

Call for Sessions - WEHC 2015 [S20021]

Proposed title of the session

Urban labour markets in Europe and North America from the XVth to the XXIth century in Global perspective

Abstract

In recent years historians from different European and American countries have been showing a growing interest in the study of different aspects related to the working of urban labour markets notably in a territories economic history perspective. Among other aspects, the purpose of this session would be to compare and discuss the results obtained at seminars held previously with those provided by researchers who have studied the subject in North America and in the North and Eastern of Europe. The aim is to include these matters in a global history view: the study of labor markets in a long term, articulating local and national or international dynamics. The objective is to give us a global comparison between different processes (economic, social and demographic) that have had an impact on the formation and development of the labour market. The perspective of Japanese and Asian experts on these issues will be welcomed for extend those analysis.

What was the role of urban labour markets in the make-up of migration flows from the countryside into the city? What were the main labour niches for urban immigrants and what kind of work did they do in the city? Did urban labour markets make integration into the social life of the city any easier for the newcomers? What kind of life, family and labour pattern did people have in urban labour markets? What was social mobility within the different urban labour markets, how was it articulated and how was it formed?

Our intention in the session is to answer these questions and others related to the existence and functioning of urban labour markets in Europe and North America from the XVth to the XXIth century. We will take into account the fact that not all urban labour markets were of the same nature or structure, and not all of them were subject to the same transformation and evolution over time.

From this point of view, we will welcome papers which aim to determine whether the labour opportunities that immigrants came across in urban labour markets worked as a factor for integration, expulsion, promotion or marginalization in the city; the way in which the markets affected or conditioned the development of people's life cycles or family lives and family assets; the social, family and demographic implications deriving from the appearance of new professions and from the medium and long-term transformations that urban labour markets underwent; the relationship that existed between labour logic and social and/or family logic; the links or interactions produced between work, whether paid or not, and people's family and personal or social expectations; social mobility, its intensity, its mechanisms, its changes and permanence within the framework of urban labour markets; what the networks and mechanisms for social and labour promotion and stability were, and how they worked; the effects of the appearance of new trades and social and labour dynamics; the precarious nature of labour and its medium and long-term effects on the social, family and demographic plane, etc.

I. Corresponding Session Organiser

Dr. florent Le Bot (Ecole normale supérieure de Cachan [France])

II. Co-Organiser(s)

1. Corresponding Organiser.
2. Prof. Isidro Dubert (Universidade da Santiago de Compostela [Spain])
3. Prof. Yvan Rousseau (Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières [Canada])
4. Prof. Thierry Nootens (Université de Québec à Trois-Rivières [Canada])

III. Expected Participant(s)

1. same as correspondent.
2. Isidro Dubert (Universade da Santiago de Compostela [Spain])
3. Yvan Rousseau (Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières [Canada])
4. Cristina Borderias (Universidat de Barcelona [Spain])
5. Claude Didry (CNRS-ENS Cachan [France])
6. Pierre-Yves Donzé (Kyoto University [Japan])
7. Corinne Maitte (Université Paris Est-Marne-la-Vallée [France])
8. Manuela Martini (Université Paris Diderot-Paris 7 [France])
9. Thierry Nootens (Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières [Canada])
10. Matthieu Scherman (Ecole française de Rome [Italy])
11. Fabienne Plazolles (Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour [France])
12. Chiaki Yamamoto (Osaka University [Japan])
13. Kentaro Saito (Kyoto Sangyo University [Japan])
14. Shinji Sugayama (Tohoku Gakuin University [Japan])