Erasmus Institute for Philosophy and Economics (EIPE)

Ph.D. Graduate: Dr. Peter Marks

Thesis title
Association between Games. A Theoretical and Empirical Investigation of a New Explanatory Model in Game Theory

Supervisors
prof. Maarten Janssen and prof. Jack Vromen

Project description
There are two gaps left open by standard/traditional game theory. First, if people are taken out of their anonymity, history between players starts to matter, and the ‘abstract’ modelling of the games does not correspond with the way the players perceive the games. Second, within the traditional game theoretic concept there is no explicit reason why anonymous players might not see different games as relevant for the playing of the game on hand.

The associative approach tries to fill these gaps: players might see a different game played before as relevant to the perception of the game at hand, i.e., they associate different games. Conventions constitute conceptualization aspects of how and why players might associate certain games. When players associate the first game with the second game, this creates a different labelling of the possible strategies in the latter game. The associative approach suggests (new) ways of finding solutions in games.