31st Annual EAEPE Conference  
12-15 September 2019  
Warsaw School of Economics, Poland

Call for papers and participation for EAEPE Special Session

‘Financing of Development, Development Banks and Political Economy of Financing Regional Integration in the European Union’

organized by Research Area [J] Monetary Economics, Finance and Financial Institutions

In line with the overall theme of the conference ‘30 years after the fall of the Berlin wall – What happened to Europe? Where does Europe stand today? What is new in economics?’ we are equally interested in the past 30 years of European integration but from a financial perspective. The session would address research questions related to regional development and the use of ‘structural funds’ which are forming a lion share of a number of domestic capital expenditures, especially in Central and Eastern European countries; the aspects of conditionality that comes with financial assistance within Regional and Cohesion Policies; the interplay between convergence of economic and fiscal policies (e.g. budgetary deficit rules) and divergence in economic structures along West-East and North-South dimensions within the EU. In the aftermath of recent financial and a series of fiscal crises, some governments turned to national development banks and enlarged their mandates (e.g. in Poland, Hungary) while newly founded banks now operate in the UK, Latvia and Malta. To what extent these promotional banks can engage in ‘policy finance’ within EU supranational governance (e.g. state-aid rules, budget deficit rules) would be another relevant topic to explore in regard to European socio-economic development and integration.

The role of financing in economic development is a well-established line of research while the literature on financing aspects in the context of European integration and development is not extensive. Financial assistance forms a cornerstone of European Regional and Cohesion policies while apart from policy evaluations, few studies examined the issue critically or from an ‘economic convergence’ point of view. One of the main aims of this special session is to address precisely that. Further, specialized financial institutions, such as development banks, have been given wider or stronger mandates in some member states as well as at the EU level (European Investment Bank) and there is a steadily growing interest towards studying their operations and policy roles. Politics of regional policies and distributive politics of financial assistance in the EU have been studied while financing of development in the context of European integration represents an especially relevant research line given intensifying consolidation of power at the EU level in directing financial policy decisions (e.g. fiscal budgetary rules) and in the context of contemporary European political economy in general.
We welcome contributions on topics related to (but not limited to):

- financing aspects of European economic integration, of regional development, socio-economic and innovation policies (e.g. Smart Specialization), including the use of ‘structural funds’
- role of development / promotional banks, national, regional (e.g. Nordic Investment Bank) and supranational (European Investment Bank, European Investment Fund)
- financial sector development (e.g. ‘banking nationalism’, foreign ownership of domestic banks) in the context of the EU
- ‘Europeanization’ in the context of financial and fiscal policies, and financial regulation, including Multiannual Financial Framework (currently debated at the EU level)

Abstract submission: related abstracts should be submitted electronically via conference website by selecting Special Session ‘Financing of Development…’ in the dropdown menu and forwarded to the session’s organizers

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Important dates
Abstract submission 15 April 2019
Notification of acceptance 30 April 2019
Full papers due 31 July 2019