

22 Years of International Development Assistance to Southeast Europe (1991-2013): Lessons for Donors and Recipients

An International Workshop co-organized by the **Department of Economics** and the **Department of Political Science and International Relations** of the **University of Peloponnese** with the co-operation of **Europe and the Balkans International Network**

Athens, 22-3 February 2013

Call for Papers

Within the last twenty-two years the Balkans have received massive amounts of international aid. Much aid was successful in rebuilding infrastructure, reintegrating refugees, increasing the capacity of state institutions and improving educational services and social care. However much aid has been wasted. Several reports have reached the conclusion that humanitarian and development assistance was badly coordinated and hampered by bureaucracy, or even worse, was embezzled by corrupt officials. In many cases aid money lined the pockets of crooks, cronies and dodgy officials. Nowadays, humanitarian and post-conflict aid has been reduced and development aid from bilateral donors is being replaced by pre-accession assistance from the EU.

It is time to re-examine the track record of international aid to Southeast Europe. The organizers of this workshop invite academics and practitioners from aid agencies, international organizations and NGOs from both the region and donor countries to share their knowledge and experience on aspects of international humanitarian and development assistance to Southeast Europe. The main objective is to identify the causes of successes and failures and suggest ways that could improve aid efforts both in the region and worldwide. Papers could focus either on donor-recipient relationships, or on specific projects.

Issues to be addressed:

- Politics and aid
- Donor coordination
- Bilateral vs multilateral donors
- State-building and aid agencies
- Aid Conditionalities
- Aid and regional integration/co-operation
- Case Studies: Causes of success and failure of specific aid projects

Keynote Speaker: Professor Stefano Bianchini, University of Bologna

Abstracts of around 400 words and short CVs should be sent to seeconference@uop.gr by 30 September 2012. All abstracts will be evaluated by an academic committee. The authors of accepted proposals will be informed by mid-October 2012. Full papers should be submitted by 31 January 2013 to be circulated among conference participants. Selected papers will be published in a special issue of the journal *Southeastern Europe* (Brill) and in an edited volume. A registration fee of 100 € (to cover meals and dinner) is required upon arrival.