

**ONZIEME RENCONTRE INTERNATIONALE DU GERPISA
ELEVENTH GERPISA INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM**

Les acteurs de l'entreprise à la recherche de nouveaux compromis ?
Construire le schéma d'analyse du GERPISA

Company Actors on the Look Out for New Compromises
Developing GERPISA's New Analytical Schema

11-13 Juin 2003 (Ministère de la Recherche, Paris, France)

**THE EUROPEAN SOCIO-ECONOMIC MODELS OF A KNOWLEDGE-BASED
SOCIETY: THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ESEMK PROJECT**

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The ESEML project will propose an analysis of the socio-economic models in Europe, the transformations affecting them, both at the macro and at the micro/meso –levels; it will assess the chances of emergence of a specific European socio-economic model distinct from the models existing in other developed regions of the world and will analyse how it can represent an original path towards the knowledge-based society.

Our project will first devise analytical matrices to analyse the macro-level (*socio-economic model*) and the micro/meso level (*productive models*). The originality of the project is that a socio-economic model is defined as a set of complementary institutions that rest on a socio-political equilibrium. Therefore, any transformation of the model or pressure for convergence towards another model must not be assessed in terms of comparative performance only, but more fundamentally in terms of the transformations of the socio-political equilibriums that underlie a given institutional structure. This applies at the macro as well as at the micro –level, since institutional change and social compromises can take place at all levels, and transformation in productive models may lead to major transformations of a given socio-economic model. We therefore aim to propose a political economy theory of institutional change.

We will analyse the transformations in Europe making use of the analytical tools developed during the project and see how the changes taking place at the macro/societal level and at the micro/company level interact. We will assess how the transformations in the employment relationship (including complementary social protection and education and training institutions), the financial relationship and the productive organisation lead to an alteration of the European model(s). We will study how these modifications may lead to the emergence of a specific European model exhibiting distinct characteristics (social protection, corporate governance...) or to convergence towards a market-based model. We will analyse the socio-political equilibriums upon which a specific European model may rest, what productive models may be associated to it, and whether this model is liable to make Europe the most competitive knowledge-based economy in the world in the near future.