Workshop: How to Conceptualise Financialisation in Developing and Emerging Economies? Manifestations, Drivers and Implications

13-14 December 2018 – University of Cambridge, Girton College

Workshop Overview & Programme
The discussions of the processes behind the growing importance of finance, financial transactions and financial motives, as well as the sustainability of the financial systems, have been located in the critical political economy debate of financialisation and neoliberalism. So far the analysis of financialisation has been largely focused on developed economies. Studies on developing and emerging economies (DEEs) have been unsystematic and largely empirical with a focus on financialisation phenomena observed in developed countries. This workshop aims to provide an assessment of the financialisation process in DEEs and stimulate conceptual discussions of whether, and if so how, financialisation is distinct in DEEs. Further, considering the argument that the term is either ill-defined or used without a clear agreed-upon definition, the workshop also aims to pursue more clarity on what financialisation means.

Despite the rising interest in the issue of DEE financialisation, its manifestations, drivers and implications, many questions still remain unanswered. For example, what, if any, are the specific features of financialisation in DEEs? Can domestic public debt or high interest rates or a subordinate aspect be such a feature? What is the link between DEEs’ specific financialisation features and their ‘real’ international integration into international production networks? Does mapping the phenomena encountered in the Anglo-Saxon core onto DEEs overlook the structural differences of these economies and, therefore, their different financialisation practices and features? Also, can financialisation processes be compared between DEEs? What are the roles of different institutions, policies and indeed locational factors in shaping these processes? Can the notion of “variegated financialisation” be helpful in these respects? Similarly, is financialisation driven rather by international factors or by autonomous domestic political economy processes? Empirically, is it possible to delineate financial development and deepening from financialisation in DEEs, and to what extent can it be quantified? Finally, considering the lack of consensus on what financialisation means,

An indicative, but by no means exhaustive, list of questions that might be addressed includes:

- How can financialisation in DEEs be conceptualised? What is the contribution of different disciplines in analysing financialisation in DEEs
- How can financialisation be located empirically in DEEs? Can it be quantified?
- What are the distinct features of financialisation in these regions?
- What are the commonalities and differences between DEEs’ experiences with financialisation?
- What is the relationship between financialisation in DEEs and financialisation in advanced economies? Is DEE financialisation largely driven by their relation with developed countries or are these autonomous processes?
- What is the role of national institutional, spatial and macroeconomic factors in shaping financialisation phenomena?
- How is financialisation related to the ‘productive’ international integration of DEEs?
- What is the role of the State in shaping financialisation in DEEs? Are there specific actors influencing the process?
- What are the implications of financialisation for development?
- What is the difference between financial deepening and financialisation?
- What are the policy implications of financialisation of DEEs?

Speakers include: Brett Christophers, Gary Dymski, Ben Fine, Sarah Hall, Susan Newman, Gabriel Palma, Jeff Powell and Lena Rethel.

The full workshop programme will be uploaded here shortly.
Call for Papers
The workshop invites contributions on the theoretical and empirical specificities of the manifestations, drivers and implications of financialisation in DEEs. It particularly encourages conceptual contributions and those which adopt a pluralistic approach, both in theory and method. The workshop is strongly committed to interdisciplinary engagement and realist social theorising to understanding the economy. It welcomes scholars from a variety of fields, such as economics, development studies, political economy, politics, business studies, geography, sociology, gender studies, anthropology, and history.

Paper proposals should be in the form of an extended abstract (500 words) and be submitted by June 1st 2018 to deesworkshop@econ.cam.ac.uk.

If you wish to attend the workshop, but not present a paper, please submit a one A4 page motivation letter, using a font of no smaller than 11, by the same deadline.

Please note that spaces at the workshop, both for speakers and participants, are limited and will be allocated on a competitive basis.

Timeline:
Application deadline (for presenters and participants): 1 June 2018
Notification of acceptance: 30 July 2018
Papers due: 31 October 2018
Registration: 31 October 2018
Workshop: 13-14 December 2018

Workshop Registration, Cost and booking
There are no registration fees but all attendees must register beforehand, no later than 31 October 2018. Please, register by booking a speaker or participant place, see the booking section below.

Presenters and participants will be invited for a subsidised dinner in the evening of the first workshop day at their own expense of £25. Confirmation for the dinner must be done at the time of registration for the workshop. No later addition will be possible. Note that dinner is not included in the registration. Attendees wishing to take part in the dinner must add the dinner ticket to their booking basket before finishing registration.

Speakers
Accommodation is available for all the speakers, there is no need to book it; this is a basic student B&B accommodation within Girton College grounds. However if presenters wish to stay elsewhere they must do so at their own expense.

Young Scholars
Young Scholars (including advanced PhD students) are strongly encouraged to participate. A small financial assistance will be provided to those selected peer-review PhD/Young Scholars who have no other sources of institutional support. When submitting their paper proposal for the workshop, PhD/Young Scholars should indicate if they are applying for small financial assistance.

Financial Assistance
A small financial assistance will be provided to participants who submit a motivation letter stating the academic reasons to attend to the workshop. Participant motivation letters should be about one A4 page, using a font of no smaller than 11, and should also be submitted by June 1st 2018 to deesworkshop@econ.cam.ac.uk. Please note that accommodation for participants is not included and must be booked separately.
Workshop Venue
The conference will take place in the Stanley Library, at Girton College, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge, CB3 0JG. Girton has a visitor car parking onsite. See the College webpage for further direction to the College.

Accommodation
Participants who wish to stay on the college grounds need to book their own accommodation directly with Girton College at conferences@girton.cam.ac.uk. The rooms are all single en-suite rooms, with towels provided. The cost of these rooms is £88.00 + VAT per night, with breakfast in the cafeteria included. Any attendee who wishes to book a different accommodation at his or her own cost is welcome to do so. There are a few of other options nearby, including those listed below:

Hotel Felix (http://www.hotelfelix.co.uk/)
Benson House (http://www.bensonhouse.co.uk/)

Workshop Organisers:
Carolina Alves, Girton College, University of Cambridge
Bruno Bonizzi, Department of Politics and Society, University of Winchester
Annina Kalterbrunner, Leeds University Business School, University of Leeds

Workshop Supporters: