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*Development of Euro-Mediterranean Economic Research (DREEM)*

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IRISES CNRS UMR 7170 Université Paris Dauphine  
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International Conference  
"Inequalities and development in the Mediterranean countries"  

_Galatasaray University, Istanbul, Turkey_  
21-22-23 May 2009

Organised by the GDRI DREEM  
and the Galatasaray University

with the support of LEAD (University of the South Toulon-Var)  
of LEDa (Laboratoire d'Economie de Dauphine) University Paris-Dauphine

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Economics of development and transition  
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of the Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations  
and the Center for Employment Studies (Centre d’Etudes de l’Emploi)

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CALL FOR PAPERS
**Issue**

The GDRI DREEM organizes its biannual international conference at the Galatasaray University. The selected theme, “Inequalities and development in the Mediterranean countries”, deserves particular attention and takes on various aspects: income inequalities, social inequalities, spatial inequalities, gender inequalities, inequalities in the economic performance... The recent literature has emphasized the role inequalities play in the explanation of growth, emigration or poverty. As the “pro-poor growth” theory assumes, two distinct effects come into play in the explanation of poverty: a “growth effect” and an “inequality effect”. But little research of this type has focused on Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries (SEMCs). If the World Bank highlights the need to reduce “inequality traps” so as to reduce poverty by advocating the fight against social inequity, research has shown that this problem is more complex in SEMCs. Despite a marked improvement in the indicators of human development, these countries have not experienced a significant poverty reduction. Therefore, the issue of equity in the region appears not only to cover the traditional questions of education and health.

The recent economic literature has also emphasized the institutions and their quality as a key factor either to development or to the trap of underdevelopment. The institutions of SEMCs, their functioning or their role in the weakness of economic performances, characteristic of these countries in spite of their possibly high growth rates, are worth examining more thoroughly.

Basically, the very nature of inequalities and their determinants in the regions should be better documented. How do the inequalities in the Southern Mediterranean regions evolve? The urban hierarchy and territorial inequalities, the location of activities and the role of public policies on that subject have to be related to socioeconomic inequalities and development trajectories. Which role does the persistence or even the advance of the informal sector play in the evolution of inequalities? How can the observation of a concomitant increase in inequalities and in growth be accounted for in certain developing countries?

Furthermore, if much literature has developed since the 1990s concerning the impact of the liberalization of exchanges on income inequalities between and within countries, little research has focused on the role of inequalities in the type of international integration of SEMCs. These inequalities are also the root of the emigration of human capital and of international imbalances.

To sum up, one of the aims of this conference will be to provide a multi-faceted answer to the following questions: which links exist between inequalities and growth? Does poverty reduction ensue from the growth process? To what extent can institutions and their quality account for inequalities? Which interrelations are there between inequalities and international openness?
Main themes of the conference

- Growth and income discrepancies
- Euromediterranean integration, foreign direct investment and inequalities
- Urbanization and spatial inequalities
- Poverties and income inequalities
- Social welfare, pension schemes and employment
- Informal sector and labour markets
- Gender and inequalities
- Migrations and income transfers
- Human capital and socioeconomic inequalities
- Structural reforms, privatization, governance and inequalities
- Finance and inequalities
- Sustainable development, norms and the environment
- Energy, raw material and growth
- Sectorial approaches (agriculture, services...)
- Inequalities and growth in developing countries: comparisons

Calendar

Proposals for papers (detailed summary or temporary version, in French or in English), should be sent to El Mouhoub Mouhoud (em.mouhoud@dauphine.fr) and to Maurice Catin (Maurice.catin@univ-tln.fr) by 25 January 2009.

The Scientific Committee will define the list of selected papers by 27 February 2009.

The authors are requested to send their definitive text by 4 May 2009.

Scientific Committee

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