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International Center for Decentralization and Governance

www.ideagov.eu

5th - 6th November 2025



Sala do Pleno

Consello Económico e Social
de Galicia - CES

Algalia de Abaixo 24,
15704 Santiago de Compostela



International Conference

ASYMMETRIC FEDERALISM:

The Perils and Advantages of Asymmetric Decentralization Arrangements



International Center for Decentralization and Governance

4th November 2025

21:00 - Welcome Dinner

Restaurante Cenador - Hotel Virxe da Cerca

Rúa da Virxe da Cerca, 27, 15703 Santiago de Compostela, A Coruña

5th November 2025

09:00 - OPENING SESSION

Antonio López-Díaz - Rector de la Universidade de Santiago de Compostela

Ignacio Lago - Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Agnese Sacchi - University of Urbino Carlo Bo

Jorge Martínez-Vázquez - Georgia State University

Santiago Lago-Peñas - Universidade de Santiago de Compostela

09:30 - Asymmetric Decentralization: Nature and Determinants

Authors: Santiago Lago-Peñas (Universidade de Santiago de Compostela) Maria Cadaval-Sampedro (Universidade de Santiago de Compostela), Jorge Martínez-Vázquez (Georgia State University) & Ana Herrero-Alcalde (UNED)

Discussant: Luiz de Mello

10:15 - The politics of public goods provision under asymmetric decentralization

Authors: Ignacio Lago (Universitat Pompeu Fabra) & André Blais (Université de Montréal)

Discussant: Pablo Beramendi

11:00 - COFFEE BREAK

11:30 - Federal Asymmetry and Inequality: Theory and Evidence

Authors: Pablo Beramendi (Duke University) & Melissa Rogers (Claremont Graduate University)

Discussant: Sarah Shair-Rosenfield

12:15 - Parable of the Talents: Does Asymmetric Decentralization Improve Performance?

Authors: Luiz de Mello (OECD) & João Tovar-Jalles (Universidade de Lisboa)

Discussant: Santiago Lago-Peñas

13:00 - LUNCH BREAK

14:30 - Asymmetric decentralization in a unitary country : The Case of France

Authors: Thierry Madies (University of Fribourg), Sonia Paty (Université Lyon) & Guy Gilbert (ENS Cachan)

Discussant: Nara Monkam

15:15 - Heterogeneous Fiscal Decentralisation in Italian Regions

Authors: Agnese Sacchi (University of Urbino Carlo Bo), Carlo Gianelle (EC) & Simone Salotti (EC - JRC)

Discussant: François Vaillancourt

16:00 - COFFEE BREAK

16h30 - The Double-Edged Sword of Special Autonomy Agreements: Lessons from Indonesia and the Philippines

Authors: Sarah Shair-Rosenfield (University of York)

Discussant: Agnese Sacchi

6th November 2025

09h00 - Implications of Asymmetric Decentralisation for Municipal Governance in South Africa

Authors: Nara Monkam (University of Pretoria)

Discussant: Jorge Martínez-Vázquez

09:45 - Asymetric federalism in Canada : a result of provincial actions and inactions

Authors: François Vaillancourt (University of Montreal)

Discussant: João Tovar-Jalles

10:30 - The Perils and Advantages of Asymmetric Fiscal Decentralisation in Spain

Authors: Caroline Gray (Aston Centre for Europe - ACE)

Discussant: Ignacio Lago

11:15- CLOSING

11:30 - BRUNCH