

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

- TOPIC: The European Social Model Facing Economic Crisis and Climate Change
- SPEAKER: Claude Didry and Annette Jobert National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS)
- TIME: 15:00-17:00, 13 October 2014
- VENUE: Room 264, Geography Building, 3663 Zhongshan Road North, Shanghai (中山北路校区,地理楼 264 室)

ABSTRACT OF THE TALK

What could be the role of unions, of workers representatives and of workers in Europe today? Unions and workers representatives in works councils were part of the social matrix that explains occidental development after World War 2. They were crucial in national processes of negotiation that created new guarantees, with the fixation of minimum wages and the stabilization of employment relations. The European construction gave an impetus to a renewed participation of the workers representatives through European Unions, based on the deliberation on the European institutions. But since the 2000s, European institutions, under a growing influence of neo-liberalism, are focused on market economy seeing labor rights as obstacle to the success of European firms. In this conference, we will examine in what way a renewed action of European unions and workers representatives in cooperation with initiatives taken by the civil society on sustainable development and other societal issues, can address the challenges of the economic and climatic crisis that threaten the European economic and social model.

BIOGRAPHY

Claude Didry, Sociologist, Professor of CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, National Center for Scientific Research), Director of UMR 8533 IDHES (Institutions et dynamiques historiques de l'économie et de la Société, Institutions and historical dynamics of economy and society) of ENS-Cachan (l'École normale supérieure de Cachan). His research focuses on the labor law and the employment relations (mobilization and production of legal rules in the labor law, economic effects of labor law) and the restructuring.

Annette Jobert, Sociologist, Professor of CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, National Center for Scientific Research) (IDHES UMR 8533). Her research focuses on the dynamics of employment relations and collective bargaining, the social dialogue in France and in Europe and the restructuring.