

## EIZ Seminar

Dear Sir/Madam,

We cordially invite you to attend the EIZ Seminar on **Wednesday, May 14, 2025**, at **1 p.m.**, at **The Institute of Economics, Zagreb**, when **Carmen Navarro Gómez** (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid) will present the following lecture

# Dynamics and Issues of Local Autonomy in Europe and Beyond

### Abstract:

The lecture is based on the book *Dynamics and Issues of Local Autonomy: A Comparative Study\**, a comprehensive analysis of local self-government worldwide that introduces the refined Local Autonomy Index (LAI 2.0). The Local Autonomy Index is a multidimensional tool designed to measure the degree of autonomy that local governments enjoy in different countries. It captures various aspects of local self-government—including legal status, financial independence, policy discretion, administrative capacity, and the ability to interact with other levels of government—through a standardized set of indicators. Originally developed for European countries, the updated LAI 2.0 expands its scope to 57 countries worldwide and tracks changes from 1990 to 2020, offering a robust comparative framework to analyze decentralization trends and the evolving role of local authorities in public governance. The lecture will explore the changing nature of local autonomy across the world, based on a comprehensive comparative analysis of 57 countries from 1990 to 2020. It will address how local governments exercise authority, manage resources, and interact with other levels of government, offering a multidimensional view that includes financial, legal, political, and administrative aspects.

\*The book is in open access; available here: <https://www.e-elgar.com/shop/gbp/dynamics-and-issues-of-local-autonomy-9781035337941.html>

### About the speaker:

Carmen Navarro Gómez is Associate Professor of Political Science in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM), Director of the University Institute of Local Government UAM, and Chair of the Research Committee on Local Government at the International Political Science Association. She specializes in local government and public policy. Her research is mainly carried out within international networks dedicated to the study of local democracies. She has participated in numerous international research initiatives and funded projects.