

Editorial: change and continuity

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Starting from this issue, the main responsibility for editing the two journals *Moneta e Credito* and *PSL Quarterly Review* (known until 2007 as *BNL Quarterly Review*), shifts from Alessandro Roncaglia (AR) to Carlo D'Ippoliti (CDI). The decision was unanimous both in the general assembly and the board of Economia Civile, the non-profit association that owns both reviews. It was prompted by AR, who is chairman of the association, and who remains on the board as a co-editor of the two journals.

This year both the journals and AR turn seventy. The journals were founded in 1947 by Luigi Ceriani, and have only had two editors so far. AR succeeded Ceriani in 1989, after a collaboration that had begun in 1979. The change that ensued was gradual and merely sanctioned an already well-established de facto situation (for a history of the journals, see Roncaglia, 2008a; 2008b). The same will happen now: CDI began his collaboration with the journals' board in 2008, when the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro ceded ownership of the journals (though it continued to sponsor them, always allowing – as it had until then – total managerial and editorial independence). CDI's involvement in the journals' activities has gradually grown, along with his experience in the all but easy – indeed truly demanding – task of managing two publication outlets of a high scientific level, which are open to contributions from all political and theoretical orientations, and which publish on a wide range of issues within empirical and theoretical economics.

The two journals constitute an asset for Italian economic culture, not least thanks to the fundamental contribution of their managing and scientific boards over time. Among the best economists of the

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world have published important articles that are still widely cited today on these journals.

The shifts from print to online publication and from corporate to volunteer-based governance, which took place in 2008, allowed us to safeguard the journals' survival, while maintaining their cultural and scientific stance. Such transitions were far more complex and laborious than the change in editorship is now, or was in 1989. However, we think we have overcome the most difficult stage, and even leveraged the opportunities opened by these changes to gradually make all the past issues of the journals available online and free of charge.

One of the journals is published in English and the other in Italian. This is something we take pride in, even though our publication in Italian is viewed negatively by the Italian agency for the evaluation of universities and research (Anvur), which does not include a single journal in Italian among those considered as high quality. One can only think of what would happen if the same stance was held, for example, by the French CNRS.

The two journals have the same scientific and cultural stance but, with some rare exceptions, do not overlap. This allows us to articulate our choices, leaving more room for the recognition and fostering of Italian economic culture on *Moneta e Credito*, while keeping *PSL Quarterly Review* committed to the international debate and the study of economic policy in countries from all continents. The difference between the two journals also explains why only *Moneta e Credito* publishes book reviews (in a section managed by Giulio Guarini).

Political economy is undergoing a difficult moment of fragmentation between specialised research fields and opposing orientations. We have always asked, and will continue to ask of our collaborators and contributors to clearly recognise the foundations on which any scientific contribution is necessarily based, as well as to remain open towards scientific orientations different from one's own. In this, we remain loyal to the teachings of Paolo Sylos Labini, whose name is recalled in this *Review's* name, and to the approach shared by the many collaborators without whom the journals could not survive,

and which represents a consolidated tradition that we aim to carry on in the future decades.

REFERENCES

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