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European Research Council Established by the European Commission

The Political Economy of Conflicts

Villars-sur-Ollon, Switzerland

Supported by the European Research Council¹

22-24 January 2015

Local Information

1. Conference Venue

Hotel du Golf

Avenue Centrale 152 1884 Villars-sur-Ollon, Switzerland Website: <u>http://www.hotel-golf.ch/</u>

3. Accommodation

Accommodation is also arranged at **Hotel du Golf**. All rooms are south-facing, overlooking the hotel's park with views of the Alps and the Rhone Valley. Also included is full use of the new relaxation area with inside / outside Jacuzzi, Turkish bath, massage rooms, sauna and fitness suite.

Where agreed the organizers will pay for up to three nights' accommodation in advance (four for US participants). Breakfast, lunch and dinner costs as part of the conference are included. Incidental expenses such as the mini bar, telephone or any other service offered by the hotel, however, will not be covered and should be paid on departure.

4. Directions

The most convenient airport to fly to is **Geneva Airport**. Participants can take a train from the airport to **Aigle** train station. There is approximately 1 train every hour, and the journey takes 1h20. Train times and tickets can be found at <u>www.sbb.ch/en</u>.

From **Aigle**, the organisers will organise taxis for all participants based on time of arrival. Please make sure you have indicated your arrival details with Nadine Clarke (<u>nclarke@cepr.org</u>) in advance. The taxi journey will take approximately 20 minutes.

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5. Meals

Breakfast should be taken at the hotel.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided at hotel / conference venue during the breaks in the programme.

A dinner will be organised during the Conference as well. Details will be communicated in due course.

Dietary requirements can be accommodated **if and as indicated in advance.**

6. About Villars

The mountain town of Villars is situated at 1300 metres above sea level on a plateau in the Vaud Alps that affords spectacular views of both Lake Geneva and Mont Blanc. In the summer the resort offers over 300 kms of marked footpaths, mountain bike and horse riding trails and an 18 hole Alpine golf course. But in the winter, the town of Villars comes into it's own with 120 kms of ski slopes spread over the three valleys of Villars-Gryon-Diablerets (1300-3000m), and numerous reputable ski and snowboarding schools. Alternative sporting activities include ice-skating, toboganning, organized winter hikes and cross-country skiing. To relax there are also the thermal baths at nearby Lavey-les-Bains.

There is a wide selection of cafés, bars, restaurants and nightlife to be found in Villars. Traditional food is a warm, hearty affair with French, Italian and Austrian influences - meat fondue (bourguignonne), cheese fondue, raclette (cheese melted over a coal or wood fire), cold meat platters and casseroles. Local restaurants such as *Le Vieux-Villars* and *Le Suisse* specialize in such meals.

7. Useful web links

Villars-sur-Ollon official tourist website: www.villars.ch/en/ (English version)

Information on ski reports and pass prices: <u>www.tele-villars-</u> <u>gryon.ch/en/index.cfm</u> (English version)

For further details and train timetables go to the CFF-SBB Railway website: <u>www.sbb.ch</u>

8. Location maps



