



# Venice Summer Institute 2007

In co-operation with



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U N I V E R S I T Y



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**CALL FOR PAPERS**  
for the CESifo Workshop

## “REINVENTING EUROPE”

to be held on 16-17 July 2007  
on the island of San Servolo in the Bay of Venice, Italy

Support by the WGL Leibniz Association within the project “How to Construct Europe” is gratefully acknowledged.

## WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

With the enlargement of the EU to 27 countries and the failure to approve the new Constitution, the integration process in Europe has come to a sudden halt. It is no longer clear where Europe is headed to, nor what characteristics Europe should have in the future. Should the EU go back to a simple free-market area for goods and services or should it move towards even tighter political and economic integration? And given the increased heterogeneity of the present members of the EU, should this deeper political integration be sought only for a subset of core members or eventually extended to all?

These questions suggest that there is a need for careful analysis of the constraints, aims, and options for European policy. Rather than just adding further suggestions about what an optimal European policy could look like, the objective of the conference is to emphasise the political economy aspects of the issue. Possible contributions might address such questions as:

- How do the existing European institutions — the Commission, the Parliament, the Council — actually work? Is the distribution of votes inside the Council efficient?
- Do we need a new Constitution or are the existing institutions still able to deliver?
- Can Europe go ahead just with soft procedural and voluntary agreements within subsets of member countries?
- To what extent can or should the delegation of important policy areas to European bureaucracy be used in future policymaking? And what should remain under firm political control?
- Should there be a devolution of European competencies back to the member states? How can the decision process of the European budget be improved in order to make the EU a more efficient policy-making body? How can the principle of subsidiarity be enforced in practice?
- Is there a growing democratic deficit in Europe? If this trend cannot be overcome, what does this imply for European politics?

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

A highlight of the conference will be the presentation of keynote lectures by the following leading researchers in the relevant fields:

**Gerard Roland** University of California, Berkeley  
**Andrew Sapir** Université Libre de Bruxelles  
**Mika Widgren** Turku School of Economics and Business Administration

Theoretical as well as empirical contributions aimed at delivering policy-relevant results are solicited. Accepted speakers will have their (economy-class/APEX) travel refunded and accommodation will be provided.

We expect accepted papers to be submitted to the CESifo Working Paper Series. The organisers are considering the possibility of publishing a selection of the papers in a special issue of a refereed journal.

## ORGANISERS

**Massimo Bordignon** Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano  
**Thiess Buettner** Ludwig-Maximilians University & Ifo Institute, Munich  
**Rick van der Ploeg** European University Institute, Florence

## CONTACTS

Papers should be submitted electronically (in PDF format) to:

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	<b>Rick van der Ploeg</b> rick.vanderploeg@eui.eu www.eui.eu/Personal/RickvanderPloeg	

The deadline for submissions is **31 March 2007**. Authors of submitted papers will be notified by the end of April regarding acceptance.

CESifo will provide accommodation, and will reimburse economy travel costs, for all participants with accepted papers. Other CESifo network members are invited to participate, but are expected to provide their own funding for travel and accommodation.