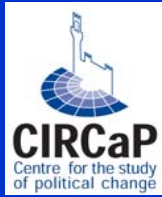




DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE STORICHE,
GIURIDICHE POLITICHE E SOCIALI



Pro. M Models of Modernization



WORKSHOP: *Real PIIGS? Economic voting and democratic accountability in Southern (and Northern) Europe*
University of Siena, March 8 – 9, 2011

PROGRAM

March 8, 2011 - h. 15.00

Venue: Aula Refugio—Collegio Santa Chiara – Il Refugio, Via del Refugio 4

Michael S. Lewis-Beck (University of Iowa/Collegio Carlo Alberto Fellow in Italian Studies)

Introduction to the workshop

Session 1

Chair: Richard Nadeau (University of Montreal)

Roula Nezi (University of Athens) and Stavros Skrinis (Panteion University Athens)

Do voters leave their wallets out of the polling booth? Economic perceptions as determinants of party choice in Greece, 2000-2007.

Discussant: Rune Stubager (University of Aarhus)

Paolo Bellucci (University of Siena)

Government accountability and voting choice in Italy, 2001-2008

Discussant: Marta Fraile (CSIC - Madrid/European University Institute, Florence)

h. 21.00 Dinner (Venue tba)

Session 2 March 9, 2011-h. 10.00. Venue: Sala Conferenze Facoltà di Scienze Politiche, Third Floor, Via Mattioli 10

Chair: Paolo Bellucci

André Freire (ISCTE, Lisbon University Institute) and José Pereira (EUI)

Economic voting in Portugal: a review and a reappraisal

Discussant: Marina Costa Lobo (Social Science Institute, University of Lisbon)

Marta Fraile (Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, CSIC - Madrid/European University Institute, Florence) and Michael S. Lewis-Beck (University of Iowa/Collegio Carlo Alberto Fellow in Italian Studies)

Economics and Elections in Spain: Cross-Measures, Cross-Time (1982-2008)

Discussant: Christine Fauvelle-Aymar (University of Tours)

Michael Marsh (Trinity College)

Stability of Economic Voting in Ireland

Discussant: Kaat Smets (University of Siena)

h. 13.00 Lunch (Venue tba)

Southern European polities share some controversial features in their political and economic systems. On the political side, they have often been portrayed as systems characterized by weakly institutionalised party systems, whose electorates show however restricted electoral volatility matched by ideological voting and extended political patronage. On the economic side, their structures were traditionally weaker than their Northern European counterparts, with uneven economic developments of typical dual economies, large state economic involvement and restricted social mobility. These features have for long inhibited government accountability: voters have relied on long term anchors of voting, thus depressing the crucial democratic link between voting and ruling parties' performance. In the last decade a greater electoral volatility has however emerged (matched by decreasing importance of partisan and ideological predispositions on voting), while Southern European economies have struggled to meet the condition for EU economic convergence. Economic reforms and privatisations have greatly affected these polities with uneven impacts on the population, and popular discontent has risen. Globalisation and the recent economic crisis have further imposed increasing constraints on governments' economic policies, hitting also Northern European polities, as in the Irish case. In this context it is likely that voters evaluate more critically governments' performance and that retrospective voting acquire more importance among the electorates. However, alternative readings are equally possible, as economic globalisation and the shifts of competence from national to the supranational European arena deprive and weaken traditional governmental powers of steering the economy. Government accountability could be further depressed.

Session 3 March 9, 2011-h. 15.00. Venue: Sala Conferenze Facoltà di Scienze Politiche, Third Floor, Via Mattioli 10

Chair: Christine Fauvelle-Aymar (University of Tours)

Presentation *in absentia*

Ali Çarkoğlu

Economy or Ideology: Diagnosing the Sources of Electoral Change in Turkey, 2002-2007

Discussant: Paolo Bellucci

Mike Lewis-Beck, Marina Costa Lobo and Paolo Bellucci

The threat of Globalization and Economic Voting in Southern Europe

Discussant: Richard Nadeau (University of Montreal)

Michael S. Lewis-Beck (University of Iowa/Collegio Carlo Alberto Fellow in Italian Studies) and Richard Nadeau (University of Montreal)

Economic Voting in South European Countries: A Comparative Perspective

Discussant: Michael Marsh

Session 4 - March 9, 2011-h.17

Venue: Sala Conferenze Facoltà di Scienze Politiche, Third Floor, Via Mattioli 10

General discussion and guidelines for the Special Issue of Electoral Studies