

# OFF-CAMPUS VISIT TO CONFINDUSTRIA, ROME.

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On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2016, the students of the second year of Global Governance had the privilege to attend the Lezione “Angelo Costa”, held by Dani Rodrick, at Confindustria.



The atmosphere inside the room was packed but the silence was utterly overwhelming: there was just the noise coming from the turning of pages, pens' clicking and flashes of cameras. Everyone was waiting for the guest. The microphone beeped: professor Gustavo Piga started to talk. The professor and director of the economic Journal “Rivista di Politica Economica” introduced the lesson, which as per tradition, is reported in the last issue of the year of the journal. The title of this year’s lecture was, “is national equality the enemy of global inequality?”. The “Angelo Costa” is a scientific lecture focused on arguments relevant in the field of economics. It is dedicated to Angelo Costa, who played an important role in the Italian economy after the war, being convinced that freedom of thoughts and speech are essential tools to have a model of development.

Professor Piga stressed the utmost importance and modernity of the Angelo Costa's lessons, recalling one of the previews lessons' title, “In defence of globalisation”, to point out that current debates on how to control and manage the globalisation of our times actually started years ago and are still one of the main topics of discussion. The professor starts from regional and territorial data in order to freeze-frame the continuous change that globalisation brings. National data is not so relieving: university admissions are decreasing. Italy, the country of Renaissance, is the last state in Europe's ranking for university admissions numbers. The new university has to be more dynamic and heterogeneous, meaning that the investment in the human capital are fundamental for the catching up with the progresses of globalisation. Globalisation has to be understood instead of something to be scared of.



Subsequently, Luca Paolazzi, director of the centre of the studies at Confindustria, introduced the background of Danny Rodrick. Professor Rodrick was born in Istanbul and undertook a major in political science, finally specialising in the field of Economics and Politics. His researches deal with the social effects of collaboration and the benefits of globalisation, with its inevitable downsides such as the greater dichotomy between developed and under-developed countries. Consequently, the effects of globalisation bring about many questions with controversial

answers. Is there a unique formula to bring under-developed countries at the same socio-economic level of developed countries? According to Professor Rodrick, the recipe for economic growth of a specific country is different and peculiar: they derive from the socio-environmental conditions of the state itself and most of all nowadays we have to take in account the early de-industrialisation of developing countries.

Afterwards Prof. D. Rodrick recapped and connected the issue of world economics with the growing problems of morality which they have led to, mentioning the cosmopolitan perspective of inequality and the principle of distributive justice. A more egalitarian world could lead to a greater inequality from a national perspective. But the professor seemed more confident than many other scholars and answered to the title of the lecture by saying that nation states are not the enemy of global equality, on the contrary, effective growth strategies are crucial to reduce global inequalities.



At the end of the conference, Vincenzo Boccia, the president of Confindustria, reminded us how much we need a stronger equilibrium among different institutions, both national and global; collaboration to ensure good developments among countries, could this be the solution for a global and more equal world economy?

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