



#### The organization committee

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

### ESA Research Network 27 - Southern European Societies

Mid-term conference in Cascais (Portugal), October 1-2, 2010

Organized with the collaboration of the Portuguese Sociological Association (APS)

#### INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIAL CHANGE(S) IN SOUTHERN EUROPEAN SOCIETIES

The European Union is presently facing new and crucial challenges. Doubts are publicly voiced about the viability of the euro currency and the project of a United Europe. Some governments are blaming others, especially those of Mediterranean countries, for failing to rein in their economic deficits, Southern European countries are being pictured as examples of how a country should not be run, and for this reason not deserving solidarity from more virtuous countries. When compared with European societies North and West, Southern European countries are said to be not only lagging behind economic and socially, but also politically and in terms of good governance.

To which extent are these views accurate, and to which extent are they new? Faced with the constraints of coping with accelerated modernization and globalization, have Southern societies - governments and civil society alike - failed to meet rapid social change in adapting to new needs in education, retraining, research, youth and women expectations, economic development, integration of immigrants, changing demographic structures, and institutional reforms ?

What does "competitiveness" mean: should it be measured exclusively in macro-economic terms at country level? Or should it include also, as Paul Krugman argues, the ability of a given country to redistribute the value created by a population to this population as a whole?

While proposing a focus on this theme, organizers will welcome other proposals including a comparative approach between Southern European countries or with other European countries and regions.

The papers may be presented in English, French, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish.

#### Practical information:

##### *a. Timetable*

- Abstracts, limited to 200 words including full identification and the author(s) contacts, should be sent by June 30th to the following e-mail address: [conf\\_esarn27@aps.pt](mailto:conf_esarn27@aps.pt)
- Notification of acceptance will be announced by July 30th.
- Full papers should be submitted by September 15th, so as to make them available to all conference participants.

##### *b. Registration fee*

- Upon receiving notification of acceptance, participants will be required to pay a nominal registration fee of 30 Euros, which will include documentation, coffee breaks, and lunch.

##### *c. Travel and accommodation*

- Participants will need to make their own travel arrangements and hotel reservation. Conference organizers will provide information about accommodation in Cascais, as well as suggestions about alternatives way to reach Cascais from Lisbon airport. Information will be available in time on the ESA website, on the the RN27 page; see mid-term Conference.

Looking forward to see you in Cascais