

## Symposium “The Social Value of Finance”

Friday, 7 March 2014

*Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University*

### Venue

Erasmus University, Woudestein Campus  
Burgemeester Oudlaan 50, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

### Introduction

The purpose of the symposium on “The Social Value of Finance” is to bring together leading experts from different fields (finance, development studies, history, sociology, anthropology) to discuss recent advances in our understanding of the social functions of financial systems (banks, financial markets) and their impact on society in terms of social welfare, stability, and income distribution. The symposium accompanies the inaugural address of Mathijs van Dijk as professor of financial markets.

### Program

*Room T3-39:*

9:00-11:30 **Thorsten Beck:** “Finance and Poverty: Evidence from India”  
*Response by Hadrien Saiag*

**Franklin Allen:** “Is Finance a Force for Progress?”  
*Response by Alex Preda*

11:30-12:00 Coffee break

12:00-13:30 **Jan Luiten van Zanden:** “Finance before Banking, the European Experience 1300-1800”  
*Response by Mary O’Sullivan*

*Aula:*

16:00-16:45 Inaugural address by **Mathijs van Dijk:** “The Social Value of Finance”

### Registration

To register for the symposium and/or the inaugural address, please send the attached registration form by e-mail to Ms. Flora Pos at [fpos@rsm.nl](mailto:fpos@rsm.nl), with your name and affiliation (as you wish it to appear on the symposium badge) as well as your full contact details. Registration is free of charge, but places are limited. Please indicate whether you intend to attend the inaugural address. The deadline for registration is Friday, 28 February 2014.

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### Speakers

**Thorsten Beck** is professor of banking and finance at Cass Business School in London and professor of economics at Tilburg University in the Netherlands. He was the founding chair of the European Banking Center at Tilburg University from 2008 to 2013. Previously he worked in the research department of the World Bank and has also worked as consultant for, among others, the IMF, the European Commission, and the German Development Corporation. His research and policy work has focused on international banking and corporate finance.



**Hadrien Saiag** holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in economics and economic anthropology from the University Paris-Dauphine and the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS). He is a research fellow in economic anthropology at the CNRS in Paris (research unit IIAC – LAIOS). He is the author of several articles and a PhD dissertation, *Le trueque argentin au prisme de la dette: une socioéconomie des pratiques monétaires et financières*. His current research focuses on financial practices of low-income households in Argentina and Cuba.

**Franklin Allen** is the Nippon Life professor of finance and economics at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He is most active in the research areas of financial innovations, asset price bubbles, the comparison of financial systems, and financial crises. He is a past president of the American Finance Association, Western Finance Association, and the Society for Financial Studies, as well as a scientific adviser at the Sveriges Riksbank, the central bank of Sweden. He is the editor of the European Finance Association's flagship journal, the *Review of Finance*.



**Alex Preda** is professor of accounting, accountability, and financial management at King's College London. His principal research activities relate to global financial markets. His publications include, among others, *Framing Finance: The Boundaries of Markets and Modern Capitalism* (University of Chicago Press, 2009) and *Information, Knowledge, and Economic Life: An Introduction to the Sociology of Markets* (Oxford University Press, 2009). He is the co-editor (with Karin Knorr Cetina) of the *Handbook of the Sociology of Finance* (Oxford University Press, 2012) and *The Sociology of Financial Markets* (Oxford University Press, 2005).

**Jan Luiten van Zanden** is professor of economic history at Utrecht University and senior researcher at the International Institute of Social History in Amsterdam. He has published widely about economic development in Western Europe and Indonesia. In 2003, he was awarded the Spinoza-premium, the highest distinction in the academic world of the Netherlands. In 1998, Van Zanden was elected general secretary by the International Economic History Association, the most important organization of economic historians world-wide. In 1997, he was appointed a member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences.



**Mary O'Sullivan** is a professor of economic history at the University of Geneva. After obtaining her PhD in Economics from Harvard University, she was an associate professor of management at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and an associate professor of strategy at INSEAD. Her work focuses on the history of business and financial history, comparative economic history, and political economy. She is currently working on a book entitled *Bonding and Sharing Corporate America: The US Securities Markets, Industrial Dynamics and Corporate Development, 1885-1930* (Oxford University Press).

**Mathijs van Dijk** was recently appointed as professor of financial markets at Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University (RSM). His research focus is international finance, with a current interest in the social impact of finance. He was a visiting scholar at Ohio State University, Duke University, and UCLA. In 2008, he received a 600,000 euro Vidi-grant from the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) for a five-year research program on “liquidity black holes.”

