



Project no. 029093

Specific Targeted Research Project  
SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME - PRIORITY 7  
CITIZENS AND GOVERNANCE IN A KNOWLEDGE-BASED SOCIETY

## INEQUALITY: MECHANISMS, EFFECTS AND POLICIES



### INEQ FINAL SEMINAR 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008

European Commission - Research Directorate General (room 2F) - Brussels

- 9:15 Welcome - Pierre Valette, Head of Unit, DG RTD, Unit L.2 Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities - Prospective
- 9:30 Fighting inequality and its persistence: the need for redistributive and more structural policies - Maurizio Franzini, CRISS Director
- 10:00 Economic inequality: mechanisms and policies  
Technology, globalisation and inequalities: policies for Europe - Mario Pianta, CRISS  
Trade, FDI, finance and inequality - José Molero, ICEI  
Globalisation, regionalisation, and income dynamics in European Union neighbouring developing countries - Gianluca Grimalda, WARWICK  
Technological change, international trade and wage inequality - Matthias Luecke, IFW  
Inequality, growth and social networks - Massimo Giannini, CRISS
- 11:00 Discussion on economic equality
- 11:30 *Coffee*

- 11:45 Social inequalities: new problems and policy changes  
Social inequalities: some newly emerging problems - Francesca Marzo, CRISS  
Social responses to inequalities and policy changes - Peter Utting, UNRISD
- 12:10 Discussion on social inequalities
- 12:30 General discussion and comments by Civil Society Organisations (tbc)
- 13:00 End of the seminar



### **The Project in Brief**

The INEQ project had three broad objectives: to investigate, against the background of the global economy, the economic and social mechanisms that are producing inequality within European countries and in the European Union as a whole and make for its persistence; to investigate the effects inequality has on economic performance and social integration in Europe; to identify policies – both at national and EU level – capable of reducing economic inequality, fostering social cohesion and sustaining competitiveness in the global economy.

Research activities carried out by all the partners led to several results in relation to these issues. As regards within-country inequalities, the general conclusion is that they depend on the interaction between market, society and policies. These interactions also help to understand why high inequality usually co-exists with persistent inequality. As regards between-countries inequality at world level, the limitations of a recipe based only on economic growth and deeper economic integration were assessed. The need for a closer coordination of policy intervention is given a special prominence. At the European level the very different performances of countries (and regions) – in some cases negative – call for an approach that makes the impact on inequality a more important element for assessing all types of policies. The general conclusion of the research is that in order to make inequality a more tolerable and less damaging phenomenon, redistributive policies only are insufficient. More structural policies with a significant impact both on markets and society are needed.

### **INEQ Research Consortium**

CRISS - Centro di ricerche interuniversitario sullo stato sociale, Italy (the Coordinator)

CEPN - Centre d'economie de Paris Nord, University of Paris 13, France

WARWICK - University of Warwick, Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation, UK

ICEI - Instituto Complutense de Estudios Internacionales, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain

IFW - Kiel Institute for World Economics, Germany

TIGER -Transformation, Integration and Globalization Economic Research, Leon Kozminski Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management, Poland

UNRISD - United Nations Research Institute on Social Development, Geneva

### **Registration to the Seminar**

In order to register to the seminar, please contact **Constantin-Daniel Ionita by email [constantin-daniel.ionita@ec.europa.eu](mailto:constantin-daniel.ionita@ec.europa.eu) by 20 November 2008**. For further information on the seminar, please contact Project Officer Pia Laurila, DG RTD, by tel. 51803 or by email [pia.laurila@ec.europa.eu](mailto:pia.laurila@ec.europa.eu).