The 5th Annual Workshop on
“ACCOUNTING IN EUROPE”
10 – 11th September 2009
Catania, Italy

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME
ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Background

Following the successful workshops in Regensburg, Milton Keynes, Paris and Lund, the European Financial Reporting Research Group in cooperation with the journal Accounting in Europe (www.eaa-online.org) have organised a 5th workshop, this time taking place at University of Catania. The workshop is an opportunity for practice and academia to meet to discuss contemporary issues related to the ongoing efforts to harmonise accounting in Europe, with a special focus on the application of International Financial Reporting Standards.

As you can see in this programme, there are plenary sessions with distinguished speakers from academia and the accounting profession as well as research papers.

In the last two years, critical contingencies are bringing Europe (and not only Europe) towards a new financial order. The workshop has the aim to provide a forum to discuss research and practical experiences related to the effects of the world financial crisis on listed companies as well as unlisted ones and the role of accounting in this specific context, both in the EU and internationally.

Target Audience

The workshop is likely to be of value to those who are interested in the harmonisation of accounting in Europe, the regulation of financial accounting and the process of change in accounting and accounting regulation, as well as the internationalisation of accounting generally.

Topics

The workshop addresses all and any aspects of the fundamental changes that financial reporting in Europe has already gone through and will undergo within the next few years. Accepted papers specifically regards the following topics:

- the transfer of IFRS into European regulations
- the impact of world financial crisis on global accounting standardization
- the impact of European politics on international accounting standard setting
- the impact of the EU IAS-Regulation on the accounting rules of the member states
- the impact of the IFRS on the regulatory processes in individual countries
- the impact of the IFRS on the accounting rules in individual countries
- the future of accounting for small and medium-sized entities in Europe
- differential reporting issues arising from the EU accounting strategy
- the problems faced by companies in implementing IFRS
- the impact of IFRS on market regulators and compliance
- the mechanism of enforcement in different member states
- the impact of IFRS on the accounting profession
- the impact of IFRS on users, and their view on their usefulness
The 5th Workshop on Accounting in Europe is hosted by the Faculty of Economics of the University of Catania and is sponsored and supported, not only in financial terms, by:

Università degli Studi di Catania
Facoltà di Economia

Università degli Studi di Catania
Dipartimento Impresa, Culture e Società

Consiglio Nazionale
dei Dottori Commercialisti
e degli Esperti Contabili

KPMG Italia

Organismo Italiano di Contabilità

Banca d’Italia

Ordine dei Dottori Commercialisti
e degli Esperti Contabili
di Catania
The Workshop has been organized with the scientific support of:

- **PETER WALTON** (*ESSEC, France*)
- **LISA EVANS** (*University of Stirling, UK*)
- **AXEL HALLER** (*University of Regensburg, Germany*)
- **DAVID ALEXANDER** (*University of Birmingham, UK*)
- **BRIGITTE EIERLE** (*Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg, Germany*)
- **KRISTINA ARTSBERG** (*Lund University, Sweden*)
- **GIUSEPPE D. CARUSO** (*Università di Catania, Italy*)

The Organizing Committee is composed by:

- **GIUSEPPE D. CARUSO** (*Università di Catania, Italy*)
- **WOLFGANG DICK** (*ESSEC, France*)
- **ELISA R. FERRARI** (*Università di Catania, Italy*)
Thursday 10th September

9.00 – 10.00  Registration
(Aula Studio 1)

10.00 – 10.30  Opening addresses and welcome
(Aula Magna)

- Antonino Recca
  (University of Catania - Rector)
- Carmelo Buttà
  (University of Catania - Dean of the Faculty of Economics)
- Peter Walton
  (Accounting in Europe - Editor)
- Claudio Siciliotti
  (Consiglio Nazionale dei Dottori Commercialisti e degli Esperti Contabili - President)
- Margherita Poselli
  (University of Catania - Full Professor in Economia Aziendale)

10.30 – 12.00  Opening Plenary Session
(Aula Magna)

Coordinator:
- Giuseppe D. Caruso
  (Accounting in Europe - Editorial Committee)

Key-note speakers:
- Angelo Casò
  (OIC - Presidente del Consiglio di Gestione)
- Orazio Vagnozzi
  (KPMG Italy)
- Stefano Zambon
  (University of Ferrara - Full professor in Economia Aziendale)

12.00 – 12.30  Coffee break
(Room 15)
12.30 – 14.00  **1st Parallel Paper Session**

**SESSION 1A**  
*(Room 9)*

Chairman: Niclas Hellman

Karolina Soderlund  
*Finnish Institutionalized Expenditure-Revenue-Theory and the Accounting Directives*

Marie Pasekova - Karel Steker  
*An Investigation of the Current Situation of Using IAS/IFRS in SMEs*

**SESSION 1B**  
*(Room 10)*

Chairman: Silvia Molina

Anne Le Manh  
*Is comprehensive income required by IAS 1 relevant for users? A review of the literature*

Jorgen Dahlgren - Sven-Arne Nilsson  
*Destroying Content while Changing Context - Translating IFRSs into Swedish*

**SESSION 1C**  
*(Room 11)*

Chairman: Brigitte Eierle

Maria Gabriella Baldarelli - Paola Demartini - Lorena Mosnja-Skare - Paola Paoloni  
*IFRSs for SMEs in Europe - Some Remarks and Empirical Evidences*

Alexandra Fontes - David Alexander - Lucia Lima Rodrigues  
*Consistuents’ perceptions towards the adoption of IFRS-based accounting standards at the national level: qualitative evidence from Portugal*

14.00 – 15.00  **Lunch**  
*(Palazzo Fortuna)*
15.00 – 16.30  
2nd Parallel Paper Session

SESSION 2A  
(Room 9)

Chairman: Eleonora Cardillo

Jill Collis  
*To Auditing and accounting requirements for SMEs in the UK: A benefit or a burden?*

Gianfranco Capodaglio - Ivanoe Tozzi - Matteo Santi  
*The introduction of international accounting standards in the Italian system: similarities and differences between various concepts of business income*

SESSION 2B  
(Room 10)

Chairman: David Alexander

Monica Bartolini - Giuseppe Savioli - Silvia Gardini  
*International Accounting Standards for SMEs: their potential effects on a firm rating according to Basel II. An Italian multiple-case study*

Muriel Schulte - Sonja Wüstemann - Michael Hommel  
*How the approach to accounting standard setting impacts convergence of national GAAP with IFRS - The case of France and Germany*

SESSION 2C  
(Room 11)

Chairman: Kristina Artsberg

Christopher Nobes  
*On the Out-of-control Definition of a Subsidiary*

Francesco De Luca - Ferdinando Di Carlo  
*Lobbying and a single set of accounting standards worldwide: the stock options accounting case*

16.30 – 17.00  
Coffee break  
(Room 15)
17.00 – 18.30  

**3rd Parallel Paper Session**

**SESSION 3A**  
*(Room 9)*

Chairman: Anke Muessig

Silvia Cantele - Andrea Guerrini - Silvio Modina - Bettina Campedelli  
*IAS/IFRS and Management Control. Initial results of an empirical research*

Kathleen Andries - Walter Aerts - Steve Van Uytbergen  
*The Interaction Effect of Mandatory IFRS Adoption and Audit Quality on the Value Relevance of Accounting Earnings: Evidence from the United Kingdom*

**SESSION 3B**  
*(Room 10)*

Chairman: Sonja Wüstemann

David Alexander - Elisa Rita Ferrari  
*Fair Value (“Valore Equo”) and concepts of “Capitale” in the Italian theoretical tradition*

Claudio Teodori - Monica Veneziani - Cristian Carini - Laura Bosio  
*Assessing impairment test and disclosure: an international comparison*

**SESSION 3C**  
*(Room 11)*

Chairman: Wolfgang Dick

Ann Jorissen - Nadine Lybaert - Raf Orens - Leo van der Tas  
*Formal participation in the IASB’s due process of standard setting: a multi-issue/multi-period analysis*

Renata Stenka - Phil Ormrod - Panos Sousounis  
*The Impact of IFRSs Adoption for the UK Listed Companies - Accounting for Business Combinations*
SESSION 3d
(Room 12)

Chairman: PierLuigi Catalfo

Lasse Niemi - Juha Kinnunen - Hannu Ojala - Pontus Troberg
To audit or not to audit? Further evidence of the drivers of the demand for the audit among SMEs under non-mandatory auditing

Vicky Cole - Joel Branson - Diane Breesch
Are users of financial statements of publicly and non-publicly traded companies different or not? An empirical study

20.30 – till late Workshop dinner
(Palazzo Biscari)

Friday 11th September

9.00 – 10.30 4th Parallel Paper Session

SESSION 4A
(Room 9)

Chairman: Jens Wüstemann

Yannis Tsalavoutas
Compliance with IFRS mandatory disclosure requirements and value relevance

Alain Devalle - Riccardo Magarini
Assessing the value relevance of total comprehensive income under IFRS: an empirical evidence from European Stock Exchanges

SESSION 4B
(Room 10)

Chairman: Giuseppe D. Caruso

Tapani Kykkänen - Hannu Ojala - Francesco Baldi
The Value Relevance of Income from Discontinued Operations under IFRS 5 in Europe
Brigitte Eierle - Benedikt Eich - Martin Messingschlager - Kathrin Schulte-Krumpen
Evaluation of Accounting Methods - Evidence from German Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises

SESSION 4C
(Room 11)

Chairman: Sven-Arne Nilsson

Raf Orens - Ann Jorissen - Nadine Lybaert - Leo Van der Tas
The (non)involvement in the IASB due process of standard setting - The view from Belgian preparers

David Alexander - Stefania Servalli
Accounting for tomorrow. Tomorrow in accounting

10.30 – 11.00
Coffee break
(Room 15)

11.00 – 12.30
5th Parallel Paper Session

SESSION 5A
(Room 9)

Chairman: Elisa R. Ferrari

Anke Muessig
Oversight of Auditors in Austria, Germany and Switzerland - A Critical Review of Oversight Bodies

Mattias Hamberg - Mari Paananen - Jiri Novak
The Adoption of IFRS 3: The Effects of Managerial Discretion and Stock Market Reactions

SESSION 5B
(Room 10)

Chairman: Ann Jorissen

Sven-Erik Johansson - Tomas Hjelstrom - Niclas Hellman
The accounting treatment of goodwill - A theoretical evaluation of IFRS 3
Jens Wuestemann - Jannis Bischof
*Do Banks Manage Investors’ Risk Perception? Evidence from IFRS 7 Disclosures by European Banks*

**SESSION 5c**
*(Room 11)*

Chairman: Karolina Soderlund

Ferdie van Beest - Geert Braam
*Quality of Financial Reporting: measuring qualitative characteristics*

PierLuigi Catalfo
*Accrual based accounting standards for Public Sector and IAS experience. Any reconsideration after recent financial world crises?*

12.30 – 13.15  **Concluding Session**
*(Aula Magna)*

Coordinator:
- Roberto Di Pietra  
  *(Accounting in Europe - Editorial Committee)*

Key-note speakers:
- David Alexander  
  *(University of Birmingham)*
- Christopher Nobes  
  *(Royal Holloway - University of London)*
- Ann Jorissen  
  *(University of Antwerp)*

Conclusions:
- Lisa Evans  
  *(University of Stirling)*

13.30 – 14.30  **Prosecco and Sicilian antipasti**
*(Roof Terrace)*
PRACTICALITIES

Venue
The Workshop take place at the Faculty of Economics, located inside Palazzo delle Scienze, Corso Italia 55, Catania.

Registration
Participants, upon arrival, are kindly requested to register at the Workshop registration desk, located at the ground floor of the Faculty of Economics (room: Aula Studio 1).

The Workshop registration desk will be opened from the beginning to the end of the sessions and will also serve as information point.

Registration fees include:
- Attendance at the Workshop scientific sessions (plenary and parallel)
- The Abstract Collection
- Certificate of attendance
- Coffee breaks
- Lunches

The Workshop dinner is offered by the Workshop sponsors.

Computing arrangements
A certain number of PC’s will be at disposal of participants for unlimited free Internet connections. Those delegates who wish to connect using their own laptops can enjoy the availability of a wireless connection in the Workshop area.

Workshop dinner
The Workshop dinner will be offered by the Workshop sponsors in the beautiful surrounding of Palazzo Biscari, one of the oldest palaces in Catania (constructed after the 1693 earthquake on its fifteenth century foundations), a precious relic of the Sicilian rococo past.

Palazzo Biscari is conveniently located in the heart of the city (Via Museo Biscari, 10/19), near all the historical treasures of Catania, such as the Cathedral, Via Crociferi, the Teatro Bellini, Piazza Bellini, Piazza Università, Palazzo degli Elefanti, Via Etna and Castello Ursino.

Workshop official website