

A Max Weber Multidisciplinary Conference on

The Future of Basic Income Research

26-27 June 2015,
Badia Fiesolana

The past three decades have seen the elaboration of a vast body of literature on universal basic income – a policy proposal Philippe Van Parijs referred to as a “disarmingly simple idea”. It consists of a monthly cash allowance given to all citizens, regardless of personal desert and without means-test. Basic income studies are an example of successful interdisciplinary research, involving philosophers, political scientists, economists and sociologists, among many others. Basic income proponents have identified, evaluated and deconstructed many potential and actual objections against this radical proposal.

The one day conference on 26th June is the result of a competitive call for abstracts that yielded twenty-two new contributions to discuss the philosophical, economic and political aspects of the basic income proposals. By pulling together academics, activists and critics, we aim to identify what should be on the agenda for the future of Basic Income research.

On 27th June the conference will be complemented by a workshop discussing the new book on basic income by Philippe Van Parijs and Yannick Vanderborght (under contract with Harvard University Press).

The event is organized by Max Weber Fellows **Juliana Bidadanure** (SPS) and **Robert Lepenies** (LAW) and generously sponsored by a Young Scholar Event Grant of the Institute for New Economic Thinking (INET), as well as by the Max Weber Programme at the EUI, The Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies and Prof. Rainer Bauböck (SPS), Prof. Arpad Abraham (ECO), Prof. Fabrizio Bernardi (SPS), Prof. Hans W. Micklitz (LAW) and Prof. Robert Hoekman (RSC).

The Future of Basic Income Research | EUI, 26th and 27th June 2015

Day 1 (Friday 26 of June 2015) – Conference (Location: Badia Fiesolana, EUI)

8:30-----Registration (Refectory)	
9:00-----Introductory address (Refectory)	
<p>09:30-11:00 (Max Weber Common Room)</p> <p>Panel 1: Learning from country-specific research (Chair: Lukas Haffert)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pedro Teixeira - Financing a Basic income in Portugal: between desirable and achievable - Robin Jessen and Davud Rostam-Afschar - An economically Feasible Basic Income proposal for Germany - Che Wagner – Direct democracy and Switzerland 	<p>09:30-11:00 (Refectory)</p> <p>Panel 2: Identifying evidence and norms (Chair: Julija Sardelic)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lorenz Lauer and Robert Lepenies - Basic Income, Direct Cash and Normative change - Caitlin McLean - Building the evidence Base: How existing social policy research can inform future debates about basic income - David Calnitsky - More normal than welfare: The Mincome experiment, stigma and community experience
11:00-11:30 ----- Coffee break (Lower loggia)	
11:30-13:00 Plenary Panel 1 (Refectory – Chair: Diederik Boertien)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Louise Haagh (30 minutes) - Freedom, the Economy and Institutions - Analytical Blind-spots in BI Research - Karl Widerquist (30 minutes) - Economic, political and public relations aspects of a basic income pilot project - 30 minutes for Q&A 	
13:00 ----- Lunch (Badia – Salla Rossa)	
<p>14:00-15:45 (Max Weber Common Room)</p> <p>Panel 3: BI and anti-capitalism (Chair: Julia McClure)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Giacomo Pisani - Basic income in post-fordism - Maciej Szlinder - Basic income against capitalism: relative wage and contemporary class struggle - David Jenkins - UBI Distribution 2.0 - Neil Howard – Basic Income and the Contemporary anti-slavery movement 	<p>14:00-15:45 (Refectory)</p> <p>Panel 4: Property and Labour (Chair: Liam Mchugh-Russell)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blake Wilson – The use of eminent Domain in the pursuit of a basic income - Eric Fabri and Marc Antoine Sabate - Property and UBI - Darian Meacham and Matthew Studley - General purpose robotics and the case for an automation tax funded UBI - Cristina Blanco Sio Lopez and Josefina Cuesta Bustillo - Factors of a qualitative shift: Distilling ILO Supranational Basic Income Principles into EU, National and Civil Society Structures as a Response to the Economic Crisis.
15:45-16:15 ----- Coffee break (Lower loggia)	
<p>16:15-17:45 (Max Weber Common Room)</p> <p>Panel 5: EU dividend, citizenship rights and minorities (Chair: Joao Labareda)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Julija Sardelic - BI and its potential impact on vulnerable minorities: a case study on the position of Roma in Europe - Juri Viehoff - A Pluralist Justification For an EU Social Minimum: Why Angela Merkel and Alexis Tsirpas Should Both Be on Board? - Elena Pribytkova - UBI or a decent social minimum? 	<p>16:15-17:45 (Refectory)</p> <p>Panel 6: Feasibility (Chair: Emmanuel Comte)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jose Noguera and Jurgen de Wispelaere - The political feasibility of a basic income: a research agenda. - Johanna Perkiö - Ideational approach to the political feasibility of basic income
17:45-18:00 ----- Break	
18:00-19:30 Plenary Panel 2 (Refectory - Chair: Richard Bellamy)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anca Gheaus (30 minutes) - Basic Income and Feminism - Philippe Van Parijs (30 minutes) - The Future of Basic Income Research - 30 minutes for Q&A 	
19:30-----Drink Reception (Lower Loggia)	
20:30 ----- Conference dinner (Il Circolo)	

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Day 2 (Saturday 27 of June) – Workshop on Vanderborght’s and Van Parijs’s draft book

Location: Max Weber Common room, Badia Fiesolana.

09:30 | Introduction to the new book

- Yannick Vanderborght (30 minutes)
- 30 minutes for Q&A

10:30 | Coffee break

11:00 | Panel on Chapter 1 - “The argument” and Chapter 2 - “BI and its rivals”

- Chair: Robert Lepenies
- Discussant: Juliana Bidadanure (chapter 1)
- Discussant: Louise Haagh (chapter 2)

12:00 | Panel on Chapter 3 - “Pre-history: public assistance and social insurance” and Chapter 4 - “History: from utopian dream to worldwide movement”

- Chair: Robert Lepenies
- Discussant: Richard Bellamy (chapter 3)
- Discussant: Joao Labareda (chapter 4)

13:00 | Lunch (EUI Gardens)

14:00 | Panel on Chapter 5 - “Ethics” and Chapter 6 - “Funding and transition”

- Chair: Juliana Bidadanure
- Discussant: Claus Offe (chapter 5)
- Discussant: Cristina Blanco Sío-López (chapter 5)
- Discussant: Pedro Teixeira (chapter 6)

15:00 | Panel on Chapter 7 - “Politics” and Chapter 8 - “BI in a globalized economy”

- Chair: Juliana Bidadanure
- Discussant: Caitlin McLean (chapter 7)
- Discussant: Juri Viehoff (chapter 8)
- Discussant: Liam Mchugh-Russell (chapter 8)

16:00 | end