

# Théorie économique et philosophie de la mesure

JEAN-LUC GAFFARD

*Institut Universitaire de France, Université Côte d'Azur*

*Abstract*

*Economic Theory and the Philosophy of Moderation*

*Economic theories are, most often, atemporal or inter-temporal. They are theories of equilibrium, an equilibrium defined by so-called real data, preferences and technologies. They are based on the belief in the present or future existence of a world devoid of contradictions. They make the neutrality of money and finance or their disappearance an objective to be achieved. In so doing, they ignore both the intrinsic instability of market economies and their possible resilience. The view of the philosopher Albert Camus invites us to follow another approach, one that aims to recognize the inevitability of contradictions at the same time as the need to survive them. This essay supports the view that an appropriate narrative would be to recognize the ambivalence of money, debt and finance, in order to promote the moderation that would prevent the tearing apart of opposites.*

**Keywords:** contradiction; equilibrium; instability; moderation; money.