



2013 – LPF Summer Call for Papers

The [Comparative Politics and Public Philosophy Lab \(LPF\)](#) directed by Maurizio Ferrera, is a project of the Centro Einaudi supported by Compagnia di San Paolo. It is concerned with the transformation of the political sphere in contemporary democracies, with a specific focus on the relationships between the policy choices and the value frameworks in which such choices are, or ought to be, carried out. The reference here is to the “reasonable pluralism” singled out by John Rawls as an essential feature of political liberalism.

Wishing to enable an informed public debate, LPF aims at a fruitful and meaningful conciliation of two approaches: 1) an empirical, descriptive-explanatory approach, 2) a philosophical-normative approach.

It therefore promotes theoretical investigation, case study and policy analyses as well as policy proposals in the 4 research strands outlined below and with particular reference to the following research questions:

Empirical research strands:

1. To what extent are policy-making processes informed by explicit value frameworks?
Do ideas and argumentation - both “evidence-based” and “value-based” - matter in such processes?
2. Which institutional devices have been proven to be capable to foster policy-making patterns and processes grounded on “good reasons”, on judicious empirical knowledge and equally judicious normative speculation?
How can one contrast patterns and processes of policy-making grounded primarily on bargaining (or even on clashing) of “brute interests”?

Philosophical-normative research strands:

3. Which value frameworks and paradigms of justice are currently competing against each other over the most important policy issues of democratic agendas?
Which are the most interesting and relevant normative disputes, especially when it comes to the Italian context?
4. What are the frontiers of the normative debate over “conflicts of values” and over the procedures capable of solving or at least mitigating such conflicts in democratic political systems?



Along these strands of research and theoretical reflection LPF is launching the **2013 Summer Call for Papers** open to young researchers (including post-doc and phd students), irrespective of their nationality. The selected papers will be published in the LPF Working Papers Series (ISSN 2036-1246) in the course of 2014.

A 500 (five hundred) Euros (gross) honorarium will be paid to successful applicants following publication.

Senior researchers interested in publishing an article in the LPF-WP series may directly contact LPF coordinator Matteo Jessoula (matteo.jessoula@unimi.it).

Applicants are invited to take note of the following information:

- ✓ **Website:** <http://www.centroeinaudi.it>
- ✓ **Deadline for the presentation of Abstracts and updated CV (in Italian or English): June 30th, 2013.** Application form and CV should be sent by email to: applications-LPF@centroeinaudi.it (2 separate files)
- ✓ **Application form must include:**
the proposed paper title, 3-5 keywords, the abstract (max: 500 words) outlining the argument of the paper and the main conclusions. It should also specify which of the four lines of empirical/theoretical research outlined above the paper refers to.
It is possible to submit one paper per year as main author and one paper per year as co-author.
- ✓ **Notification of acceptance:** Abstracts will be evaluated by [LPF Scientific Committee](#)
Successful applicants will be informed by **July 23rd 2013**.
- ✓ **Deadline for the final submission of the Working Paper (in Italian or English): November 17th 2013.** Papers should be sent by email to: applications-LPF@centroeinaudi.it
Papers should be between 10.000 and 15.000 words.