

A World in Danger

Financial Mismanagement,
State Regulation and Ethical Necessity

International Symposium

Monday, June 15, 2009

Luxembourg Palace

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*One never acts more
forcefully than when
one is resisting mental
constructs and fighting
preconceived notions.*

Cicero

Symposium Program

Simultaneous French-English Translation

9h15

Introduction

Dr. Josepha Laroche

*Professor of Political Science,
University of Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne, Sciences Po Paris
President of International Chaos*

9h30

Round Table 1

10h45

The Empirical and Theoretical Framework

11h00

Round Table 2

12h30

Human Security in Peril

14h00

Round Table 3

15h15

The Political Constraints of Financial Interdependence

15h30

Round Table 4 –International Collegium

17h30

A Global Governance Based on Common Values ?

17h30

Conclusion & Closing Words

Stéphane Hessel

*Ambassador of France,
Vice-President of International Collegium*

The financial earthquake that struck in 2008 created a credit crisis in world finance that has been both brutal and extreme, particularly given how much excessive borrowing has gone on these past years. These troubles struck first in the developed world, moved on to the developing world, before finally striking in the most impoverished states.

Today, we all are confronted by a crisis of considerable magnitude and of unpredictable length. And it is a crisis that is truly global, both because all actors everywhere – both state and non-state – have been involved and because every aspect of human activity – economic, political, social, cultural, and environmental – has been affected.

These factors require that we first reflect upon the origins and stakes of the economic and financial mechanisms now under threat so that we can build a meaningful framework of analysis.

9h30
10h45

Round Table 1 The Empirical and Theoretical Framework

Moderator

Isabelle Laudier

Director of the CDC Research Institute

> **André Cartapanis**

Professor of Economics

Institute of Political Studies of Aix-en-Provence

The Architects of the World Financial Crisis

> **Ronen Palan**

Professor of International Political Economy,

University of Birmingham

Functions and Opacity of Tax Havens

> **Philip G. Cerny**

Professor of International Political Economy,

Rutgers University of New Jersey

Crisis and Renewal: Saving Capitalism from the Capitalists

> **Michel Rainelli**

Professor of Economics,

University of Nice Sophia-Antipolis

Ethics: A Global Necessity

It was President Clinton who, during the November 1998 meeting of the G7, emphasized the supreme urgency of “*humanizing globalization*”. Ten years later, this appeal rings even more urgent. Indeed, over the last decade, globalization has hardly been synonymous with widespread shared growth or with a peaceful and unified world economy. Nor at the international level has it helped reduce the stark inequalities of our world.

As a result, countries and even entire regions were excluded from wealth redistribution policies or progressively marginalized, while others – like Brazil China and India –, experienced very strong growth. Similarly, even within developed economies, we are now witnessing levels of social exclusion that could soon risk creating, in the words of Robert Reich, “*social secessionist*” movements.

What then is to become of existing social inequalities, of Nord-South and South-South cleavages at the very time world financial markets face a major crisis that threatens basic human security? Are the recent G20 declarations really up to the task of reconciling ethics and politics?

11h00
12h30

Round Table 2 Human Security in Peril

Moderator

Antoine de Ravignan

Alternatives internationales

> **Marc Abélès**

Research Director, CNRS

Governance and the Stakes of Survival: The Emergence of World-Policy

> **Hélène Thomas**

Professor of Political Science

Institute of Political Science, Aix-en-Provence

From Financial Frenzy to Social Depression

> **Philippe Ryfman**

Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne,

Member of Action Contre la Faim's Board of Directors

Public Development Aid: Collapse or Rebound

> **Catherine Wihtol de Wenden**

Research Director, CNRS

Towards an Intensification of Migrations Flows

> **Françoise Benhamou**

Professor of Economics, University of Paris XIII

Crisis and Culture: Contrasted Effects

For several years now, the Bretton Woods institutions have shown themselves incapable of anticipating such financial crises, a sign of the fragility of a financial system founded upon wide-reaching deregulation. Hence, a great many experts today conclude that the structure of world financial governance should now be built.

But this calls for a studied analysis of both America's history of *Exceptionalism* and of the limitations of a model of post-war imperial governance that was designed to keep world finance under American control, if we are to believe Charles Kindleberger's and Roberts Gilpin's Theory of Hegemonic Stability. Currently, this model seems to have failed.

Yet, when it comes to creating a model of world governance, opposing grand strategies quickly clash. Should states strive to develop stronger multilateral relations or should they, through the resolute abandonment of the very structure of their sovereignty, seek to build a supranational authority capable of imposing international financial regulation? The timely consensus put forward by the G20 delegates will not for long mask the political disagreements such a choice entails.

14h00
15h15

Table ronde 3

The Political Constraints of Financial Interdependence

Moderator

Thierry Garcin

Associated Researcher at the University of Paris V and at the University Québec at Montréal, Producer in Radio France

> **Scott Blair**

*Professor of History of International Relations,
CEA Global Campus, University of New Haven*

American *Exceptionalism*: Review and Prospects

> **Thomas Lindemann**

*Professor of Political Science,
University of Artois, Sciences Po Paris*

Opportunity for American Multilateralism

> **Ramon Torrent**

*Director of the WTO International Chair of Regional Integration,
University of Barcelona*

World Trade at the Crossroads of Protectionism and Multilateralism

> **Jean-Jacques Roche**

*Professor of Political Science, Director of the Institut Supérieur de
l'Armement et de la Défense, University of Paris II*

Confidence and Solidarity Between Cold Monsters

The recent crisis has given people the eye-opening experience of a laissez-faire system that in the end, gives a guarantee neither of fairness nor of social solidarity. Furthermore, the ongoing commercial insecurity and attendant bewilderment that has set in finds political leaders seemingly struck by theoretical paralysis as they grapple with this crisis. Indeed, the system itself contributes to just such uncertainty: the impossibility of anticipating the consequences of a myriad of individual and apparently erratic, atomized actions, in addition to the constant retreat of state authority and of her regulatory powers so much in evidence over these recent decades.

With so much said today about the existence of the international community, it is a fitting moment to reexamine how we actually define the common values we so often evoke. Indeed, the suddenness of the crisis compels us to address the now urgent issue of our collective sustainable development, and this in a manner that faces both the logic and the systemic limitations of current global financial management. Without such realism, any talk of the shared heritage of global resources will be but empty rhetoric and will place our world in danger.

A public Appeal for the creation of an **international political, ethical and scientific Collegium** was made in New York in 2002 and its members were welcomed before the European Parliament in Brussels on April 2, 2003. The Collegium brings together political and intellectual leaders from the five continents. Confronted by the dangers threatening our planet, the Collegium group strives to generate new ideas and concrete actions in a context of sound ethics and political realism.

15h30
17h30

Table ronde 4 – Collegium International A Global Governance Based on Common Values ?

Moderator

Stéphane Hessel

Ambassador of France,

Vice-President of the International Collegium

> **Peter Sloterdijk**

Philosopher, Rector of the Hochschule für Gestaltung, Karlsruhe

> **René Passet**

Emeritus Professor of Economics,

University of Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne

> **Ruth Dreifuss**

Past President of the Swiss Confederation

> **Michel Rocard**

Past Prime Minister of the French Republic,

President of the International Collegium

In the presence of other members of the International Collegium

To participate in this Symposium

No later than 9 June 2009

- Return the completed Registration Form (opposite)
- RSVP by e-mail to colloque.1506@gmail.com

Important Information

- Participants must sign-in at the Welcome desk (Accueil) **no later than 8:30 am.**
- Participants will be required **to show a form of identification** in order to enter the Luxembourg Palace.

Location

Palais du Luxembourg – Salle Clemenceau
15 rue de Vaugirard – 75006 PARIS

Access

- Metro > Lines 4 and 10, Odéon station
- RER > Line B, Luxembourg station
- Bus > Lines 58, 84, and 89, bus stop Sénat
- Car > 3 nearby parking garages (place Saint-Sulpice, rue de l'École de médecine and rue Soufflot)

Registration Form

Return by 9 June 2009

International Symposium, Monday, June 15, 2009

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Surname :

Given name :

Profession :

Address :

Postal Code :City :

Tel. :Cell. :

E-mail address :

Will attend Will not intend

and will be accompanied by ____ guest(s), please indicate full names and addresses



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