

## Why a School

The discipline of economics occupies a central role in social sciences. Its conclusions are a key reference in public discussions. From a theoretical point of view, however, the foundations of the discipline appear far from being unambiguously established. Its basic prescriptions rest on assumptions which still deserve further examination and discussion. The summer school proposes to re-examine the tension between markets and governments, from the perspective of contemporary economic theory. Government interventions can be justified when there are market failures so that potential gains from trade cannot be exhausted. This logic has broad appeal and has been a fundamental reference point in many policy domains. Examples include (i) Market power and antitrust regulation, (ii) Externalities and policies to mitigate climate change (iii) Free-rider problems in public goods provision, or (iv) Equity-efficiency trade-offs in tax design. Recent researches on market design and incentive theory questions the traditional dichotomy of markets and governments. The school aims at offering a critical perspective on these issues. It alternates traditional lectures by academics with discussions on recently published books. The school offers an opportunity to contrast contemporary economic theory with recent developments in political philosophy.

## Programme

### JUNE 19

**François Maniquet** (UCL Louvain)

*Classic and Recent Debates on (Re)Distribution: A Social-Choice theoretical viewpoint*

**Piotr Dworczak** (Northwestern University)

*Optimal Redistribution via Income Taxation and Market Design*

**Jan Eeckhout** (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)

Book presentation: *The Profit Paradox*

### JUNE 20

**Francisco Ferreira** (London School of Economics)

*Equality of Opportunity, Meritocracy, and Public Policy*

**Rajiv Sethi** (Columbia University)

*The Economics of Group Inequality*

**Oded Galor** (Brown University)

Book presentation: *The Journey of Humanity: The Origins of Wealth and Inequality*

### JUNE 21

**Saura Masconale** (University of Arizona)

*The Morality of Market Activism*

**Alan Schwartz** (Yale University)

*The Logic of Legal Formalism*

**Lisa Herzog** (University of Groningen)

Book presentation: *The epistemic narrative about markets - and what's wrong with it*

## Info and Location

Centro Congressi e Rappresentanza  
Villa Mondragone  
Via Frascati 51  
Monte Porzio Catone (Rome), Italy

Centre for Economic and International Studies  
<https://ceistorvergata.it/MGTA>

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## Organizers

### Scientific Organisers

Attar Andrea (CNRS-TSE and Tor Vergata University of Rome)  
Felix Bierbrauer (Köln Universität)  
Roberto Veneziani (Queen Mary University of London)

### Local Organisers

Eloisa Campioni (Tor Vergata University of Rome)  
Andrea Piano Mortari (Tor Vergata University of Rome)  
Guillaume Pommey (Tor Vergata University of Rome)