

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### **Intellectual property, competition, and growth**

Like in the past for natural resources and, later, for industrial establishments, the codified knowledge of new products and processes is currently the economically most valuable resource. The extent to which such knowledge may be treated as a public good has an impact on individual microeconomic decisions, as well as on the macroeconomic performance of the regions and nations, since an access to this good and the incentives to its production are relevant for competitiveness at all levels.

Moreover, the ownership rights on ideas during processing are not always properly acknowledged and protected. A productive process based on new knowledge, in fact, is rather complicated, in that it involves a formal and informal interaction of multiple agents, whose individual marginal contribution is hard to evaluate. Current international legislations are mostly heterogeneous, and the implementation of the existing rules may result into distortions, sometimes restrictive, sometimes permissive. For such reasons, a review of public and institutional interventions in this area turns out desirable in order to recommend corrections of market and non-market failures, as well as to contribute to an effective harmonization of rules between nations and between continents.

Every year, *Rivista di Politica Economica* (<http://www.rivistapoliticaeconomica.it>) publishes two monographic issues (in Italian and/or in English). For 2005 or 2006 it will publish a monographic issue in English on “Intellectual Property, Competition, and Growth”. Such monograph will then be submitted to the *Palgrave-Macmillan* publishing company, which will consider its release in the Series “Central Issues in Contemporary Economic Theory and Policy”, managed by Prof. Gustavo Piga.

A few possible themes relevant to the general topic include:

- Pre-patent protection of ownership rights;
- Relation between collective ownership rights and individual intellectual property rights;
- Different approaches (e.g. EU vs. US) to the protection of individual and collective intellectual property rights and their implications for competition and growth performance;
- Spreading of information and knowledge and implications for supply and demand behaviours.

The articles to be included in such monographic issue shall focus on the relation between the protection of intellectual rights (both individual and collective), competition, and the implications for growth performance. The articles – not longer than 30 pages – may have a theoretical or applied content; specific case studies may also be considered. The description of implications for economic policies will be appreciated.

The essays, drafted in English, shall be sent, in the Word or Acrobat format, to *Rivista di Politica Economica* by e-mail to [rpe@confindustria.it](mailto:rpe@confindustria.it) no later than March 31<sup>st</sup> 2005 and shall be reviewed by and not later than June 30<sup>th</sup> 2005 by a team of editors, members of the *Scientific Committee* of *Rivista di Politica Economica*, for a final decision.