

10th STOREP Conference

Call for papers

The 10th STOREP Conference will be held in Gaeta at the Castello Angioivino-Aragonese (<http://www.lifeinitaly.com/tourism/lazio/castello-aragonese-gaeta>) on May 31 and at the Hotel Mirasole International (<http://www.mirasoleinternational.com>) on June 1-2.

An abstract of about 300 words for a paper and 500 words for a session (together with the abstracts of the papers for the session) should be submitted at the latest by **February 28, 2013** to: segretario@storep.org.

Notification of accepted and rejected abstracts will be made by **March 15, 2013**.

Other important dates:

April 30 2013: Deadline per the registration for the Conference (early fee) **and** deadline for sending full papers.

May 20 2013: Deadline for late registration (late fee);

May 31-June 2 2013: STOREP Conference

All relevant information concerning the registration fees, accomodation and programme will be published soon on the website of the association: <http://www.storep.org>.

The main theme of the Conference is ***“How much is too much: different approaches to consumption and leisure”***. Discussion about whether economic progress could relieve mankind, once and for all, from the ‘need to work’ has been a recurrent concern for political economists. In Mill’s ideal of a stationary state (Mill, 1848, vol. II, Book IV, Ch. 6) “there would be as much scope as ever for all kinds of mental culture, and moral and social progress; as much room for improving the Art of Living, and much more likelihood of its being improved, when minds ceased to be engrossed by the art of getting on.”.

Almost a century later, John Maynard Keynes in his essay *“Economic Possibilities for our Grandchildren”* (1930) envisioned a not-so-distant future society in which the struggle for subsistence would be solved, though he questioned whether individuals would indeed be ready to abandon the old habits and to embrace “the new-found bounty of nature”.

Today in many countries the problem of poverty is far from being solved, yet, as Tibor Scitovsky in his *Growth in the affluent society* (1987) noticed, it is enough “to look around you at all the people who are dieting and jogging to realize that, with respect to some needs at least, a large part of the advanced countries’ populations have not only reached but passed the point of satiety”. Despite this, however, the realm of true riches, comprising leisure and freedom to pursue the art of living, does not seem to have engaged most of us. How to explain this paradox?

The aim of the conference is to elicit possible answers to this ‘leisure paradox’ by gathering contributions in both the practices and theories of consumption. The keynote speakers will focus, on the one hand, on the co-evolution of consumption patterns and other socio-economic variables and, on the other hand, on whether and to what extent the present state of choice theory provides a convincing explanation of how individuals distribute their time between work, consumption and leisure. Papers on the following areas are particularly welcome:

- The social dimension of consumption
- Income effects in Europe's economic history
- The evolution of the distinction between necessities and luxuries
- Work and time use
- Old and new consumption theories
- What happened to utility theory?
- Consumption skills and production skills
- Consumption and leisure

Proposals of papers on all fields of the history of economic thought are also welcome: some plenary sessions on the main topic of the conference will in fact be accompanied by parallel thematic sessions.

Young Scholar Awards

For Young Scholars STOREP provides two kinds of awards:

1) Scholarships for young scholars (under 35 years of age): in order to be eligible, one is required to submit a Curriculum Vitae and a paper any topic relevant to the history of political economy. The authors of the selected papers will be awarded of the free STOREP Conference registration, included the social dinner and the annual membership fee of the association. All applications, with CV and the final version of the papers, should be sent to segretario@storep.org no later than **April 30 2013**.

Applicants will be informed about the results of the evaluation process by **May 20 2013**.

2) The STOREP Award (of 500€ value) for the best article presented at the Annual Conference by young scholars within 40 years of age. All applications, with CV and the final version of the papers, should be sent to segretario@storep.org no later than **August 31 2013**.

Scientific Committee:

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