

Economic Annals/EACES Workshop
in memory of Professor Božidar Cerović

THE COMPARATIVE ECONOMICS OF TRANSITION IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE

20 September 2019
Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade

CALL FOR PAPERS

Background

It is almost thirty years since the onset of transition process in the former socialist countries of South East Europe. While some countries made the transition from centrally planned to market economies following the collapse of the communist regimes, Yugoslavia began its transition process from decentralised self-management socialism as part of an ambitious set of pro-market reforms initiated in the late 1990s. The break-up of the country and the experience of armed conflicts led to a variety of transition paths in the successor states, involving different approaches to privatisation and other aspects of transition policy. The countries of the region also have a varied relationship to the EU, with some having made the transition to member state status, with others still at various stages of accession and integration to the EU economy. Countries of the region have also felt a differentiated impact of the economic crisis that began in 2008 depending partly on their dependence of their growth path on external flows of credit which came to a sudden stop at the time. The economic recovery process has been intertwined with political developments that have led to democratic backsliding in some countries, reversing the process of democratic consolidation that was thought to be an important accompaniment of economic transition. In his long career as an active researcher in all these processes at the Belgrade University Faculty of Economics, Professor Božidar Cerović covered many of these issues in his published work, with a special interest in the causes of the failures of the transition process in the South East Europe region. He analysed the outcomes and effects of privatisation, industrial policy, innovation and intangible capital, and the role of export-led growth in economic recovery among other issues. He also had a particular concern for the lingering impact of initial conditions and the economic and institutional heritage that set the context for the varieties of transition experienced in the region. His keen interest in these topics motivates the themes of the workshop on the comparative economics of transition in South East Europe.

Aims

This workshop is designed to advance the research programme pursued by Božidar Cerović in the field of comparative economics of South East Europe. It aims to provide a forum for the latest research on all aspects of economic transition and European integration in this region and beyond. Papers are welcome from a wide variety of traditions of economic analysis. Empirical papers focusing on comparative analysis of economics of the region are encouraged, while individual country studies related to the workshop themes are also welcome. After the workshop, the best papers will be considered for publication in a thematic issue of *Economic Annals* to be published in autumn 2020. Papers will also be considered for an edited volume to be published by Scientific Society of Economists of Serbia.

Workshop Themes

The political economy of transition
The role of institutions in economic growth
Industrial policy in transition and emerging economies
Entrepreneurship and innovation in transition economies
Organisation and management of enterprises
Labour markets and skills in transition
Varieties of capitalism in South East Europe
Economics of regional cooperation in South East Europe

Keynote Speaker

Professor Saul Estrin, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Saul Estrin is Professor of Managerial Economics and Strategy and the founding Head of the Department of Management at LSE. He was formerly Adecco Professor of Business and Society at London Business School where he was Director of the CIS Middle Europe Centre and Research Director of the Centre for New and Emerging Markets. At LSE he is affiliated with the Centre for Economic Performance and has been the Research Director of the Entrepreneurship Institute. He has been President of the European Association for Comparative Economic Studies.

Abstracts

Abstracts of up to 300 words should contain the title, author(s) name and affiliation, and contact details. Abstracts should clearly state the aims of the paper, the methodology used and the workshop theme to which the paper is addressed. Abstracts should be submitted by 24th May 2019 via email to Will Bartlett (w.j.bartlett@lse.ac.uk) and Irena Janković (irenaj@ekof.bg.ac.rs)

Important Dates

24th May 2019: Deadline for submission of abstracts
7th June 2019: Notification of acceptance
4th September 2019: Submission of papers and registration for workshop
20th September 2019: Workshop, Professors' Hall, Faculty of Economics, Belgrade, Serbia

Travel, Accommodation and Catering

There is no fee for participation at the workshop, but participants have to cover their own travel costs and accommodation. Coffee/tea and buffet lunch will be provided on the day of the workshop. A contribution is offered to the costs of travel and accommodation for early career researchers who are authors of selected papers and who lack support from their affiliated institutions, on request.

Organizing Committee

Will Bartlett (London School of Economics and Political Science, UK)
Branislav Boričić (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics, Serbia)
Mladen Stamenković (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics, Serbia)
Irena Janković (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics, Serbia)

Selection Committee

Mihail Arandarenko (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics, Serbia)
Will Bartlett (London School of Economics and Political Science, UK)
Jens Hölscher (University of Brighton, UK)
Aleksandra Nojković (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics, Serbia)
Janez Prašnikar (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Economics, Slovenia)
Saša Randjelović (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics, Serbia)
Milica Uvalić (University of Perugia, Faculty of Political Sciences, Italy)
Ivan Vujačić (NDES & University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics, Serbia)

Organisers

The workshop is organised by the Faculty of Economics at the University of Belgrade, the journal *Economic Annals* and the European Association for Comparative Economics (EACES), with the support of the Scientific Society of Economists of Serbia (NDES) and the Association of Economic Universities of South and Eastern Europe and the Black Sea Region (ASECU).

European Association for Comparative Economic Studies (EACES)

The founding conference of EACES was held in Verona on 27-29 September 1990 with participation of 160 economists from 24 countries. The First General Assembly of EACES, held on September 27, 1990. The Association has held 15 bi-annual Conferences, the next of which will be held in Naples, Italy, in September 2020. The principal focus of the association is the comparative study of economic systems, including the economies of East and West, North and South, as well as the economic interactions among systems and among regional areas, such as the EU. The Association is a broadly-based organisation in which all schools of economic thought can exchange views and ideas on current and prospective research. EACES website: <http://www.eaces.eu>

Economic Annals

Economic Annals is an academic journal published quarterly since 1955 initially under its Serbian name of *Ekonomski anali*. Since 2006 it has been published in English. Its publisher is the Faculty of Economics at the University of Belgrade. It covers all areas of economic analysis, publishing high-quality research papers both theoretical and empirical. The International Editorial Board particularly welcomes contributions that explore economic issues in comparative perspective and those regarding transition economies and emerging markets in particular. All papers submitted are subject to double-blind refereeing process. The current issue is available on the website of the Faculty of Economics, along with earlier issues: <http://www.ekof.bg.ac.rs/publikacije/casopisi/ekonomski-anali/>

Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade

The Faculty of Economics at the University of Belgrade was established as the Graduate School for Economy and Trade as far back as 1937 as the first higher educational centre in the field of Economics in the former Kingdom of Yugoslavia. Today, the Faculty of Economics is the biggest and the most prominent scientific and educational institution in the country in the field of economic sciences. The Faculty employs about 130 teachers and associates, of whom 53 are full tenured professors. Every year there are about 20 graduates and about 20 visiting scholars engaged in teaching. Up to now, around 40,000 students have graduated from the Faculty; about 2,173 have continued their studies successfully advancing to the MSc degree and about 730 acquired a PhD degree.

Scientific Society of Economists in Serbia (NDES)

The Scientific Society of Economists in Serbia (NDES) is an association of economists engaged in scientific and educational work in a higher education and research institution in Serbia or abroad. It is based at the Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade. Its main activities are organising scientific forums, round tables, workshops and conferences devoted to selected topical issues. Each year, NDES organizes at least two conferences jointly with the Faculty of Economics in Belgrade, with participation of other economic faculties in the country. These conferences are devoted to Serbian economic policy, transition, EU accession issues, and bi-annually to the global economy and business economics. So far, more than fifty proceedings of these events have been published.

Association of Economic Universities of South and Eastern Europe and the Black Sea Region (ASECU)

On November 1996, the Rector of University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, took the initiative to invite in Thessaloniki Rectors of Economic Universities, Heads of Economic Departments and Deans of Economic Faculties so as to establish this association. The invitation was sent to Universities of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Romania and Yugoslavia. Presently, ASECU amounts fifty-one members, Universities and Scientific Centers from the region.