



# Public Policies & the Direction of Financial Flows

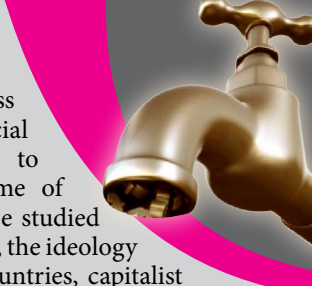
The European Association  
for Banking and Financial  
History (EABH) e.V. &  
The National Bank  
of Romania

7-9 June 2012  
Bucharest



**Call for  
Papers**

Many times in history, public authorities have decided to pursue economic policies (mainly development policies) by directing the financial flows of the economy. The central idea of the conference is to study this phenomenon using a comparative approach. The basic question to be addressed is therefore: Why and how did non-market forces (states, local authorities, international authorities, technical bodies) manage to direct financial flows so as to achieve specific goals, mainly related to economic development?



The motivations for adopting such policies need investigation: insufficiency of market forces, weakness of the financial institutions, a special macroeconomic context, urgency to achieve certain goals, are just some of the most common motivations, to be studied while considering, in the background, the ideology of the policymakers. Communist countries, capitalist countries, middle-of-the-road countries, war economies: all share, to some degree, devices to direct financial flows. The scope of the inquiry will include banks, which extend credit, insurance companies, which invest their reserves, as well as financial markets (via authorisations to issue shares, for example, or even via forced lending to the state).

Such management of financial flows may be achieved with a great variety of instruments, from laws to plans to regulations to government decisions to moral suasion. Most often, these devices coexist with other forms of economic regulation (on prices, investments, foreign trade, etc.), yet the focus of the papers should be on financial flows, and possibly on how the management of those interacted with other forms of regulation.

The transition of command economies to market economies is part of this subject matter, both because of profound changes in the structure of the economies involved and because new non-market forces, especially at the international level, have been operating in the process. How were the authorities in charge of the direction of financial flows organised and how did they collect the relevant information? Did these authorities actually attain their aims? Assessments of the results of these policies including drawbacks, unwanted effects, interferences with other policies, etc.

Which bodies produced the documents and the statistics that cover the subject? Why were they preserved or destroyed? What does the architecture of the papers, their formal qualities, tell us about the policies concerning the direction of financial flows and the people which devised and managed them?

A comparative approach to the subject matter is encouraged, also by means of co-authorship.



Please submit proposals by  
**Tuesday 01 November 2011**

Final papers by  
**Monday 30 January 2012**

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