economy, which will be useful to different stakeholders in the society, such as corporate managers, policy makers and consumers. The Centre will create an interdisciplinary forum for state-of-the-art research on firm-strategy and government policy in a global economy by bringing together perspectives from both microeconomics and international business. We expect the Centre to evolve as a leading player in this important academic niche – both nationally and internationally.

As part of this strategy, we are seeking to fund **two PhD studentships for three years**, starting in **October 2014** or soon after that. We encourage students with a good academic record and a good Master's degree in Economics or International Business to apply for these studentships. The successful applicants are expected to carry out original and publishable research under the supervision of Centre staff in one of our three key thematic areas - Foreign direct investment and cross-border alliances (co-ordinator, Dr Ursula F. Ott), Government policies in global markets (co-ordinator, Dr Ben Ferrett), Pricing in global markets (co-ordinator, Dr Chris Wilson). The successful applicants are also expected to participate in the Centre's other activities, such as seminars, workshops and conferences.

For further details, please see the Centre's website: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/sbe/research/centres/cfge/> or contact Dr Huw Edwards (deputy director) at T.H.Edwards@lboro.ac.uk



Call for Papers for the Economics E-journal

Economics E-journal is publishing a special issue on *Distance and Border Effects in Economics*. This special issue brings together contributions related to distance and border effects in economics. Researchers are invited to submit theoretical, empirical or methodological papers. In particular, we welcome papers related to the following topics:

- The volume and values of bilateral trade
- Margins of trade
- Market competitiveness and firm competition
- The gains and costs of regional integration
- Trade, Innovation and technological spillovers
- Macroeconomic integration and convergence

The editors of this issue are: T. Huw Edwards (Loughborough University) and Jan Van Hove (KU Leuven). You can submit your papers by June 30th, 2014. For more information please visit the webpage at: <http://www.economics-ejournal.org/special-areas/special-issues/distance-and-border-effects-in-economics>

Opportunities for Disseminating Research

In furthering INFER's aim of becoming a research dissemination partner for its members we are announcing two research seminar series, which will be taking place over the next year. Both seminar series will welcome participation from INFER members. See below for details:

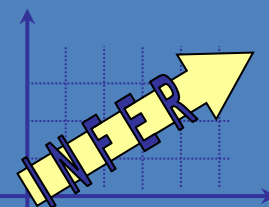
LEO Research Seminar

Laboratoire d'Economie d'Orléans (LEO) organizes a research seminar on a weekly basis from mid-September to late June each year. The seminar is taking place each Tuesday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. (unless stated otherwise) in the conference room of the Faculty of Law, Economics and Management, University of Orléans Rue de Blois, 45067 Orléans - France. The seminar gives the opportunity to researchers, professors and PhD students to present their work during 40 minutes. A discussant is assigned for each paper. The remarks of the discussant (for 10 minutes) are followed by questions from the floor (for 30 minutes). All those who are interested in presenting a paper at the LEO seminar are invited to contact, **Camelia Turcu** at : camelia.turcu@univ-orleans.fr. You can find more information on the seminar at: <http://www.univ-orleans.fr/leo/pages/seminairesleo.php>

CEFIMO Research Seminar and CEFIMO Doctoral Seminar

The Center for Financial and Monetary Research (CEFIMO) at the Faculty of Finance, Insurance, Banking and Stock Exchange in the Bucharest University of Economic Studies organizes research seminars for senior researchers and for PhD students from October to early July. The seminars take one hour and a half and include the presentation by the researcher, the discussion made by the assigned referee and an open Q&As session. If you are interested in presenting your work at CEFIMO research seminars, please contact the principal organizer, **Andreea Stoian** at: andreea.stoian@fin.ase.ro. You can also find more information about the research center by visiting the webpage at: <http://www.cefimo.ro/index.php?lang=en>

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Grant Opportunities

INFER would like to draw your attention to two research opportunities that may be of interest to our networks members. In addition if any INFER members are interested in COST funding, the INFER network is well placed to help connect members from across countries and to assist in disseminating research findings. For further discussion please contact the INFER Dissemination and Communication Committee. Our details are below.

David Duffy, d.duffy@ulster.ac.uk

Andreea Stoian, andreea.stoian@fin.ase.ro

COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology)

COST funds pan-European, bottom-up networks of scientists and researchers across all science and technology fields. These networks, called 'COST Actions', promote international coordination of nationally-funded research. COST is based on networks, called COST Actions, centered around research projects in fields that are of interest to at least five COST countries. COST Actions are science and technology networks open to researchers and stakeholders with duration of four years. COST Actions are active through a range of networking tools, such as workshops, conferences, training schools, short-term scientific missions (STSMs), and dissemination activities. Many COST Actions pave the way towards successful projects in the EU Framework Programme. They engage in dissemination of research to policy-makers and the general public and contribute to addressing problems of global societal relevance. For more information you can visit the webpage at: http://www.cost.eu/about_cost

GDN and CERGE-EI Research Competition

Global Development Network (GDN) and Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education – Economic Institute (CERGE-EI) launch the Call for Proposals for Round 15 for Regional Research Competition (RRC). The deadline for proposals submission is Tuesday July 1st, 2014. For more details and instructions on how to submit a proposal you can download the call at: https://iweb.cerge-ei.cz/pdf/gdn/GDN_CEE_RRC15_Call.pdf

INFER Past Events

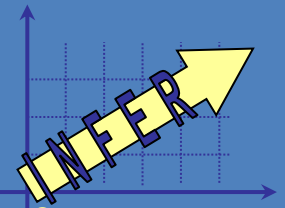
Testimonials

Over the years one of INFER's key objectives has been the organisation of high quality conferences and workshops for members and friends. We strive to organise topical events of interest to members and hope to provide a platform for lively discussion and in particular to help young researchers in the publication of their work. These INFER events help to stimulate the INFER network and to facilitate the dissemination of new ideas. We hope that our members are happy with INFER activities and in the hope of encouraging further networking and participation of new members we have provided a short testimonial of two events below.

Christian Oberst (E.ON Energy Research Center, Future Energy Consumer Needs and Behavior - FCN)

I attended the INFER annual conference 2013 in Orléans primarily for the special session on regional economics to discuss the policy implication of my current working paper on Okun's law in a spatial context. As usual I really enjoyed our discussion in a small group during the session and in particular in the following coffee breaks. The group of about 15 researchers was a good mix of familiar colleagues from the corresponding INFER Working Group and new faces, young and more senior researchers, as well as from the fields of regional science and labor market economists. For the latter, we benefited from a locational advantage of Orléans with having LEO (Laboratoire d'Economie d'Orléans) directly on-site. However, what is special about INFER and in particular the annual conference, is the chance to take a look beyond the own specializations. Still vividly present in my mind is the very informative and to the necessary extend controversial keynote speech from Jürgen von Hagen about the Euro Area after the Crisis. A topic every European economist should cover to a certain extent, but at least in my common working day is not present. In addition, INFER conferences are always a good chance to meet former colleagues and fellow students that went topic-wise in another direction. Also, I remember of course another locational advantage of the Université d'Orléans as host of the conference,

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namely the Agora Restaurant and a tasty lunch where it was just too tempting to extend the lunch break by just a few minutes. Another vivid memory of the Université d'Orléans I have, is that despite some communications and navigation problems on the way I found my way on time with the help of friendly and helpful people on the campus. I would like to thank here the anonymous law-student who walked me 10 minutes across the campus. Reason for this was of course the lack of own preparation (in combination with a non-existing common market in the EU for mobile Internet) and not in default of provided information's. I liked the conference in Orléans so much, that I returned just two weeks later for the Workshop on Spatial Econometrics also organized by members of LEO. Many thanks to the organization team and best regards from Aix-la-Chapelle. **(15th INFER Annual Conference, May 29th– June 1st, 2013, Orleans, France)**

Josep-Maria Arauzo-Carod (Department d'Economia, Facultat de Ciències Econòmiques i Empresariales, Universitat Rovira i Virgili Tarragona)

Last May / June I participated at the INFER Conference in Orléans and it was absolutely a great experience, not only from an academic point of view but also for the quality of social events. The INFER Conference structure is quite balanced between being so wide and so specialized, and size is also quite affordable, so potential interactions are maximized without being lost inside a crowded event. So I definitively recommend it. **(15th INFER Annual Conference, May 29th– June 1st, 2013, Orleans, France)**

Claudiu Albuлесcu (Department of Management, 'Politehnica' University of Timisoara)

As a participant to the International Workshop "From economic crisis towards economic growth: fiscal and monetary policy instruments", held in Bucharest on September 26-27, 2013, I would like to thank to the organizers for their initiative. High-quality papers on fiscal, macroeconomic and financial policies were presented in a harmonious way, covering all the workshop's topics. I have also appreciated the interventions of the keynote speakers. This was an excellent workshop. **(INFER Workshop 'From Economic Crisis Towards Economic Growth: Fiscal and Monetary Policy Instruments', September 26th- 27th, 2013, Bucharest, Romania)**

Gilson Manuel Gomes Pina (Faculty of Economics – University of Coimbra and School of Economics and Management – University of Minho)

INFER Bucharest Workshop 2013 was, in my opinion, an excellent opportunity to debate the solution of the international crises. Besides the quality of the papers presented, which allowed to open interesting discussions, the two keynote speakers presented two themes that allowed making reflections on the determinants and solutions of the recent financial crisis. Also, not only the issues of economic policies distinct the event, as well as the kindness and hospitality of the organizers had a major highlight. The foreign participants also had an excellent opportunity to know and socialize with local customs due to great social events carried out by the organizers. So, if you want, do not hesitate to participate in an event organized by INFER, because it will be wonderful. **(INFER Workshop 'From Economic Crisis Towards Economic Growth: Fiscal and Monetary Policy Instruments', September 26th- 27th, 2013, Bucharest, Romania)**

Miscellaneous

The Athenian Policy Forum Inc. joint with the Ryerson University organize The 12th Biennial Athenian Policy Forum Conference on 'Economic and Financial Asymmetries, National Debt and Government Policies' in June 13th -14th, 2014, Toronto (Canada). Two keynote speakers have already accepted: Charles Calomiris (Columbia University) and Steven Ambler (UQAM – Montreal). For further details, visit the webpage at: <http://www.apforum.org/conferences1.htm>.