



## **Development (D), Inequality (I) and Poverty (P). Towards a transdisciplinary unification of D, I and P concepts and measuring methods**

Despite the obvious conceptual closeness of the last two terms of the triad of this course, as both are obvious expressions of the unfair nature of societies (although poverty may also be related to underdevelopment, part of the first element of the triad) concepts and measures of poverty and inequality have been handled almost completely separately. On the other hand, development in a broad sense (beyond growth) usually refers not only to the justice-injustice of the distribution of well-being and wealth, but also to its absolute levels (in Marxist terms, how much society has distanced itself from the realm of scarcity and has approached that of abundance, which depends to a large extent on the development of the productive forces and their reflection on the productive capacity of society and its effective levels of production). Poverty would be the result of a combination of distributive injustice and backwardness in the development of the productive forces.

Well-being constitutes the common element which makes the unification attempt feasible, but alternative common elements like human flourishing, human wealth (understood by Marx as the development of human needs and capacities) and capabilities/functionings (Sen, Nussbaum) will also be explored. Thus, the study of various approaches to well-being will occupy a significant part of the course, especially the duality objective-subjective well-being (OWB-SWB). While OWB refers usually to need satisfaction (concepts and theories of need will be examined: e.g. Maslow and Doyal-Gough), SWB refers to happiness/feelings of satisfaction (the growing literature on SWB will also be analyzed, e.g. Layard, Seligman, Kahneman). The course will ask if the unification of SWB and OWB is possible and feasible, which has not been attempted in the literature.