



Cambridge Society for the Application of Research

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Happy Danes!

(Looking behind the EU survey into income and contentment)

Dr Luisa Corrado

Marie-Curie Research Fellow at the Faculty of Economics
University of Cambridge

7.30pm Monday 31st May, 2010

The Wolfson Lecture Theatre, **Churchill College**, Storey's Way, Cambridge

Important: This lecture will take place one week later than planned - on **31st May**, not on 24th May as originally stated in our Year Card.

About the Lecture:

Dr Corrado writes:

Who and where are the happiest people in Europe? Traditional stereotypes suggested that southern Europeans, who hail from the warmer Mediterranean regions, are far happier and more satisfied with life than their northern European counterparts.

However, a cursory glance at data drawn from the latest waves of the European Social Survey, World Value Survey among others, suggests that the map of well-being across Europe displays the converse of this conventional image with certain places and people, such as the Scandinavians and Denmark being 'happier' than others.

These findings beg the question what actually determines well-being? What factors, besides location and climate affect an individual's state of happiness and life satisfaction? This was the aim of the research, to understand not only which factors play a significant role in determining individual well-being, but also whether we can compare an intrinsically subjective measure such as happiness or life satisfaction across different countries, cultures and people.

About the speaker

Luisa Corrado, a Marie-Curie Research Fellow at the Faculty of Economics, University of Cambridge and an Associate Professor at the University of Rome Tor Vergata, is a macroeconomist who specialises in the field of monetary and international economics. Her recent research focuses on the role of banking and the financial sector in monetary policy analysis. Another area of research is the empirics of economic growth and its relationship with individual well-being.

For her research work she has received one of five "Marie Curie Excellence Awards 2008" at the European Science Awards in Brussels. She has published article on The Economic Journal, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, Economics Letters, Scottish Journal of Political Economy among others and her research has been featured by the media.

The Organising Secretary adds....

Dr Corrado's lecture is re-scheduled from our programme for last year. Since then, we have had a General Election, and her work has become even more apposite. In an earlier communication, her findings revealed that:

"Trust in society is very important. The countries that scored highest for happiness also reported the highest levels of trust in their governments, laws and (in) each other. The UK shows lower trust in government, the police and other institutions and higher social distrust, which might explain why the level of happiness among British people is also lower compared with other countries."

Please note that this lecture will take place ONE WEEK LATER THAN EXPECTED. It will take place on **31st May**, not 24th as originally stated in our Year Card.

Tea, Coffee and Biscuits will be available in the Foyer outside the Wolfson, as usual; but please remember **this is 'quiet period' for the college**. Undergraduates are revising for their exams, so **please chatter and clatter quietly**.

Best Regards
Richard Freeman
Organising Secretary

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