

ESF Programme: Public Goods, Public Projects, Externalities
The European Journal of the History of Economic Thought
ERMES / Panthéon Assas University and CNRS, Paris



**PUBLIC GOODS, EXTERNALITIES, PUBLIC DECISION MAKING:
A PERSPECTIVE FROM THE HISTORY OF ECONOMIC THOUGHT**

PARIS, 11-13 DECEMBER 2008

During the past three decades there have been important developments in the history of economic thought, opening many theoretical fields to historical scrutiny. Public economics has not however been subjected to systematic investigation. Nonetheless, leading theoreticians such as Richard Musgrave and Alan Peacock have shown how the history of economics can be useful and productive not only as a specialized field *per se*, but also as a means to an improved understanding of modern concepts and theoretical elaboration — even providing a source of inspiration for new ideas. Two historical surveys were published more than twenty years ago — by John Creedy in 1984 and Richard Musgrave in 1985 — but there has since been little new historical research in this area.

It is therefore proposed to hold an international conference on the history of public economics to stimulate new historical research on the development of core concepts, models and issues in modern public economics. All topics relevant to the domain of Public Economics, broadly understood, are welcome, including: theory of the state, public expenditure and revenue, public decision-making, regulation, externalities, social security and insurance, equity, justice, and also

study of national traditions of thought in the field. Historical perspectives on public economics from other disciplines — for example the philosophy of law and political philosophy — are also sought.

The conference will take place in Paris, at ERMES and Panthéon-Assas University. It will be supported by the ESF programme *Public goods, public projects, externalities*, in collaboration with ERMES (UMR CNRS 7181) and *The European Journal of the History of Economic Thought* (EJHET).

The keynote speaker will be Alan PEACOCK.

Scientific Committee

Denis BARANGER (Panthéon-Assas University, Paris, France)

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Richard STURN (Karl-Franzens University of Graz, Austria)

Keith TRIBE (University of Sussex, Great Britain)

Submissions

Please submit proposals in the form of an abstract of no more than 700 words before May 15, 2008 to the following e-address:

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Deadline for the reception of the papers: November 15, 2008.

Postal address

History of Public Economics Conference

ERMES, Université Panthéon Assas (Paris 2)

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