


# ISTITUTO BRUNO LEONI IN 2019

---





In 2019 Istituto Bruno Leoni (IBL) continued its mission of promoting a genuinely classical liberal perspective in the Italian public debate, as well as abroad. Through its studies, books, the organization of conferences and seminars, the publication of articles in the Italian and international press, as well as by means of its educational efforts, in the past 12 months IBL endeavoured to shape the public opinion and to grow a new generation of liberty-loving scholars and opinion-makers.

Last year Istituto Bruno Leoni was rated as the 133th best think tank in the world (76th in Europe) by the University of Pennsylvania's "Global Go To Think Thank Index," which surveys over 8,000 think tanks all over the world.

# RESEARCH

---

IBL produces original and independent research on public policy issues, with the aim of providing opinion- and policy-makers, as well as the general public, with a solid basis for the debate. Our production is divided into Briefing papers (in-depth studies of public policies) and Focus (more approachable, yet rigorous takes on current policy issues), with the addition of Occasional Papers and Special Reports.

In 2019 IBL published **13 Briefing Papers** and **19 Focus**, on topics ranging, among others from the digital economy and innovation (5), social security and welfare (4), pharmaceutical and healthcare (3), and the food industry.

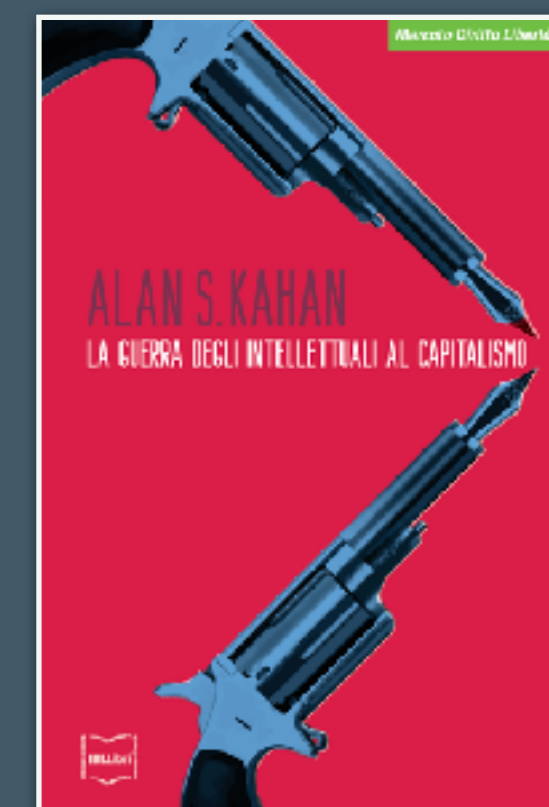
In 2019 we also have published to updates of our **SuperIndice**, a synthetic indicator developed by IBL to assess the gap of the Italian public finances and economy with other comparable countries in the European Union.



# IBL LIBRI

Nel 2019, IBL libri published **9** books, of which 6 were original works and 3 translations of foreign titles.

Among the highlights are: *Noi e lo Stato: siamo ancora sudditi?*, [We and the State: Are We Still Subjects?], edited by Serena Sileoni (an investigation of the unequal position of the Italian citizens vis à vis a large and intrusive government), *Morire di aiuti: i fallimenti delle politiche per il Sud (e come evitarli)*, [Death by Aid: The Failure of Governmental Policies in Support of the Italian South (and How to Avoid Them)] di Antonio Accetturo e Guido de Blasio, an analysis of the perverse effects of decades of governmental aids and subsidies to the Italian Southern regions. Also, *La guerra degli intellettuali al capitalismo*, the Italian translation of Alan Kahan's "Mind Vs. Money: The War Between Intellectuals and Capitalism," and *Scambio, valore e capitale: scritti su Adam Smith* di Carl Menger, an anthology of Carl Menger's writings on Adam Smith edited by professor Raimondo Cubeddu.





# EVENTS



In 2019 we have organized **79 events**, divided into conferences, seminars, book presentations, and book reading series.

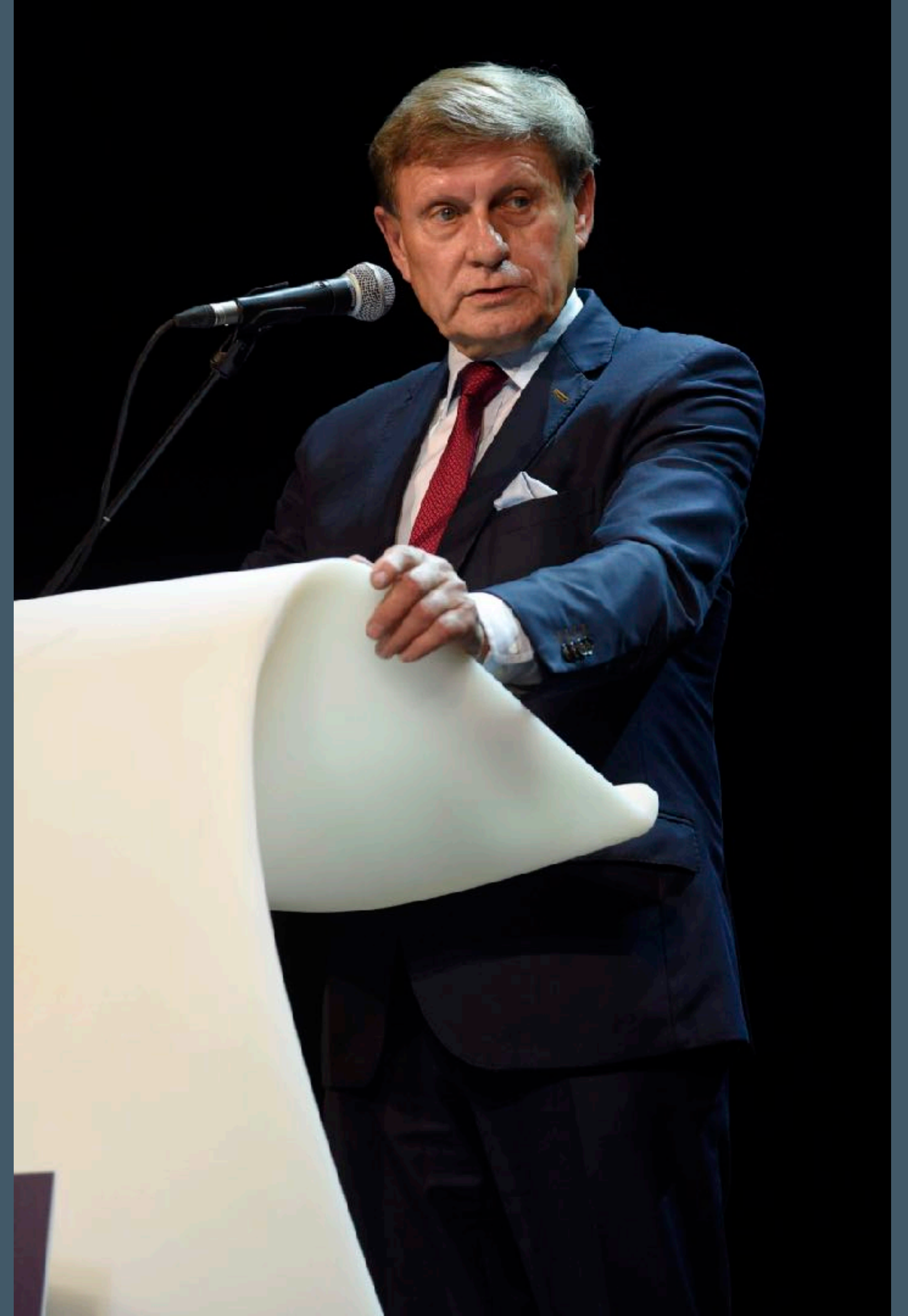
Among the most notable events, we have held our Lectio Marco Minghetti, a yearly lecture on issues of Italian and European public finance, on “**The Theory of Monetary Integration in the Aftermath of the Greek Financial Crisis**”, with the participation of George S. Tavlas (Central bank of Greece) together with Pier Carlo Padoan (former Italian Minister of Economic Affairs) e Paolo Savona (Consob, the Italian Stock Exchange watchdog) as discussants. On November 28 we have organized in Rome a conference on “**The Costs of Anti-Science**”, with the participation of Claudio Bosio (Università Cattolica di Milano), Roberto Burioni (Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele), Roberto Defez (Istituto di Genetica e Biofisica of CNR di Napoli), Giorgio Donegani (expert on food technologies), and Giulio Giorello (Università di Milano).



# PREMIO BRUNO LEONI

Since 2008, Istituto Bruno Leoni awards its annual “Bruno Leoni Prize.” This award is meant to recognize individuals who achieved significant contributions to the cause of liberty. In the previous editions we have recognized, among others, Vernon L. **Smith**, Nassim Nicholas **Taleb**, Mario **Vargas Llosa**, Richard **Pipes**, Deirdre N. **McCloskey**, and Leopoldo **López**.

On November 18th 2019 Istituto Bruno Leoni’s annual Dinner celebrated a landmark anniversary: the **fall of the Berlin Wall** on November 9th, 1989, and the subsequent collapse of the Soviet empire in Europe. The Bruno Leoni prize was awarded to **Leszek Balcerowicz**, former Treasury Minister and Chairman of the Polish Central Bank, a key player in the transition from communism to a free economy. Balcerowicz left a lasting mark on his country, which saw sustained and significant growth rates since its liberation and has become an important voice on behalf of the free market, both in its part of Europe and in the West as a whole. Mr. Balcerowicz was frequently hosted by IBL in the past.









# IBL NELLE SCUOLE



IBL's efforts are also aimed to bring the younger generations closer to the classical liberal ideas. In the school year 2018-19 our basic economic education lectures have reached **1,922** students in **32** schools all over Italy (14 schools were new entries).



# IBL NELLE SCUOLE: TEACHING MODULES

Our lectures are structured into **two lessons** with **five thematic modules**, each focused on a particular aspect of the “economic way of thinking.”

In 2019 IBL also organized **two training seminars** for high school teachers (one in Milan, one in Salerno) to disseminate the best teaching practices for economics, in collaboration with AEEE (the Association for European Economic Education, an officially recognized organization).



Unintended  
Consequences



Economics Explained  
by “The Simpsons”



Globalization and  
Spontaneous Order



Agriculture and  
Innovation



Environment and  
Economic Growth



# PODCAST



2019 saw the start of a renewed program of IBL podcasts, available on the most popular online platforms (Spreaker, Spotify, iTunes, Google) with the aim of broadening and diversifying the audience of our efforts to popularize “ideas for the free market”

We produce the weekly podcast LeoniFiles (with Serena Sileoni, Carlo Stagnaro e Carlo Amenta), to give a light-hearted – albeit serious – take on current events. We also have short thematic series of podcasts: Alberto Mingardi explained the much-misconstrued notion of “neo-liberalism”; Filippo Cavazzoni offered an overview of the issues of public support for the arts and culture; Serena Sileoni illustrated the subordinate relationship between citizens and the Italian state.



# INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

IBL has ties and partnerships with a number of **international organizations** (Atlas Economic Research Foundation, Heritage Foundation, Cato Institute, Institute of Economic Affairs). Furthermore, IBL is a founding member of **EPICENTER** (European Policy Information Center), a network of free market think tanks established in 2014: Institut Economique Molinari (France), Istituto Bruno Leoni (Italy), Lithuanian Free Market Institute, Civismo (Spain), Timbro (Sweden) e Institute of Economic Affairs (UK).

In 2019 EPICENTER updated its **Nanny State Index**, monitoring the paternalistic lifestyle regulations adopted or proposed by the European Parliament in four main areas. IBL organized the presentation of the 2019 edition of the Index in Milan on October 25th.

IBL was also co-organizer of the presentation in Rome of **International Property Rights Index 2019** (edited by the Property Rights Alliance).



EPICENTER  
**Nanny State Index**



**Diritti di proprietà e innovazione**  
**(Property Rights and Innovation)**



# MEDIA

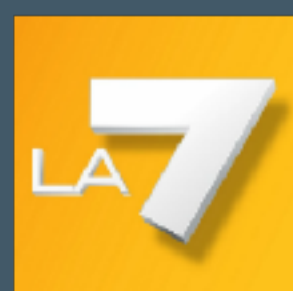
Il Sole **24 ORE**

**CORRIERE DELLA SERA**

**la Repubblica**

**IL FOGLIO**  
quotidiano

**il Giornale**



IBL's efforts aim at cultivating a public less hostile to the principles of a free society, the free market, and competition. To this end, a presence on the traditional media, particularly daily newspapers, is still a valuable tool.

Articles by IBL's staff and fellows are published on an almost daily basis on the most important Italian daily papers (La Stampa, La Repubblica, Il Sole 24 Ore, Corriere della sera, Il Foglio, Il Fatto Quotidiano, Il Giornale, Il Mattino), as well as on international outlets (The Wall Street Journal, Politico). Likewise, IBL and its researchers are very frequently quoted or mentioned on the media. All articles and mentions are available on our website.

Likewise, IBL is often present in TV political talk shows, to provide a sober and informed free-market perspective on the issues of the day.