

# Call for Sessions - WEHC 2015 [S20139]

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## Proposed title of the session

Importance of Trade, Conflicts, and Neutrality for Small and Medium Powers from the 18th to the 20th Centuries

## Abstract

The focus of this session will be on small and medium sized states - measured by their political, economic, and military power – that often get overlooked in studies of global trade patterns and conflicts. We want to explore what kinds of changes we see in the trade flows between the great powers and weaker states, especially whether the pressure of the war effort allowed more latitude for these states to explore their trade options. Many of them were neutral during parts or the entirety of the conflicts, and served as important conduits for key strategic and other types of goods. The basic argument in most of the papers in this session is that weak states were able to expand their trade and discover new markets during such large and protracted conflicts, which were featured in this period of more globalized and total wars.

This group of scholars have met in some previous conferences in part, but never as a whole group. The Kyoto meeting will offer us a chance to bring in refined book chapters for broader discussion and comments. Moreover, we have already developed a plan for an edited volume, with a target publisher in mind.

We are utilizing Jari Ojala (University of Jyväskylä) and Patrick O'Brien (London School of Economics) as our commentators. The first group of papers will focus on the economic history of small (or weak) states as players in international trade and conflicts. Thus, Jari Eloranta (Appalachian State University) and Jeremy Land (University of Tennessee at Knoxville) will discuss US trade from 1783 to 1860; Silvia Marzagalli (Université Nice) will analyze US trade with the Mediterranean from 1783 to 1815; Cristina Moreira (Universidade do Minho), Rita Martins de Sousa (University of Lisbon), and Werner Scheltjens (Leipzig University) will focus on Baltic relations between Portugal and Russia: neutrality, trade and finance (1761-1831); Lauri Karvonen (University of Jyväskylä), Jari Ojala, and Jari Eloranta will discuss Swedish-Finnish trade before Napoleon; and Ragnhild Hutchison (Norwegian University of Science and Technology) will focus her analysis on the British-Norwegian trade in the 19th and 20th centuries.

The second group of papers will explore links between international politics and neutrality, as well as how do neutral states survive and are able to carry out own economic policy before, during, and after large-scale wars. Leos Müller (University of Stockholm) will explore the concept and practices of neutrality from the 16th to the 19th centuries; Mehmet Bulut (Sabahattin Zaim University, Istanbul) will discuss the Ottoman Empire as a case study on neutrality, trade, and conflicts; Peter Hedberg, Lars Karlsson and Henric Häggqvist (University of Uppsala) will analyze Swedish trade policy, tariffs and conflicts from Napoleon to World War I; Eric Golson (London School of Economics and University of Warwick) will focus on the impact and application of neutrality during the world wars; and Niklas Jensen-Eriksen (University of Helsinki) will focus his analysis on the application and practices of neutrality among European nations during the economic Cold War of the 1950s.

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## I. Corresponding Session Organiser

Prof. Jari A Eloranta (Appalachian State University and University of Jyväskylä [United States of America])

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## II. Co-Organiser(s)

1. Corresponding Organiser.
2. Prof. Peter Hedberg (University of Uppsala [Sweden])
3. Prof. Maria Cristina Moreira (University of Minho [Portugal])
4. Dr. Eric Golson (London School of Economics and University of Warwick [United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland])

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## III. Expected Participant(s)

1. Jari Ojala (University of Jyväskylä [Finland])
2. Anthony Patrick O'Brien (London School of Economics [United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland])
3. Jeremy Land (University of Tennessee at Knoxville [United States of America])
4. Silvia Marzagalli (University of Nice [France])
5. Rita Martins de Sousa (University of Lisbon [Portugal])
6. Werner Scheltjens (University of Leipzig [Germany])
7. Lauri Karvonen (University of Jyväskylä [Finland])
8. Ragnhild Hutchison (Norwegian University of Science and Technology [Norway])
9. Leos Muller (University of Stockholm [Sweden])
10. Mehmet Bulut (Sabahattin Zaim University, Istanbul [Turkey])
11. Lars Karlsson (University of Uppsala [Sweden])
12. Henric Häggqvist (University of Uppsala [Sweden])
13. Niklas Jensen-Eriksen (University of Helsinki [Finland])