

Call for Sessions - WEHC 2015 [S20134]

Proposed title of the session

The economic consequences of independence in Latin America revisited

Abstract

The economic consequences of independence in Latin America, perhaps the most important event in this region's nineteenth century history, have attracted the attention of many important economic historians, including Leandro Prados de la Escosura, John H. Coatsworth, Jeffrey G. Williamson, Richard Salvucci, William Summerhill, Stephen Haber, Jorge Gelman, Luis Bértola and Alan Taylor, just to mention a few. Nonetheless, despite their valuable contributions, some areas of this debate are still open. For example, whether the half century that followed independence could be seen, or not, as 'lost decades'. About this in particular, more evidence is needed for several countries of the region, so far rather neglected. For example, the cases of Chile, Bolivia or Venezuela have not been analysed at the level of detail they deserve. Indeed, the period before the first globalization, in particular c.1810-1840, is under researched for several Latin American economies (at least if compared to later periods or the colonial era). Topics such as which was the nature of the process of 'insertion' of the region into the international economy after detachment from Spain; the impact on income distribution within national boundaries; or empirical evidence on the impact of the release of the colonial fiscal burden call for further attention too. Thus, we aim to collect new research on this area, including new quantitative data to inform this important debate, in particular for those countries which have escaped the radar of economic historians working on this area so far. We also welcome comparative studies for the region on light of new evidence. Finally, this topic is particularly relevant for the main theme of the WEHC 2015 ("Diversity in Development") because it is closely associated with the recent growth and development literature that looks into the historical roots of present Latin American relative backwardness.

I. Corresponding Session Organiser

Dr. Manuel Llorca Jaña (University of Santiago [Chile])

II. Co-Organiser(s)

1. Corresponding Organiser.
 2. Dr. XABIER LAMIKIZ (University of the Basque Country [Spain])
 3. Dr. Cristián Arturo Ducoing Ruiz (University of Valparaíso [Chile])
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III. Expected Participant(s)

1. same as correspondent.
2. Cristián Arturo Ducoing Ruiz (University of Valparaíso [Chile])
3. Xabier Lamikiz (University of the Basque Country [Spain])
4. Rafael Dobado (Complutense University of Madrid [Spain])
5. Bruno Seminario (University of the Pacific [Peru])
6. María Zegarra (University of the Pacific [Peru])
7. Jose Peres Cajias (University Catholic Bolivian San Pablo [Bolivia])
8. No input.
9. No input.