



### **Destabilizing Orders – Understanding the Consequences of Neoliberalism**

Through the long post war period, crisis was a conjectural phenomenon, exceptional in a normalcy of growth and social progress. Many key concepts of the social sciences – indeed, our understanding of democracy, of embedded markets, of enlightened electorates, benevolent political elites and problem solving progressive alliances – seem inapt for understanding the societal upheaval currently witnessed. In the wake of the financial crisis of 2008, we have witnessed the breakdown of majority alliances, the return on a grand scale of populism both in the Western world and globally, and the eruption into chaotic and sometimes violent protest of new patterns of social mobilization. The forces that underpinned the settlements of welfare capitalism seem obsolete in the face of financial and political elites that are paradoxically both disconnected from national territory and sometimes in direct alliance with nationalist and populist movements. Politics of resentment, politics of place, and new politics of class interact in ways that we do not yet understand. Perhaps the greatest paradox of all, neoliberalism has spawned authoritarianism. At the same time, these processes are not at all new, but must be put in the context of the socioeconomic and cultural cleavages produced by the shift to neoliberalism since the 1970s.

The conference addresses the different facets of social destabilization that we observe today. It marks the fifth anniversary of the founding of MaxPo, the Max Planck Sciences Po Center on Coping with Instability in Market Societies. Presentations will analyze different aspects of the overarching phenomenon of social destabilization, trying to identify common threats in the diverse developments currently to be observed.

### **Preliminary program**

#### **Friday January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

9:30 – 12:00 **Financial markets between stability and instability**

Chair : Jens Beckert

Donald MacKenzie

Dylan John Riley

Olivier Godechot

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 15:00 **Inequalities of the Western world**

Chair : Olivier Godechot

Branko Milanovic

Jacob Hacker  
Adam Goldstein

15:00-15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 17:30 **Colliding geographies: class, place and identity after Brexit and Trump**

Chair : Chris Howell

Dorit Geva

Colin Hay

Will Davies

## **Saturday January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

9:30 – 12:00 **Political economy in an age of permanent austerity : why is there no alternative ?**

Chair : Lucio Baccaro

Armin Schäfer

Mark Blyth

Adam Tooze

Lunch 12:00-13:00

13:00 – 15:00 **People and elites : technocracy, expertise and authoritarianism**

Chair : Marie Laure Salles-Djelic

Stefan Svallfors

Gerassimos Moschonas

Stephanie Mudge

15:00-15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 17:30 **Social science at the crossroads**

Chair : Jenny Andersson

Marion Fourcade

Marie Laure Salles-Djelic

Wolfgang Streeck

## **MaxPo 5<sup>th</sup>-Anniversary Conference Participant List**

- **Jenny Andersson**, *CNRS Director of Research, Professor of Political Science, Sciences Po, Co-director, MaxPo Center on Coping with Instability in Market Societies; jenny.andersson@sciencespo.fr*
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