



Filip BRKOVIC



Ne moze sve, sada i odmah.

Moze sve, samo ne sada i odmah.

My name is Filip Brkovic and I am a PhD scholar at the European Commission's Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate programme in international political economy - Globalization, the EU and Multilateralism - the GEM PhD School. My doctoral research at the University of Warwick (United Kingdom), *Université Libre de Bruxelles* (Belgium), together with *Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México* - ITAM (Mexico) and Fudan University (China) is focused on Fairtrade.

Doctoral Research:

An Assessment of Possibilities for Stronger Inclusion of Upper-middle-income Economies in the Fairtrade System - Case Study Serbia

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Academic Degrees

Regarding my academic background, I finished the four-year bachelor studies in International Relations at the Faculty of Political Sciences (Serbia), within a three-year period (October 2005 - October 2008). Eight months later, I became the youngest Master of Arts in the history of the Faculty (MA in Political Analytics and Management). In July 2010, I graduated at the University of Cambridge, as a Cambridge Overseas Trust, Open Society Institute and Foreign and Commonwealth Office Chevening scholar and became a Master of Philosophy in Development Studies. I was a member of the Hughes Hall and I rowed for the college's eight.

Awards and scholarships

- European Commission - EMJD - GEM Scholarship - 2011 - 2014;
- Cambridge Overseas Trust, OSI and FCO Chevening Scholarship - 2009 - 2010;
- Forty Future Leaders of Serbia Award - People's Office of the President of Serbia - 2009;

- Dositeja Fund's Scholarship of the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Republic of Serbia – 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014;
- Scholarship of the Municipality of Savski venac - 2009, 2010 and 2011.

Work Experience

In pair with my academic work I am also an active member of the national and international nongovernmental sector. During the last ten years I worked in a number of nongovernmental organizations, which conducted more than one hundred projects, involving thousands of young people. Furthermore, during my MPhil studies at the University of Cambridge, I worked closely with the Cambridge International Symposium on Economic Crime. Moreover, in March 2011, I became the president of the Balkan Centre for Development Studies. In addition, I am the youngest member of the East-West Bridge.

In the end, prior to becoming the GEM scholar, I was the head corporate social responsibility consultant in the biggest pharmaceutical company in Serbia - Galenika.

Membership and work experience

- **Université Libre de Bruxelles - Solvay Business School, Belgium** - Centre Emile Bernheim - associate researcher - October 2014 - October 2015;
- **University of Warwick, United Kingdom** - research assistant - October 2011 - October 2015;
- **Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium** - research and teaching assistant - October 2012 - October 2015;
- **East-West Bridge, Serbia** - member - from September 2011;
- **NGO Balkan Centre for Development Studies, Serbia** - one of the founders and the first president - from March 2011;

- **University of Warwick, United Kingdom** - one of the founders and the first president - Warwick Fair Trade Society - March - May 2012;
- **University of Warwick, United Kingdom** - member - Oxfam Outreach - February - June 2012;
- **University of Warwick, United Kingdom** - member - People And Planet - February - June 2012;
- **University of Warwick, United Kingdom** - member - Economics Society - February - June 2012;
- **University of Warwick, United Kingdom** - member - Politics Society - February - June 2012;
- **University of Warwick, United Kingdom** - member - Greens Food Co-Op Society - November - June 2011;
- **University of Warwick, United Kingdom** - member - International Development Society - November - June 2011;

- **Pharmaceutical Company Galenika, Serbia** - General Manager's Office - Head CSR Consultant - October 2010 - October 2011;

- **University of Cambridge - International Symposium on Economic Crime, United Kingdom** - member of the Secretariat - March - September 2010;
- **University of Cambridge - Hughes Hall Boat Club, United Kingdom** - member of the rowing team - November 2009 - July 2010;

- **Municipality of Savski venac, Serbia** - trainer - March - April 2009;
- **Initiative of Youth Coalition of Serbia, Youth Branches of Political Parties, Youth NGOs and Youth Media of Serbia** - coordinator - November 2007 - April 2008;
- **NGO Youth Coalition of Serbia** - coordinator - November 2007 - April 2008;

- **Faculty of Political Sciences, Serbia** - one of the founders and the first president of the Student Parliament - 2007;
- **Faculty of Political Sciences, Serbia** - junior assistant on the subject History of Political Theories - 2006 - 2008;
- **Faculty of Political Sciences, Serbia** - member of the Council of Faculty of Political Sciences - 2006 - 2007;
- **Faculty of Political Sciences, Serbia** - member of the Student Coordination - March 2006 - March 2007;
- **NGO Youth Team Initiatives, Serbia** - TIMformator students' newsletter - one of the founders and columnist - 2006 - 2008;
- **NGO Youth Team Initiatives, Serbia** - one of the founders and the first president - February 2006 - March 2008.

Specific Research Title, Area and Promotor(s)

Title of PhD Research

An Assessment of Possibilities for Stronger Inclusion of Upper-middle-income Economies in the Fairtrade System - Case Study Serbia

Key Words:

Fairtrade, Upper-middle-income economies, Serbia

Supervisors:

- University of Warwick: Professor Matthew Watson
- Université Libre de Bruxelles: Professor Jean Luc De Meulemeester

Description of research work

Abstract

During the last two decades, the Fair Trade literature constantly questioned the basic theoretical assumptions of dominant economic orthodoxies and the Fairtrade system challenged mainstream traders with its market successes. In the heart of this rapidly growing system is a general *modus operandi* stating that all low-income, lower-middle-income and upper-middle-income economies (i.e. developing countries) are welcomed to join the system as countries where Fairtrade products are produced in primary production, traded and consumed, while the high-income economies (i.e. developed countries) can only be the countries where Fairtrade products are traded (or processed in secondary production) and consumed. However, the Fairtrade system's practice is inconsistent with its internal normative and operational bases in the case of ten European upper-middle income economies, which are allowed to be Fairtrade traders (or processors) and consumers, however, their poor and marginalised small-scale producers are forbidden from entering the Fairtrade system as primary producers and therefore, under a direct threat to become double-losers, potentially excluded from both the mainstream economy and the Fairtrade system.

This is particularly important because the greater integration of all upper-middle-income economies may in practice lead to the creation of a more global Fairtrade system and in this envisioned state, firstly, more poor and marginalised small-scale producers and workers from the poorest regions of the world will gain additional and stronger access to new markets of upper-middle-income economies. Secondly, the underdeveloped regions of all upper-middle-income economies will gain a new perspective to develop and thrive, by being included in the Fairtrade system more strongly. Only in this foreseen state the Fairtrade system can move from being Global South producing - Global North trading, processing and consuming movement to become a Global movement.

One of these "producer-excluded" upper-middle-income economies, Serbia, and its full Fairtrade potentials, which were never on the Fair Trade radar before, will be the focus of my doctoral research.

Participation in Conferences and Seminars

- 2014, February 5 - 8, Rome, Italy, GEM PhD School Annual Conference, organised by the GEM PhD School (Brussels, Belgium) and *Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli di Roma - LUISS* (Rome, Italy);
- 2013, October 5, London, United Kingdom, Fairtrade Supporter Conference organised by the Fairtrade Foundation UK;
- 2013, October 16, Coventry, United Kingdom, Food (In)Security Research Network - International and trans-disciplinary perspectives organised at the University of Warwick and supported and funded by the BISA and GEM PhD School;
- 2013, March 5 - 8, Guadalajara, Mexico, IX National Congress of the *Asociación Mexicana De Estudios Rurales (AMER): Crisis Civilizatoria En El México Rural* organised by the AMER and the *Centro Universitario de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades (CUCSH) - Universidad de Guadalajara* (Mexico);
- 2013 February 6 - 9, Rome, Italy, GEM PhD School Annual Conference organised by the GEM PhD School (Brussels, Belgium) and the *Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli di Roma - LUISS* (Rome, Italy);
- 2012 November 9, Brussels, Belgium, the Interuniversity Attraction Poles (IAP) research program: *If not for Profit, for What? And How? Building interdisciplinary and integrated knowledge on social entrepreneurship and social enterprise* organised by the CERMI-Chaire Philippon Seminar at the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management (Brussels, Belgium);
- 2012 November 6, Brussels, Belgium, *Inhabited institutional entrepreneurship: small groups and the emergence of commercial Microfinance in Bolivia* organised by the Centre for European Research in Microfinance (CERMI) at the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management (Brussels, Belgium);
- 2012 October - March 2013, Brussels, Belgium, *GEM Seminar Series in EU Studies and International Relations* organized by the Erasmus Mundus GEM PhD School, ULB - the Department for Political Sciences and the Institute of European Studies and *Ecole Doctorale Thématique en Etudes Européennes - Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles* (Brussels, Belgium);
- 2012 October 6, London, United Kingdom, *Fairtrade Supporter Conference* organized by the Fairtrade Foundation UK;
- 2012 March 1 - 2, Coventry, United Kingdom, international conference: *Fairtrade: strengths, weaknesses and future prospects* organized by the Warwick Fair Trade Society (Coventry, United Kingdom);
- 2012 February 8 - 11, Geneva, Switzerland, *GEM PhD School Annual Conference* organized by the GEM PhD School (Brussels, Belgium) and the University of Geneva (Geneva, Switzerland);
- 2012 February 4, London, United Kingdom, *Traidcraft Spring Roadshow and Campaigns Workshop* organized by the Traidcraft (London, United Kingdom);
- 2012 January - March, Coventry, United Kingdom, methodology course: *Quantitative Data Analysis and Interpretation* organised by the University of Warwick;
- 2011 November 28, Coventry, United Kingdom, *The Warwick's Global Priority Programme - Food Security Meeting* organized by the University of Warwick;
- 2011 November 18 - 20, Coventry, United Kingdom, *Warwick International Development Summit* organized by the Warwick International Development Society at the University of Warwick;
- 2011 November 15, London, United Kingdom, round table: *Let Them Eat Cake! - The Role of Global Food Pricing in Political Change* organized by the Cass Business School;
- 2011 November 12, London, United Kingdom, *International Organizations Day 2011* organized by the London School of Economics and Political Science;
- 2011 October - December, Coventry, United Kingdom, methodology course: *Qualitative Methods* organized by the University of Warwick;
- 2011 October - May 2012, Coventry, United Kingdom, PhD course: *The First Year PhD Training Module, 2011/2012 – Explanation and Methodology in PaIS* organized by the University of Warwick;
- 2011 October 24 - 26, Coventry, United Kingdom, international conference: *Time for System Changes in Food: Why & How Conference* organized by the Institute of Advanced Study at the University of Warwick;
- 2011 October 18, London, United Kingdom, international conference: *Food Sovereignty Day* organized by the War on Want;
- 2011 October 15, Birmingham, United Kingdom, *Fairtrade Supporter Conference* organized by the Fairtrade Foundation UK.

Overview of Publications

Publications (academic and non-academic)

Author:

- Brkovic, F., February 2015 (forthcoming). Towards a New Position in Fair Trade: from "in or against" to "existing together and in order to change" the market. The Third Forum of Critical Studies: Asking Big Questions Again. Florence, Italy: Euroacademia.
- Brkovic, F., May 2013. Fairtrade System and Mexican National Crusade Against Hunger. In: Logbook about the Mexico –European Union Relationship, with motive of the XV Mixed Parliamentarian Reunion Mexico-EU. Mexico City, Mexico: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) and the Senate of the Republic;
- Brkovic, F., March 2013. Challenges of Developing Fairtrade in Serbia. In: Political Life. Belgrade, Serbia: Faculty of Political Science;
- Brkovic, F., November 2012. *Fairtrade System and Upper-middle-income Economies* [conference presentation]. At: GEM Seminar Series in EU Studies and International Relations. Brussels, Belgium: the Erasmus Mundus GEM PhD School, ULB - Department for Political Sciences and the Institute of European Studies and *Ecole Doctorale Thématique en Etudes Européennes - Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles*;
- Brkovic, F., October 2012. *Contemporary Fairtrade System* [online]. Belgrade, Serbia: the Government of Serbia - Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit. Available from: <http://www.inkluzija.gov.rs/?p=13914> [Accessed 29 October 2012];
- Brkovic, F., September 2012. *Fairtrade as a Form of Human Trafficking Prevention* [conference presentation]. At: Fairtrade as a Form of Human Trafficking Prevention, public lecture. Belgrade, Serbia: the Balkan Centre for Development Studies, the Serbian Ministry of Interior and the American Corner;
- Brkovic, F., September 2012. *Fairtrade in the Balkans* [conference presentation]. At: Social Dimensions of Human Trafficking in the Western Balkans, summer school. Belgrade, Serbia: GIZ and DAAD (Germany) and the Serbian Ministry of Interior, the University of Belgrade and the Faculty of Law;
- Brkovic, F., March 2012. *Fairtrade and New Markets* [conference presentation]. At: *Fairtrade: strengths, weaknesses and future prospects*, conference. Coventry, United Kingdom: Warwick Fair Trade Society;
- Brkovic, F., November 2010. Education for 21st Century - Cambridge Experience [online]. *Vreme Weekly*, 1036 (2), 42-43. Available from: <http://www.vreme.com/cms/view.php?id=960539> [Accessed 29 October 2012];
- Brkovic, F., 2008. *Analysis of Consultative Process of Creation of Youth Umbrella Organization of Serbia* [conference presentation]. At: Initial Conference of Process of Creation of Youth Umbrella Organization of Serbia. Belgrade, Serbia: Youth Coalition of Serbia.

Co-author:

- Brkovic, F. and Radovanovic B., May 2011. Corporate Social Responsibility - EU and Serbian Perspective. *Profit Monthly*. Belgrade: Profit;
- Brkovic, F. and Bozovic, M., 2011. *Challenges of Starting NGOs in the Region* [conference presentation]. At: Regional OSF Alumni Conference. Budva, Montenegro: Open Society Foundation.
- Radovanovic, B., Brkovic, F. and Lalovic, A., 2011. Business Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility in Management of Human Resources. In: *Institute of Economic Sciences Review*. Belgrade, Serbia: Institute of Economic Sciences;
- Radovanovic, B., Brkovic, F. and Stevanovic, S., 2010. Corporate Social Responsibility as a Tool for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth. In: *Serbia and the European Union: Economic Lessons from the New Member States*. Portugal: University of Coimbra. ISBN: 978-972-9344-03-9;
- Youth Coalition of Serbia, 2008. *Youth Manifest*. In: National Youth Strategy of Republic of Serbia. Belgrade: Serbian Government.

Columnist:

- Galenika - company's newsletter (2010 - 2011);
- *TIMformator* - students' newsletter (2006 - 2008).

