

# ACCUMULATING CAPITAL

**STRATEGIES OF PROFIT AND DISPOSSESSIVE POLICIES**

PARIS DAUPHINE UNIVERSITY, 6 & 7 JUNE 2019



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The extreme magnitude of the pressures exerted by contemporary capitalism on the environment and populations could suggest that this mode of production has reached its limits. The depletion of natural resources, global warming and the increase in inequality within Western countries seem to threaten the minimum degree of social and political stability required for the extraction of profit. However, the accumulation of capital is not slowing: traditional sources of profit transform themselves and new ones emerge, taking advantage of these environmental and social disruptions in order to supply new centres of accumulation with capital.

What are the economic and political mechanisms that explain the contemporary transformations of capital accumulation and dispossession centres? What are the contemporary characteristics of the social fabric of capitalist accumulation? This colloquium will highlight the new generation of works that cut across disciplinary boundaries to reflect on the political dimensions of the new forms of capital extraction and accumulation.

### CONVENORS



**Marlène BENQUET** (IRISSO)  
**Céline BESSIÈRE** (IRISSO)  
**Théo BOURGERON** (Sciences Po)  
**Cédric DURAND** (CEPN)  
**Sabine MONTAGNE** (IRISSO)  
**Paul LAGNEAU-YMONET** (IRISSO)  
**Antoine ROGER** (CED)

### SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

**Jérôme BOURDIEU** (PSE)  
**Eve CHIAPELLO** (CEMS)  
**Olivier GODECHOT** (CSO)  
**Dominique MÉDA** (IRISSO)  
**Thomas PIKETTY** (PSE)  
**Andy SMITH** (CED)

With the help of the students of the “Institutions, Organisations, Economy and Society” master’s programme (PSL, EHESS/Paris Dauphine/Mines ParisTech), especially **Tim Salzer**, **Louis Fonteneau**, **Timoté Hébert**, and **Stéphane Venet**.

Thursday  
6 June



9.15 am

**Breakfast, registration, welcoming talk** - Salle Raymond Aron

PLENARY SESSION

10.00 – 11.30 am

**The political contradictions of accumulation**

Nancy Fraser, Professor of Political and Social Science at the New School for Social Research

Thomas Piketty, Professor of Economics at EHESS and PSE

Salle Raymond Aron

PARALLEL SESSIONS

11.45– 13.15 am

**What platforms do to accumulation**

Room A

Chair: **Sarah Abdelnour** -

Université Paris Dauphine

*Struggling to Reform Data Capitalism – Blockchain and the Pipe Dream of Paying Up*

**Moritz Hütten** - Darmstadt Business School

*The Sharing Economy: Neoliberal Accumulation, Social Reproduction and the Rentier-Worker?*

**Nikola Short** - York University

*Leading Without Profiting? Amazon's Accumulation Strategy as an Intellectual Monopoly*

**Cecilia Rikap** - Université Paris Descartes

**Digitalising accumulation**

Room C

Chair: **Thibault le Texier** -

Université de Nice

*Innovation, capital accumulation and power: the case of the pharmaceutical industry and digital platforms*

**Matthieu Montalban, Bernard Jullien, Vincent Frigant** -

Université de Bordeaux

*Digital capitalism: Technological promises and circulation of capital in the Silicon Valley*

**Olivier Alexandre** - CNRS

*Le saut impérieux de la marchandise'. Planifying accumulation through social media analytics: the L'Oréal case*

**Hannah Bensussan** - Université Paris 13

**Institutionalising accumulation**

Room D

Chair: **Antoine Roger** - Sciences Po Bordeaux

*Building a centre of capital accumulation: a study of the institutional emergence of the French private equity sector (1982-2017)*

**Marlène Benquet et Théo Bourgeron** - Université Paris-Dauphine & University of Edinburgh

*Collective Effort, Private Accumulation : Constructing the Luxembourg Investment Fund, 1956-1988*

**Samuel Weeks** - Thomas Jefferson University

*Multiple Temporalities in Capitalist Accumulation : The Case of the City of London Corporation*

**Matthew Eagleton-Pierce** - SOAS London

13.15 – 14.30 pm

**Lunch** - Lunch Room



## PARALLEL SESSIONS

14.30– 16.00 pm

### Cultural approaches of accumulation

Room A

Chair: **Nicolas Vieillescazes**, éditions Amsterdam

*Forgetting Cairnes: The Slave Power and the Political Economy of Racism*

**Gordon Bigelow** - Rhodes College

*Woke Weird: Seizure Capital's Combined and Uneven Subsumption*

**Stephen Shapiro** - University of Warwick

*Mediating Dispossession: Seriality's "Golden Ages" and Arrighi's Cycles of Financialization*

**Lauren Goodlad** - Rutgers

### Accumulation and illegality

Room C

Chair: **Philip Mader**, Institute of *Development Studies Accumulation and Tax Professionals*

**Silke Ötsch** - Universität Göttingen

*How Legal Scholars Facilitate Tax Avoidance: The Case of Finnish Tax rulings*

**Matti Ylönen** - University of Helsinki

*The Accumulations of Adventure Capitalism: Capital and Corporate Crime*

**Sverre Flaatten** - Norwegian Police University College

### Territories of dispossession (1)

Room D

Chair: **Paul Lagneau-Ymonet** - Université Paris Dauphine  
*Profiting in a Warming World: Investigating the Link between Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Capitalist Accumulation in the OECD*

**Matthew Soener** - Sciences Po  
*Nature, financialisation, and transformation of labour: the new green revolution in Africa, a frontier of capitalist reconfiguration*

**Maura Benegiamo** - Collège d'études mondiales - FMSH  
*Role of the State in the Financialization of Nature*

**Razmig Keucheyan** - Université de Bordeaux

## PARALLEL SESSIONS

16:00– 17.00 pm

### Accumulation and globalisation of value chains

Room A

Chair: **Cédric Durand** - Université Paris 13

*The price of money. Work and accumulation in industrial plantations in Cameroon*

**Guillaume Vadot** - Université Paris I

*The Wealth Inequality of Nations*

**Fabian T. Pfeffer** - University of Michigan

*Foreign Property: International Investment Protection in Transnational Production Chains*

**Gustav Kalm** - Columbia University

### Territories of dispossession (2)

Room C

Chair: **Sébastien Chailleux** - Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour

*Intertwined Interest for Resource Extraction in Tanzania: Postcolonialism and the Contemporary Logics of Capitalism*

**Adriana Blache** - Université de Toulouse

*Moving Beyond Accumulation: Bien vivir as Path to a Post-Capitalist Society*

**Maryse Helbert** - Erasmus University

*The New Realm of Fossil Fuel-Based Capital Accumulation: The Nature Gas-Hydrogen Nexus*

**John Szabo** - Central European University

### From capital accumulation to individual wealth

Room D

Chair: **Jérôme Bourdieu** - Paris School of Economics  
*Patrimony advisors: guardians of the status*

**Camille Herlin-Giret** - Université de Lille

*Reversed Accounting. Legal Professionals, Families and the Gender Wealth Gap in France*

**Céline Bessière** - Université Paris-Dauphine  
*Asset Manager Capitalism: Finance in the Age of Capital Abundance*

**Benjamin Braun** - Max Planck Institut für Gesellschaftsforschung

1715 – 17.45 pm

### Pause

## PLENARY SESSION

17:45 – 19:00 pm

### The enigma of capital accumulation

**David Harvey**, Distinguished Professor of Geography and Anthropology at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York  
Salle Raymond Aron

19:00 – 20:15 pm

**Drinks** – Lunch Room

Friday  
7 June



9.00 – 9.30 am

**Breakfast** - Salle Raymond Aron

PARALLEL SESSIONS

9.30 – 11.00 am

**Territories of accumulation**

Room A

Chair: **François Cusin** - Université Paris Dauphine

*Tokyo 2020, Post-Bubble City: From Land to Real Estate-Led Economy, 30 Years of Coherent Capital Concentration Policies*

**Raphaël Languillon-Aussel** - University of Geneva

*What's the Deal with Dispossession Policies? The Case of Blasio Administration's Mandatory Inclusionary Zoning Program*

**Magda Maaoui** - Columbia University

*Ground Rent Is Not Interest: The Particularity of the Economic Form of Private Property in Land*

**F. T. C. Manning** - CUNY

**Measuring accumulation**

Room C

Chair: **Olivier Godechot** - Sciences Po

*When Does Finance Add Value? A New Approach*

**Jacob Assa** et **Dirk Bezemer** - New School for Social Research & University of Groningen

*The Role of the Owner in Contemporary Capitalism*

**Hanna Kuusela** - Tampere University

*The Financialisation of the Nonfinancial Corporation. A Critique to the Financial Turn of Accumulation Hypothesis*

**Joel Rabinovich** - Paris XIII

PARALLEL SESSIONS

11.00 – 12.00 am

**Justifying accumulation**

Room A

Chair: **Eve Chiapello** - EHESS

*A Ruse of Capitalism: Global Law Firms' Pro Bono and the Conversion/Accumulation of Capitals*

**Charles Bosvieux-Onyekwelu** - Centre Maurice Halbwachs-EHESS

*Philanthrocapitalism of the MasterCard Foundation and the building of platform economies in African*

**Marie Langevin** - Université du Québec

*From Social Capital to Political Capital: How Do Corporate Political Activities Affect Firm Financial Indicators*

**Saidatou Dicko** - Université du Québec

**Changing norms of investment**

Room C

Chair: **Sabine Montagne** -

Université Paris Dauphine  
*The Grounded Impact of Wealth Chains on London's Housing Market*

**Rex McKenzie** et **Rowland Atkinson** - Kingston University & University of Sheffield

*Thinking Capitalist Accumulation and Exploitation Normatively*

**Sina Badiei** - Toulouse-Jean Jaurès

*From textile to finance, with a detour through real estate? The processes of capital accumulation seen through the reorientation trajectories of industry leaders in the North of France*

**Clément Barbier, Antonio Delfini, Fabien Desage** - Université de Lille

**Profiting from nature and poverty**

Room D

Chair: **Alexis Cukier** -

Université de Poitiers  
*Pro-Poor Discourses, Market Dependence and the Intensification of Poverty: The Case of Bottled Water in an Industrial Area of Mexico*

**Joshua Greene** - University of Geneva

*Commodification of social gain and dispossession of the poorest people*

**Pascale Moulévrier** - Université de Nantes

*Changing Contours of Dispossession and Accumulation in Contemporary Capitalism – A case study of Land Acquisition in Greater Noida*

**Pranav Trigunayat** - Jawaharlal Nehru University

12.30 – 13.30 pm **Lunch** - Lunch Room

PLENARY SESSION

13.45 – 15.15 pm

**Directing accumulation**

**Gérard Duménil**, Former Research Director in Economics at CNRS  
**Ozlem Onaran**, Professor of Economics at the University of Greenwich  
Salle Raymond Aron

PARALLEL SESSIONS

15.15 – 16.45 pm

**Financialisation of exploitation**

Room A  
Chair: **Valérie Boussard** - Université Paris Nanterre  
*Financial Accumulation and the Reshaping of the Argentinian Working Class*  
**Hadrien Saiag** - CNRS  
*LBO: a mechanism for the exploitation of labour*  
**Fabien Foureault** - Université de Lausanne  
*Building an competition champion. Hypotheses on the construction of the SNCF group*  
**Rémi Brouté, Marnix Dressen-Vagne, Marion Duval & Ibrahim Muhammad** - Groupe SNCF, UVSQ, UVSQ, Quaid I Azam University

**Risks of accumulation**

Room C  
Chair: **Marc-Olivier Deplaude** - Université Paris Dauphine  
*Has Ghostmanagement Become a Central Feature of Accumulation in Corporate Capitalism? The Case of the Global Pharmaceutical Sector*  
**Marc-André Gagnon** - Carleton University  
*Knowledge, accumulation and crises. When capital gets rid of the negative effects of innovation*  
**Catherine Laurent** - INRA  
*Peace-Time accumulation: Postwar Agrarian Capitalism in Colombia and Côte d'Ivoire*  
**Jacobo Grajales** - Université de Lille

16.45 – 17.15 pm **Pause**

PLENARY SESSION

17.15 – 18.45 pm

**Primitive accumulations**

**Christophe Bonneuil**, Research Director at CNRS  
**Jason Moore**, Professor of Sociology at Binghamton University  
Salle Raymond Aron



## Practical Informations



## DIRECTIONS TO UNIVERSITÉ PARIS-DAUPHINE CAMPUS

Université Paris-Dauphine  
Place du Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny  
75016 Paris

Main access:  
Boulevard Lannes

**By car:**  
Take the Boulevard Périphérique, exit at «Porte Dauphine», straight to the Place Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny.

### By Public Transportation:

**Bus:** take PC1 Line and get off at the Porte Dauphine stop.

**Subway:** take Line 2 (Nation - Porte Dauphine), get off at the Porte Dauphine Station and exit at Avenue Bugeaud

**RER (suburban trains)** : take Line C and get off at the Avenue Foch station

## SECOND FLOOR MAP

