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## Who calls us? And why?

*Calls for papers addressed to HET scholars  
2012-2017*

**ESHET Conference  
Madrid 7-9 June 2018**

### Introduction

Today I will present a special survey of the current state of History of Economic Thought (HET) at a world level, using my data base which includes calls for papers launched on international HET networks from 2012 to 2017 (in particular the SHOE list). This data base tells us essentially which world organizations “call” historians of economic thought to their conferences, and on which topics.

I will firstly look at the institutions (§ 1) and then at the titles (§ 2).

### 1. External history

In this section I will concentrate on institutions that have organised conferences and launched *calls for papers*, but will not examine the topics. The titles of the conferences are given however in order to distinguish between those with a title and those without.

#### 1.1. *Calls for papers issued by HET associations in other geographical areas*

This section includes the number of conferences held by national and international HET associations that have launched calls for papers, in descending order. The titles will be examined later.

**ESHET**(European Society for the History of Economic Thought)

*2017 Rationality in Economics (Antwerp)*

*2016 Inequalities in Economic Thought (Paris)*

*2015 Great Controversies in Economics (Rome)*

*2015 5th Latin American Conference of the History of Economic Thought (Chile)*

*2014 Liberalism: Perspectives and Debates in the History of Economic Thought (Lausanne)*

*2014 ESHET Latin American Conference (Belo Horizonte)*

*2013 Economic Theory and Business Practice (Kingston, UK)*

*2013 Path Dependence in Economic Development (Medellin Colombia)*

*2012 Institutions and Values in Economic Thought (Saint Petersburg)*

*2012 Core and Periphery Countries. Lessons from Economic History and the History of Economic Thought (Buenos Aires)*

**HES** (History of Economics – North America)

*2017 Toronto*

*2016 Durham, North Carolina*

*2015 East Lansing, Michigan*

*2014 Montreal*

2013 Vancouver  
2012 St. Catharines, Ontario

**JSJET** (Japanese Society for the History of Economic Thought)

2017 Shikoku  
2016 Sendai  
2015 Hikone  
2014 Tokyo or Saitama  
2013 Osaka  
2012 Fukushima

**HETSA** (History of Economic Thought Society of Australia)

2017 Canberra  
2016 Melbourne  
2015 Sydney  
2014 Auckland  
2013 Perth  
2012 Melbourne

**THETS** (UK History of Economic Thought Conference)

2017 London  
2016 Shanghai (China)  
2015 Manchester  
2014 London  
2013 Scheffield (UK)  
2012 Keele (UK)

**STOREP** (Associazione Italiana per la Storia dell'Economia Politica)

2017 *Investimenti, Finanza e Instabilità (Piacenza)*  
2016 *Crescita e percorsi di sviluppo nella mente di analisti, decisori politici e persone comuni (Catania)*  
2015 *Confini in movimento. L'economia della crisi e la sfida dell'interdisciplinarietà (Torino)*  
2014 *I molteplici aspetti dell'Economia politica e della sua storia: approcci "locali" e "globali" (Bergamo)*  
2013 *Il problema della sazietà: approcci alternativi alle scelte di consumo e tempo libero (Gaeta)*  
2012 *Federalismo e integrazione. La riflessione economica tra dimensione locale e sfide globali (Padova)*

**ACGEPE** (Association Charles Gide pour l'Etude de la Pensée Economique)

2016 *Anticipations, Conjectures and Coordination (Strasbourg)*  
2015 *Original Fictions, Hypothetical States and Historical Conjectures in Economic Thought (Paris)*  
2014 *Les économistes et le pouvoir (Lyon)*  
2013 *Economists on Colonies (Martinique)*  
2012 *History of macroeconomics: from the years of "high theory" (1926-1939) to modern approaches (Nice)*

**AISPE** (Associazione Italiana per la Storia del Pensiero Economico)  
*2017 Towards a Comparative History of Economic Thought (Rome)*  
*2016 Economics and Power: An Historical Perspective (Lecce)*  
*2014 Economists and War (Pisa)*  
*2013 Facts and Thought in Economic History and History of Economics (Firenze)*

**AIHPE** (Iberian Association of the History of Economic Thought)  
*2015 Valencia*  
*2013 Lisbon*

**ALAHPE** (Latin American Association for the History of Economic Thought)  
*2017 Bogotá*

**SHJET** (Society for the History of Japanese Economic Thought)  
*2013 Kyoshitsu*

### **1.2. Calls for papers issued by other HET associations**

In this section I show the calls for papers for conferences held by other HET associations (not tied to a geographical area), giving an idea of the associations' purpose, based on their websites. The data are in descending order for number of conferences held by the association. The conference titles will be examined in § 2 below.

**INET** (Institute for New Economic Thinking). Founded in 2009, its aim is to renew the approach to economics; it supports the YSI (Young Scholar Initiative) for a "new and critical way of thinking about the economy"; it also organizes *webinars*:

*2017 Festival (Edinburgh)*  
*2017 YSI@ALAHPE (Bogotá)*  
*2017 YSI (Antwerp)*  
*2016 YSI (Paris)*  
*2016 YSI (Budapest)*  
*2015 YSI (Rome)*  
*2015 YSI The Nation-State and the World Economy between two Eras of Globalization 1913-1975 (Pisa)*  
*2014 YSI (Lausanne)*  
*2013 YSI (Hong Kong)*

**HOPE** (Center for the History of Political Economy). Founded in 2008, Duke University, it promotes and supports research and teaching; fellowships, visiting, workshops, summer institute

*2017 The Political Economy of Development Economics: A Historical Perspective*  
*2016 Becoming Applied: The Transformation of Economics after 1970*  
*2015 The Contributions of Businesspersons to Economics*  
*2014 Market Failure in Context*  
*2013 MIT and the Transformation of American Economics*  
*2012 The Economist as Public Intellectual*

**HISRECO** (History of Recent Economics) “was launched in 2007” by Backhouse, Fontaine, Mata. It organizes conferences only on HET since WW2.

*2017 Lucerne*

*2016 Sao Paulo*

*2015 Cergy-Pontoise (France)*

*2014 Siena*

*2013 Cergy-Pontoise*

*2012 Porto*

**HISRESS** (Society for the History of Recent Social Science). Formed in 2014, it “maintains an informal structure”. It “sponsors a small annual conference on the worldwide history of the social sciences since WW2”.

*2017 Rotterdam*

*2016 London*

*2015 Harvard*

*2014 Cachan (France)*

**SCEME** Seminar on Economic Methodology. The association’s site has been taken down. It was based in Stirling. The pdf of the conferences still exist.

*2014 Methodology of Economics and the Natural Environment (Bristol) 19th*

*2013 Coding Economics? Professional Conduct and Scholarly Values after the Crisis (Cambridge)*

*2012 “A Europe starving and disintegrating before their eyes”. Reappraising Keynes’s Economic Consequences of the Peace (Sussex) 15th*

*2012 Taking stock, looking ahead: Economic methodology in the UK and beyond. A Seminar in Tribute to Mark Blaug (Glasgow) 10th*

**ISUS** (International Society for Utilitarian Studies). UK. “reflects the world-wide interest in the Bentham Project, the expansion of Bentham studies, and the growing interest in utilitarianism”.

*(2018 Karlsruhe)*

*2016 Lille*

*2014 Yakohama*

*2012 New York*

**Philosophy-Economics Network**, since 2012 in France it has organized International Conferences on “Economic Philosophy”. Its “main objective ... is to promote ... interactions between philosophy and economics on *contemporary* issues”. Their aim is “to be a reflexive inquiry of economics”. “Three major axes of interaction ... can be identified: a) moral and political philosophy and normative economics; b) philosophy of sciences and economic methodology; c) history of philosophy and history of economic thought”.

*(2018 Norms and Normativity (Lyon))*

*2016 The economic agent and its representation(s) (Aix-en-Provence)*

*2014 Oneself and the Other (Strasbourg)*

*2012 Lille*

**INEM** (International Network for Economic Method) “seeks to promote links among economic methodologists, economists .., and scholars in cognate disciplines”.

*2017 San Sebastian (Spain) (13<sup>th</sup> conference!)*

*2013 Rotterdam*

**International Walras Association.** Dal 1997 its aims are: “promoting research on the works of Walras”. A conference every two-three years.

*2015 Against Walras (Paris)*

*2012 Is there a Walrasian Heritage? (Toulouse)*

**Summer Institute for the Preservation of the History of Economics.** It “offers a forum for scholars to present work in progress or more polished papers to a lively audience. Underlying the diversity of views at the Summer Institute is a commitment to the history of the political economy of the classical liberal tradition”.

*2015 Richmond*

*2013 Richmond*

**International Post Keynesian Conference**

*2017 Kansas City*

*2016 Kansas City*

**EIPE** (Erasmus Institute for Philosophy and Economics) many initiatives

*2017*

**ECORA**(History of Economic Rationalities) “is an ongoing research project located at the University of Aarhus”; there are other calls of papers on the site.

*2014 Aarhus, Denmark*

**The Ricardo Society** (Japan)

*2013 New Developments on Ricardo and the Ricardian Traditions (Lyon)*

**Herbert Simon Society**

*2013 Bounded Rationality Updated(New York) (1<sup>st</sup> conference!)*

### **1.3. Calls for papers for conferences organized jointly by HET associations**

Below are the *calls for papers* that promote conferences organised *jointly* by national and international HET associations.

**IASS** (International Adam Smith Society) “was founded in 1995 with two aims: i) to encourage interdisciplinary scholarly interest in Adam Smith’s writings, as well as in topics and issues connected with his writings; and ii) to provide a forum for the sharing of research and scholarship relating to Adam Smith”. It organizes conferences and sessions with other associations (vedi *infra* § 1.5).

*2015 Smith and Rousseau (Glasgow)*

*2014 IASS@HES*

*2013 Scotland, Europe and Empire in the Age of Adam Smith and Beyond (Paris)  
con ECSSS*

**ESHET-JSHET**

*2015 Hokkaido (Japan)*

*2012 Crises and Space in the History of Economic Thought (Corsica)*

**1.4. Calls for papers for HET sessions in HET and non-HET conferences**

This section contains *calls for papers* for single HET sessions in conferences organized in different years by various associations; it is interesting to see cases where HET creates spaces or itself in “others’ houses”:

**HES @ ASSA**

**IASS @ ASECS** (American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies)

**IASS @ APA** (American Philosophical Association)

**Scottish Economic Society (EH/HET Sessions)**

**ESHET @ STOREP**

**ESHET @ AISPE**

**ESHET @ Charles Gide Association**

**THETS @ Royal Economic Society**

**THETS @ Scottish Economic Society**

**Panel @ DSA (Development Studies Association) Conference**

*2016 Great Industrialization debates at critical historical and contemporary junctures (Oxford)*

**1.5. Calls for papers from non-HET associations**

Let’s now look at *calls for papers* at conferences organized by non-HET associations. This list is especially important because it underlines the interest associations in different disciplinary areas have shown in our discipline by encouraging our scholars to participate in their conferences. The number of conferences organized is in descending order.

Methodology of Economics Research Area @ **EAEPE** (European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy). It has various Research Areas, including (A). “Three dimensions seem particularly relevant to these inquiries with EAEPE. The first is in terms of orthodoxy and heterodoxy. The second is in terms of realism and non-realism ... A third dimension deals with what is and what is not economics”.

2017 *The role of the State in Economic Development (Budapest)*  
 2016 *Industrialisation, Socio-economic Transformation and Institutions (Manchester)*  
 2015 *A New Role for the Financial System (Genova)*  
 2014 *Unemployment and Austerity in Mediterranean European Countries (Cyprus)*  
 2013 *Beyond Deindustrialisation: The future of Industries (Paris)*  
 2012 *Economic Policy in Times of Crisis (Cracow)*

**TINT** (Academy of Finland Centre of Excellence in the Philosophy of the Social Sciences) “aims to produce philosophy of science with a focus on issues of interdisciplinarity, and with relevance for scientific and social practice”.

2017 *Economics and/or Psychology? Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Behavioural Economics (Helsinki)*  
 2017 *What to Make of Highly Unrealistic Models? (Helsinki)*  
 2017 *Law and Economics: Theoretical and Practical Dimensions of Interdisciplinarity (Helsinki)*  
 2015 *Workshop on Scientific Imperialism (Helsinki)*

**GERG Geopolitical Economy Research Group** “an influential policy research institute ... What is needed? New thinking on national and international political and economic issues ... explores the positive implications of multipolarity, seeking a sustainable exit from the crisis ... it will modernize the idea of the developmental state for the 21<sup>st</sup> century”.

2017 *Revolutions (Winnipeg, Canada)*  
 2015 *From the Thirty Years' Crisis to Multi-polarity: The Evolution of the Geopolitical Economy of the 21st Century World (Winnipeg, Canada)*

**ENPOSS** (European Network for the Philosophy of the Social Sciences) Facilitates communication among philosophers, social scientists and other scholars. Founded in Paris in 2011.

2017 *Cracow*  
 2014 *Madrid*

**IIPPE** (International Initiative for Promoting Political Economy). Founded in 2006 with the aim of promoting political economy in and of itself but also through critical and constructive engagement with mainstream economics, heterodox alternatives, interdisciplinarity ... we see ourselves as commanding and criticizing mainstream economics, offering alternatives from within political economy, addressing the nature of contemporary capitalism ... Marxist ... [but] pluralist”.

2015 *Crisis of Capitalism and Alternative Solutions (Leeds)*  
 2014 *The Crisis: Scholarship, Policies, Conflicts and Alternatives (Napoli)*

**Cedeplar** (Center for development and regional planning, Brasil)  
 2012 *History and Methodology of Economics (Belo Horizonte, Brazil)*

**ISLE** (Indian Society of Labour Economics)  
 2013 *History of Law and Economics (Lugano)*

**EALE** (European Association of Law and Economics)  
*2016 Bologna*

**WINIR** (World Interdisciplinary Network for Institutional Research)  
*2017 Symposium on Ludwig Lachman (Johannesburg)*

**ECPR** Political Science and International Relations  
*2017 Panels in the SG Political Concepts section*

**Royal Economic Society**  
*2017 Bristol*

**VAHS** (Voluntary Action History Society) “for the history of charity, philanthropy and voluntary organizations” founded in 1991 in UK  
*2016 Liverpool*

**LAWEBESS** (Latin-American Workshop on Experimental and Behavioural Social Sciences)  
*2017 Universidad del Valle*

**AFSE** (Association Française de Science Economique)  
*2013 Aix-en-Provence*

**Econometric Society**  
*2014 History of Econometrics*

**(18th and 19th Century Studies Network**  
*2018 New Orleans, Global City (1718 -2018). The Long Shadows of John Law and the Mississippi Company)*

**AFIT** (Association for Institutional Thought)  
*2015 Institutionalism: History, Theory, and Features (Portland)*

### **1.6. HET Conferences not organized by associations**

Lastly, I will list the *calls for papers* at HET conferences not organized by associations, but by individuals, Departments or groups not linked to associations. Though the titles are given, I will not deal with them because they are the focus of the next section. The order is chronological.

#### **Eight in 2017**

*2017 Marx 1818-2018 New Developments on Karl Marx's Thought and Writings (Lyon)*

*2017 Interdisciplinary Futures: Open the Social Sciences 20 years later (Lisbon)*

*2017 The History of Macroeconometric Modeling (Utrecht)*

*2017 Economics and/or Psychology? Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Behavioural Economics (Helsinki)*

*2017 From Scotland to the South of the Mediterranean. The Thought of Adam Smith Through Europe and Beyond (Palermo)*



*2017 Politics and Sovereign Debt in Latin America in Historical Perspective Workshop (Sao Paulo)*  
*2017 James Steuart and an Economy without Invisible Hands (Seville)*  
*2017 Fabricating Modern Economics. A Singular French Episode 1975-1985 (Nice, France)*

#### **Six in 2016**

*2016 Monetary Institutionalisms in French-Speaking World: Past Record, Future Prospects and International Perspectives (Lyon, France)*  
*2016 Wilhelm Röpke: A Liberal Political Economist and Social Philosopher in Times of Multiple European Crisis (Geneva)*  
*2016 Ricardo Conference (London)*  
*2016 Reasoning and Representation with Diagrams: History and Philosophy of Science and Technology in East and West (Taiwan)*  
*2016 Global Histories of Taxation and State Finances Since the 19th Century (Basel)*  
*2016 Theory, measurement and expertise: Edmond Malinvaud and the reconfigurations of economic theory: 1950-2000 (Paris)*

#### **Eight in 2015**

*2015 New Pathways in the History of Political Economy (Cambridge, UK)*  
*2015 Economics and Politics in Ferdinando Galiani (Lyon)*  
*2015 Les Mirabeau: Eighteenth-Century French Society, Political Economy and Cosmopolitan Culture (Paris)*  
*2015 Economics of Vices and Virtues (St. Petersburg)*  
*2015 History of Economic Thought Under Communism (Vienna)*  
*2015 Knowledge Transfer and its Context (Munich)*  
*2015 175 Years of The Economist: An International Conference (London)*  
*2015 Large-scale Crises: 1929 vs 2008 (Ancona)*

#### **Eight in 2014**

*2014 Economics and Psychology in Historical Perspective (from 18th Century to the Present) Paris*  
*2014 The Enduring Legacy of Karl Polanyi (Montreal, Canada)*  
*2014 Friedrich List Conference (Reutlingen, Germany)*  
*2014 Macroeconomics in Perspective Workshop (Louvain-la-Neuve)*  
*2014 Economic Theology, Theological Economics (Rome)*  
*2014 Values in Science and Science Policy (George Mason University)*  
*2014 Science, Politics and the Economy. The Unintended Consequences of a Diabolic Paradox. Mandeville's Fable of the Bees at 300 Years (Rotterdam)*  
*2014 International Workshop on Scientific Misconduct and Research Ethics in Economics (Izmir, Turkey)*

#### **Seven in 2013**

*2013 Origins of the Theory of the Firm: Ronald Coase at Dundee, 1932-1934 (Dundee, Scotland)*  
*2013 Law's System: representations, discourse and fantasies from the XVIIIth century to today (Montpellier, France)*  
*2013 Structural change, dynamics and economic growth (Pisa)*

*2013 Translation of economic text into and from European languages (Pisa)*  
*2013 Coping with Crisis: Re-Evaluating the Role of Crises in Economic and Social History (Durham)*  
*2013 Antiphysiocracy – Critiques and opposition to the physiocratic movement, from the end of the 1750s to the mid-19th Century (Lyon)*  
*2013 History of Political Economy (The Netherlands)*

## **Two in 2012(?)**

*2012 The Pioneers of Linear Models of Production (Paris Ouest)*  
*2012 Designing and Transforming Capitalism (Aarhus, Denmark)*

## **2. Internal History**

Here I will concentrate on the conference titles. To have a really complete picture of the conferences organized in these years, we should also consider the titles of the many seminars, workshops and conferences that did not issue *calls for papers*. However they are not available as these events are not included in our data bank.

I will group the conferences according to the topics indicated in their titles, but obviously this grouping is only one possible way of classifying the events. Moreover, some conferences could be placed in more than one group, but I have counted them only once. In decreasing order per number of conferences in the group.

### **Conferences on single economists (in a broad sense) (23)**

*2017 Symposium on Ludwig Lachmann (Johannesburg) WINIR*  
*2017 Marx 1818-2018 New Developments on Karl Marx's Thought and Writings (Lyon)*  
*2017 James Steuart and an Economy without Invisible Hands (Seville)*  
*2017 From Scotland to the South of the Mediterranean. The Thought of Adam Smith Through Europe and Beyond (Palermo)*  
*2016 Theory, measurement and expertise: Edmond Malinvaud and the reconfigurations of economic theory: 1950-2000 (Paris)*  
*2016 Wilhelm Röpke: A Liberal Political Economist and Social Philosopher in Times of Multiple European Crisis (Geneva)*  
*2016 Ricardo Conference (London)*  
*2015 Smith and Rousseau (Glasgow) IASS*  
*2015 Les Mirabeau: Eighteenth-Century French Society, Political Economy and Cosmopolitan Culture (Paris)*  
*2015 Economics of Vices and Virtues (St. Petersburg)*  
*2015 Economics and Politics in Ferdinando Galiani (Lyon)*  
*2015 Against Walras (Paris) Int. Walras. Ass.*  
*2014 The Enduring Legacy of Karl Polanyi (Montreal, Canada)*  
*2014 Science, Politics and the Economy. The Unintended Consequences of a Diabolic Paradox. Mandeville's Fable of the Bees at 300 Years (Rotterdam)*  
*2014 Friedrich List Conference (Reutlingen, Germany)*  
*2013 Origins of the Theory of the Firm: Ronald Coase at Dundee, 1932-1934 (Dundee, Scotland)*

2013 *New Developments on Ricardo and the Ricardian Traditions* (Lyon) Ricardo Society  
 2013 *Law's System: representations, discourse and fantasies from the XVIIIth century to today* (Montpellier, France)  
 2013 *Bounded Rationality Updated* (New York) Herbert Simon  
 2013 *Scotland, Europe and Empire in the Age of Adam Smith and Beyond* (Paris) IASS con ECSSS  
 2013 *Antiphysiocracy – Critiques and opposition to the physiocratic movement, from the end of the 1750s to the mid-19th Century* (Lyon)  
 2012 *Taking stock, looking ahead: Economic methodology in the UK and beyond. A Seminar in Tribute to Mark Blaug* (Glasgow) 10th SCEME  
 2012 *Is there a Walrasian Heritage?* (Toulouse) Int. Walras. Ass.

### **Conferences on the economic crisis (12)**

2017 *Investimenti, Finanza e Instabilità* (Piacenza) STOREP  
 2015 *Large-scale Crises: 1929 vs 2008* (Ancona)  
 2015 *Crisis of Capitalism and Alternative Solutions* (Leeds) IIPPE  
 2015 *Confini in movimento. L'economia della crisi e la sfida dell'interdisciplinarietà* (Torino) STOREP  
 2015 *A New Role for the Financial System* (Genova) EAEPE  
 2014 *The Crisis: Scholarship, Policies, Conflicts and Alternatives* (Napoli) IIPPE  
 2014 *Unemployment and Austerity in Mediterranean European Countries* (Cyprus) EAEPE  
 2013 *Coping with Crisis: Re-Evaluating the Role of Crises in Economic and Social History* (Durham)  
 2013 *Beyond Deindustrialisation: The future of Industries* (Paris) EAEPE  
 2012 *Economic Policy in Times of Crisis* (Cracow) EAEPE  
 2012 *Crises and Space in the History of Economic Thought* (Corsica) ESHET-JSHET  
 2012 *"A Europe starving and disintegrating before their eyes". Reappraising Keynes's Economic Consequences of the Peace* (Sussex) 15th SCEME

### **Conferences on the history of economic models (12)**

2017 *The History of Macroeconometric Modeling* (Utrecht)  
 2017 *Fabricating Modern Economics. A Singular French Episode 1975-1985* (Nice, France)  
 2016 *Reasoning and Representation with Diagrams: History and Philosophy of Science and Technology in East and West* (Taiwan)  
 2016 *Becoming Applied: The Transformation of Economics after 1970* HOPE  
 2016 *Anticipations, Conjectures and Coordination* (Strasbourg) ACGEPE  
 2014 *Macroeconomics in Perspective Workshop* (Louvain-la-Neuve)  
 2014 *History of Econometrics* Econometric Society  
 2013 *New Data, Methods and Theories in Cliometrics* (Strasbourg) BETA  
 2013 *MIT and the Transformation of American Economics* HOPE  
 2013 *Coding Economics? Professional Conduct and Scholarly Values after the Crisis* (Cambridge) SCEME  
 2012 *The Pioneers of Linear Models of Production* (Paris Ouest)  
 2012 *History of macroeconomics: from the years of "high theory" (1926-1939) to modern approaches* (Nice) ACGEPE

### **Conferences on interdisciplinarity (or aspects of it) (12)**

*2017 Law and Economics: Theoretical and Practical Dimensions of Interdisciplinarity (Helsinki) TINT*  
*2017 Interdisciplinary Futures: Open the Social Sciences 20 years later (Lisbon)*  
*2017 Economics and/or Psychology? Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Behavioural Economics (Helsinki) TINT*  
*2017 Panels in the SG Political Concepts section ECPR*  
*2016 Economics and Power: An Historical Perspective (Lecce) AISPE*  
*2015 The Contributions of Businesspersons to Economics HOPE*  
*2015 From the Thirty Years' Crisis to Multi-polarity: The Evolution of the Geopolitical Economy of the 21st Century World (Winnipeg, Canada) Geopolitical Economy*  
*2014 Economics and Psychology in Historical Perspective (from 18th Century to the Present) Paris*  
*2014 Economic Theology, Theological Economics (Rome)*  
*2013 Facts and Thought in Economic History and History of Economics (Firenze) AISPE*  
*2013 History of Law and Economics (Lugano) ISLE*  
*2013 Economic Theory and Business Practice (Kingston, UK) Eshet*

### **Conferences on the centre-periphery relationship (10)**

*2017 Revolutions (Winnipeg, Canada) Geopolitical Economy*  
*2017 The Political Economy of Development Economics: A Historical Perspective HOPE*  
*2017 Politics and Sovereign Debt in Latin America in Historical Perspective Workshop (Sao Paulo)*  
*2016 Crescita e percorsi di sviluppo nella mente di analisti, decisori politici e persone comuni (Catania) STOREP*  
*2015 The History of Investment in the Caribbean (Trinidad and Tobago) AHEC*  
*2013 Path Dependence in Economic Development (Medellin Colombia) Eshet*  
*2013 Economists on Colonies (Martinique) ACGEPE*  
*2013 Structural change, dynamics and economic growth (Pisa)*  
*2012 Federalismo e integrazione. La riflessione economica tra dimensione locale e sfide globali (Padova) STOREP*  
*2012 Core and Periphery Countries. Lessons from Economic History and the History of Economic Thought (Buenos Aires) ESHET*

### **Conferences on economic policy (role of the state) (9)**

*2017 The role of the State in Economic Development (Budapest) EAEPE*  
*2016 Inequalities in Economic Thought (Paris) Eshet*  
*2016 Global Histories of Taxation and State Finances Since the 19th Century (Basel)*  
*2015 YSI The Nation-State and the World Economy between two Eras of Globalization 1913-1975 (Pisa) INET*  
*2014 Market Failure in Context HOPE*  
*2014 Liberalism: Perspectives and Debates in the History of Economic Thought (Lausanne) Eshet*  
*2014 Les économistes et le pouvoir (Lyon) ACGEPE*  
*2012 The Economist as Public Intellectual HOPE*

*2012 Designing and Transforming Capitalism (Aarhus, Denmark)*

### **Conferences on the foundations of economic theory (7)**

*2017 Rationality in Economics (Antwerp)Eshet*

*2016 The economic agent and its representation(s) (Aix-en-Provence) Philo-Eco*

*2015 Original Fictions, Hypothetical States and Historical Conjectures in Economic Thought (Paris) ACGEPE*

*2014 Values in Science and Science Policy (George Mason University)*

*2014 Oneself and the Other (Strasbourg)Philo-Eco*

*2014 International Workshop on Scientific Misconduct and Research Ethics in Economics (Izmir, Turkey)*

*2013 Il problema della sazietà: approcci alternativi alle scelte di consumo e tempo libero (Gaeta)STOREP*

### **Conferences on HET (5)**

*2017 Towards a Comparative History of Economic Thought (Rome) AISPE*

*2015 Knowledge Transfer and its Context (Munich)*

*2015 New Pathways in the History of Political Economy (Cambridge, UK)*

*2015 History of Economic Thought Under Communism (Vienna)*

*2013 Translation of economic text into and from European languages (Pisa)*

### **Conferences on Institutionalism (or role of the institutions) (4)**

*2016 Industrialisation, Socio-economic Transformation and Institutions (Manchester)EAEPE*

*2016 Monetary Institutionalisms in French-Speaking World: Past Record, Future Prospects and International Perspectives (Lyon, France)*

*2015 Institutionalism: History, Theory, and Features (Portland)AFIT*

*2012 Institutions and Values in Economic Thought (Saint Petersburg)Eshet*

### **HET Conferences in generale (4)**

*2015 175 Years of The Economist: An International Conference (London)*

*2014 Economists and War (Pisa) AISPE*

*2014 I molteplici aspetti dell'Economia politica e della sua storia: approcci "locali" e "globali" (Bergamo)STOREP*

*2013 History of Political Economy (The Netherlands)*

### **Conferences on the critique of political economy (3)**

*2017 What to Make of Highly Unrealistic Models? (Helsinki) TINT*

*2015 Workshop on Scientific Imperialism (Helsinki) TINT*

*2015 Great Controversies in Economics (Rome)Eshet*

### **Conferences on methodological issues (2)**

*2014 Methodology of Economics and the Natural Environment (Bristol) 19<sup>th</sup> SCEME*

*2012 History and Methodology of Economics (Belo Horizonte, Brazil)Cedeplar*

## **3. Conclusions**

We conclude by looking at a summary of the data with a few comments.

### 3.1. Conferences per year

Below I sum up the total number of conferences held per year. Remember that these are only the ones with calls for papers.

35 in 2017 (8 not by associations)  
26 in 2016 (6 not by associations)  
33 in 2015 (8 not by associations)  
30 in 2014 (8 not by associations)  
33 in 2013 (7 not by associations)  
20 in 2012 (2 not by associations)

The first thing to notice is the enormous number! This makes us think about the extraordinary vitality of our discipline, despite the difficulty it has surviving inside the universities in various countries around the world. Or is this wealth of events perhaps caused by our academic problem, to compensate for the reduction of space in the university? And it also makes us think about the fact that the role of the Associations is fundamental. On this point, it is interesting to see which institutions are the most active today, apart from the territorial ones.

**INET** (Institute for New Economic Thinking). YSI (Young Scholar Initiative)

**HOPE** (Center for the History of Political Economy)

Methodology of Economics Research Area @ **EAEPE** (European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy).

**HISRECO** (History of Recent Economics)

**HISRESS** (Society for the History of Recent Social Science)

**TINT** (Academy of Finland Centre of Excellence in the Philosophy of the Social Sciences).

Among these, we notice the growing importance (and prevalence) of *networks*, in which geography no longer counts.

It is also interesting to think about how many non-HET organizations invite economic historians to participate in their conferences: as we have seen, they are institutions that include historians *tout court*, economists (of labour, development, law, etc.), econometricians, but also philosophers, scholars of political science and even of geopolitics.

Finally, we can say that today, always in different forms, it is still the institutions that play a central role: in continuity with the origin of our history, in the “Republic of Letters”, it is still associations and international networks of scholars that ensure the dissemination and development of knowledge (Mokyr 2017).

### 3.2. Topics

The topics dealt with can be summed up as follows:

single economists (in the broad sense) (23)

economic crisis (12)

formal history of economics (12)

interdisciplinarity (or its aspects) (12)

centre-periphery relationship (10)

economic policy (role of the state) (9)

foundations of economic theory (7)

thoughts on HET (5)  
institutionalism (or role of the institutions) (4)  
HET in general (4)  
critique of political economy (3)  
methodological issues (2)

*Ex ante* I did not expect to find so many conferences on single economists, and therefore on the reconstruction of both the sources of their thought and the context in which they lived, both their theory and their impact. It is especially this last aspect that seems to be dominant. It is a very broad, thorough approach, with no distinction between history of analysis and history of economic thought.

Conferences on formal history of economic theory would seem to be more numerous than those on general themes of economic thought, but the number is balanced out by the conferences on single economists and those offering reflection on the discipline.

I am not surprised however by the large number of conferences on the economic crisis: economic events and economic ideas often (though not always) march together, so also the reconstruction of the ideas is often done in parallel.

Many conferences concentrate on the relationship between Europe and the rest of the world, and in general on the theories of economic development; in my view it is a sign of the greater spread of HET in non-European countries, and of the focus on the specificities of their economic problems and their history.

A distinguishing factor in interpreting the economic theories of the past still remains that of economic policies, both from the standpoint of those advocating state intervention and from the standpoint of those who fear it. It is not surprising, because this division has always existed in economists' ideas, without interruption.

It is interesting to see that HET seems to provide an opportunity to think about interdisciplinarity. One wants to ask, like Trautwein (2017): are we really "the last generalists", faced with the specialistic fragmentation of the economist's profession?

Is HET still the home of critics of the mainstream? Let's add the conferences on single economists to those on single heterodox economists, to those that we have defined critiques of political economy, plus the conferences in the field of institutionalism, plus those on the foundations of political economy and on questions of method. The number is large, so I would say yes, it is, in the form of a pluralist reflection with different approaches. HET is therefore a place not only for reconstruction and contextualisation of the theories of the past, but also for a critical reflection on methods, on the foundations and contents of the discipline.

It is a rich, complex and pluralist picture of HET that I obtained by examining the conferences that have launched a *call for papers* on international HET sites in the

last six years. We have therefore identified all those who have reached out to historians of economic thought, inviting them to present HET work at their conferences from 2012 to 2017.