



INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

THE LABOUR MARKET IN DANGEROUS CURRENTS: BETWEEN TOTEMS AND TABOOS.

Theory and policies of flexibility in a global competitive economy

Faculty of Economics, University Roma Tre, 10-11 May 2012

Local organizers: Sebastiano Fadda and Pasquale Tridico

The problem of flexibility, in its definition, measures and impact on the performance of the labour market and of the economy as a whole is becoming today of paramount importance both in the theoretical and the political debate.

In this field, not only theories, but also empirical evidences diverge significantly. In the European Union, where in the last decade the labour market was subject to radical reforms which increased labour flexibility, one can still observe in many countries high unemployment rates and low labour productivity. The current economic and financial crisis showed also all the vulnerability of a flexible labour market and strong variation among flexible and rigid labour markets, which make research worth and gives room for policy making.

The aim of the symposium is to set the discussion at an analytical level, freeing it from totem and taboos of various origins. To this end contributed papers are welcome, both of theoretical and empirical nature, dealing with the problem of flexibility in the labour market in relation with:

- Definitions and measures
- Employment and unemployment
- Wage setting
- Labour share
- Union power
- Employment benefits
- Employment services
- Vulnerable work
- Productivity and competitiveness
- Structural adjustment
- Economic growth
- Financial crisis and labour market impacts
- Welfare comparative systems

Key note speaker: Jean Paul Fitoussi (Institut d'études politiques de Paris) TBC

Please send an extended proposal (draft paper) to:

fadda@uniroma3.it and tridico@uniroma3.it **by 10th April 2012**