

Economia solidale

Riscoprire l'economia e la solidarietà

CARMELA GUARASCIO*

ABSTRACT: This article is a contribution to the term of “solidarity economy”, which is not yet well rationalized. The solidarity economy is a set of economic processes put in place on a micro level, with a notable social innovation that finds nowadays its place in scientific reflections. This article reassesses the etymological terms of “economy” and “solidarity” and summarizes the different contributions of economic sociology, proposing an analysis of the solidarity economy as a process of social and economic *embeddement*.

To rationalize the term solidarity economy it means to think about the economic principles and institutional models that solidarity economy uses to regulate economic and social activities: reciprocity, redistribution, market and gift. To do this we use the analysis of some authors (Laville, 1998; Magatti, 1993; Granovetter, 1998) who refers to Karl Polanyi's studies on regulation forms.

This redefinition of terminology facilitates the analysis of the different economic principles which solidarity economy refers to as *plural economy* (Laville, 1998). In particular the analysis of reciprocity as symmetrical relationship in trade, and with the environment. This discussion underline an important concept of *bem viver*, whom was defined by the empirical experiences in Latin America, who firstly utilized this expression, even in a public and institutional context.

These observations represent a breakthrough in the field of economic sociology.

Keywords: Economy, solidarity, reciprocity, plural economy, new economic sociology.

1. Introduzione

Il presente articolo riporta una parte del lavoro della tesi di dottorato che si sta svolgendo presso il Dipartimento di scienze politiche e sociali dell'Università della Calabria, in collaborazione con il *Conservatoire national des arts et métiers* di Parigi. Esso sintetizza lo stato dell'arte della ricerca e riporta alcune considerazioni teoriche importanti ai fini del dibattito scientifico sulle tematiche affrontate.

La ricerca si inserisce in una riflessione più ampia della sociologia economica (nazionale ed internazionale) sulla relazione tra economia e società.

* Dipartimento di Scienze politiche e sociali, Università della Calabria, Rende (CS).
carmela.guarascio@unical.it.