Uwe Müller (Leipzig):
The entanglement of the German / Prussian and Russian infrastructure and freight rate policies in northern East Central Europe

Steffi Marung (Leipzig):
Creating territory, connecting empires: Representations in East Central European infrastructure maps

Hrvoje Ratkajec (Koper):
The port city of Trieste and its development between the two empires (1890–1940)

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The global' history of business in Africa

Venue: Salle d’Histoire, 45 Rue d’Ulm – Stairs D 2nd floor

There is a lack of systematic business history programmes in Africa and most of the research on business in Africa is conducted by scholars outside Africa. In the only recent review of business history in Africa, Robert Tignor (2007) noted “...that relatively little work has been done on uncovering the history of these firms or of the people who founded and ran them.” Tignor’s historiographical overview identifies a small number of studies focussing primarily on British or other European business enterprises’ operations in Africa. While a growing number of African businesses have entered the global markets (businesses such as the Dangote Group, a cement manufacturer in Nigeria, or Real Africa Investments in South Africa), there are only a few business histories (Forrest 1995) on African businesses (Teagarden 2011). This panel will explore the nature and expansion of African business through the history of pre-colonial control, colonialism and I the decolonised independent phase. What are the conditions from which African business emerged? What were the capitalisation strategies, the growth and labour strategies and how did these businesses expand? What were the linkages with global markets, or to what extent were African businesses locked in regional networks? Were African businesses different from European businesses they competed with, or could market collaboration be identified? What kind of business networks could be identified? How were African businesses managed? What was the degree of global interaction between African business and foreign businesses in Africa? Can a distinct ‘African Business’ model be identified? This panel will investigate African business history and the degree of integration in global markets since the late eighteenth century.

Convenor: Grietjie Verhoef (Johannesburg)
Chair: Tetsuhiko Takai (Sapporo)

Papers:

Grietjie Verhoef (Johannesburg):
African Business development
Chibuike Uche (Nsukka):
The nationalization of Lonrho’s business interests in Tanzania

Tetsuhiko Takai (Sapporo):
History of francophone business in Africa and in Asia

Ayodeji Olukoju (Lagos): Family firms: Inter-generational succession and business strategies in colonial western Nigeria

Kofi Takyi Asante (Evanston):
‘Colluding nationalism’ versus ‘conflictual nationalism’: Gold Coast merchants and the making of the colonial state, 1850–1950

John Ngoy Kalenga (Sapporo):
Business History of the copper industry in the Democratic Republic of Congo

▷ The Global History of UNESCO

Venue: Salle Celan, 45 Rue d’Ulm – Stairs A ground floor

Convenor: Poul Duedahl (Aalborg)

Papers:

Poul Duedahl (Aalborg):
Routes of knowledge: The global history of UNESCO, 1945–75

Casper Andersen (Aarhus):
Engineering internationalism or engineering imperialism? UNESCO and the birth of the union of international engineering organizations 1945–1955

Jens Boel (Paris):
Sources to global history: Discovering UNESCO archives

Chloé Maurel (Paris):
The UNESCO / UNRWA educational program for Palestinian refugees (from 1949)