

Lumsa University  
(Rome)  
Sophia University Institute  
(Loppiano – Florence)  
Heirs

Venue:  
May 20-21, 2014

Lumsa University  
Sala Convegni "Giubileo"  
Via di Porta Castello, 44  
Rome

Invited speakers:

**John Milbank**  
(University of Nottingham)  
**Robert H. Nelson**  
(University of Maryland)  
**Paul Oslington**  
(Australian Catholic University)  
**Adrian Pabst**  
(University of Kent)  
**Tomáš Sedláček**  
(Charles University - Prague)  
**Giacomo Todeschini**  
(University of Trieste)

Scientific committee:

**Luigino Bruni**  
(Economics, Lumsa & Sophia UI)  
**Piero Coda**  
(Theology, Sophia UI)  
**Benedetto Gui**  
(Economics, U. Padua & Sophia UI)  
**Mauro Magatti**  
(Sociology, U. Cattolica-Milan)  
**Adrian Pabst**  
(Political philosophy, U. Kent)  
**Vittorio Pelligra**  
(Economics, U. Cagliari & Sophia UI)  
**Pier Luigi Porta**  
(Economics, U. Milan-Bicocca & Irec)  
**Andrea Simoncini**  
(Law, U. Florence)  
**Alessandra Smerilli**  
(Economics, Auxilium-Rome)  
**Stefano Zamagni**  
(Economics, Sophia UI & SEC)

Organizing committee:

**Luigino Bruni**  
(Lumsa, & Sophia UI)  
**Antonella Ferrucci**  
(Economy of Communion)  
**Tommaso Reggiani**  
(U. Cologne & Heirs)  
**Matteo Rizzolli**  
(U. Bozen & Heirs)

Conference website:  
<http://www.heirs.it/?p=411>

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# ECONOMIC THEOLOGY, THEOLOGICAL ECONOMICS

## An interdisciplinary conference

*In writers and philosophers like Shakespeare, Marx, Weber, Benjamin, Bataille, Girard, and more recently Taylor, Pasolini, Dumont or Agamben, the link between economy and religion, or more to the point, Christianity and Capitalism, has occupied a central theoretical place. In the late 20th century, in particular after the fall of communism, the religious nature of capitalism has been ignored. Recently, however, interest in "economic theology" is once again growing, an expression used analogously with Carl Schmitt's Political Theology: "all significant concepts of the modern theory of the state are secularized theological concepts" (1922). No doubt Political Economy too, in its foundation phases, was deeply influenced by both theological categories and languages, as Giacomo Todeschini has showed for the pre-modern era, and economists such as Jacob Viner or Deirdre McCloskey, and Giorgio Agamben for modern Political Economy. We call this influence of theology over economics "Theological Economics". At the same time, theology, in particular in the first centuries of the Christian era, borrowed from the Greek oikonomia fundamental tools for expressing key elements and novelties of Christianity (i.e. God as Trinity) with respect to Judaism and Polytheism. We call "Economic Theology" this other side of the nexus theology-economy. Therefore the analogy with Carl Schmitt's Political Theology is only partial. Something similar to the first centuries, however, is happening again today where some currencies of theology (i.e. Piero Coda's Trinitarian ontology) is in dialogue with new tenets of economics and social sciences (i.e. the theories of reciprocity and relational goods). This debate is characterised by mutual influence and a complex interplay of concepts with practices.*

*The Rome international conference intends to convene scholars from different disciplines and cultural backgrounds to reflect on this very timely and significant topic.*

### MAY 20th , 2014

09.15 – 10.00

Registrations

10.00 – 10.30

#### Introduction

- **Giuseppe della Torre**  
(Lumsa University, Vice-cancelor)
- **Pier Luigi Porta and Luigino Bruni**

10.30 – 11.30

#### Plenary session 1

- **Paul Oslington**  
(Australian Catholic University)
- **Adrian Pabst**  
(University of Kent)

11.30 – 13.30

#### Parallel session 1

13.30: lunch

14.30 - 16.30

#### Parallel session 2

16.30: coffee break

17.00 – 18.00

#### Plenary session 2

- **John Milbank**  
(University of Nottingham)
- **Robert H. Nelson**  
(University of Maryland)

18.00 – 19.00

#### General discussion

(chaired by Benedetto Gui)

19.00: social dinner

### MAY 21st , 2014

09.00 - 10.00

#### Plenary session 3

- **Tomáš Sedláček**  
(Charles University -Prague)
- **Giacomo Todeschini**  
(University of Trieste)

10.00: coffee break

10.30 - 12.30

#### Parallel session 3

12.30 - 13:30:

#### Plenary session 4

- **Stefano Zamagni**  
(Sophia University Institute & SEC)

#### Concluding remarks &

**General discussion**  
(chaired by Luigino Bruni)

13.30: lunch

- In each parallel session (4 parallel sessions): 4 papers are presented. Each paper has 20 minutes for presentation, and 10 minutes for general discussion (no formal discussant).

- The composition of the different parallel sessions will be available online at <http://www.heirs.it/?p=411>

# Program