



Venice Summer Institute 2005

Workshop on “Political Economy and Development”

18 July to 23 July 2005



From 18 July to 23 July 2005, CESifo will host its sixth Summer Institute in Venice, Italy. The CESifo Summer Institute 2004 will bring together international economists working on economic policy topics for workshops, panel meetings and discussion. The conference venue is San Servolo, an island across the water from San Marco in the bay of Venice.

The workshop “Political Economy and Development” will be held on July 20-21 and will discuss the importance of political institutions for economic progress, both in developing and in industrialized countries. While it was long recognized that political factors may play a key role in development, only recently formal modelling and empirical analyses of their effects have emerged.

Among the central issues that could be addressed in this workshop are (the list is not exhaustive):

- What makes government policies effective, what are the determinants of “good governance”, and how important are these for economic performance;
- The determinants and consequences of redistribution and the relationship between distribution and economic development as mediated through political processes;
- The role of political factors in shaping the accumulation and the utilization of key production input, such as land, human and physical capital, and natural resources;
- Political economy considerations in specific areas relevant to development such as education, health, infrastructure, social protection, trade and migration;
- Violent conflicts and development.

Both theoretical and empirical contributions are welcome. The conference will include invited as well as contributed papers. Keynote lectures will be given by **Timothy Besley**, LSE, **William Easterly**, NYU, and **Michael Kremer**, Harvard University.

A selection of the conference papers will be published in a conference volume by MIT Press, following a refereeing process, and pre-published as CESifo working papers. It is understood that all submissions to the conference imply submission to these publication outlets.

The conference is organized by Mark Gradstein (Ben-Gurion University) and Kai Konrad (WZB and Free University of Berlin). Papers should be submitted to

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Submission of papers by e-mail (in pdf format) is welcome. The deadline for submission is **31 March 2005**. Authors of submitted papers will be informed of the acceptance decision by the end of April. CESifo will provide accommodation and will reimburse economy travel costs for all participants with accepted papers or other active roles in the conference. Other CESifo network members and doctoral students of VIU partner Universities are invited to participate in the conference, but are expected to provide their own funding for travel and accommodation

For more information on this and the other workshops at the CESifo Venice Summer Institute please consult the web site: www.cesifo.de/venice