



World Association for Political Economy

Seventeenth Forum of the World Association for Political Economy

Call for Papers

Political Economy vs. Economics in a Turbulent Multipolar World

2-4 August 2024, Athens, Greece

The 17th WAPE Forum will be held on 2-4 August 2024 at Panteion University, Athens, Greece. This Forum will be co-organized by WAPE (World Association of Political Economy - <http://www.wapeweb.org>) and GAPE (Greek Association of Political Economy - <https://politiceconomy.gr/main/en>), and hosted by the Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences (<https://www.panteion.gr/en/>).

The broad theme of this Forum focuses on the long-standing controversy between the two main alternative traditions in economic analysis: Political Economy and Economics. Economics, with their individualistic, non-social view of the economy have historically failed to grasp how economies work and forecast and why, how and when economic crises occur. On the other hand, Political Economy and especially its Marxist variant, proposing a social and historical understanding of the economy, linking economic analysis to social and political factors and to class struggle, has been far more successful in comprehending the actual workings of the economy and in analyzing economic crises. Economics' shortcomings have become even more pronounced as the 21st century ushered a period of global political and economic turbulence, economic crises erupting with an increasing frequency, geopolitical conflicts multiplying and taking increasingly violent forms, which they continue to fail to understand. Nevertheless, their dominance of academia and policy-making centers, especially in the West, continues uninterrupted because of their classless approach and their unashamed support for the capitalist system. The small cosmetic changes from Neoliberalism to neoconservative New Keynesianism do not amount to a serious change of perspective and continue to misapprehend the real modus operandi of



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contemporary societies and their economies. Nevertheless, there is growing unrest within both the academia and the society with this failed dominance.

Political Economy is the main approach towards which all those dissatisfied with Economics turn.

Indicatively but not exclusively, proposed papers can touch upon the following issues:

1. Contemporary controversies in Macroeconomics between Neoclassicism, Keynesianism and Marxism

- Neoliberalism, New Keynesianism and the New Macroeconomic Consensus
- Marxism and macro-economic modelling

2. Curriculum reform in Economics: How Political Economy can challenge Economics' dominance of university curricula

3. History of Political Economy

4. Economic history

5. Theory of stages and periodization of capitalism

6. Theories and analyses of economic crisis

7. Profitability, crises and economic cycles

8. Race, class and gender

9. Methodology of economic analysis

10. Trends and challenges in contemporary economic policy

- Neoconservative economic policies
- Economic planning, fiscal and monetary policies reconsidered
- A return of industrial policy?

11. Marxism and the Political Economy of money and finance

- Contemporary capitalism and transformations of the financial system
- Fictitious capital and the contemporary changes in the production-circulation nexus
- Central banking in contemporary capitalism
- US hegemony and de-dollarisation
- The political economy of crypto-currency



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12. Labour process, markets and the Political Economy of work

- Labour movement and Trade Unions
- Exploitation, flexibility of labor and unemployment
- The current state of Labour Process Theory
- Automation, AI and their impact on unemployment, income distribution and the economic cycles
- Platforms, casualization of labour and the contemporary workplace

13. The Political Economy of social policy

- Austerity and the welfare system
- Poverty and inequality
- The pensions system and its neoconservative reforms

14. The Political Economy of education

- Commodification of education
- Class barriers and education
- Student debt
- The entrepreneurial university

15. The Political Economy of health policies

- Inequalities and class barriers in health provision
- The new emerging epidemics and the experience of the COVID-19
- Public vs private healthcare sectors

16. Environmental Political Economy

- Climate change and class struggle
- Capitalism's metabolic rift
- Imperialist and geopolitical conflicts and the climate

17. Urban and regional Political Economy

- The city-countryside contradiction in contemporary capitalism
- Labour geographies

18. Law and Political Economy

19. World economy and geopolitical conflicts: globalization or imperialism?



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- International conflicts and imperialism
- The retreat of US hegemony and the emergence of a multi-polar world system
- The Political Economy of capital flows
- BRICS, the newly emerging economies and the world economy
- Global value chains and transnational corporations
- Political Economy of foreign direct investment (FDI)
- International Political Economy

20. Political Economy of European integration

- Is the Eurozone crisis over?
- European Union: from aspiring to become the new economic superpower falling behind?
- Divisions and conflicts within the European integration – euro-centre versus euro-periphery in the 21st century

21. Development studies at an impasse

- The developmental state after the Post-Washington Consensus
- Role and policies of international organizations (IMF, WB, WHO, UNHCR, UN etc.)
- Development and underdevelopment in the 21st century

22. Country case studies

On these, but also on other subjects, WAPE encourages the formation of work groups that continue to co-operate beyond the period of this Forum. WAPE will support these workgroups by hosting them on its webpages and promoting their work.

WAPE also encourages the proposal of a series of panels on subjects within the broad scope of the Forum. Colleagues or groups that are interested in organizing such panels should contact the Organisation Committee via wapemember@vip.163.com and WAPE2024@panteion.gr.

Additionally, the 17th WAPE Forum will include a **Young Scholars' Section**. Ongoing Ph.D students can apply to present mature parts of their work within this section. The rate for students (50 euros) applies in the case of the Young Scholars' Section.



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OFFICIAL LANGUAGE: The official language of the Forum is English.

PUBLICATION POSSIBILITIES: All accepted full papers will be considered for publication in the *World Review of Political Economy*

(<http://www.plutojournals.com/wrpe/>) and the *International Critical Thought*

(<https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rict20>) after passing the peer refereeing process.

HOW TO APPLY

Send a paper abstract (500 words) and your full curriculum vitae in English to wapemember@vip.163.com and WAPE2024@panteion.gr by **10 May 2024**.

Acceptance letters and instructions for registration will be sent out by **20 May 2024**.

The structure and the schedule of registration fees are detailed below. Full papers must be submitted by **1 July 2024**.

There is also the option to apply to attend the forum without presenting a paper. In that case, you will be sent an invitation letter for visa purposes etc. upon registration and payment of registration fees.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Deadline for abstract proposals: **10 May 2024**
- Notice of acceptance: **20 May 2024**
- Deadline for full paper: **1 July 2024**

REGISTRATION FEE

- **140 Euros** for online payment before **30 May 2024**
- **170 Euros** for online payment before **20 July 2024**
- **200 Euros** for online payment after **20 July 2024** or on-site payment **50 Euros** reduced rate for unemployed, retired and students for online payment before **30 May 2024**

Additionally, a WAPE membership fee is required. Payment of the membership fee should be made together with the registration fee.



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WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF JOINING WAPE?

WAPE has decided to develop itself as a membership organization in order to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, new thought and research across the divide of languages and geography, and offer its members access to certain benefits. To register for the 17th WAPE Forum, you must become a WAPE member first. **Standard Membership.** The benefits to be a Standard Member include:

- Free digital copies of the organization's peer reviewed academic journal, *World Review of Political Economy (WRPE)*, which is published four times a year.
- Publishing of members' selected articles on our websites.
- Translating selected books and articles into Chinese and publishing them in China.
- Invitations to attend a variety of conferences in China.
- Scholars who are members may be invited to China on a lecture tour.
- Members will be invited to join panels, which WAPE will organize for various international conferences held in different countries.

The membership fee for Standard Members is **US\$30 per year**.

Council Membership. Council Members have the priority over all the benefits offered by WAPE for Standard Members. Besides, you will get both free digital copies and hard copies of the *World Review of Political Economy (WRPE)*. Council Members are required to submit one paper to or call for one paper for WRPE, and review one paper for WRPE per year. The membership fee for Council Members is **US\$100 per year**.

Low-income Membership. Low-income Membership is a discretionary rate of **US\$10 per year** for students, retired and unemployed people, and part-time workers on reduced income.

WAPE. *The World Association for Political Economy*, registered in Paris, is an international academic organization founded by Marxist economists and related groups around the world. The mission of WAPE is to utilize modern Marxist economics to analyze and study the world economy, reveal its laws of development, and offer policies to promote economic and social progress on the national and global levels. The last



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fifteen WAPE forums were successively held in Shanghai (China), Shimane (Japan), Beijing (China), Paris (France), Suzhou (China), Amherst (USA), Mexico City (Mexico), Florianopolis (Brazil) and Hanoi (Vietnam), Johannesburg (South Africa), Patiala (India), Moscow (Russia), Berlin (Germany), Winnipeg (Canada), Shanghai (China) and Fuzhou (China) annually between 2006 and 2023. Participants in past WAPE forums have come from over 50 countries across Asia, Australia, Africa, Europe, and North and South America.

WRPE. The *World Review of Political Economy* is a peer-reviewed quarterly journal of Marxist Political Economy sponsored by WAPE and published by Pluto Journals. For more information including types of submissions that will be considered, please go to <http://www.plutojournals.com/wrpe/> and submit your articles to WRPE via WRPE ScholarOne Manuscripts site (<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/wrpe>).

WAPEWEB.ORG WAPE Secretariat is working with a team from its long-term partner Pluto Journals, publisher of WRPE, to launch its new version of WAPE website with WAPE Membership system. The team will contact our members for registration or renewal of membership with approval from WAPE Secretariat.

WAPE AWARDS

- *The Distinguished Achievement Award of World Political Economy of the 21st Century*, established by WAPE, has been granted annually since 2009 to recognize outstanding books and articles in political economy published since the year of 2001. It is intended to promote research of modern political economy around the world by granting this award to those who have made important innovations in the theories or methodology of political economy.
- *The Marxian Economics Award*, established by WAPE in 2011, is given to recognize an outstanding lifetime record of achievement in political economy. Its purpose is to promote the development of research of Marxist economics around the world by granting this award to those who have made important innovations in the research of



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theories, methodology, and application of Marxist economics. The 2024 WAPE Awards will be granted at the opening ceremony of the 17th WAPE Forum. Nominations and applications can be sent to wapemember@vip.163.com.

Marxist economists from all over the world are welcome to join WAPE and attend WAPE forums. WAPE aims to encourage cooperation among Marxist economists and to enlarge and strengthen the influence of Marxist economics in the world.



The WAPE Secretariat

March 2024