| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 1 | Javier | Moreno-La Zaro | University of Valladolid (Mexico) | The creation and internationalization of large companies in Latin America |

The most important institutional changes experienced by the Latin American economy over the last third of the twentieth century and early twenty-first century has probably been the emergence of large businesses with an international projection, a phenomenon that began with the strengthening of some firms in the years immediately after the end of the First World War. Nowadays, some of those companies, mostly Mexican, Brazilian and Chilean, are among the largest food, cement and oil companies in the world. As well as being established in all five continents, these firms are also characterized by their intense vertical integration, quite different from the growth strategy adopted by European and American corporations.

The objective of the session we propose is to analyze the creation of these companies within their historical perspective, an analysis of enormous interest as it raises the question of the relationship between economic underdevelopment, globalization and the birth of large corporations in emerging economies. Furthermore, this knowledge should help get rid of some widespread aphorisms about the lack of entrepreneurship in Latin America, the inefficiency of these countries institutions and the total subordination of economic development to foreign investments and initiatives.

The areas of study we suggest are the following:
1) The history of large Latin American company groups
2) The role of foreign minorities in their creation
3) Strategic and managerial singularities of large enterprises in Latin America
4) Internationalization strategies
5) The relationships and networks created in the former colonial cities
6) The relationship between the large corporation and the State: the protection offered by populist governments
7) Liberalization, privatization and the birth of large corporations
8) Economic integration and the large enterprise
9) Vertical integration and economies of scope as a growth strategy
10) The financing of large corporations. Their birth and the modernization of the capital market.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 7 | Jeffrey Gale | Williamson | Harvard and Wisconsin | The spread of the industrial revolution to the periphery: 1870-1970 |

Recently, economic history and economic development have joined hands to explore with much better evidence and tools the fundamentals underlying economic growth in the very long run. Was it culture, geography or institutions? And when did it start? We plan to pare down the scope of these grand questions and seek answers that speak more directly to modern policy debates. One way to do so is to focus on the spread of the industrial revolution to the poor periphery over the critical century 1870-1970. Where did it first begin, who were the leaders, and when did it spread fastest? What were the key determinants of its timing and location? Was it better policy, world prices, productivity catch up, cheaper labor or something else?

Research has already begun on many regions: Robert Allen (2003) on industrialization during the Soviet era; Debin Ma (2004, 2006) on East Asia in the late 19th and early 20th century; Åževket Pamuk (1987) on Ottoman Turkey and the Turkish Republic; Ronald Findlay and Kevin O' Rourke (2007) on trade and industrialization including the European periphery; Pedro Lains on the Mediterranean and East European economies (Lains 2007; Lains and Petmezas 2010), Aurora Gomez Galvarriato and Jeffrey Williamson (2009) on industrialization in Latin America after 1870; and Williamson (2010) on trade and the great divergence connection around the whole periphery since 1750.

The session conveners think the time is ripe to create a forum for regional specialists to compare data, questions, methods and research progress. We have in mind a large and visible session at Cape Town. The idea is to have co-organizers representing all of the six periphery regions, with each co-organizer responsible for recruiting one or two papers from the best and the brightest working on the topic (indeed, some co-organizers will be authors). Thus, the following would take the lead: Aurora Gomez Galvarriato [CIDE, Mexico City] on Latin America; Pedro Lains [ICS, University of Lisbon] on the European periphery and the Middle East; Debin Ma [London School of Economics] on East Asia; Tirthanker Roy [London School of Economics] on South Asia; and Gareth Austin [London School of Economics] on Africa. Another group will look at the whole periphery, using econometric comparative history, something Jeffrey Williamson [Harvard and Wisconsin] would organize. We anticipate 7-14 papers (many with collaborators) and about 15-20 author participants. We are hopeful that the conference will result in a book.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 8 | Candido | Roman-Cervantes | University of La Laguna | Cooperatives and associational networks: a comparative analysis, 19th and 20th centuries |

The current crisis of the world economy has led economists to reconsider capitalism and the market economy. While some scientists treat the crisis as a short-term anomaly, others tend to interpret it as a severe crisis of capitalism, which can only be overcome by a change, which will alter the rules and institutions. According to those economists, the system should develop into a more social direction. It is surprising, that cooperatives and associations based on mutual aid are rarely being mentioned in those discussions, although they represent a model of accomplishing economic goals by cooperation and only to a lesser extent by competition, which is pivotal to the globalized market economy.

Cooperatives and associations based on mutual aid "regardless of the ideological overload they sometimes have been attributed" have for one and a half century been an economic institution, which to a considerable extent contributed to the adaptation to the market of broad masses of small producers and consumers.

Therefore the objective of the panel is to assess the impact of cooperativism on the increase or reduction of the standards of living of their members. To this end, it is set to encourage studies of national scope that will help to understand the evolution of associative forms in different places in the world. Contributions that apply macro analysis and the general approaches as their main working method will also be valued. We encourage studies that provide information on the real impact of the associative, mutual and, also, consortial forms in the context where they exert their activity and their ultimate goal: increasing benefits of the associates.

Strategies for the adaptation of the cooperative in the capitalist models (as opposed to the associations of businessmen) as an option to increase their competitiveness, as well as the process through which the agrarian, cattle, and fishing associations responded to the stimuli presented by the international markets, will be also subjects to discussion and objects of study.

Furthermore, we intend to advance in the analysis of cooperativism and related social networks from the following perspectives:
- Origins of the movement in each country and region, the causes of its specific development its responses to situations of crisis, stagnation or economic growth.
- Cultural factors that contributed to or hampered their development and the role of the different social actors.
- Different typologies of associations and partnerships.
- Comparison of the models: transfer or adaptation, importance of immigration and its social networks.
- Causes of the weaknesses, failures and successes of co-operatives.
- The impact of modernization in management and technology innovation.
- The improvements in the distribution of wealth.
- Consumer cooperatives and economic efficiency.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 13 | Nils | Hybel | The Saxo Institute University, Copenhagen (Denmark) | Economic development and the rise of medieval national kingdoms |

Central powers create a general backdrop for economic life quite distinct from the legal and institutional conditions prevailing within the domain of other central powers. The territory of a central power is the habitat of people expecting uniform conditions in life, i.e. those they are used to and aspire after. However, these conditions are not only set by the legal and institutional framework created by the central power, by politics, and by tradition: the basic conditions of life are set by nature, and the territories of central powers are geographical units of natural environments within more or less natural frontiers. Finally, central powers dispose of a substantial proportion of the resources of the realm and consequently impact, both intentionally and unintentionally, upon their use and distribution.

On basis of this hypothesis the session will discuss the impact of the upcoming medieval kingdoms on economic development in the High Middle Ages, i.e. c. 1000 to 1350. The papers will address various aspects of the interrelationship between technology, economic structures and mentality and the political, legal, military and institutional settings created in the process of strengthening central power against discussion of whether the rising national kingdoms can be considered a prime root of medieval economic development.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 14 | Mark | Harrison | University of Warwick | War, state formation, and economic development across Eurasia and over two centuries: 1812 to 2012 |

Rationale: A substantial literature on the relationship between war, state formation, and the economic development of western Europe from the Middle Ages is exemplified by the work of Charles Tilly and Patrick O'Brien. We aim to complement this work and extend the spatial limits of comparison across the Eurasian landmass from Iberia to East Asia, and over two centuries from Napoleon's historic advance across Eastern Europe into Russia in 1812 to the present day. Tilly wrote that "War made the state and states made war." We are interested in data and hypotheses that bear upon the economic causes and consequences of wars, the formation and persistence of borders across Eurasia, the rivalries that formed state capacities, and the imprint that these have left upon measured economic development up to the present.

We invite papers that reflect on regions, periods, conflicts, and themes in a comparative perspective; possible topics may include the causes of wars between and within states and the effects of military mobilization, warfare, conquest, occupation, and war indemnities and reparations in relation to any of the following, not intended to be exclusive:
* Borders and border effects
* Constitutional and legal developments
* Estates, classes, ethnic groupings, and property rights
* Organized and unorganized violence, disease, and demography
* Public finance and sovereign debt
* Public procurement and public/private partnerships
* Transport, communications, and modern media
* Infrastructural development and social capital
* Innovation and technology transfer

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 15 | Jose Ignacio | Andres Ucendo | University of the Basque Country | Fiscal systems, urbanization and trajectories of economic growth in early modern economies |

The study of the relations between institutions and economic growth is one of the most promising fields of research in economic history. Among the "rules of the game" that govern individual behaviour and structure economic interactions (which is what institutions are essentially about) fiscal systems play a leading role. Systems of taxation, and their effects on economic development, have attracted the interest of historians and researchers of the Early Modern Period for long. In part, this is due to the fact that in Early Modern Period, unlike today, states had few instruments to intervene in the economy and that among those tools taxation was, undoubtedly, one of the most important.

Fiscal systems could affect economic development in various ways. On the positive side, thanks to the revenues collected from taxes, modern states promoted some economic sectors and they also created efficient administrative systems which enforced property rights, leading to the development of an environment which eased economic growth. On the negative side, however, there were many instances where the need of raising its tax revenues prompted states to build fiscal systems which damaged the prospects of economic growth and the awareness of the differences between both kinds of taxation has led economists and historians to defend the existence of predatory and non predatory fiscal systems.

Our session will be focused on the study from a comparative perspective of the relations between urban fiscal systems (in the broadest sense) and the different trajectories of economic growth which may be found in the Early Modern Period in different regions of the world.

During the last decades there has been a growing interest in the study of urban taxation. Cities not only paid taxes to central government (whether an empire, a monarchy or republic) but they also collected taxes to fund their own expenditures. It seems clear that any study on the links between taxation, urbanization and economic growth should include both groups of taxes, paying special interest to the way both states and cities taxed urban wealth to obtain their fiscal revenues. Simultaneously, it is also important to remark that in many cases the differences between urban and state taxation were blurred, being nearly impossible to distinguish between both kinds of taxes, something which poses the question of analyzing to what extent cities could develop their own fiscal policies, free from state interference.

To a certain extent, the recent interest on urban taxation reflects the widespread awareness of the pivotal role played by cities in the economic growth during the Early Modern Period. To phrase this question in Smithean terms: urbanization promoted the advance of specialization and the raise of the markets, so early modern cities could be considered as engines of economic growth, and when we remember the differences between predatory and non predatory fiscal systems above mentioned, then it seems possible to argue that urban taxation should have had important and long lasting consequences on urbanization and in the different trajectories of economic growth we may find during the Early Modern Period in the different areas of the world economy.

Taking this into account, then, the study of the links between taxation, urbanization and economic growth during the Early Modern Period is the key question of our session, which is informed by a comparative approach, built on the research carried out in recent decades on Europe and areas such as the Chinese and the Japanese empires and the Islamic world. Many of these areas were highly urbanized and ruled by centralized governments and in many of them market economies also made significant advances, yet it is clear that their economic trajectories were very different. Our proposed session aims to analyze the way urban fiscal systems affected the capacity of the cities of developing an environment well suited for economic growth in the different regions of the world economy during the Early Modern Period, so papers dealing with this issue both in European and other regions of the world are welcomed.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 16 | Beverly | Lemire | University of Alberta | Fashion and economic development: exploring cultures, commodities and commerce, 1700s-2000s |

This interdisciplinary session will explore the dynamics and practice of fashion as it affects economic opportunities in various societies. The fashion ethos privileges material change over traditional forms; it encourages the manipulation of materials to create opportunities, thereby shaping commodity values and economic practice. Fashion stimulates trade and commerce of many sorts, in many contexts. Fashion is a cultural force with profound social and economic implications, where gender patterns within societies become particularly apparent. Uncovering the dynamics of this force will enable a more thorough understanding of economic development. Taking a cross-cultural approach, along a broad time frame, will further enhance the potential of this proposed panel.

Participants in this panel will explore the comparative practices of fashion from different time periods and locales, anticipating some common features, as well as distinct differences. Speakers will address topics from early modern Europe (Lemire, Fontaine, Raveux), from an early modern global context (Riello), eighteenth-century India (Parthasarathi), contemporary Philippines (Milgram) and contemporary Central Africa (Tranberg Hansen). The goods considered in this panel range from foods to fabrics. By studying the variable factors shaping fashion-driven commodities, we can more clearly determine the economies and cultures of taste. Common or distinct features of economic activity will also be discerned through these case studies.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 19 | Johan | Fourie | Stellenbosch University | Colonial causes of development and underdevelopment |

The ultimate and proximate determinants of growth and structural change (or lack thereof) remain one of the fundamental questions for economic historians. Broad-brush approaches, be it geography (Diamond 1997), endowments (Allen 2009; Austin 2008) or institutions (Acemoglu et al. 2001; La Porta et al. 2008; North 1991) provide some foundation, although these often find it difficult to explain the divergent development trajectories of neighbouring countries sharing the same geographic, demographic and institutional features. The recent literature suggests a shift to region-specific case studies in order to untangle more exact causes of growth and structural change. As Nunn (2009) has argued, better estimation techniques and richer data sets have allowed a 'shift towards better identification of the mechanisms by which historical events shape future outcomes' (Schirmer et al. 2010). The identification of these mechanisms is critical to understand how geography, endowments, institutions and policies explain colonial development and underdevelopment.

The aim of this session is to explore the mechanisms between colonialism and trajectories of development in so-called developing regions. We welcome papers that analyze how colonial rule shaped the development path of developing regions, be it through education, health, infrastructure, income inequality, tax regimes, labour policy, trade and industrial policy or the political economy. We especially welcome papers that try to unpack the causal mechanisms between colonialism and long-term growth and structural change. Papers using quantitative and qualitative techniques are invited, spanning every episode of colonial rule.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 20 | Hubert | Bonin | Sciences Po Bordeaux and GRETHA Research Centre, Bordeaux University | Imperial Banking: Imperial strategies of exporting finance modernisation (19th-20th centuries) |

Overview:
By the time European powers imposed their political control over most of Africa and the Pacific islands and a significant part of Asia, banking systems were well established as a relevant part of the economic life of the colonizing powers. It was only natural that they became an important instrument to foster economic exploration of the colonized territories.

Our session intends to examine the origins and development of such "imperial" banking systems, and, where it occurred, their continuation after decolonization, to draw lessons from the recent breakthroughs in the knowledge of the "imperial economic systems" and to fuel comparative ways of grappling with such issues as a contribution to the main theme established for the WEHA Congress: Exploring the roots of development.

Main purposes:
New developments in methods, archives, and problematic have fostered fresh ways of tackling banking business history. Our session intends to apply such achievements to the special field of colonial or overseas territories, to draw lessons from the recent breakthroughs in the knowledge of the "imperial economic systems", and to fuel comparative ways of grappling with such issues.

In parallel, the "variety" of overseas capitalism demands a specific approach along with each area and territory, to enhance the differentiation between the various models of overseas banking, depending on the political and economic background of overseas areas, the status of the institutions (being based overseas or in the metropolis, connected with the State or more independent-minded), etc. Each participant should thus provide an adapted definition and overlook of what were "overseas banks".

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 21 | Jordi | Catalan | Universitat de Barcelona | The rise and decline of industrial districts, 18th-21st centuries |

Long-term economic development benefited from industrial districts' externalities during the last three centuries. The advantages of geographical concentration have been used to explain the remarkable development in key sectors of the First Industrial Revolution such as Manchester's cotton spinning, Philadelphia's carpets or Lombard textiles. Externalities revealed themselves as critical in the successes of typical industries of the Second Technological Revolution such as Detroit's automobiles, Swiss pharmaceuticals or Emilian mechanical engineering. Even the present Information Revolution flourished in geographically concentrated clusters such as Silicon Valley or Bangalore.

This session aims at analysing the role of externalities in economic development by confronting the experiences of some less-known industrial districts since the 18th century. Three main questions are proposed. First, what explains the creation of the industrial district? Second, when and why did the district decline? Third, did the district decadence favour the emergence of new leading firms in the international arena?

The session will explore the life-cycle hypothesis as a departing point to explain the long-term evolution of the district. The analysis of the critical mass stage will consider not only community tradition and institutional building, but also Marshall's hypothesis about proximity of raw materials and court. The discussion of the take-off phase will analyze the mechanisms of the classical Marshallian triad: pool of qualified labour, subsidiary industries and non-codified knowledge. Besides, the Neo-marshallian interpretation stresses the advantages of a flexible small firms' district. Alternative views, such as the evolutionist hypothesis that explains geographical concentration as successful firms' spin-offs, should not be disregarded. Finally, industrial policy might be considered as a tool to favour districts' take-off in latecomers.
The peak entry period can be related to a number of factors, such as institutional rigidity, increasing dominance of internal economies and capabilities or erosion of competitive advantage in the world market. Nevertheless, macroeconomic shocks also contributed to the district's sudden maturity. Saturation might be considered as the strengthening of the previous factors. The sclerotic tendencies of the business community's institutions can be taken into consideration. Technological change, which decreased communication costs, could erode the advantage of local suppliers and reinforce the hierarchical capabilities of firms outsourcing far away from the original community. Finally, one must consider the possibilities for a Renaissance phase, whereby the district reinvents itself through either diversification or radical innovation in established industries. This final phase is crucial if the district continues to create wealth and contribute to national competitiveness.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 23 | Dan | Popescu | Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (Romania) | Industrialization: myth and reality in the Eastern Europe space (1920-2010) |

The end of 1944 brought, among other things, a change in the economic trajectory of Eastern Europe states. Their economic system began to be assembling after the image of their eastern neighbor. In this case, the ever more drastic limitation of employers' initiative and nationalizations in almost all areas, the almost exclusive place held by state ownership in the economy, the forced cooperativisation of agriculture and the elimination of land private ownership, the nationalization of banks, the fundamental involvement of the political factor, of the party leadership in development, the excessive central planning and a certain isolation in the world. An important place was held, especially after 1948, by the adoption of the USSR industrialization model. Besides those shown above, we are talking about the preferential development of production means and a certain neglect for consumer goods production, the transmutation of a large rural population which founded this type of largely extensive industrialization, the artificial involvement of productive consumption relative to consumption itself, etc..

What was the genesis of this model? What led to the implementation of this model in industry, economy, and social life – for the ex-Soviet space but mainly for eastern European states - and not just for them, replicas of this model being perceptible even for countries in Asia, Africa or Latin America?

What changes were brought to this model, especially in those states - including Romania – where socialism in the "Soviet way" was replaced after 1962 - 1964 by the "national way"? What were the effects of such mutations in achieving integration in the "Eastern manner", for development, according to some original guidelines, based, some of them, particularly on economic independence and completeness? In such circumstances, to what extent and how have the Eastern European economies been prepared to join the new configuration of Europe and of the world after 1989 – 1990, with a view to durable and sustainable development?

These are some questions whose answers have reverberations for the world's economic present and future. They are central to the area of concerns in Europe but also in Asia, Africa, and the Americas.

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| 26 | Haiyan | Fu | The Institute of Chinese Modern History, Huazhong Normal University | Process of Globalization and the Modernization of Chinese Merchants' Organizations |

Since the Great Geographic Discovery in the 15th and 16th century, globalization has become an unrestrained tide, especially after the success of Industrial Revolution and the overseas colonization of western capitalist countries, the economy of the whole world has been more tightly connected with each other, with a unprecedented exchange undergoing between different countries and regions and the distance between east and west continuously shortened. During the process of Globalization, Chinese merchants' organizations also experienced great changes: they transformed from traditional organizations such as guild halls and local business associations to modernized organizations such as chamber of commerce. At the same time they also started to connect with the whole world while in the past they were confined to just one region of China or only in China. This process of modernization is deeply marked by globalization and its influence can still be felt nowadays. Furthermore, this process of modernization has greatly influenced the history of china and even the whole world history. Our group intend to discuss the following three points: one, how has the process of globalization influenced Chinese merchants, Chinese business and Chinese merchants' organizations?; two, how have Chinese merchants, Chinese business and Chinese merchants organizations, especially Chinese chamber of commerce get involved in the process of globalization; three, against the background of globalization and the competitions between Chinese and foreign businesses, how did Chinese merchants' organizations and foreign merchants' organizations communicate, exchange, cooperate and conflict and what are the influences?. Our group aims at discussing the process of globalization and its relations with Chinese merchants and their organizations through a comparative study based on a long period, multi-disciplinary and cross-cultural research.

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| 27 | Ewout | Frankema | Utrecht University | Colonial Fiscal Policies in Global Perspective |

Colonial fiscal policies have received much attention from economic historians and neo-institutional economists in recent years. It is widely acknowledged that the organization of the colonial fiscal system in terms of revenue sources, bargaining procedures, income transfers and the distribution of collective goods is fundamental to our understanding of the imperial political strategies guiding the rise, consolidation and eventual decline of empire. Colonial fiscal policies also play an important role in the ongoing debate about the comparative legacy of colonial institutions and state structures.

Adopting a global comparative perspective to study colonial fiscal policy has great potential for various reasons. The abundant source material lends itself to comparative analyses. More and more quantitative data on tax rates, metropolitan extraction and the composition of revenue and expenditure has become available in the past decades. Much of these data can be directly, or with slight modification, compared across time and space. The literature on comparative real wages shows how fruitful such an expansion of horizon can be in terms of formulating new hypotheses and theories of long run economic development and, in the case of taxation, also political-institutional development. But there is also much to gain from teasing out the differences and similarities between early modern and modern types of fiscal organization. To which extent did changing military and logistic technologies or political ideologies affect the way in which European colonial governments imposed taxes? A better understanding of such relationships will provide deeper insights into the relative responsiveness (or persistence) of colonial institutions as well as the potential implications of such institutions for long term economic performance.

This session invites papers on colonial fiscal policy contributing to such a global and/or long run comparative perspective. We especially welcome studies providing quantitative analyses of comparative rates of taxation, extraction, revenue transfers or government expenditures. Papers may address the economic, political or distributional implications of colonial fiscal systems and their reforms. Papers may focus on the revenue or expenditure side of public finance, or both. They may focus on the formal (or informal) institutional framework created to levy taxes, or the bargaining procedures developed to establish and maintain their legitimacy. Micro case studies are also welcomed, as long as they offer a clear link to wider theories or hypotheses regarding the nature, rationale, causes and/or consequences of colonial taxation.

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| 30 | Marco | Belfanti | University of Brescia (Italy) | From guild marks to the Made in …: marks of origin and country branding in the global economy (15th-20th centuries) |

The need to make products recognisable in order to qualify them, making the place of production visible to the consumer, began with the advent of the craft guilds in medieval Europe. Thenceforth artisans monograms, guild and city symbols, early trademarks and labels represented the first ways to identify products and communicate the consumers something beyond the mere materiality of the product itself. The most important manufacturing cities in Early Modern Europe had their own specialisation for which they were known on the international market. Giovanni Botero, who wrote the treatise on the Causes of the greatness of the cities at the end of the 16th century, observed that such specialisation was in effect a fundamental attribute of urban rank: "It will be of great advantage, in attracting people to our city, that she should have some important trade in her hands: this may be either wholly, or in part, due to her rich earth from which all things come; or due to the capability of her inhabitants ... There is also an excellence in skill, which either for the quality of the water, or for the subtlety of the inhabitants or for the hidden knowledge of the same, or for other similar reason succeeds better in one place than another, as with weapons in Damascus and in Schiraz, as with tapestries in Arras, woollen cloth in Florence, velvet in Genoa, brocade in Milan and scarlet cloth in Venice."

The following centuries brought about new forms by which products could be recognised by the consumer, but the indication of the country of origin kept a fundamental value: the labels "Made in Italy" or "Made in France" or "Made in Japan" or, in the last decade, "Made in China" evoked – and evoke – in the consumer's mind very different, but at the same time precise, worlds of production, and, as a consequence, of quality, reliability, creativity and so on. More recently, within the field of the agro-food sector, so many official marks of quality (Protected Geographical Indication, Protected Designation of Origin, Traditional Specialty Guaranteed) guarantee the authenticity of the localised productions of wine, cheese, olive oil and so on.

The aim of the panel is to gather scholars who will give papers addressed to both the sides of the coin, that is, on the one hand, the way a place or a city or a country product identity was built - including not only product "intrinsic values", but, above all, also possible "intangible assets" – and, on the other hand, whether such identity vanished or coped with the globalising economy in a long run perspective. The panel is not focused on a particular period – Medieval, Early Modern, or Modern -, but rather aims at bringing to light the interaction between local product identities – made by localised skill, know-how, taste, consumer culture – and the wider scenery of the globalisation process in its broadest sense.

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| 32 | Stephan | Broadberry | University of Warwick | Accounting for the Great Divergence |

Historical national accounting has established itself unquestionably as a vital tool for understanding the growth and development of individual nations, regions and the global economy in the period after 1850. The principal aim of this session is to bring together researchers working on the reconstruction of national income before the mid-nineteenth century, so that the work can be consolidated on a comparative basis to shed new light on long run economic development. As well as quantifying the origins of the "Great Divergence" between Europe and Asia, the session will help to shed light on "Little Divergences" within regions, such as that between Northwest Europe and the previously more developed Mediterranean region.

An important issue is the extent to which sustained per capita income growth occurred before the Industrial Revolution. Research based on factor incomes (such as real wages) has in the past tended to paint a pessimistic picture of pre-industrial stagnation, whereas researchers examining output trends have tended to offer a more optimistic account of rising productivity. This session provides a way of reconciling these apparently contradictory views, based on incomplete data, by checking for consistency and building up to the GDP aggregates within the framework of historical national accounting.

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| 33 | William | Harris | Columbia University | Capital in the Ancient World: How Was It Accumulated, Conceptualized, Managed? |

How does capital function in an economy that lacks modern institutions and attitudes, or rather has pre-modern institutions and attitudes specific to itself? The question is particularly pressing with respect to societies such as those of the classical Greeks and Romans that constructed, at least in certain periods, undeniably dynamic economies; whether or not they produced significant long-term per capita growth, they sometimes produced and made use of large amounts of more or less liquid capital. All sorts of problems arise here. What were the roles of warfare, of slavery, and of new sources of metals in allowing the accumulation of capital? How did the Greeks and Roman store their wealth and what institutions did they develop for this purpose? Was all their money in the form of coinage (clearly not in certain periods, and the question becomes, how important was non-coinage money?) And what about human capital -- did anything like such a concept exist (actually yes, in some circles).

We perhaps do not need to worry about whether capitalism existed, but we do need to know how the Greeks and Romans conceptualized both wealth and investment, Greeks and Romans of different kinds, for a priori we may expect different mentalities to prevail among aristocrats, nouveaux riches, land-owning peasants, and other categories.

This will lead to further questions. Did the Greeks and Romans succeed in thinking 'rationally' about rates of return? Were they ready for risk, beyond the levels that were inevitable in agriculture? How did they protect themselves against the risks involved in such widespread economic activities as maritime trade? How did the credit market work in the more sophisticated parts of the Greco-Roman world?

Almost all of these questions have been studied to some degree over the last generation (and the useful historiography goes back considerably further), but the focus has seldom been on capital. It is characteristic that in Scheidel et al. 2007, an authoritative international survey of the field, the concept barely appears. We have gathered a group of nine scholars, of various ages and approaches, to rectify this.

Reference: W. Scheidel, I. Morris and R. Saller (eds.), The Cambridge Economic History of the Greco-Roman World (Cambridge, 2007).

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 35 | Latika | Chaudhary | Scripps College | Financing the Rise of Popular Schooling in the Developed and Developing Worlds: Comparative and Historical Perspectives |

The last two centuries have seen the rise of mass schooling all over the world. In developed countries, basic primary education was virtually universal by the early 20th century but primary education has also become increasingly pervasive in developing countries over the second half of the 20th century.

The aim of the session is to offer a comparative perspective on the provision of education across the developing and developed world over the past few centuries. While we anticipate that a central chronological focus of the session will be the period since 1800, we are very much open to including research examining the early modern foundations of financing popular education.

In recent years, economic historians working on Brazil, China, Canada, India, Britain, Russia, Brazil, and Argentina, among other countries, have compiled detailed information on the progress of education, the nature of the educational system and the interaction of education with other parts of the economy at the national and local level within these countries. We now have a better understanding of why the development of public education lagged behind in some parts of the world as compared to others. Bringing together a set of papers focusing on different countries will increase dialogue between economic historians working on topics related to the economics of education and will also encourage scholars to compare and contrast the experience of developed with developing countries. It should also assist in developing a common framework for examining variations in educational attainment within developing countries.

We have already identified participants working on this topic for Asia, Latin America, North America and Europe; we also hope to recruit one or more scholars working on Africa. Central though not exclusive issues of interest include:
a) Has the schooling gap between developed and developing countries entailed more than just differences in income?
b) How and why has the role of centralized versus decentralized provision of schooling varied between developed and developing countries?
c) How and why has the relative importance of private versus public provision of schooling varied between developing and developed countries?
d) What factors have influenced the educational effectiveness of school provision in developed and developing countries?

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| 39 | Pam | Sharpe | University of Tasmania | Buying and Selling Children: The Ethics and Economics of Child Displacement in Global and Historical Perspective |

In 2010 Australia (supported by the Netherlands) has led the way with promoting the Child Trafficking Protocol at the Hague Special Commission. The proposed conference sessions will bring together historical perspectives on trade and trafficking in children with recent humanitarian concerns.

There has recently been renewed interest in both the history of childhood and of parenting. National disasters such as an earthquake in Haiti have led to increased concern about the ways in which informal international adoption slips into child trafficking. Australia has recently acknowledged the displacement of more than half a million 'Forgotten Australians' who grew up in homes in the twentieth century as a result of poverty, child migrancy or aboriginal 'stolen generation' schemes. The history of the Cape involves auctions of child slaves, the movement of orphan girls from the Netherlands to the Cape, and the selling of British children in the Cape under the auspices of the Children's Friend Society 1833-41 as well as the more recent displacement of many orphans due to AIDS.

I am in the process of organising a workshop on the theme of 'Investigating the Long History of Child Welfare and Adoption: Global, Historical and Comparative Perspectives' in Hobart, Tasmania in February 2011 and this will operate as a pre-conference for Stellenbosch. For the World Economic History Congress we will accept papers from any time period from medieval to modern and with regard to any country(ies) in the world.We are interested in topics such as child auctions, baby farming and fostering arrangements as well as adoption and other care arrangements.

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| 41 | Bas | van Leeuwen | Utrecht University | Exploring early economies: economic structure before the late Middle Ages |

Recently there has been a revival of interest in historical national accounts for the late medieval period in Europe (e.g. England, Holland, Spain). The main finding of those studies is that these medieval economies had a more modern structure than hitherto believed and so they arrive at higher per capita GDP estimates around 1300 CE. This has implications for estimates of both the size and structure of the early economies.

Indeed, more recent estimates by Milanovic (2006), Amemiya (2007), Scheidel and Friesen (2009), and Lo Cascio and Malanima (2009) have led to an upward revision of the estimated income levels. In addition, this new generation of papers emphasizes more the importance of economic structure, that is, the role of inequality, market efficiency, or the size of the pastoral or manufacturing sector.

The primary goal of the session is to offer a forum for researchers working on the size and structure of the early economies. This will allow them to present and discuss quantitative estimates and to link them to the analysis of the qualitative aspects of the economy. Additionally, we wish to stress the importance of making the results comparable with the late medieval estimates, in order to gain a long-term perspective. In doing so, the session aims to enhance our knowledge of the size and structure of economies over time and across regions, and to stimulate the comparative analysis in this field.

The organizers welcome proposals for papers on early economies, especially those that try to quantify early economies outside of Europe.

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| 43 | Zhihong | Shi | Chinese Academy of Social Science | Chinese Economic Performance Since 1500: Facts and Data |

The rapid economic development of China in the last half of the 20th century, especially the emergence of it as a principal world economic power since the end of the century, has become the focus of world attention and is reshaping the world economic and political landscapes. Looking back upon world history, along with the tide of globalization that started with the great voyages of discovery during the turn of 15th and 16th centuries, the status of China in the world economy had gone down from being advanced in ancient times to being peripheral and inferior in the 19th and the first half of the 20th centuries,  - although in terms of absolute economic growth, Chinese economy can by no means be characterized as having been being in "decline" during the period.

The session will discuss Chinese economic performance since 1500. By tracking China's economic development path during the past 500 years with facts and historical statistics, we hope that the session will generate some insightful discussion of the reasons for the declining and rebounding of China in the world economy, helping us to understand the historical roots of today's changing world economy and projecting its future trajectory.

The session encourages all papers relating to Chinese economic changes since 1500, especially those based on historical quantitative data. We welcome in particular papers on the following topics:
(a)Long-term economic performance of China either on the aggregate economy or on a specific sector of the economy; (b)Comparisons of economic development between China and other nations or regions; (c)Newly discovered historical data, in both narrative and quantitative forms.

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| 44 | Joerg | Baten | University of Tuebingen | Human Capital and Development in Africa and Latin America |

What do we know about the educational development and its growth effects in Africa and Latin America? This session will use traditional as well as new approaches to trace human capital development in those world regions.

'Africa' includes Northern Africa. Apart from studies that reconstruct the development, some papers will also approach analytical questions, such as
- What caused rapid human capital development in Africa and Latin America, what retarded it?
- Which particular effect did slavery and colonization have on human capital formation?
- What about inequalities, for example, between occupational groups and genders?
- Are there implications on economic growth and other spheres of human development in Africa and Latin America?
- Is there a special role for selective migration (voluntary and forced) in the human capital formation process?
- Are there special archival sources for human capital measurement that have not been used before?

Apart from the modern period, we also encourage papers that focus on long-run or early periods, such as the period before 1492. For example, there will be one study on the human capital of Indios born during the Inka Empire, compared to those of early colonial Peru.

This session also encourages participation from as many scholars as possible from countries in Africa and Latin America. Some scholars who wish to present might be less experienced in international, English-language conferences. Hence there will be up to two presentations in French or Spanish (5 minutes, with English language Power Point slides, followed by 5 minutes of English summary by one of our colleagues). If there would be a large number of interesting submissions, we will reserve 20 minutes of the session times (plus some of the breaks) for a small specialized poster session. With a translator whom we will provide, this would also allow the inclusion of a small number of Arabic-speaking colleagues who prefer to present in Arabic rather than English.

A limited number of comparison papers with other world regions, or world-wide, are also welcome.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 47 | Peter | Borscheid | Phillips University Marburg | The international networks forged by the insurance industry since the end of the 18th century |

Motivation:

Since the end of the 18th century, insurance as we know it today has successively spread across the globe as the so-called "British system" of risk management and crowded out traditional protection strategies in the process. It has established a global safety net borne by (1) transnational primary insurers with agencies, branches and subsidiaries both at home and abroad, (2), transnational reinsurers and (3) an international network of actuaries who are developing actuarial practice further and working towards its global standardisation.

In contrast to the history of insurance to date, which has focussed virtually exclusively on national insurance and primary insurers, this section examines the cross-border activities of primary insurers and reinsurers and their global proliferation over the past 250 years. It explores from the historical development point of view, the avenues via which modern insurance has spread from Europe to the rest of the world and the factors that have facilitated or inhibited this expansionary process. The factors driving this process range from trade in merchandise, foreign direct investment, free trade, deregulation to migration. Alongside foreign trade, emigrants from countries already familiar with the hedging of risks and dangers via the means of insurance numbered among the most important carriers of actuarial science to other countries in the past.

One special advantage of an examination of this topic is that alongside factors favouring the spread of actuarial science, factors also emerge that either held up the spread of insurance in general or for a limited period of time. The obstacles and resistance to a faster spread of this European invention that still remain in place today have hardly ever been examined. The extraordinary low acceptance of life insurance in the Islamic countries and the very weak penetration of insurance in sub-Saharan Africa indicate the strong influence of religious, cultural and economic factors. The fact that the inclusion of individual regions in the global insurance network has been non-linear in nature and beset with setbacks indicates the existence of additional factors, albeit of a temporary nature. These include political and economic isolation, war, protectionism and inflation.

A comparison of countries that differ markedly in their insurance history should highlight the significance of various economic, political and cultural factors for the spread of actuarial science. This comparison results in some revealing discrepancies between western European, African, East Asian and Latin American countries and the white settler colonies. The speakers are requested to also present suitable ways of analysing such a diffusionary process. Transnational illustrations would also be welcomed such as the role of actuaries in the formation of global networks and the importance of new technologies and financing instruments

As the head of a research project into an international comparison of the topic dealt with by the section, the applicant can guarantee that a large number of possible speakers from various countries will be available for selection. 25 economic historians from various countries throughout the world are involved in the project.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 48 | Kazuko | Furuta | Keio University | Governing the quality of goods in modern Asia: information, trust-building and the self-enforcement mechanism of the market |

Markets characterized by frauds and bad products cannot be viewed as good markets, and we can find such markets anywhere in the world at any time. Quality of merchandise is one of the determinants of market quality.

This session investigates the production of low-quality goods, imitation and counterfeiting, and the dishonest trading which frequently occurred in modern Asia during the period of market establishment and expansion stages from the nineteenth to the twentieth centuries to examine how the asymmetry of product quality information was reduced and mechanisms were formed whereby the stable trading of quality products at appropriate prices became possible.

There are various methods to reduce and eliminate product quality information asymmetry ranging from centralized solutions by governments, industry associations and other third-party organizations to decentralized improvements and solutions by the market participants themselves. Yet these all face the same issue of how to secure trust in assessments of product quality. Existing research notes that the establishment of product inspection bodies, the development of laws that place restrictions limiting which parties can participate in trading, and other centralized responses have achieved some results, especially in modern Japan.

In contrast, the research conducted by this session found that the formation of new trading systems by market participants, information disclosure, and other decentralized responses have functioned effectively when new markets are being formed, when demand suddenly expands, and when it is otherwise difficult to establish screening systems covering entire markets.

Questions related to product quality issues also include the problems that occur when items with inconsistent quality are sold together as lots. Insufficient information regarding trading partners and agreed exchange frameworks also frequently becomes a problem, particularly when buyers and sellers come from different cultures and socioeconomic systems.

Even within the same societies, transaction partners may have different understandings regarding established customs during periods when economic and political systems shift, such as during the transition from the early-modern era to the modern period, and these may take the form of unfair transactions.

By organizing an international group of specialists of the trade in raw-cotton, fertilizer, locally produced copies of imported cloth, the counterfeiting of well-known brands, and modern commodities for export including soap, matches, and medicines, the session will bring together rich empirical analyses of market quality and discusses the roles of the market participants including peasant producers, local manufacturers, traders, and the responses of a large number of ordinary consumers.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 49 | Vicente | Pinilla | Universidad de Zaragoza (Spain) | Natural Resources in historical perspective: Curse or Blessing? |

The objective of this session is to debate around a central question in economic development: Why do natural resources induce growth in some countries but is an obstacle to growth in other? Are natural resources a curse or a blessing, in historical perspective? Which is the relationship between "natural capital" and economic performance?

Since the end of the 20th Century economic development is no longer considered to be only dependent on accumulation of physical and human capital. Scholars now point that there is a third form of "capital" or "economic asset" relevant to the performance of the economic system: the natural and environmental resource endowment available to an economy and commonly referred to as "natural capital"Despite the importance of natural capital for a sustainable economic development, increasing economic dependence on natural resources exploitation appears as an obstacle to the development in the majority of low and middle-income economies.

From the 1990s, the literature argue about a negative relationship between economic growth per capita and some measures of natural capital considered as the "curse" of the natural resources (Auty, 2001a; Gylfason, 2006, 2007; Sachs & Warner, 1995, 2001). Recent literature had made relative some of the previous results arguing that we are faced to a puzzling paradox where interact diverse factors as institutional and technological progress, human capital, political power, corruption and rent-seeking behaviour. In other words, it constitutes a process with a strong historical specificity that open the possibility of discussing different experiences and diverse long-run performances.

Therefore, we propose analysing the relationship between the abundance of natural resources and the economic performance as a pivot concept to discuss and answer the following questions. Why the abundance of natural resources often appears related to deficient economic performance? Is the abundance of natural resources a "curse" or a "blessing" to economic growth? Are we faced to a general pattern or depends on the conditions of the economy (in technological and institutional terms), the characteristics of the demand and supply and the incidence of each historical circumstance? Is the price volatility associated with the natural resources the key problem? How is possible to avoid the Dutch Disease? Is economic diversification the way to be successful in the long run? Is it possible to manage the "curse" to become success stories? Is the curse a reversal success history? Which is the role of the institutional quality? Is determinant the colonial heritage?

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 50 | Guido | Alfani | Bocconi University | Economic, social and demographic consequences of famines in the pre-industrial period |

In the last few decades, interest in famines in the late Medieval and Early Modern period has declined. Most recent research on the topic has involved the 19th or even the 20th century. As a result, a certain view of famines, that is adequate to describe the situation in the last couple of centuries, has tended to influence perception also of the earlier episodes.

This session aims to investigate whether there are specific characteristics of Medieval and Early Modern famines that differentiate them from later crises. To do this, the session invites papers concerned with old (but still, to a degree, debated and unresolved) questions, such as the causes of famine (lack of production, à la Malthus, or lack of entitlement and inefficient distribution, à la Sen?) or the relationship between epidemics of infectious diseases and undernourishment. The session, however, particularly encourages papers about aspects that have been relatively little investigated, and particularly:

-- the relationship between famines and growth/development. Did famine hinder growth, curtailing the economy as well as the population, or did it instead act as a stimulus to economic development, for example by allowing to overcome resistance to innovation (such as in the case of the introduction to Europe of maize and potato from the New World) and favouring the improvement of agrarian techniques and technologies?

-- the impact of famines on the most developed (pre-industrial) areas. While England escaped famine since the middle of the 17th century, other parts of Europe, even among the most advanced, continued to be vulnerable to famine for a long time. Furthermore, in earlier periods, the most advanced parts of the continent could also be the theatre of the worst famines, maybe due to their high population density. This was for the example the case of North Italy in the 16th century. Which were the specific consequences of a severe famine for a very advanced area, particularly one possessing economic, commercial and technological advantages over the neighbouring areas?

Most of what we know today about pre-industrial famines is related to Europe. The session, however, welcomes contributions related to other parts of the world, in order to begin a long overdue global comparison of the impact, and especially the economic impact, of famine on pre-industrial human populations.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 52 | Elise | Van Nederveen Meerkerk | International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam | Financing social care. Charitable institutions and redistribution of income in pre-industrial societies around the world (c. 1600-1900) |

Income inequality is at the core of most debates in economics and economic history. For pre-industrial societies, new research aims at calculating coefficients for historical income inequality within and between regions. However, in studies of pre-industrial income distribution, the redistribution by means of charity is usually not taken into account.

Nevertheless, in all human societies the income distribution which is the primary outcome of economic activities is corrected by transfers of money, goods, care and other services. Those with income support the (very) young, the (very) old, the sick and the weak, at the very least within their own families. In most societies these transfers or redistributions of income reach beyond the family, and extend to the local community, or to a national or even international scale. In preindustrial societies, these transfers could be direct and on a face to face basis, but also through institutions and anonymously, voluntary or obligatory, through churches, special charitable foundations, or mutual assurances; could be paid as alms, insurance premiums or taxes.

In this session we aim at a comparative history of pre-industrial charitable giving. We focus on how institutions influenced the practice of charitable income transfers. In some cases charity was only one of a variety of tasks for institutions, as was the case for churches and guilds. Taking up collections could be part of religious services, but also take part elsewhere, door to door or in public space. Some societies knew special charitable foundations, which enabled donors to set apart a form of capital (land, money) and do good with the income generated from this. This is true for Christian, Muslim and Jewish societies, but not for most others. In most other societies it was possible to donate capital to a religious institution with the intention to have its proceeds used for charitable purposes, but not to create a separate self-governing foundation to do so. Other examples of income transfers are (mutual) assistance by neighbours or friends. These could be more or less monetized, regulated or institutionalized, but seem to have been important throughout the world.

How and from whom were charitable gifts collected? How were the funds managed? How did charities create credibility? Who were the intended receivers and how much income was transferred this way? We aim at mapping similarities and differences in institutions and ways of financing charity around the world and come to an explanation of patterns worldwide.

Therefore, we prefer paper proposals with a broad temporal and/or geographical scope.

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| 54 | David | Green | King's College London | Land, wealth and the empire: individuals, institutions and policy |

This session explores the relationships between individuals, institutions and government policy in Britain and the empire through a discussion of landholding and wealth. It seeks to understand these relationships as part of an imperial economic web rather than as a set of isolated events in geographically different places. An expanding agrarian frontier in the settler economies had profound implications not only for wealth accumulation in such places but also for the way that landownership operated in Britain.

The profitability of owning land, as opposed to other forms of capital accumulation, differed on the frontier, depending on environmental conditions and agrarian markets. Taxation and redistribution of land also impacted on the desire to own land and the ability of individuals to do so.

Maintaining an open frontier abroad was an essential element in ensuring opportunities in Britain as well as within the empire. Therefore, land policies had a potentially profound impact on structuring the creation of wealth at 'home' as well as in the empire.

The papers in this session examine the implications of this situation by focussing on (1) the kinds of assets, including land, owned by individuals in the settler colonies and Britain (2) the relationships between imperial policy, agrarian knowledge and land holding (3) the systems of taxation within the British empire and their relationship with land holding and (4) the ways in which land was redistributed in the context of an imperial economic system.

The key questions to be addressed are (1) how significant was land as an economic asset in wealth portfolios and how did this vary between places and over time (2) to what extent did the value of land vary depending on market prices, agricultural knowledge, infrastructural improvements and environmental conditions (3) how did taxation influence land holding and redistribution and (4) to what extent can national policies be interpreted as part of a larger imperial economic system?

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| 55 | Beatrice | Craig | University of Ottawa Canada | Gender, Property and Legal Reforms Eighteenth - Twentieth Century |

Property ownership and rights of usage are determined by the laws (written or oral, civil, jurisprudential or customary) the world over. Property laws have also universally been gendered, and to a greater or lesser extent, have limited women's access to- and control over- property. Legal reforms thus force jurists and legislators to articulate gender norms which otherwise could remain unsaid, and the reformers' understanding of those norms may be at odd with the ones of the population at large. When implemented, reforms may force those subjected to the law to change their practices – or find ways to circumvent new rules they consider inappropriate. In the case of property laws (and related inheritance rules), reformers must then address the issue of the legitimacy of women's economic autonomy and agency.

Our session intends to explore what happens to women's property rights when a legal system is replaced by another or is profoundly transformed from above, such as:
1. When Civil Codes replace customary laws ( as in western Europe in the late 18th and 19th century)
2. When western (written laws) are introduced in colonized areas ( like Africa or Latin America)
3. When Common Law states absorbed customary/civil law areas ( Quebec, Louisiana, South-western US)
4. When the Common Law displaced English customary laws.

Our session also intend to explore how women and their families responded (resisted, negotiated) those changes. The exact distribution of topics per panel will depend on the content of the accepted papers; We are requesting two half day sessions.

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| 57 | Cheryl Susan | McWatters | University of Alberta | Mercantilism and Accounting Records: Comparative Analysis of the Periphery-Core Structure and its Impacts on Indigenous Market Players |

The sixteenth to eighteenth centuries saw the creation of a number of major merchant trading firms (e.g., the Dutch East India Company, la Compagnie des Indes, the Dutch West India Company, the Hudson's Bay Company and the Russian American Company) granted charters to explore, trade, raise taxes, enlist private armies, and importantly generate profits for their shareholders. As quasi-states, they played key roles in colonial expansion. Arriving in distant territories, agents of these trading firms came into contact with Indigenous peoples whose systems of property assets and whose market models did not align with economic concepts grounded in western views of rational behaviour. In significant ways, these entities are early examples of the multi-national enterprise. As such the analysis of their accounting records, control systems and profits offers insights into the long-term outcomes of their operating decisions and actions, especially in terms of Indigenous relations. Given parallels with present-day enterprise, these analyses are an important mechanism to examine comparatively current models of international markets, trade and development.

This panel will examine this periphery-core relationship in two ways. First, we are interested in the outcomes for those situated at the periphery, as opposed to the usual research emphasis on the returns to the centre/empire. Second, we focus on the means by which non-European trade actors reacted to the mercantilist system and control system, especially in spatially-extended trade networks. Importantly, we reverse prevalent thinking that non-European players did not act rationally. We highlight the dominance and mediation of non-economic factors that motivated the conduct of these actors. Inadequate attention to and frequent misinterpretation of these factors have led to the simplistic view that these players 'failed' to respond in a manner aligned with economic concepts of rational market behaviour. Third, we are interested in the outcomes of these mercantilist enterprises in different economic, political, cultural and spatial contexts, including the effects of changing political and economic policies established at the core which affected the profitability and stability of operations in far-flung settings.

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| 58 | Xavier | Duran | Universidad de Los Andes | Transportation and institutional change in global perspective |

Large transportation projects imply re-allocation of resources in an economy. Construction of transport projects implies re-allocation of rights over land (to assign the right of way). Operation of transport projects implies reallocation of labor and scarce raw materials to the service sector. Use of transportation projects leads to re-allocation of resources through trade diversion, trade creation and different growth rates between regions (depending on whether they were integrated or diverted). Changes in the allocation of resources imply that political decisions must be made by a relevant organization. The monarchy, congress, parliament, public works department, and regulatory agencies must allocate the right of way, design ownership policies, and set regulatory policies like profit guarantees, maximum prices, safety standards, etc. Political conflicts between different social groups and between different regions inevitably arise.

Transportation entrepreneurs face important political challenges. Political conflicts imply that transport projects not only face economic risks (uncertainty in technology or unexpected changes in prices), but also political risks. First, a transport project expected to be profitable on technical and economic grounds (Pareto improving) may still face substantial political conflicts because it harms one group or region. The political conflict may be acute if no credible political agreement for compensation exists. Second, under these circumstances, even if the initial political equilibrium favors the transport project (the right of way is allocated and it is built), the political risk is still latent as the political equilibrium may change and the initial "contract" may change (through expropriation of assets, changes in regulation of transport project, changes in regulation of competing transport projects).

Transport projects are therefore highly political and its expected profits likely to be sensitive to changes in the political equilibrium. Moreover, because most transport projects are long term investments they are likely to experience several changes in the political equilibrium throughout their life cycle.

The purpose of the session proposed is to explore the issues raised by the political nature of different transport technologies, in different parts of the world, throughout the long time span of 1600-1950. The results will help to learn about the relationship between transportation and the institutional setting.

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| 59 | Pierre | Siklos | Wilfrid Laurier University | Financial Markets and Financial Regulation: Sources of Instability or Growth? International Historical Perspectives |

Even before the financial crisis of 2007-2009 research into the causes and consequences of financial crises was a popular field. Nevertheless, there has been far less effort devoted to exploring the connection, from an historical perspective, between financial systems and their influence on economic development and growth, and financial as well as macroeconomic stability. For the purposes of this workshop we are only interested in analyses that deal with the period before Word War II. The workshop is intended as a pre-conference meeting ahead of the 9-13 July 2012 Conference of the International Economic History Association (http://www.wehc2012.org/). Topics to be considered for the workshop include but are not limited to:
• the transmission of macroeconomic and financial shocks across countries or regions;
• the state of cooperation in financial and banking markets and the responses and actions of policy makers;
• asset price behavior before, during, and following financial crises;
• the political economy of finance and banking in centuries past: case studies and analyses;

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 62 | Katsuhiko | Kitagawa | Kansai University | Modern Economic History of South Africa from the Perspectives of Comparison and Connectedness: Land, Labour and Business |

This session is to investigate the historical background to recent economic development in South Africa since the abolition of apartheid, and democratization, in the early 1990s. Special attention will be paid to three critical dimensions of the issue: the land question, labour migration, and the dynamism of business.

Firstly this session will discuss the influence of historical changes of land system and rural society on the agrarian struggles by peasants from the late 19th century to the third quarter of 20th century.

Secondly, this session will investigate changes of the conditions of wage labour and the labour market in key economic sectors such as mining, in the context of dispossession from land and labour migration.

Thirdly, focusing on the process of business concentration during the era of formal apartheid , 1948-94, this session will discuss the formation of a business group system which, like the Zaibatsu of the pre-war Japanese economy, played substantial roles in the rise of industrial concentration.

Lastly, this session will place the rise of modern South African economy in wider contexts such as regionalism and globalism.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 63 | Ingo | Heidbrink | Old Dominion University | Ocean Yields: Market forces, resource depletion and the spatial expansion of the world's fisheries since c.1850 |

Recent World Bank research highlights the huge opportunity cost of inefficiency in world fisheries over the past three decades, which it largely attributes to poor governance and a widespread failure to reconcile economic motives with the sustainability of fish populations. The proposed session will examine this developmental issue in two parts, with one 'time block' devoted to each. First, it will adopt a long-term perspective to identify the historical roots of the problem, which arguably lie in the development of the North Atlantic fisheries from the mid-nineteenth century.

Here, with improvements in transportation opening up urban markets, fisheries based in northwest Europe and North America set in motion a dynamic process that entailed escalating innovation and spatial extension to offset declining yields. Second, the session will assess the extent to which this developmental process has impacted on other areas of the globe, through, for instance, the shift of North Atlantic fishing effort to the southern oceans in response to the 'territorialization' of the northern seas in the 1970s, and the replication in Africa, South America and Australasia of the short-termist treadmill of demand growth, technological change, overfishing and spatial expansion.

The proposed session will build upon a pre-conference to be held at the University of Hull, UK, in September 2011. In the call for papers for this meeting, the organizers will invite contributions that address one of the two sub-themes of the session, as outlined above. They will suggest that papers might consider the ways in which the fisheries sector has engendered, propagated and mitigated ecological, economic and social losses in the North Atlantic region and the wider world. Papers that assess the strategies of important interest groups, such as fisheries enterprises, fish processing and retailing firms, scientists, administrators and policymakers, will be particularly welcome, as will contributions that demonstrate innovative use of research methods, analytical techniques, or hitherto unknown or under-utilized sources.

Efforts will be made to raise travel subsidies to enable speakers from the southern continents to participate. It is intended that the research papers presented at the pre-conference will be debated at that meeting and revised for delivery at Stellenbosch. The organizers have provisionally arranged for the final papers to be published as a special issue of the Studia Atlantica series published by the North Atlantic Fisheries History Association.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 68 | Akinobu | Kuroda | University of Tokyo | Monies anonymous but multiple: a reason why no single currency ruled |

Why hasn't any single currency dominated the world? From a viewpoint of transaction cost it would be a rational choice in the point of reducing uncertainty in business. In other aspect, definitely money matters the sovereignty of state. However, global history also showed that, even under a political power or with the same culture, plural currencies and different units of account often worked side by side. As late as the first quarter of the 20th century, peoples in vast areas, such as Africa and China, still used plural monies depending on situation. There, unlike named relationship by debt (or credit), a currency was surely in circulation anonymously, but not universally. In spite of its popular presence, a set of dichotomies, including exchange or gift, urban or rural, and universality or personality, have researchers blind against this multiple anonymities.

In contrast with deferred payment or future contract, the usage of ready money makes transactions anonymous and instant, but the merit can be available only when currency is supplied on demand. Some modern scientific data on currencies in circulation through sample surveys has revealed that two out of 100 coins become inactive for unknown reasons every year. It is easy to imagine how a significant portion of coins before the establishment of banking system became locally stagnant in social sinks. In addition, seasonality of demands, transportation costs, and disproportionate supply between denominations often make currencies in shortage to various extents in spite of chronological accumulations.

Through credit supply and taxation, social and administrative frameworks also affect in both ways to save currency and to spur its scarcity. Deferred payments through oral agreements had been dominant among ordinary people in early modern Western Europe, while peasants in traditional China appeared often to make anonymous transactions through small currencies in local markets. Considering both the cost of maintaining local courts and prisons for unpaid debts and the low propensity of currency to assemble, monetary systems, market activities and social institutions were thought to be interconnected rather than independent.

Through interdisciplinary comparison of global-wide facts, this session will reveal how complementary assortment of currencies and credits could sustain transactions ranging from village fairs to international trades. It also discloses a reason why no single currency could substitute others.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 69 | Denggao | Long | Tsinghua University | Land transaction in pre-modern economy |

There are plenty of original materials now, including tens of thousands of historical land contracts from Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Korea ,Japan, and Vietnam. We have already made some basic achievement till now.

This session will discuss how integrated land rights and a mature land market results in the optimal allocation of resources.

First, we reveal the "dynamic combinatory mechanism" of production factor. In pre-modern society, a common farmer would adjust the scale of his land operation proportionally to available family labor; there is historical evidence of these phenomena. The historical contracts corroborate the basic laws of resource allocation in neo-classical economics.

Second, we discuss the function of integrated land rights. Integrated land right has three levels of rights: tilling rights which are about yield in kind, land appreciation rights which are related to future capital improvements on the land, and finance rights which makes possible diverse forms of property and property rights transaction. These three categories of land rights reinforce a private interest, namely, consciousness of ownership. Investment decisions of farmers depend on the sum of discounted value of future yield stream.

Third, we discuss the ways to realize the interests and liquidity issues surrounding land rights, namely, the appearance of abundant transactional forms and traded objects. With ever greater abundant transactional forms, interests of land right are explored and embodied in greater detail. Different forms of transactions realized a freely adjusting equilibrium of production factors; these transactional forms delicately balanced integration/separation, risk/revenue, and present value future value. We will analysis that four ideal conditions must be met before production factors can reach sufficient fluidity.

Fourth, we examine the function of a lively land transaction market. A land market with sufficient liquidity produces two effects on available resources. One is the effect of optimal distribution, that is land and labor can be combined at all scales. The other is value discovery. Financial equity has a "fluidity value", that is, when equity becomes easier to liquidate, its price will go up, because risk of investment is lowered. We will discuss how fluidity brings about the discovery of a land's value. The value of land, as a scarce resource, always increases as a society becomes more complex and its population greater, making the liquidity of land ever more important. The market is the best platform of providing liquidity.

Fifth, we study the formation of diversified economic relations. The cause of the formation of various economic relations in traditional agriculture will be discussed under the framework of institutional economics. Various kinds of land right structures, yeomanry, labor employment, and different forms of tenancy, will be examined and compared with economic relations in corporations.

Theories of transaction cost and the theories of optimal ownership will be used in explaining the causes of different kinds of land rights structure. Specific historical cases will be used to analyze the dominant factors of the form of land right structure. Which factors caused the ascendancy of tenancy and the difference of tenancy rates among different regions will be analyzed. We will also examine the advantages of tenancy system, namely that, tenancy system tends to achieve optimal resource allocation.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 70 | Jürgen | Kocka | Social Science Research Center Berlin | Capitalism: the re-emergence of an outmoded concept? |

In contrast to the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the concept "capitalism" has not been central for (non-marxist) economic and social historians, in recent decades. This may be changing, and perhaps it should. This session will discuss these tendencies and explore their potentials.

Since the end of the Cold War, it has become easier to use "capitalism" in a non-ideological way. The recent financial and economic crisis has generated renewed interest in and studies on capitalism, connected to critical discussions of central problems of our time. How to compare crises of capitalism? What can we learn from history for dealing with present problems? The content of "Kapitalismuskritik" is changing. In which ways?

The recent advancement of global history allows to discuss the spatial dimensions of capitalism over the centuries in a new light - between the West and other world regions.The ongoing transnationalization of labor history has led to renewed discussions of wage work and free/unfree labor in different world regions as well as of various forms of capitalism in this context.The florishing field of history of consumption may profit from connections with the history of capitalism, its cultural contradictions (Daniel Bell) and its need for legitimacy. "Varieties of capitalism" have been studied by institutional economics, historians can relate to this.

The concept "capitalism" draws the attention of social and other historians to economic matters (which many of them neglected in recent decades). At the same time it emphasizes the non-economic (social, cultural, legal,political, religious...) conditions and consequences of economic behavior and processes. The notion of "embedded capitalism" deserves particular interest. "Capitalsm", well defined, may generate new ways of cooperation between different types of historians (ans social scientists).

The session will emphasize social historical dimensions in a broad sense. It will investigate the usages of the concept "capitalsm" in classical studies as well as its role in different subfields of present research and discussion. It will examine the reasons which speak for and against a renaissance of the concept. It will contribute to the redefintion and contextualization of "capitalism" for future research, particularly for the cooperation of social and economic history in new ways.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 73 | Astrid | Kander | Department of Economic History, Lund University | Energy, trade and environment in global history, 1700-2010 |

Much economic history is comparative, where the independent development of nation states or regions is compared. A more difficult approach is to study how national economies complement and have been dependent on each other. The aim of this session is to study global economic history as an interconnected system of national economies, where trade affects the positioning of countries in income, energy consumption and environmental impact. This addresses a fundamental issue in economic history, whether the dependencies that are created are asymmetrical and benefit some countries more than others. More specifically, the impact from international trade in energy intensive goods (from early modern products like potash, iron, and salt to modern products such as paper, textiles, aluminum and chemicals) on the energy consumption of nation states will be explored.

The energy contained in trade flows is highly germane to allocating 'responsibility' for emissions in the global warming debate. There has been a strong 'historical' argument that wealthy nations have already benefited from their past emissions, which become a stock in the atmosphere. For rich countries it is relatively easy to cut down their national carbon emissions when energy-heavy production moves to underdeveloped countries. Is it ethically justifiable to demand that underdeveloped countries also cut their emissions in the same way, when their economic maturity is much lower, and they produce goods on which more developed nations still depend? But if we are to take trade flow arguments seriously, this should be applied to the past too, and economic historical research is needed to address these issues. Past economic development is already the product of trade flows and interdependencies, rather than the autarkic emergence of national economies.

During the industrial revolution, for example, Britain and Germany had extremely high energy use in relation to their GDP, compared to other European states, and one key issue of the session is to explore how much of this was due to their exports of cheap iron, which stimulated industrial development elsewhere. In the early modern period, on the other hand Britain and the Netherlands were significant importers of energy-consuming goods such as iron, potash, tar, and sugar. These historical stages of energy consumption and trade flows may be compared to the present global economy, where China acts as a workshop of the world for cheap industrial goods..
Issues of convergence and divergence in energy intensity (energy/GDP) and carbon dioxide emissions are possible analytical angles in the session that may be studied in the light of trade flows. The flows of energy between leaders in the economic development and followers in various parts of the world will be explored. Papers dealing with these issues over the period 1700-2010 are invited.

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| 76 | Yuru | Wang | Nankai University | Studies of Chinese Economic Development since the Qing Period: Historical Data, Methodology and Evidence since 1644 |

Ever since the Industrial Revolution that ushered the world in a new age of industrial society economic development has become the pulse of social life. Hand in hand with its global market expansion, industrialisation infiltrated the Orient. As economic historians, our concern is how social development continued in the old ancient Oriental civilisation of China and how the industrial economy diffused in the native Chinese economy.

Although studies of long-term economic development are important to our current economic development, it is more important to concentrate on socio-economic development under the Qing, a period which embodied China's traditional social, economic and cultural traditions and which at the same time opened China's door to the outside world.

Since 2005, there has been a Chinese government project of the Qing History. Unlike the usual narrow approach of dealing with the economy under the heading of shihuo zhi, this project has separate volumes for agriculture, commerce, foreign trade, customs, handicrafts, mining, transport, finance and banking. In the past five years, a range of materials of the Qing socio-economic development has been systematically processed.

Outside China, new discoveries have also been made regarding the Qing historical geography, regional economies, trade networks and environmental impact. The aim of our session is to synthesise those recent findings in order to capture the real growth stance in Qing China and to trace the overall path of China's economic transition from tradition to modernity.

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| 77 | Xiaoliang | Wu | Director of the Institute of Chinese Economic History of Yunnan University (China) | China's Southwest Frontiers Region and the World Economy in Modern Times |

Geographically consisting of Yunan, Sichuan, Guizhou, Guangxi and Tibet, China's southwest frontiers region is one of the most diverse regions in the world, ecologically, ethically, culturally and economically. Its location as the intersection of East, Southeast and South Asia increases this diversity.

In modern times, with the early economic globalization, great changes have taken place in this region's economy and its relations with other parts of the world. Firstly, economic globalization came first to those areas of lower attitudes and then to those of higher attitudes in this region.

Secondly, the region's economy interacted with the world economy more frequently and showed remarkable trends towards globalization. Closely linked with it was most of significant phenomena which happened in this region during the period, such as the introduction of new crops (maize, potatoes, sweet potatoes, opium, coffee, rubber plant, etc.), changes of commercial roads, the decline of the tribute trade and traditional tea-horse barter trade, the substitution of silver dollars for copper coins, the opening to the Western powers, the changes of economic structures, and the others.

The discussion of these issues will be helpful not only to our understanding of hows and whys of this region in the early economic globalization, but also the globalization itself.

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| 78 | Ilja | Van Damme | University of Antwerp (Belgium) | Second-Hand Circulations in World Perspective: Local Practices and Global Change Regarding the Re-Use of Old Objects (ca. 18th – ca. 20th century) |

Recently, new consumer research highlighted the importance of second-hand circulations across a wide range of goods and a broad spectrum of societies. It also stressed the need, however, to place European findings in a global perspective. As such, differences and similarities can be brought into sharper relief by exploring the ways in which local practices and motivations are susceptible for change in very different economic, social and cultural milieus. Moreover, as methodologies and interpretations in this field of research are constantly growing, so looms the need to correct existing paradigms and assumptions regarding long-term changes in second-hand circulations. Now is the time to challenge established orthodoxy, which claims that the 'value' (economic, social or cultural) of second-hand declined from the end of the eighteenth-century onwards – with the rise of industrialization, standardized products, the manufacture of cheap and new goods and the advent of a so called 'throwaway' society. Just as waste 'regimes' of the past were no quasi-natural ecosystems in which every object was re-used, repaired or recycled, so did second-hand circulations remain an integral part of modern systems of consumption.

The historical study of second-hand circulations can only be successful if new concepts and ideas are drawn from an interdisciplinary variety of present-day perspectives, such as economic, social and anthropological research on consumer preferences, mechanisms of exchange, value construction and waste regimes. Unfortunately, far less time has been devoted to the intricacies and complexities inherent to past practices of re-use, recirculation and recycling. Especially the more structural relations between the consumer and his re-used objects remain often blurred. Indeed, the 'world of goods' is not located in singular moments of acquiring new goods, but timed more evenly over a longer period of 'consumption flows'.

Recent studies speak in this aspect about the 'biographies of things': the relation between people and things have life-histories of their own, dominated by use and re-use, collection-building, disposal and dispersal, gifts, storage and lending, pawning and circulation, renewal or changes in one's lifestyle.

This session wants to place these important, but under-researched second-hand circulations in a global and multi-disciplinary perspective. It welcomes papers from any region, primarily focusing on the transition from early-modern to modern times. Participants will be asked to place local findings – based on empirical research or new theorizations – in a larger comparative and long-term framework:

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| 79 | Harry X | Wu | Hitotsubashi University | Comparative Analysis of Historical Growth and Productivity Performance by the Purchasing Power Parity Approach |

Benchmarking the performance of an economy to that of other economies provides a better or more reliable alternative to the non-benchmarking approach in historical economic analysis, especially when there are no reliable time series data. Benchmarking using the purchasing power parity (PPP) approach (i.e. cross country price comparisons) is theoretically sounder than comparisons in volumes measured in national currencies or physical quantities because it reflects relative prices of both tradables and non-tradables between countries in comparison.

The expenditure-side PPP approach focuses on the relative prices of final goods and services. It provides a sensible measure of comparative welfare levels between countries. However, its inseparability nature makes it impossible to explain the income gaps between countries in comparison. The production-side PPP approach, on the other hand, enables the decomposition of income gaps between countries into labor participation, labor productivity and structural effects so that it facilitates analysis of the resource reallocation effect along with productivity changes across industries in the course of a country's economic development in comparison with its reference countries.

Besides, the results of the production-side PPP approach can also provide a sensible crosscheck with the results by the expenditure-side PPP approach. For example, Angus Maddison's world historical data are constructed mainly by the expenditure PPP approach. Studies that constructing historical production-side PPPs may confirm or challenge his work, either of which will make an important contribution to our knowledge about the long-run growth of the world economy.

Based on the previous work by the two organizers, this session encourages authors to make further progress in this area of research. Studies may focus on relative prices of commodities and services, relative factor costs (e.g. wages, interests and rents) for single or multiple benchmarks.

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| 80 | Jonas | Ljungberg | Lund University (Sweden) | Innovation in the Modern Economy: Indicators and Analysis |

Innovation is a major factor in economic growth and for the improvement of living standards. However, our knowledge about innovation in more precise terms, their characteristics and change over time, is still not very developed. For example, Schumpeter's presumption that innovations emerge as clusters in a periodical pattern is still not settled, and neither is the question whether innovations typically originate in small firms or in larger corporate organisations. One reason for the underdevelopment of knowledge in this field is the lack of data on innovation, in particular time series that would make possible comparative analyses of innovation and economic growth. The aim of this session is to gather papers and scholars dedicated to the assessment and analysis of innovation in the modern economy. Much of the research on innovation is focusing contemporary or very recent times and the present session is connected with this research. However, both for theoretical and historical reasons it is important to have a longer time perspective and the session will also address innovation in preceding centuries. Issues dealt with may range from methodological problems in the search for indicators on innovation to empirical analyses of the impact of innovation over time and space. Moreover, papers dealing with related indicators such as patents and R&D, as well as their analysis, are welcome. There is an emerging research in the construction of databases of innovations which will be reported.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 81 | Christine | MacLeod | University of Bristol (UK) | Early Mechanization in Global Perspective |

One of the salient features of the first industrial revolution was the mechanization of production processes in a wide range of industries. However, mechanization was not an unprecedented phenomenon. Historians of technology have found evidence in different historical contexts, well before the eighteenth century, of the development and adoption of machines or systems of machinery that, in terms of technical sophistication, are fully comparable to the "gadgets" of the industrial revolution. Significant examples of early mechanization have been observed in the ancient world, in the middle ages, and in the early modern period. Moreover, these examples emerged in very different civilizations in Europe and Asia.

Interestingly enough, before the industrial revolution these episodes of mechanization remained peculiar to specific segments of the economy and did not spread across sectors. In some cases (such as Renaissance Italy or fourteenth century China) the restricted diffusion of mechanical technologies has prompted economic historians to talk of "failed transitions" to the modern industrial world.

In the literature, several hypotheses have been put forward for explaining both the emergence of new mechanical technologies and their limited diffusion before the industrial revolution. Several authors have pointed to the role played by economic factors (especially by high wages) in inducing the invention and diffusion of new machines. Others have drawn attention to the resistance to mechanization maintained by those social groups whose skills were going to be replaced by the new machines. Finally, another stream of literature has emphasized the role played by broader social and cultural factors.

The aim of this session is to shed new light on these episodes of early mechanization in a global perspective. In particular, we intend to provide a number of case-studies of early mechanization that will reappraise not only those factors responsible for the development and adoption of specific mechanical technologies in different economies but also those factors responsible for their limited diffusion.

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| 82 | Youssef | Cassis | University of Geneva (from January 2011, European University Institute) | Financial Crises and the Transformations of the Financial System since 1945 |

Amongst the many questions raised by the recent global financial crisis –Howard Davies has recently identified 38 explanatory strands(1)– a recurring one has been the extent to which the debacle of 2007-2008 has been different from previous shocks. More than at any other time since at least a generation, there has been a demand for history, an urge to place the crisis in a proper historical context. While Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff have rightly emphasized the systemic risks posed by excessive debt accumulation and the illusion that 'this time is different' prevalent in each boom(2), there has also been much concern about the peculiarities of the financial system in the early twenty-first century.

The aim of this session is to assess, in a historical and comparative perspective, the changes that have taken place in the banking and financial world since the end of Bretton Woods, in particular during the period extending from the mid seventies to the late eighties –a period which signaled the return of financial crises amidst a new wave of financial innovations, market liberalization, and rising international capital flows.

The extent of the changes taking place in these years should not only be considered in contrast to the era of regulation and controls that followed the Second World War, but also in comparison with the pre 1931 globalization and to further developments, especially at the turn of the twenty-first century.

Topics that will be prioritized include: the role of financial regulation (in particular the organization of national, international and supranational regulatory institutions); the governance of financial institutions; the functions of central banks; the securities markets and institutional investors; sovereign debts and sovereign defaults; international financial cooperation. More generally, the session will be concerned with the onset of the 'financialization' and its impact on development. Particular effort will be made to include cases that refer to both developing and developed financial systems.

(1)H. Davies, The Financial Crisis: Who is to Blame?, Cambridge and Malden, Polity Press 2010.
(2)C. Reinhart and K. Rogoff, This Time is Different: Eight Centuries of Financial Folly, Princeton and Oxford, Princeton University Press, 2009.

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| 84 | Masaki | Nakabayashi | Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo | Understanding the Nineteenth-Century State |

State actors play a key role in determining a country's level of economic development. For most of human history states have undermined development by levying high taxes and/or providing few public goods. However, by the nineteenth century state actors began to act differently. In many countries, tax rates declined in real terms or became more predictable. States built roads and railways in an effort to develop their economies. States began expanding publically-funded education or designed institutions that allowed for great private financing. States began to unwind restrictions on land and labor markets and to create institutions for the governance of market trades. In short, nineteenth century states were more conducive to development in terms of tax policy, public investment, and the development of institutions than their predecessors in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

This session will bring together experts on the nineteenth century state across the world. It will explore the ways in which "western" states affected economic development and how non-western states adapted to new roles invented by western states. For example, new structures for financing infrastructure, education, and other public services will be examined. Similarly fiscal systems will be examined especially as they relate to their incentive effects on private actors. Judicial systems and other institutions of trade governance will also be dealt with as critical factors to the emergence of modern market economies. Finally, drastic changes in incentive mechanism for economic development both of public and private sectors as a whole.

Overall the session will examine long-run and cross-national perspectives on the evolution of states roughly from 1800 up to World War I. The session will complement previous World History Congress sessions on the early modern state. The session will examine the ¡ÆGerschenkron¡Ç paradigm in which British, French, Dutch, and American experiences are treated as benchmark cases of state action, while Southern and Central Europe and Japan are treated as followers who caught up while partly preserving traditional institutions.

The session will also shed light on nineteenth century China that made efforts in modernization while facing imperialist threats. West Africa will be studied as a case where western rulers "found" domestic institutions and assembled them into a state.

Overall it will examine whether diverse paths of development since the nineteenth century were realized by arrangement of western and domestic systems, as opposed to a rejection of westernization.

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| 85 | Stephen | Morgan | University of Nottingham | Anthropometric consequences of economic and environmental shocks |

Economic and environmental shocks impact on human welfare in diverse ways.

Where these shocks affect adversely nutrition, the consequence for human growth can be severe, such as stunting of children or a decline in stature of vulnerable populations. Most notable are severe and prolonged nutritional insults that arise from droughts, floods, civil disturbances and wars, and economic crises, which in themselves might be a consequence of another shock, such as an environmental perturbation. Recent concern about climate change has attuned us to environment effects in particular. We know from past environmental shocks that human societies often adapt. Markets often play an important role in adaption, where price signals can generate supply or demand responses that smooth otherwise welfare-threatening effects. The aim of this panel is to explore the consequences of various forms of shocks (in particular economic and environmental) for human welfare in the past. Invited presenters will be primarily economic historians who are specialists in East Asia, Africa, Europe and North America and who research various dimensions of human welfare using anthropometric data, with a focus primarily from the 16th century to the present.

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| 87 | Juliette | Levy | University of California Riverside | Financial intermediation and economic growth across the globe |

This panel will discuss and explore the historical role of non-bank intermediary institutions in capital markets. We are interested in traditional forms of non-bank credit, such as merchant credit, personal loans and store credit, but we are also and particularly interested in financial institutions that predate banks that we do not always recognize as such.

To this end, the panel will bring together research on different parts of the world and different times in history to compare and connect the many different and complementary forms of financial intermediation that that have supported the development of credit markets and economic growth in history. Many financial intermediaries self-identified as such in the historical documents – brokers and merchants for example – others, such as notaries or innkeepers or even convents – have a less obvious intermediary role in financial transactions. There are many circumstances in which financial intermediaries are not easy to detect, but are essential to identify and this panel will be a forum in which to explore these intermediaries and their role in the economy.

The work of this panel is particularly relevant in our contemporary context because banks as we know them today are a relatively recent innovation, and for the better part of human history, banks were not the most important financial intermediary. Furthermore, the lack of banks in remote or less developed parts of the world today still forces lenders and borrowers to interact via non-bank intermediaries (like rotating savings associations or micro-finance companies, or in extremis, loan sharks and pawnshops).

Interest in financial intermediaries and intermediation in general in developing markets is increasing, and the historical understanding of the role and variety of intermediaries this panel will explore has practical applications in this context.

The main question we aim to answer in specific historical and regional contexts are:
1.How big was the financial sector? Which part of it was intermediated?
2.How were information asymmetries solved in this sector? How did intermediaries perform this role?
3.What is the relationship between intermediaries/intermediation and economic growth in the specific cases?
4.What measures can we use to compare the effect of intermediation on growth across specific cases? This last question is as much about quantitative measurements as it is about the qualitative value of the historical sources that are being used.

We want to start a conversation about the nature of financial intermediation, the legal regimes that give rise to variations in the types of intermediation and the intermediaries themselves, the political and economic context that change existing forms of intermediation or reinforce them.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 89 | Gareth | Austin | Graduate Institute Geneva | Precolonial Sub-Saharan Africa: Interactions Between Internal and External Sources of Change, c.1450-c.1890 |

Precolonial African economic history attracted major pioneering research from the late 1950s to mid-1980s, but has been doubly neglected since. The general field of African economic history has been relatively neglected (Hopkins 2009), and the main focus of such research as continued switched to the twentieth century. The Atlantic slave trade was the one topic to continue to receive intense attention. Given that most of Africa's history to date was 'pre-colonial', the overall lack of recent research on the era is lamentable. It is especially unfortunate from a comparative perspective, in that much of the recent 'global' economic history and 'historical economics' sees the great divergence(s) between continents as having originated in that era. Placing Africa properly within comparative and global economic history requires more work on the long era of interaction between independent African societies and foreign, especially European, traders (state-supported and otherwise).

This (double?) session aims to draw together, through papers and debate, the main threads from such work as has been done in recent years, as a foundation and inspiration for further work, we hope on a larger scale, in the future. For, though not voluminous, new research in the field has never stopped, for example on slavery within tropical African economies, especially the timing and sources of its spread (e.g. Thornton 1998, Lovejoy 2000, Austin 2005); on commodity currencies and precolonial monetary systems in general (studies by Guyer, Kuroda and others following earlier work by the likes of Curtin, Lovejoy and Johnson); and on the interactions between markets and states in a region famously characterized by very varied levels of political centralization (Lovejoy and Richardson 2004; Inikori 2003).

We expect that the issues addressed in the session will include the relationship between (a) the extension of commodity production for African as well as overseas markets, (b) the growth of slavery; how far successive changes in African monetary systems (such as the spread of the cowrie-gold currency zone in West Africa) may be considered as reducing transaction costs; and whether state formation in precolonial Africa facilitated market activity. Finally, the session as a whole will illuminate the general issue of the interactions of internal and external mechanisms of change in African economies: the internal logic of development in conditions of relatively abundant land (but where natural conditions resisted agricultural intensification) and whether external slave trades brought about a reversal of Africa's relative fortunes (e.g. Austin 2008).

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| 91 | Dario | Nappo | Oxford University | The relation between the development of an integrated transport system and the growth of the economy in the Roman World |

According to the analyses of the modern scholars, the Roman Empire developed one of the most successful pre-industrial economies. If indeed this was the case, how could it perform better than previous economies, and why? This was certainly due to a number of reasons, such as the internal peace, the unification of the Mediterranean World in one Empire, and so on.

Yet, one of the main reasons that favoured the rise of the Roman economy was definitely the ability displayed by the Romans, to build up a very efficient network of infrastructures, which greatly fostered the communication between the different areas of the Empire and opened new paths for trade and commerce.

The first aim of this session, in the footstep of the main theme of the congress, "Exploring the Roots of Development", is to demonstrate how the infrastructures built up by the Romans helped the economy and especially the trade to develop. The second and even more significant aim is to reconstruct the official policy conceived by the Roman rulers and administrator in order to create and constantly improve this network. Focusing on the Eastern part of the Roman Empire, the session will put forward the hypothesis of the existence of a proper integrated transport system in the Roman Empire. Such a system would involve transport by land, sea and river.

The approach chosen for the proposed session will be based on case studies.

First of all, there will be a theoretical paper on the general subject of the integrated transport system, aimed to clarify the theoretical frame of our approach. Then, a number of papers will show how the theory can be verified in the actual history of a number of sites, which offer a favourable point of view to reconstruct the functioning of the system.

Finally, the session will try to stimulate a discussion on the subject, hopefully involving scholars with expertise on historical periods other than the Roman Age, to compare the analysis put forward by us with other historical periods.

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| 94 | Guillaume | Daudin | University of Lille and Sciences Po | Looking for the roots of development in early trade statistics (18th-19th century) |

The structural changes of the eighteenth century and the early nineteenth century, including the Industrial Revolution, are at the root of the development of our economic system. However, the on-going discussion about the Great Divergence between Europe and Asia (Pomeranz, Clark, etc.) shows that the nature and the immediate causes of these structural changes are still a matter of debate among economists and historians.

This session will explore these from the point of view of early trade statistics. This parallels the motivation of eighteenth and nineteenth state officials and economic authors who stressed again and again the importance of foreign trade for prosperity and the need to know it better. Indeed, foreign trade statistics are for many countries (including Europe, the US and the Ottoman Empire) among the earliest and most reliable economic data produced by past governments. They are available from mid-eighteenth century onward for most of these nations, sometimes even earlier (England, France), and present fairly continuous series. True, for a long time, external trade was seen and interpreted as a minor factor (if a factor at all) in the explanation of the British Industrial Revolution. As the impact of globalization on modern economies has proved that international trade has the potential to accelerate or impede the growth of national economies, this lack of interest in international trade has been called into question. In light of the importance of extra-European goods in fuelling an industrious revolution through the diversification of consumption and releasing the Malthusian constraints of pre-industrial, 'organic' economies, international trade is now being presented as a major dimension of the first industrial revolution.

Researchers have often used trade statistics of individual countries, but little comparative work has been done to assess their reliability and provide a more comprehensive view of the picture they give of early economies. This session will examine the construction of early international trade statistics and how they can be used to explore the issue of early development. It will go beyond the usual case studies in Western Europe and include contributions on Northern and Southern Europe, the Ottoman Empire and America. It is part of an on-going project that aims to provide a systematic collection and publication of trade data of the pre-statistical age.

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| 95 | Leigh | Gardner | University of Cape Town | Labour, Wages, and Living Standards in Colonial Africa |

The abolition of the slave trade and the establishment of colonial rule revolutionized the labour market in sub-Saharan Africa. New opportunities for small-holder export production in some colonies competed with opportunities offered by wage employment in commercial farms, mines, plantations, and colonial administrations. Meanwhile, colonial governments often colluded with commercial producers to keep African wages low.

The impact of this shift on African incomes and living standards has long been obscured by limited data available from before 1945. However, recent innovations in the use of quantitative data from the colonial period have shed new light on wages and living standards in colonial Africa.

Anthropometric data have shown that in some regions living standards actually improved during the colonial period. Meanwhile, real wage indices have shown increases in some periods. This research suggests that colonial times, far from being purely exploitative, offered many Africans the opportunity to improve their standard of living, while also increasing levels of inequality. These new findings complicate attempts to assess the long-term impacts of colonialism on social and economic well-being in Africa.

This panel aims to build on these findings by inviting papers on labour, wages and living standards in colonial Africa. Relevant subjects will include labour conditions and the structure of labour contracts, wages for different occupations, and assessments of living standards. Papers are encouraged, but not required, to highlight new and reliable sources of quantitative data for the colonial period.

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| 97 | Bram | Bouwens | Utrecht University | Varieties of Capitalism: theory and historical evidence on institutional change during the 20th century |

The economic crisis of 2008, centered as it has been in the financial sector, inspired a renewed discussion about the capitalist system. The pro-market, laissez-faire philosophy turned out to be a system of mixed blessings. Should the guiding principles be revised and are the alternatives any better? Can history help us in finding answers? This session aims to contribute to these discussions. It focuses on how national variations in institutions affect economic performance and explores the question on how changes in the institutional context take place.

In 2001 Peter A. Hall and David Soskice edited the volume Varieties of Capitalism. The Institutional Foundations of Comparative Advantage (Oxford: OUP 2001). This volume has become a seminal work on analyzing capitalist systems. The approach assumes that firms are the central actors in the economy whose behavior aggregates into national economic performance.

Historical research indeed demonstrated that there are systematic differences among nations that corresponded to the underlying dimension of market-oriented (Liberal Market Economy) versus strategic coordination (Coordinated Market Economy) distinguished by the VoC approach, but historical research also highlighted changes over time. (Fellman/Iverson/Sjögren/Thue 2008; Sluyterman 2010).

The VoC-approach has been criticized extensively, especially on the neglect of institutional change and the exploration of the drivers of transformation. These critiques challenged scientists to undertake new research and to refine existing theoretical frameworks (see e.g. Streeck/Thelen 2005; Hancké/Rhodes/Thatcher 2007; Mahoney/Thelen 2010).

In the session 'Varieties of Capitalism' we want to add historical evidence to the ongoing discussion on this approach. Questions to be answered could
be: if national business systems are coherent as a consequence of institutional complementarities, how can they change? And if they change, what are the drivers behind these changes? Are countries responding to the same set of drivers differently according to their national business systems? Finally, how can we assess and compare the performance of firms in different business systems?

Historians from a wide range of countries with different or comparable business systems in Eastern and Western Europe as well as Australia, Northern America and East Asia, have agreed to submit a paper to this session. Both empirical and theoretical based papers discussing the varieties of capitalism literature and/or dealing with the interaction of firms in their national and international institutional setting are welcome.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 101 | Giovanni | Federico | European University Institute | Trade and the integration of peripheral countries in the world market |

The main objective of this panel is to stimulate new quantitative research and new interpretations of the relation between globalization, growth and convergence in the "long" 19th century, from Waterloo to World War One, and in the interwar years. The literature on these issues is huge, but it deals mostly with the "classic" period of the first globalization, from 1870 to 1913 and with the Atlantic economy. In spite of some very recent work, the period(s) before 1870 and after 1914 are still too poorly known. Similarly, we know very little too little about the regional and international trade integration experience of peripheral countries, inside and outside Europe.
Yet a lot of research is being done on these issues, also from scholars in Asia and Latin America. The initial results are quite promising. For instance, they show that, at the beginning of the 19th century, Latin America was more open to trade than European countries.

The panel aims at offering an opportunity to discuss this on-going research projects with top scholars from the United States and Europe. It builds on the very positive experience of an early conference on Tariffs and growth (Madrid may 2010), but it would extend the range of topics. We would accept papers on trade, market integration, trade barriers and cost of transportation and so on.

While selecting papers, we would privilege the empirical research, with particular emphasis on new data. We will also try to have a geographical and time coverage as extensive as possible.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 104 | Mikhail | Lipkin | Institute of World History, Russian Academy of Sciences | "New World Economic Order(s)" in Theory and Practice: 1940s-1990s |

The world economic crisis of 2008 has put on agenda the issue of reforming global economic and financial institutions and raised voices for a necessity to enter into the era of some "new economic world order" which shall normalize the world economy and stipulates some new "code of international behavior".

Historically the notion of "new world economic order" was connected with an idea of some special, fair and gentlemanly "code of behavior". During a discussion of key postwar global institutions and new postwar system (IMF, IBRD, GATT/WTO) in 1944-1945 the Anglo-American proposal of obligatory Code of rules for world trade regulation was in the centre of attention. During the short "early détante" on the adge of 1950s-196-s, partly as reflection on the started process of decolonization the "Year of Africa" the "international code of behavior" for East and West had been worked out by the British Foreign Office. In 1964 backed by the Eastern block UNCTAD was formed which passed the "Principles of international trade relations and trade politics, facilitating development". A true splash of various projects of "codes" and "rules of the game" in economic sphere occurred after the start of the "economics of détante" in the first half of 1970-s. Discussion on "Charter of the states economic rights and obligations" starts in UNCTAD, projects of a new World Trade Organization and new regional structures arise on the wake of the CSCE. The term "new world economic order" gets its new meaning with attempts of the eastern countries to integrate into the world market and on the same time active inclusion of new countries of the Third world. NOEI (Nouvel Ordre Economique International) enriches the diplomatic language of this period. The turbulent era of Eastern bloc's disintegration in 1980s-1990s started a new wave of discussion on global governance.

All this colorful spectrum needs to be analyzed again in a "longue duree" with accent on how the East-West confrontation logic coupled by the North-South dispute contributed to debates about fair trade, code of behavior, and proper global institutions - all those issues at stake which were part of the evolving concept of a "new world economic order" (which claimed to be new several times - in 1940-s, 1960s/70-s and 1980s/1990s).

Each time various countries and groups of countries suggested its various concepts and had various (mostly) perceptions of what it should be in ideal and what they want to distinguish by it.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 106 | Dominique | Barjot | Paris Sorbonne University | The Construction Industry in the 20th Century: An International Perspective on Interfirm Comparison |

There are two major goals:
A/ First, the conduct of a European study focused on building material and its two specific sectors:
1/ The European cement industry. It is, in itself, a typical example of advanced globalization.
2/ The distribution of building supplies Contrary to the cement industry, this business is characterized by fierce but uneven competition that varies according to the concerned geographic areas.
B/ the second study will analyse the shift to services initiated by the European public buildings and works firms ("BTP" firms in French). Five types of models can be identified: the British, the French, the German, the Japanese and the US models.

Three lines will direct our research.
A/ the shift from the international to the global firm We hypothesize that there exists one.
B/ from industry to services
The shift from industry to services is a structural orientation of the developed economies. The project intends to develop the research question at three levels:
1/ The construction industry (Property development, Public Utilities, Engineering
2/ The construction material and product industry
3/ The building and public buildings and works industries
C/ Existence and limitations of national models The third line of our research project is focused on building a typology of national models. The research will draw a comparison between world major countries and use the examples of dominant firms mostly from the following
countries:
- Germany and Austria
- Benelux (public buildings and works firms and property development)
- France
- Italy
- United Kingdom
- Sweden (public buildings and works firms)

As a result, it seems possible to contrast very industrial-intensive countries (Germany, France, and even Italy) with predominantly service-intensive countries (United Kingdom, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands). But it is also very important to take the global environment into account and enlarge the perspective for instance to North America (USA and Canada as regards engineering), Mexico for cement, the far East, namely Japan (public buildings and works sector, property development, engineering) South Korea (public buildings and works sector, engineering) and China (public buildings and works sector and property development).

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 108 | Gareth | Austin | Graduate Institute Geneva | Dynamics of Agriculture and Agrarian Institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa, 19th and 20th Centuries |

Agriculture was overwhelmingly the principal occupation of Africans until very recently. Within this generalization it is important to distinguish settler and plantation colonies from 'peasant' colonies, the latter defined by the absence of large-scale appropriations of land for European use. The traditional view that indigenous African agriculture was static, its growth inhibited by customary arrangements governing resource-use, was rejected to varying degrees by a pioneering generation of research in the 1960s-80s.

These scholars documented (a) the long history of innovation in African agriculture, especially through selective adoption of new crops from other continents, (b) that the export-crop 'revolution' in the peasant colonies owed much to the flexibility of indigenous land tenure, and was often led by large-scale African farmers investing long-term, (c) that even in the settler colonies Africans responded rapidly to opportunities to produce food grains for urban markets, and that the rise of European farming was greatly facilitated by state interventions – by no means entirely successful - to drive Africans out of the produce market and on to the labour market. The research of the 1990s-2000s, though smaller in volume, generally reinforced these propositions, while adding a much sharper focus on institutions.

This panel is intended both to take up the unfinished business of the pioneer generations and to examine fresh questions. Was the 1960s-80s emphasis on the economic efficiency of indigenous institutions too sanguine, given the slow aggregate growth of African agricultural output? Or did the constraints derive from resources or policy rather than institutions? One paper will offer a new framework to replace the 'vent-for-surplus' model, which depicted the growth of African export agriculture in the peasant colonies as a rational but risk-free, opportunity-costless expansion within the pre-existing production function. Much criticised for overlooking both the extent of African innovations and the costs involved, including to food security, it is time to replace 'vent-for-surplus' with an interpretation that does more justice to the accumulated evidence. Again, the papers will consider the agricultural implications of the twentieth-century growth of both population and exports. Where land-surpluses gave way to agricultural intensification, was the process Boserupian progress or Gertzian stagnation?

The panel will also consider how anthropometric techniques have begun to alter our understanding of the welfare implications of different agrarian regimes and different crop innovations. Finally, we will revisit the relationships between settler and peasant agriculture in the light of post-colonial as well as colonial experience.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 109 | Judith | Clifton | Universidad de Cantabria | Foreign Direct Investment in Infrastructure: What Consequences for Development? Experiences around the World from the Post-war to the Present |

Infrastructure services are widely regarded as being essential for development. Developing countries, in particular, require reliable infrastructure to guarantee provision of basic services, such as energy, water and communications, to sustain economic and human development.

The historical pattern by which international infrastructure such as electricity and telecommunications has been financed over the last two centuries has been organised into three overarching phases (Hausman, Hertner and Wilkins 2009). From the post-war period, a gradual process of "domestification" occurred, but, over the last two decades, a cycle of "internationalization" took place, which is partly reminiscent of the first phase of the internationalization of infrastructure finance from the end of the nineteenth to the beginning of the twentieth century. During the second phase of internationalization, infrastructure Transnational Corporations (TNCs) from the developed world significantly increased their investment activities in developing countries. And yet, foreign capital in infrastructure is still concentrated in OECD economies, while developing countries still suffer under investment (UNCTAD 2008). Though developing countries have received recommendations from international economic organisations such as the World Bank, the IMF and Regional Development Banks on how to attract FDI, this advice is not always appropriate in the local context.

This session calls for papers examining the historical evidence on phases in infrastructure finance and the consequences for development. Attention will be paid to the international context, including experiences in Africa, Asia and Latin America, focusing in particular, on the post-war period to the present, characterised by de-colonialization, nationalization and then, internationalization.

In particular, scholars will be invited to examine historical evidence to address the following issues. Tensions often arise between foreign investors vis-à-vis domestic investors and host governments because they have different priorities, investors with commercial and financial interests, and governments with development and regulatory requirements. How has this affected the investment decision at different stages of the infrastructure building and operation? How does uncertainty in the form of financial booms and busts affect negotiation and implementation of FDI? How have the TNC and financial investors dealt with local (Municipal), regional (Provincial), national, cross-border or transnational projects and networks of infrastructure for development? What happens when conflicts break out among these various levels of public decision-makers? Have developing economies provided and acquired adequate human, managerial, engineering and technological capabilities or should the foreign investor come with their own capacities to improve development prospects.

| Ref | Corresponding Session Organiser | | | Session title |
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| 111 | Suzanne | McCoskey | George Washington University | Does the History of Entrepreneurship in Africa Matter? |

Despite a long and rich history of entrepreneurial activity on the African continent – a history that has significantly shaped developed patterns in the rest of the world – the history of entrepreneurship on the continent is still very much neglected. For instance, the recent path-breaking 'The Invention of Enterprise' by David Landes, Joel Mokyr and William Baumol covers in 18th chapters the historical richness of human entrepreneurial activity, from the Roman Empire, ancient Babylon to the early emergence of entrepreneurship in India and China. But not a single chapter is devoted to Africa. And with the continued marginalisation of Africa in the world economy, its struggle to industrialize, and the growing diaspora of its best and brightest, the current analytical debate is often devoid of consideration of how entrepreneurship, both foreign and indigenous, has played in role in creating or mitigating, the conditions for Africa's current challenges. Connections between foreign and indigenous entrepreneurs had developed since the fifteenth century and by the nineteenth century had facilitated the formation of lucrative and growing markets of exchange for imports and exports. These markets were developed by large state-led entities, small entrepreneurs, family businesses and foreign companies, both large and small. A dynamic relationship emerged in markets where domination was determined by access to resources, power and internal and external links – with important implications for understanding the business environment in modern Africa. Hence it is our contention in proposing this session, that the history of entrepreneurship in Africa matter for today.

In this light, this session is proposed to put the importance of the history of entrepreneurship in Africa firmly on the agenda. As such the session aims to explore the rich development of entrepreneurship, markets and business activity in and with Africa - particular since the nineteenth century. Papers dealing with the relationships between indigenous and foreign entrepreneurs, between states, elites and entrepreneurs, with the relationship between historic patterns of entrepreneurship and modern day development outcomes, and with the patterns of migration and sector specialisation in Africa, are particularly welcome. The session promoters will endeavour to find a special outlet, such as a special journal issue or book, for the publication of the papers selected for this session.

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| 115 | Anne | Winter | Vrije Universiteit Brussel | Migrants, entitlements and welfare: Comparative perspectives, 1500-2010 |

Over the past 500 years, access to welfare provisions has often been conditional upon some form of belonging to a community that is – partly or wholly – defined in spatial terms, such as a parish, village, city or nation. By mediating access to communal provisions, such conceptions of belonging determine the extent to which migrants can or not participate in welfare arrangements when away from home. Depending on the importance of welfare arrangements in the lifecycles of the poor, the nature of these spatial entitlements can therefore constitute an important factor in decisions to migrate, to remain put, to settle or to return home, while it also helps to mould cultural conceptions of insiders and outsiders. Defining migrants' access – or not – to welfare in turn represents a device by which the influx and settlement of newcomers can to a certain extent be discouraged or stimulated, and has implications for the social distribution of the costs and gains of migration. Therefore, the spatial dimensions of relief and welfare entitlements have had important implications for migration behaviour, the scope of social interactions, conceptions of identity and community, and the allocation of labour, and by extension on social, economic, political and cultural life as a whole.

While so far most historical research on the spatial dimensions of welfare entitlements has focused on the early modern Poor Laws and Settlement Laws of England and Wales (Snell, King, Feldman, Smith, Solar) or – to a much lesser extent – on other parts of Europe (Hahn, Van Leeuwen, Gestrich, Lucassen, Winter), this session aims to approach the associated debates from a global and long-term comparative perspective. It is particularly interested in uncovering the ways in which different practices of migrant entitlement interacted with processes of proletarianization, state formation, urbanization and industrialization, and the ways in which diverging conceptions of spatial belonging were tied in with long-term trajectories of economic, social and political change from the early modern to the contemporary period (O'Brien, Pomeranz, Tilly, Wong). It builds upon intensified comparative collaboration between researchers on different European relief and settlement systems, and explicitly aims to draw in experts on non-European welfare practices and migration patterns such as the Chinese hukou system.