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**International Society Jean-Baptiste Say
Laboratoire Triangle – Université de Lyon 2
Research Network on Innovation**

Conference

**« Protectionism, Free Trade, Competitiveness and Economic
Development: What Reality? »**

CALL FOR PAPERS

CNAM, Paris, 6-7 September 2018

In the context of globalization, the issues of protectionism and free trade are back on the front line. Adopted by most economists and seemed to be an unquestionable policy, free trade has become the target of many criticisms. Protectionism, associated with a mercantilist policy, appeared in a number of countries as an effective strategy for economic development. The competitiveness of major economies seemed to depend on the selective opening-up to trade and international investment: it is the case of China, but also other countries in Asia, and even Europe.

The objective of this conference is to come out of a univocal and simplistic vision of protectionism and mercantilist policies. The discussion must be conducted about the universal validity of free trade and the historical origins of protectionism, as well as the theories of economists and the State policies carried out from the sixteenth to the twenty-first century. It is a matter of taking an interest in either the economy or the logic of power and the strengthening of the State. The analyzes should be placed in the historical context that led to their elaboration. It is desirable that the reality of economic facts and policies be taken into account, both for protectionism and free trade, in order to arrive at a nuanced and complex vision of this issue. The question whether the environmental and social issues are changing the discussion about free trade finally deserves to be asked.

This conference is aimed at researchers in economic and political history, economics of various specialties, managers specialized in corporate strategy, politicians specialized in the evolution of State doctrines, and lawyers. The “protectionism / free trade” debate is regaining its interest in several areas, such as trade policy, competition law, State aid, workers’ protection and immigration policy.

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Terms and conditions:

- **Submission of a one-page summary of the communication BEFORE 10 JANUARY 2018 to: André Tiran (andre.tiran@univ-lyon2.fr) and Dimitri Uzunidis (d.uzunidis@openscience.fr)**
- **Notice of acceptance or refusal of proposals: 31 January 2018**
- **Reception of papers: 5 July 2018**

Publication of the conference proceedings:

