Report of XV International Colloquium

Report by Winston Nagan - Chairman, WAAS Board of Trustees; Professor of Law, University of Florida, USA

The XV International Colloquium was held at Maison Des Sciences De L’Homme in Paris, Nord. The XV Economics Colloquium was co-sponsored by WAAS, World University Consortium, Universidade de Brasília and Universite Paris 13 Nord. The chief organizer in Paris was Professor Pascal Petit.

This colloquium is one of the best to have been given. It was extremely well organized and Pascal Petit was very skilled in bringing some of the finest European intellectuals affiliated with the Sorbonne in Paris. The theme of the colloquium was focused on the role of international institutions and their impact on economic theory and policy. The colloquium was held in Paris from May 2-4, 2018. The entire colloquium was characterized by contributions of high intellectual and scientific achievement. Taken as a whole, these quality contributions opened the pathway forward to a more creative and energized approach to new economic theory, one of the important intellectual strategies and goals of the World Academy. It is impossible to do adequate justice to all the brilliant papers presented and the reader will have to follow their subsequent publication in appropriate journals specialized in new economic theory. Among the significant papers was the examination of the role and impact of international institutions on the formation and execution of economic policy. Another important paper focused on the role of FAO and the political economy of hunger. Other papers focused on the coherence and policy implications of sustainable development and a significant paper focused on the role of international non-governmental institutions and the important role they can play in economic sustainability. Other important contributions focused on the importance of social movements and social power and their impacts on international governance. Other panels focused on the organization structure and future of world trade. Other contributions focused on the challenges of climate change policy and several papers focused on the problem of neo-liberalism and inequality. Other important contributions focuses on the emergence of digital currencies and the implications of global governance. One of the most imaginative papers by Professor Jacque Richard provided a radical rethinking of the fundamentals of accounting and how this rethinking of accounting could contribute towards the advancement of new economic theory. Still other papers focused on the fundamental concepts underlying new economic theory and stressed the role of inters-subjectivity in the expression of fundamental value demands cross culturally. Other papers focused on the challenge of employment and artificial intelligence.

Concluding papers focused on the theoretical challenges confronting the political economy of Croatia. The final panels focused on the dynamics of changing global society and new economic theory. As indicated, there were many more papers that were extremely challenging and important. My recommendation is that you the reader, should read the papers as they will be published to capture the full meaning and importance of this colloquium. In conclusion, I wish to thank Pascal Petit and his colleagues for organizing such a high level and innovative colloquium. On behalf of WAAS, I would especially like to thank Paris 13 for the excellent organization of this profoundly important colloquium.