

## **FUNDED CONFERENCE FOR PhD STUDENTS – CALL FOR PAPERS**

### **Collaborative GPPN research conference, Public governance of markets: European and Asian experiences.**

**To be held at the School of Government, Peking University (PKU), 22-26 October 2008**

**Organised by : Mark Thatcher, LSE, Michael Storper, Sciences Po Paris and Tianbiao Zhu, PKU**

The conference is a week long meeting of PhD students and a small number of academics from 3 major institutions- Sciences Po Paris, LSE and the School of Government, PKU on a common theme, namely the public governance of markets. The meeting will involve presentations of papers from PhD students from the three institutions on the theme, together with discussion of the development of public policy, comments and presentations about how to undertake research by a small number of academics from the three institutions. The revised papers of the PhD students will then be published on the GPPN website as working papers and also submitted to journals.

Thanks to generous funding by the GPPN China grant, participants will have their airfares, accommodation and meal costs in China covered.

### **Rationale**

Public policy issues are becoming increasingly globalised as not just countries but entire regions become interlinked and interdependent. This is particularly true for markets- examples include global financial flows, competition, standard setting, trade disputes or the spread of regulatory institutions. At the same time, in the academic world, it is becoming ever more important for researchers to understand different approaches and perspectives on both theoretical and empirical issues. The value of international comparisons is now widely recognised. Finally, creating global networks is becoming more important for academics. Yet due to limits of time, it is difficult for single researchers to cover many nations and different perspectives. This is particularly true for young researchers who are establishing themselves.

The conference responds to this changing academic and policy environment bringing together researchers from different institutions working on a similar domain. It will aid a new generation of researchers from Europe and Asia who are working on a common theme to have different perspectives. The meeting involve PhD students from three institutions- LSE, Sciences-Po Paris and PKU, presenting their approaches and substantive research. It is also intended to aid PhD students to produce publications, both as GPPN working papers and in journals, that will aid researchers in developing their future careers.

### **Content of conference**

‘Public governance of markets’ refers to state or state-approved policies to develop, guide or direct markets. Geographical coverage is either Asian and/or European experiences. Comparative papers are encouraged. We strongly urge PhD students to present work arising from their doctoral research about which they already have substantial knowledge. In terms of discipline, researchers from any relevant social science, including political science,

international relations, sociology, geography, law, economics and history are welcome to apply. Several key topics can be indicatively put forward, although the exact issues will depend on proposals by researchers. They include

- creating different institutional frameworks to govern markets- for instance, regulatory agencies, standard-setting bodies or private agencies that receive public recognition
- the relationships between public actors and private actors- domestic incumbents, new entrant firms, consumers, overseas companies
- linkages between national policy makers and overseas governments
- protecting standards- be these food safety, environmental safety, patents
- corporate governance, regulation of 'insiders and 'outsiders' and policies towards financial markets
- policies towards innovation
- industrial policy, notably protection of national champion firms, liberalisation of markets, mergers and acquisitions (especially by overseas companies) and overseas expansion by national champion firms
- the role of supra-national organisations such as the WTO, ILO, ASEAN or EU in governing markets
- ethics and norms of public policies towards markets.

### Practical functioning

The workshop is being held at PKU for the period 22-26 October 2008. Each participant must produce a full paper by 27 September 2008. This will then be circulated to all participants. The paper should be a publishable piece- ie with proper references, empirical material, footnotes, research question and arguments, with a maximum length of 8000 words including footnotes and bibliography.

Papers will be discussed at the conference: each participant will present his/her paper, while another will act as a discussant. Participants must attend all sessions, participate actively, including reading the papers beforehand and acting as discussants. After the conference, participants must produce a final version by 30 November, submitted electronically, that, subject to agreement by the three conference organisers and the GPPN, will be published as working papers on the GPPN website. Participants are also strongly urged to submit their papers to refereed journals or edited books within six months of the conference; such subsequent publications must refer to the GPPN.

These are conditions of attending the conference and enjoying the generous financial support provided by the GPPN and if not fulfilled the institutions reserve the right to reclaim the costs of supporting the researcher's visit to China.

### Application procedures

Registered PhD students at LSE, Sciences-Po Paris and PKU are all eligible to apply.

Applications should include:

1 A 2 page CV starting with the following information:

- name of applicant
- year of PhD study
- institution
- PhD topic and supervisor's name
- title of proposed paper

2 A one page paper proposal. The proposal should cover key elements such as:  
-the question to be tackled, methods and evidence  
-overall argument or line of analysis  
-how these elements relate to the overall theme of the conference- ie public governance of markets: European and Asian experiences.

Applications should be sent via email by 2 June to Ms. Ting ZHAO [zhaot2@pku.edu.cn](mailto:zhaot2@pku.edu.cn)

**Sciences Po's students can apply until 31 July**

Successful applicants will be informed during June 2008.

Please note that we regret that due to volume of work, the organisers cannot enter into detailed correspondence about the conference. Practical questions should go to Ms. Ting ZHAO - [zhaot2@pku.edu.cn](mailto:zhaot2@pku.edu.cn).