

### **L'association pour renouveler la recherche et l'enseignement en économie et finance (AREF)**

AREF has been founded on March 16 2017 at the University of Fribourg. It could be considered as an institutional extension of the 2011 appeal by the Observatoire de la finance "Renewing the research and teaching in finance, economics and management to better serve the common good » ("Renouveler la recherche et l'enseignement en finance, économie et gestion pour mieux servir le bien commun").

The foundation of such association results from the observation that the quasi-monopolistic position of main-stream thought in economics, finance and management remains largely unchallenged 10 years after the 2007 financial crisis which has highlighted the pitfalls, limitations, dangers and responsibilities of such thought.

University professors and researchers, the signatories of the 2011 appeal, assert that this situation limits the fields of research and teaching in economics, finance and management, diverting them as it does from issues critical to society. Thus, convinced by the necessity to draw lessons from the crisis at the research and teaching level they have decided to coordinate their efforts in order to promote a vision of economics and finance that clearly takes into account the requirements of common good, fairness, stability and sustainability in economic and social life.

The association intends to assume the spokesperson role of its concerns in the context of research and teaching policy in economics, finance and management in Switzerland, as well as abroad. It aims at encouraging interdisciplinary teaching and research and promoting upcoming academics, by developing trainings and research projects based on approach pluralism and renewal. Its activities must also contribute to stimulate public debate on economic and financial issues that are societal in scope.

Among its main activities, the association annually organises a symposium aimed at young researchers and develops a publication project of an electronic newsletter which takes an innovative and critical look at finance in its complex relationships with real economy, society, ethics and environment.