

Call for Papers to Session S20132

XVIIth World Economic History Congress, Kyoto, Japan, 3-7 August 2015

■ Session Title: Regional GDPs in the periphery: a long run perspective

■ Call for Papers.

Deadline of the Call: 30 January 2015

Guideline of the Call:

In the last years, research on the evolution of regional economics in the long run has received special attention by economic historians, in particular in European and other developed countries. Many of the results, based on the reconstruction of historical regional GDP figures, have shown that the present-day economic geography of Europe and the USA is the result of a long and complex process in which both economic and historical forces have played their role. This is why we argue that there are deep underlying forces explaining contemporaneous regional inequality and we emphasize those associated to institutional backgrounds and geographical characteristics. The most basic forces are related with the initial production factors and resource endowments (Heckscher-Ohlin model) while at a second level, agglomeration forces arising from the evolution of market potential may also be present (New Economic Geography). The interaction of all these components takes place in a context with important variations in the institutional framework but also in transportation costs and the degree of international and interregional economic integration.

New research with the focus on Latin America, Asia and the settler economies, has the potential not only to provide a new perspective on the economic history of these regions but also to offer new insights on how those forces interacted in the non-core, peripheral countries. Hence, the aim of the session is to bring together original research on the topic for these regions. In particular, we are interested in empirical studies with estimations of regional GDP in the long run (since the end of the 19th century).

Characterizations of the dynamic of regional inequality, with contributions in topics like convergence among regions, agglomeration or spatial analysis; studies on the causes of regional economic development in the long run like changes in productivity, labor structure, capital intensity, etc.; comparative studies among countries.

One-page proposals can be sent no later than 30 January 2015. Decisions will be made by 15th February 2015 and accepted papers must be submitted no later than 1st April 2015.

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