

# THE EURO CRISIS – CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS?

19 March 2013, 13.15 – 17.00

University of Tampere, Lecture Hall Pinni B1097

An open seminar organized by

Public Law and Tax Law, School of Management, University of Tampere

Research project “How to Rule the Economy” funded by the Academy of Finland.

The European Union has focused on surviving in a permanent state of crisis. After the Lisbon Treaty entered into force on 1 December 2009 we have witnessed many quick fixes, various new mechanisms and parallel processes aiming at handling the crises in individual Member States, stabilizing the whole euro area and improving economic governance. It is therefore the right time to explore the legacy of the Euro Crisis on the constitutional structures of Europe.

Responses to the current economic crisis have had a variety of constitutional implications calling for a comprehensive review. Crisis, which combines the elements of banking crisis in the euro area and member states' debt crisis, has turned into something of an existential crisis for the Union as well. Various rescue packages, tightening fiscal discipline, the new European economic governance and gradually evolving executive federalism have shaken the constitutional structures of the EU and its member states, and their sensitive relationship. Due to the tightening rules and enforcement and the new budgetary frameworks, both in beneficiary and assisting states questions concerning the democratic legitimacy, accountability, transparency, and the erosion of national fiscal sovereignty have come on surface. Moreover, the realization of the fundamental political and social rights of the citizens, the future of welfare states, and the new differentiation within the EU call for interdisciplinary dialogue. Although policy makers both on national and EU levels have claimed democratic legitimacy and accountability when redefining the new economic governance solutions, we have not seen any answers to the claims.

## Programme

### Session one

13.15 Opening of the Seminar

*Pekka Lämsineva*, Professor, University of Tampere

13.30 The EU's Public Finance Crisis: Causes, Consequences and Cure

*Stephen Bailey*, FiDiPro Professor, University of Tampere

14.15 The European Financial Crisis – Constitutional Aspects and Implications

*Kaarlo Tuori*, Professor, University of Helsinki

15.00 Coffee Break

### Session two

15.30 The Stability Regulations of the EMU - Do we need new rules or new attitude?

*Jani Wacker*, University Lecturer, PhD, University of Tampere

15.50 Democracy and the Economic and Monetary Union? Some reflections

*Janne Salminen*, Researcher, LL.Lic, University of Turku

16.10 Growing thirst for tax revenue: the changing foundations of taxation in the EU

*Matti Urpilainen*, University Lecturer, LL.D, University of Tampere

16.30 Discussion

17.00 Closing of the Seminar



TAMPEREEN  
YLIOPISTO