



**EAEPE**

**Annual Conference**

**6-8 November 2008**



**LABOUR, INSTITUTIONS AND GROWTH IN A GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE  
BASED ECONOMY.**

**Venue:**

University of Roma Tre, Faculty of Economics,

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Conference web site: <http://eaepe2008.eco.uniroma3.it>

The 2008 annual EAEPE Conference will be held in Rome at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Roma Tre. We invite proposals for papers or sessions that address either the general theme of this year conference "Labour, Institutions and Growth in a Global Knowledge-Based Economy" or the topic of one of the *Research Areas* or both.

**Call for paper**

**LABOUR, INSTITUTIONS AND GROWTH IN A GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE  
BASED ECONOMY.**

One of the most challenging themes for economists and social scientists today is to explain why some countries grow faster than others and how a sustainable economic development takes place in some countries and not in others. Adam Smith observed that some nations are richer even if not all the individuals in that society work, whereas other nations are extremely poor even if all the individuals work. He attributed most of the output differences among countries to better organization and labour division. Recently, there has been burgeoning literature in this field but theories and empirical analyses about economic growth significantly diverge. The process of globalisation and the development of the knowledge society have raised new challenges both for the explanation of persistent differences in growth rates and per capita incomes and for the choice of appropriate policies to foster growth.

The labour market – which has to be considered as a social institution in order to be deeply understood - seems to be one of the most important factors for economic growth since the latter is mainly determined by labour productivity. In turn, labour productivity growth has to be explained; and, in this case as well, theories and empirical evidences diverge significantly. Recently, the mainstream recipe to foster labour productivity growth has been labour flexibility: “putting the right workers in the right place and the wrong workers out of wrong place”. However, in the European Union, where in the last decade the labour market was subject to radical reforms

which increased labour flexibility, one can still observe in many countries high unemployment rates and low labour productivity.

At the same time, economic growth remains largely unexplained if one considers only labour and capital accumulation; total factor productivity seems to come into play. Human capital and technological innovation have often been seen as the drivers of TFP, but these in turn have to be explained, and the greatest source of long run growth seems to be found in the “black box” where institutions and economic public policies play the most important role. Indeed, economic institutions - widely defined as web of rules patterning the interaction between economic agents and the mechanism of resources allocation - allow better comprehension and deeper explanation of the process of economic growth and of the cross – country variation in the level of income per capita,

The 2008 Conference of EAEPE in Rome will address, in a broad sense, such themes and will contribute to the debate on economic growth and development, through a multidisciplinary, institutional and evolutionary perspective.

**Key words: labour market, institutions, growth, development, globalisation, knowledge**

**Submission of abstracts:**

Please upload a 600-1000 word abstract to

<http://eaepe2008.eco.uniroma3.it>

by **April 30<sup>th</sup> 2008**.

The abstract should clearly mention:

- Title of the paper
- Name of the author(s) and full address of the corresponding author (postal address, phone, fax and email)
- the aim of the study and methodology
- (expected) results and/or conclusions
- up to 5 keywords and code of the (closest) EAEPE research area

**Complete session proposal (four abstracts):**

Please send your session proposal to [eaepe2008@uniroma3.it](mailto:eaepe2008@uniroma3.it)

and upload separately the abstracts of the session papers on the Conference web site stating explicitly in the abstract page that the papers are part of a session proposal

<http://eaepe2008.eco.uniroma3.it>

All the submitted abstracts will be refereed by the scientific committee.

**Important datelines:**

Deadline for abstract submission: **30<sup>th</sup> April, 2008**

Notification for abstract acceptance: **30<sup>th</sup> May, 2008**

Deadline for paper submission: **20<sup>th</sup> September, 2008**

In order to be included in the final program, the paper has to be submitted before the above stated date and at least one of the authors has to be registered, has paid the conference fee and be a paid EAEPE member. Please note that you have to be an EAEPE member in order to attend the Conference.

**Scientific Committee:**

Sebastiano Fadda (chair) - University of Roma Tre (Italy)

Paolo Leon - University of Roma Tre (Italy)

Antonio Di Maio - University of Roma Tre (Italy)

Pasquale Tridico – University of Roma Tre (Italy)

Aurora Texeira – University of Porto (Portugal)

Andreas Reinstaller – Austrian Institute of Economic Research WIFO (Austria)

Maria Lissowska – University of Warsaw (Poland)

Jakie Krafft – Univesrity of Nice-Sophia Antipolis (France)

Jorma Sappinnen – University of Lappeerante (Finland)

**Local Organizers:**

Sebastiano Fadda (chair) - University of Roma Tre (Italy)

Pasquale Tridico – University of Roma Tre (Italy)