

Istituto Bruno Leoni Monthly Report

N. 5 – December 2005

Istituto Bruno Leoni (IBL), named after the renowned Italian lawyer and philosopher, was established to encourage public debate from a strictly classical liberal perspective. IBL strives to investigate, to promote and to spread the ideals of the free market, private property, individual liberty, and free trade. IBL publishes both scholarly and popular works, organizes seminars and meetings, publishes articles in the daily press both in Italy and abroad, as well as short studies and briefing papers. Its main purpose is to orient decision-making, inform the public and foster a new generation of intellectuals and scholars devoted to the cause of liberty.



Contents:

- *Events* p. 2
- *Publications:*
 - Books* p. 4
 - Papers* p. 6
- *Articles:*
 - Theory and Current Events* p. 8
 - Competition and Globalization* p. 9
 - Welfare and Tax Policy* p. 10
 - Environment and Energy* p. 11

IBL Report

Events

1 December 2005

Ristorante Romilo – via di Campo Marzio 13, Rome

Istituto Bruno Leoni & Aspen Institute Berlin

Dinner and debate

With the presentation of Freedom House's report

How Freedom Is Won: From Civic Resistance to Durable Democracy



Speakers:

Peter Ackerman (Senior Scholar and Counselor at Freedom House)

Adrian Karatnycky (Founding Chair of the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict in Washington, DC)



IBL
Istituto Bruno Leoni

 Aspen Institute
Berlin



12 December 2005

Grand Hotel Duomo - via San Raffaele, 1 Milan

Hit One to Educate One Hundred: The "Microsoft Case" and the Future of Competition in Europe

Il caso Microsoft e il futuro della concorrenza in Europa

Speaker:

Salvatore Carrubba (former executive editor, Il Sole 24 Ore)

Stefano Cingolani (Il Riformista)

Maurizio Dallocchio (SDA Bocconi)

Cesare Galli (Università di Parma)

Antonio Pilati (Italian Competition Authority)

Moderator: *Paolo Zanetto*, responsabile European Antitrust Watch dell'IBL

With the presentation of: Alberto Mingardi e Paolo Zanetto, *Colpirne uno per educarne cento. Il caso Microsoft e il futuro della concorrenza in Europa* (Istituto Bruno Leoni).



19 December 2005

Fondazione De Ponti, piazza Castello 23, Milan

Rothbard Seminar

Towards a Libertarian Theory of Punishment

Verso una teoria libertaria della pena

Jointly organized with Fondazione De Ponti

Speaker: *Daniele Velo Dal Brenta*

Latest lecture in the third series of the Rothbard Seminar. With the aim of favouring the emergence of a new generation of liberty-loving scholars, in each academic year Istituto Bruno Leoni—with the invaluable help of Fondazione De Ponti—is holding in Milan the Rothbard Seminar, intended as a discussion forum for young scholars to debate and investigate libertarian ideas. The seminar is named after Murray N. Rothbard (1926-1995) one the major libertarian thinkers of our age. Student of Ludwig von Mises at the New York University, he was among the founders of the Cato Institute and of the Ludwig von Mises Institute, he is author of a number of fundamental works of classical liberal and libertarian thought of the Twentieth century.





Milton Friedman: An Intellectual Biography

Milton Friedman. Una biografia intellettuale

by Antonio Martino

In the 60s, economists were divided into a couple of brands: those before Keynes, and those after. The former were deemed little more than quaint relics of the past, worth perhaps a mention, but not to be studied and known. The latter, at least those conforming to the teachings of the recognized master, were in the mainstream. If things have changed, credit is mainly due to Milton Friedman, 1976 Nobel laureate for economics: thanks to his efforts, the prevailing statist orthodoxy of his times has been steadily eroded.

In this book, Antonio Martino mixes the knowledge of the scholar to the reverence of the pupil in retracing the central ideas of Friedman's thought, particularly about monetary policy. "Writing this book was no mean feat – remarks the Author – Friedman is a complex character, and it is quite hard to describe him in a synthetic manner." Martino guides the reader along the intricacies of the economic arguments, clearly illustrating the hurdles that Friedman had to overcome to have his ideas be recognized.

In comparison with 1991, when the first edition of this book was published, the economic discourse has known a further evolution: "The principles of individual liberty and the theories of the monetarists have made great strides. The fact that the Istituto Bruno Leoni, that is republishing today this book, is made by young people that were just teen-agers when it was first published, is heartening and is a vindication of the efforts made in these last years."

Antonio Martino was born in 1942 in Messina. He studied in the Department of Economics of the University of Chicago under Milton Friedman, George Stigler and other prominent economists. He was professor in the Universities of Roma "La Sapienza", Messina, Bari and Naples. Since 1992 he is Professor of Economics and Chairman of the Department of Political Science, LUISS University, Rome. He is currently Minister of Defense.

***IBL** Report*



IBL Special Report

1 December 2005 – Special Report

Requiem for Kyoto

(Requiem per Kyoto)

by Hans Labohm

The end of the first round of the Kyoto Climate Treaty in 2012, also marks the ultimate demise of this Treaty, argues economist Hans Labohm. Developed countries, such as the U.S. and Australia, as well as emerging countries like China, India and Brazil, refused to ratify it. More recently, Italy, which has initially joined the Treaty, has announced that it will drop out in 2012. And Tony Blair has declared that he will not support a follow-up of Kyoto because it is too expensive. He rather prefers a technology-based approach to cope with environmental problems.

Download pdf: [Special Report](#)

IBL Focus

27 December 2005 – IBL Focus n.15

Urban Riots: How the “Social Model” Could Self-Destruct

(La rivolta delle banlieues e l'autodistruzione del modello francese)

by Anthony de Jasay

Nearly everyone in France is proud of the “French social model”, if only because it is so different from the hated and feared “ultra-liberal Anglo-American” ways. Still, in the view of Anthony de Jasay, it is this much-vaunted social “model” that is responsible for the riots that raged in the suburbs of the French largest cities. The obvious reason for the flare-up is that a mass of closely packed young males living in almost total idleness, with their most likely prospect being continued idleness as far in the future as they can look, is as unstable as some kinds of high explosive. The chances are that the smallish explosion of November 2005 will not be followed by a much bigger breakdown within a few years. The most likely scenario is still that the country will continue to decline relatively smoothly.

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16 December 2005 – Briefing Paper n.26

Europe's Global REACH: Costly for the World; Suicidal for Europe

(La direttiva europea Global REACH)

by Angela Logomasini

The European Global REACH directive, that mandates burdensome and intrusive registration and authorization procedure on most chemicals used in the continent, is likely to cost society billions of dollars, reduce innovation, and limit access to EU markets, with no tangible benefit for the safety of consumers. It is a piece of legislation that stems from the statist and dirigist mindset that is hampering European growth and, moreover, is underpinned by an extreme and distorted understanding of the precautionary principle.

Download pdf: [Briefing Paper 26](#)

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23 December 2005 – Occasional Paper n.23

Morality, Economics and the Market in the Thought of Benedict XVI

(Morale e mercato nel pensiero di Benedetto XVI)

by Samuel Gregg

While not uncritical of aspects of modern capitalism, John Paul II's 1991 social encyclical, *Centesimus Annus*, directed official Catholic teaching towards more explicit affirmation of the moral potential of free markets, exchange and enterprise. Analysis of the pre-pontifical writings of Pope John Paul's successor, Benedict XVI, suggests that an equally nuanced approach to economics and the market from the most authoritative Catholic teaching authority is likely to continue. The papacy's attention to economic questions under Pope Benedict is likely to be ocused upon the relationship between the market and culture, an area that, until John Paul II, remained relatively unexamined by Catholic social teaching. Above all, we can expect the haracter of any such contributions to be neither 'right' nor 'left', but rather distinctly Catholic.

Download pdf: [Occasional Paper 23](#)

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1) Section “Theory and Current Events”

Libero, 6 December 2005, [Il diessino che applaude il cavaliere](#), by Alberto Mingardi

Markets and Morality, Fall 2005, [The Church and the Market. A Catholic Defense of the Free Market Economy. Recensione a “The Church and the Market: A Catholic Defense of the Free Market Economy” di Thomas E. Woods Jr.](#), by Alberto Mingardi

L'Indipendente, 14 December 2005, [Fatti e misfatti della scuola pubblica. «L'istruzione burocratica, in nome dell'eguaglianza obbligatoria, livella i talenti»](#), by Tiziano Buzzacchera

Libero, 14 December 2005, [L'assistenzialismo, che ipocrisia. Recensione a “Milton Friedman. Un profilo intellettuale” di Antonio Martino](#), by Alessandro Gnocchi

Il Giornale, 15 December 2005, [La scuola? Catechismo di Stato](#), by Carlo Lottieri

L'Opinione, 29 December 2005, [Migliorare studiando Einaudi e Bruno Leoni](#), by Alessandro Marchetti

Nuova Secondaria, November-December 2005, [L'aspirazione alla libertà nella tradizione e nell'immaginario artistico-letterario. Esempio di risoluzione della prova scritta di Italiano della maturità 2004-5](#), by Carlo Lottieri



2) Section “Competition and Globalization”

Finanza & Mercati, 2 December 2005, [Non è una colpa essere bravi. E gli svizzeri lo sono](#), by Adriano Teso

Libero, 8 December 2005, [Privatizziamo il teatro, è un bene per tutti](#), by Alberto Mingardi

Vision Monthly, December 2005, [La banda larga non è un diritto](#), by Alberto Mingardi

Il Domenicale, 11 December 2005, [Antitrust: anatomia di un mito intramontabile](#), by Tiziano Buzzacchera

L'Indipendente, 16 December 2005, [Politica, lobbismo e ipocrisia. Perché bisogna abolire Bankitalia e altre authority](#), by Carlo Lottieri

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L'Indipendente, 28 December 2005, [Gerontocrazia all'italiana. Un'Italia che non sa cambiare](#), by Carlo Lottieri

Libero, 30 December 2005, [Più che le banche van difesi i nostri soldi](#), by Alberto Mingardi



3) Section “Welfare and Tax Policy”

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Il Tempo, 4 December 2005, [Le pensioni di Tony Blair e i grattacapi di Romano Prodi](#), by Giuseppe Pennisi

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Finanza & Mercati, 6 December 2005, [Macché modello danese, basterebbe assicurarsi](#), by Adriano Teso

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La Provincia di Como, 13 December 2005, [I tagli al carrozzone Europa. E se sui tagli al bilancio Blair avesse ragione?](#), by Carlo Lottieri

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Libero, 28 December 2005, [Privatizziamo le carceri o diamole alle Regioni](#), by Gilberto Oneto



4) Section “Environment and Energy”

L'Indipendente, 5 December 2005, [Nel dopo-Kyoto, meglio Blair che Prodi](#), by Carlo Lottieri

L'Unione Sarda, 8 December 2005, [Val di Susa: in quegli scontri c'è la crisi del diritto. Senza chiari diritti di proprietà, ogni iniziativa è origine di conflitti](#), by Carlo Lottieri

Liberio, 28 December 2005, [L'Europa critica gli Usa ma viola Kyoto come Bush](#), by Andrea Colombo





OUR INSTITUTE

The mission of Istituto Bruno Leoni (IBL), named after the renowned Italian lawyer and philosopher, is to encourage public debate from a strictly classical liberal perspective. IBL strives to investigate, to promote and to spread the ideals of the free market, private property, individual liberty, and free trade. IBL publishes both scholarly and popular works, organizes seminars and meetings, publishes articles in the daily press both in Italy and abroad, as well as short studies and briefing papers. Its main purpose is to orient decision-making, inform the public and foster a new generation of intellectuals and scholars devoted to the cause of liberty.



OUR AIM

Our philosophy is known under a number of labels: “liberal,” “individualist,” “libertarian.” Names do not matter. What really matters is instead our pledge to what Lord Acton called “the highest political end: individual liberty. In an age in which the enemies of freedom seem to regain strength, IBL aims to promote the spread of ideas on liberty through rigorous and accurate research, which at the same time can be accessible to a broader audience.