

**Invitation**

**wiiw seminar series**

***‘Policy Perspectives for European Integration’***

**Ivano Cardinale**

Lecturer in Economics at Goldsmiths, University of London, and  
Life Member of Clare Hall, Cambridge

and

**Michael Landesmann**

Senior Research Associate and Former Scientific Director of wiiw

**Forces of Disintegration in the Wider  
European Economy: a Structural Political  
Economy Approach**

**Monday, 3 July 2017, 4 pm**

**wiiw, Vienna 6, Rahlgasse 3, library (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)**

**Abstract**

External imbalances, diverging developments in export capacity and unbalanced growth patterns have characterized developments in the wider European economy (i.e. the economy of the European Union and its neighborhood) since the onset of the crisis. This talk analyses the major forces that push towards divergence and which generate the strains in the policy frameworks that have been set up in the European Union. A ‘structural political economy’ approach will be adopted to identify congruence and conflicts of interest between national and cross-border economic interests and how these lead to ‘nationalist’ or ‘integrationist’ biases in political-economy developments at national and European levels. Avenues will be explored concerning how the ‘integrationist project’ can be advanced in relation to some of the major challenges faced by national and European policy-makers.

**Ivano Cardinale** is Lecturer in Economics at Goldsmiths, University of London, and Life Member of Clare Hall, Cambridge. He was previously the Mead Research Fellow in Economics at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He holds a PhD from the University of Cambridge. He is developing an approach that can be described as “Structural Political Economy”. By using sectoral models of the economy, this approach aims to uncover different conflicts of interests as compared to standard micro and macro analyses; it can also unveil previously unseen convergences of interests. He has applied a Structural Political Economy lens to address historical problems (why rising taxation in eighteenth-century Britain was politically sustainable) as well as contemporary issues (sectoral-level conflicts in the Eurozone). He also explores how economic and institutional contexts influence the decisions of political-economy actors, and are in turn shaped by those decisions. He has recently co-edited *The Political Economy of the Eurozone* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2017).

**Michael Landesmann** is Senior Research Associate and was from 1996-2016 Scientific Director of the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies ([www.wiwi.ac.at](http://www.wiwi.ac.at)) as well as Professor of Economics at the Johannes Kepler University. His research focuses on European economic integration, international economic relations, structural change and economic growth, globalization and labour markets and migration. He was a member of the Group of Economic Policy Advisors under the chairmanship of former EU Commission President Romano Prodi and participated in and coordinated a wide range of EU projects on different aspects of European integration. He has a D.Phil. from Oxford University, was a Lecturer, Fellow and Senior Research Officer at Cambridge University and held visiting Professorships at Harvard University, Brandeis, Basel, Osaka, Padova, Jerusalem, Central European University, CERGE-EI Prague, Mumbai, etc.).

\* \* \*

The wiiw seminar series ‘**Policy Perspectives for European Integration**’ is the continuation of three earlier wiiw seminar series: ‘Crisis management in Central, East and Southeast Europe: What is to be done?’, ‘Policy options for the post-crisis economy in Central, East and Southeast Europe’, and ‘EU in Crisis’. In this series, our emphasis is on issues that affect the future of the European Union: we look at the policy perspectives which may emerge after the crisis and affect the EU and its neighborhood. Reforms of the EMU, the closer fiscal and economic cooperation of the Member States, bail-out schemes, solutions to the prevailing debt problems in the Southern Rim of the Union, the controversial relations between the EU and Russia affecting border countries and, furthermore, migration policy challenges within the EU and with neighboring regions are topics we expect to remain of utmost importance in this and the coming years. Policies impacting on the further integration of the new Member States and future enlargements of the EU will remain an integral part of the discourse in this seminar series as well.