

Call for Papers

4th Central and Eastern European Forum for Young Legal, Social and Political Theorists

Reconsidering Democracy: (New) Theories, Policies and Social Practices

Celje, 23–24 March 2012

In 2012 the *CEE Forum for Young Legal, Political and Social Theorists* is moving to Slovenia! It will be held from Friday, 23 March to Saturday, 24 March at the **International School for Social and Business Studies** in **Celje** (<http://mfdds.si/en>).

The CEE Forum is a platform for young legal, political and social theorists who come from, currently study or work in Central and Eastern Europe or have a research interest in the region. The regional boundaries are understood widely. The target audiences of the conference are young researchers: doctoral students or post-docs, but there is no specific age limit.

The fourth CEE Forum will put its special emphasis on recent critiques of contemporary democracy and the rule of law. Current discourses in social sciences as well as in civil society almost daily produce new ideas, suggestions and demands on how to significantly alter the political and legal reality of our societies. The exceptional importance of these questions for our common future has long and clearly surpassed national borders and produced an international discourse. Many distinguished authors like Immanuel Wallerstein, Noam Chomsky, Jürgen Habermas, Stéphane Hessel, Antonio Negri, Igor Štiks or Srečko Horvat have spoken publicly on these pressing issues. They propose the increase of elements of direct democracy in the political process and significant political empowerment of the civil society and each individual.

It thus seems appropriate to discuss these and related problems within the Fourth Central and Eastern European Forum. We are expecting contributions to the following two major general panels: **(1) Reconsidering Democracy: (New) Theories, Policies and Social Practices**, and **(2) Towards the Rule of Law – Regresses and Necessities**. Even though these two general themes are broad enough to meet diverse interests of the Forum's participants, the organizers will also convene an **(3) Open panel** for papers that target other interesting topics from the vast area of legal, political and social theory.

The conference language is English. An up to 500 words abstract, indicating the preferable general panel, should be submitted in the available **application form** (http://www.cee-forum.org/forum_2012_celje) by **15 December 2011** to international@issbs.si. Acceptance of the papers will be communicated by **15 Janu-**

ary 2012. Participation without presentation is possible as well (no deadline for application, but please use the application form as well).

The **conference fee** for all participants is **50,- Euros** and it covers conference material, three meals, and coffee and snacks during the breaks. Payment instructions will be communicated by January 2011. Participants shall make arrangements and pay for their accommodation individually. In addition to offering some options for lodging at the conference website, the organizers will try to negotiate some subsidized prices for the conference participants. For all the updated information, visit the conference website:

http://www.cee-forum.org/forum_2012_celje

Selected papers will be published in the "Central and Eastern European Forum for Legal, Political, and Social Theory Yearbook".

We are happy and eager to host you in Celje in early spring of 2012!

Doc. dr. Srečko Natek, Dean
International School for Social and
Business Studies

Doc. dr. Andraž Teršek
President of the Organizing Committee