

## **II WORKSHOP ON FISCAL FEDERALISM: Competition and Cooperation among Governments**

Sevilla, June 21-22, 2007

Competition among governments is often seen as the source of all evils. At the national and regional level, competition bears the blame of driving down tax rates and benefit levels and, therefore, of threatening the survival of the welfare state. At the local level, competition among fragmented governments is seen as one of the causes of underprovision of regionally-valued public services, environmentally harmful urban sprawl and unwanted income and racial segregation. However, competition is also considered by some as the best way to reduce waste in government and force politicians to be responsive to the needs and preferences of citizens. Depending on which view prevails, enhanced cooperation among governments will be seen as more or less advisable. These cooperation efforts range from harmonization agreements, centralization or regionalisation, and the use of grants to fund decentralized spending policies.

The aim of this workshop is to bring together original research papers that cast some light on these issues. Both theoretical and empirical papers are welcome.

### **Keynote speakers**

- Jan K. Brueckner (University of California, Irvine)
- John D. Wilson (Michigan State University)
- James Hines Jr. (University of Michigan)

### **Topics of interest**

- Taxes (and other government instruments) and the location of individuals and firms
- Tax competition and agglomeration economies
- Tax competition and waste in government
- Vertical competition and cooperation in taxation and other government policies
- Tiebout sorting and segregation in urban areas
- Local Government fragmentation and urban outcomes
- Harmful tax competition, the 'race to the bottom', and the need for tax harmonization
- Specific aids to industries and bidding for firms
- Yardstick competition and mimicking behaviour
- Tax competition and equalization grants
- Spillovers in spending and other urban policies
- Evaluation of cooperation arrangements in urban areas

### **Deadlines**

- Deadline for submission of abstracts: February 1, 2007
- Deadline for acceptance of papers: April 15, 2007
- Deadline for submission of papers: April 1, 2007
- Registration: April 2 to June 1, 2007

### **Registration and further information**

There is a registration fee of 300 euro, which includes documentation, coffee breaks and working lunches. Participants who present a paper are excluded from this payment, free accommodation will also be provided for them, and travel expenses could be covered, totally or partially, subject to budget restrictions. Only papers presented in PDF format will be considered. They must be sent to [ieb@pcb.ub.es](mailto:ieb@pcb.ub.es). Further information on the workshop will be soon available at the webpage of the workshop, which could be accessed through the website of both organizing institutions: [www.pcb.ub.es/ieb](http://www.pcb.ub.es/ieb) and [www.centrodeestudiosandaluces.es](http://www.centrodeestudiosandaluces.es)

### **Scientific Committee**

- James Hines Jr. (University of Michigan)
- John D. Wilson (Michigan State University)
- Jesús Ruiz-Huerta (Instituto de Estudios Fiscales)
- Núria Bosch (University of Barcelona & IEB)
- Alejandro Esteller-Moré (University of Barcelona & IEB)
- Jan K. Brueckner (University of California, Irvine)
- Teresa García-Milà (University Pompeu Fabra)
- Albert Solé-Ollé (University of Barcelona & IEB)
- Diego Martínez López (Centro de Estudios Andaluces)