

Call for Sessions - WEHC 2015 [S20036]

Proposed title of the session

Industry, Organization, and Economic Structure in Russia in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries

Abstract

The end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth century in Russia were marked by structural change, economic reforms, and political turmoil. By 1880, the Russian economy had fallen behind that of its Western European neighbors, but industry was beginning to grow rapidly. According to Alexander Gerschenkron, late industrializers like Russia demonstrated “considerable differences...with regard to the productive and organization structures of industry” when compared to more advanced, industrialized economies (Gerschenkron 7). However, whether the Russian Empire possessed considerably different organization structures in its economy and whether they mattered for the Russian economy remain largely unknown.

This session discusses the current state of research on the causes, consequences, and shape of economic organization and institutions in the Russian Empire. Papers will document the organization of industry and province administration and will explore Russian migration and comparative perspective on wages and prices in the Empire, both of which may be key determinants of the organization of production in industry and agriculture.

Five papers have so far been accepted to participate in this session. Amanda Gregg’s paper, “Vertical Integration in Russian Cotton Textiles” and the paper by Danila Raskov and Vadim Kufenko, “The Role of Old Believers’ Enterprises: Evidence from the Nineteenth Century Moscow Textile Industry,” describe organizational and institutional features of one of the Russian Empire’s most productive and organizationally complex industries. Gunes Gokmen’s paper, “Career Paths of Governors in Late Tsarist Russia,” describes the backgrounds of key figures in Imperial Russian administration, the heads of provinces. Leonid Borodkin’s paper “Migrations in Russia/USSR in the First Quarter of the 20th Century: Analysis of Economic Factors” and “Backwardness and Economic Development in 19th Century Russia (1830-1917)” by Ekaterina Khaustova and Robert Allen document the structure of the Russian economy and place its development in an international context.

References

Gerschenkron, Alexander. *Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective: A Book of Essays* (Cambridge: Belknap Press, 1962).

I. Corresponding Session Organiser

Ms. Amanda G Gregg (Yale University [United States of America])

II. Co-Organiser(s)

1. Corresponding Organiser.
 2. Dr. Ekaterina Khaustova (Russian State Social University [Russian Federation])
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III. Expected Participant(s)

1. same as correspondent.
2. Ekaterina Khaustova (Russian State Social University [Russian Federation])
3. Gunes Gokmen (New Economic School (Moscow) [Russian Federation])
4. Dmitry Kofanov (Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA) [Russian Federation])
5. Danila Raskov (Saint Petersburg State University [Russian Federation])
6. Vadim Kufenko (University of Hohenheim [Germany])
7. Leonid Borodkin (Moscow State University [Russian Federation])
8. Robert C Allen (Oxford University [United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland])
9. Steven Nafziger (Williams College [United States of America])