

In memory of Professor Frank Hahn (1925-2013)

The Role of Networks and Social Capital in Determining Patterns of Inequality and Economic Mobility

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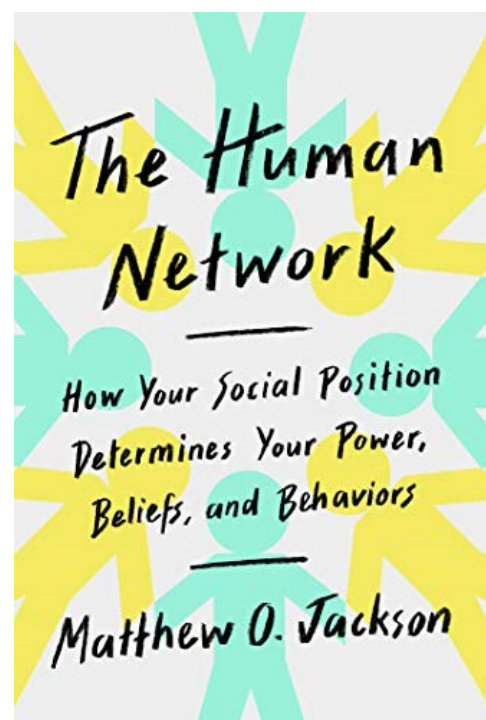
Welcome Address by

Prof. Roberto Di Pietra (University of Siena Rector)

Prof. Filippo Belloc (Chair of DEPS)

Coordination Prof. Nicola Dimitri

Introduction Prof. Paolo Pin



Matthew O. Jackson is a prominent American economist of international reputation, known for his contributions to network theory, game theory and microeconomics. He is currently Professor of Economics at Stanford University and Senior Fellow at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR). He obtained his PhD at Stanford University after which he held academic positions in prestigious universities, among which the California Institute of Technology (Caltech). His research focuses on strategic interactions in social contexts, with particular attention to the formation of social networks, and their impact on information diffusion, access to economic opportunities and dynamics of market power. His book, *Social and Economic Networks*, is considered a fundamental reference in network theory. Matthew Jackson is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and received several acknowledgements for his work, among which the John von Neumann Award for his contributions to game theory and the social sciences. Moreover, he collaborated with several research and policy making institutions, providing contributions on the dynamics of economic and social networks. Besides his research activity, he actively promotes economic knowledge and its applications, contributing to the development of theoretical models and analytical tools used in several disciplines.

Professor Frank Hahn (Birmingham, London School of Economics, Cambridge, Siena) has been acknowledged, worldwide, as a leading economic theorist of the previous century. He gave fundamental contributions to the theory of economic equilibrium and to the role of money in the economy. He also became known for having promoted a letter, signed by more than 300 economists, critical of the Margaret Thatcher economic policy. In his career he has mentored numerous economists, currently leading international academics. He had close collaborations with some of the principal world figures of the Economics discipline. During his period in Siena, he gave fundamental contributions to the University PhD program in Economics, and to many scientific activities of the Economics Department.