Economics and Institutions in History

Workshop in economic history and development

Faculty of Economics
University of Economics, Prague
Czech Republic
1—2 July 2016
VŠE Campus

- Ražská budova
- Nová budova
- Menza
- Likešova aula
- Stará budova
- Stará budova

Paradise Building
New Building
Canteen
Likeš Auditorium
Old Building
Old Building
Welcome

The Department of Institutional, Environmental and Experimental Economics and the Faculty of Economics, University of Economics, Prague welcome you to the 2016 WEast Conference on July 1–2, 2016.

Keynote speech will be delivered by:
James A. Robinson
(University of Chicago)

About the Department of Institutional, Environmental and Experimental Economics

The Department of Institutional, Environmental and Experimental Economics of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Economics, Prague was founded in 2006. It is an international department, with about a third of its core faculty members coming from abroad. The research agenda of the faculty members spans institutional economics, law and economics, energy economics, experimental economics and psychology and also quantitative economic history. They regularly publish in international peer-reviewed journals. The departmental members are very succesfull in securing research grants on various levels.

The Department organizes a weekly Research Seminar Series in which academics from around the world present their new research. The Department also runs the Laboratory of Experimental Economics, a state-of-the-art facility for experimental research.

For more detailed information about the Department of Institutional, Environmental and Experimental Economics and the related research activity, please visit the departmental website at kie.vse.cz.
WEast

WEast is an international initiative promoting research on the economic history of East, Central and South-East Europe. Its aim is to strengthen collaboration between economic historians and economists with shared interest in this region representing both Western and Eastern universities and research centres. In order to promote this research agenda, WEast regularly organizes workshops convened sessions at major international conferences and congresses. It is managed by a core group of international scholars: Tamas Vonyo (Bocconi University), Jacob Weisdorf (University of Southern Denmark), Mikolaj Malinowski (Utrecht University) and Stefan Nikolic (University of York). Further information of WEast as well as its past and upcoming event can be found at http://weast.info.

Conference

Conference Venue

The conference is held at the University of Economics, Prague, Žižkov Campus, located at W. Churchill Sq. 4, Praž 3.

Sessions are held in NB 170 in Nová budova (New building, denoted as NB). The coffee breaks are held in adjacent room. Uncharacteristically for its name, it IS NOT the newest building on campus :-). To find direction follow signs from the entrance to the New Building.

The keynote speech is held in RB 212 in Rajská budova (Paradise building). It IS the newest building on campus :-). To get to Rajská budova from Nová budova, simply follow the posted signs.

For location of New and Paradise buildings see the campus plan in this brochure.

The easiest way to get to the campus is by public transportation. From the downtown, you can take tram no. 5, 9 or 26 to Husinecká stop. Parking is available in front of the campus at W. Churchill Sq. at the rate of 30 CZK/hour. Please refer to the conference website at www.weast2016prague.cz for detailed information about directions to the conference venue.

Please note that smoking is prohibited in all buildings on campus.
Registration and Information Desk

The Registration and Information Desk will be open at 9:00 in the room NB 170 on Friday and Saturday (June 1—2) during the breaks at the conference.

Registration hours
July 1 (Friday) 9.00—9.30 NB 170 and then during the breaks
July 2 (Saturday) 9.00—15.00 NB 170 (during the breaks)

Sessions

Sessions are either 60 or 90 or 120 minutes long depending on the number of presenters (two, three or four, respectively). Each presenter is limited to a total of 30 minutes, including discussion. There are no assigned discussants, but we recommend presenters to leave the final at least 10 minutes for audience questions and comments, i.e. suggested length of a presentation is 15–20 minutes.

Please bring your presentation in either PDF or PowerPoint format and copy it to the shared PC/laptop through a USB stick.

Internet Access

Wireless internet is available in all parts of the university campus. You can use either the standard eduroam access or a dedicated access to a conference network. Access information for the latter will be given to you at registration.
Social Program

Conference Dinner

The Conference Dinner takes place on Friday, June 1, at a Restaurant Mlýnc located at Novotného lávka 9, Prague 1. This is on the Vltava river waterfront in the center of medieval Prague where Bohemian kings and dukes used to bathe. However, no swimming on site is allowed these days :-). The dinner starts at 19.00 and ends at 22.30.

The site is easily accessible by public transportation or by foot. Please refer to the map in the back of the booklet. Alternatively, please refer to the conference website at [www.weast2016prague.cz](http://www.weast2016prague.cz) for detailed information about directions.

Public parking spaces are very limited around the area and cost 40 CZK/hour.

Lunch will be provided during lunch breaks – details will be given on spot.

About Prague

Please refer to the conference website at [www.weast2016prague.cz](http://www.weast2016prague.cz) for tips about transportation (public and taxi), restaurants, evening activities and tourist sites.
Conference Room Locations
Conference Schedule

Friday, July 1, 2016

9.00—9.30  Registration

9.30—10.00  Welcome address by Miroslav Zajíček (University of economics, Prague)

10.00—12.00  Session 1: Financial markets and financial crises
(Chair: Mikolaj Malinowski)

Piotr Lozowski (University of Bialystok): Credit market as an indicator of economic growth in Warsaw in the 15th and beginning of the 16th century

Matthias Morys (University of York): Any lessons for today? Exchange-rate stabilisation in Greece and South-East Europe between economic and political objectives and fiscal reality, 1841–1939

Flora Macher (LSE): No banks without states and no states without banks: the political origins of the Austrian and Hungarian crisis of 1931

Stefan Nikolic (University of York): Emerging market sovereign bond yields and the financial crisis of 1931

12.00—14.00  Lunch

14.00—15.30  Session 2: Human capital
(Chair: Tamás Vonyó)

Joerg Baten (with Mikolaj Szoltysiek) (University of Tübingen): ‘Girl power’ in Eastern Europe? The human capital development of Central-Eastern and Eastern Europe in the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries and its determinants

Tomáš Cvrček (with Miroslav Zajíček) (UCL, University of economics, Prague): Demand for schooling and ethnic politics in Imperial Austria

Claudia Rei (Vanderbilt University): Escaping the Holocaust: human and health capital of refugees to the United States, 1940–42

15.30—16.00  Coffee break
16.00—17.30  **Session 3: Growth, living standards, and regional development**  
(Chair: Stefan Nikolic)  
**Levente Pakot** (Hungarian Demographic Research Institute): Infant and child mortality and vulnerability to economic stress in Western Hungarian rural parishes, 1828–1914  
**Marianna Nagy** (University of Pécs): Contrasting working practices and culture in differently developed regions of Hungary before WWI  
**Tamas Vonyo (with Alex Klein)** (Bocconi University, University of Kent, University of economics, Prague): Why did Socialism fail? The role of factor inputs reconsidered

19.00  Conference dinner

**Saturday, July 2, 2016**

9.30—10.30  **Session 4: Culture, identity and politics (I)**  
(Chair: Jacob Weisdorf)  
**Christian Ochsner** (ifo Institut – Leibniz-Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, University of Munich): Between Hitler and Haider: Long-term impacts of Nazi migration in post-WWII Austria  
**Leonard Kukić** (LSE): The last Yugoslavs: ethnicity, identity and economic outcomes

10.30—11.00  Coffee break

11.00—12.00  **Session 5: Culture, identity and politics (II)**  
(Chair: Miroslav Zajiček)  
**Christoph Eder** (University of Innsbruck): Economic origins of cultural norms: the case of animal husbandry and bastardy  
**Delcea Sergiu** (Central European University): Pro-urban welfare in agricultural countries? Nationalism and welfare state creation in Central and Eastern Europe: Hungary and Romania Compared

12.00—13.30  Lunch
13.30—15.00  **Session 5: Trade, markets and state formation**  
(Chair: Tomáš Cvrček)  
**Mikolaj Malinovski** (University of Utrecht): Freedom and decline: Polish state formation and rye market disintegration, 1500–1772  
**Cristina Victoria Radu** (University of Southern Denmark): The effect of maize cultivation on economic development. Evidence from Romania  
**Thilo R. Huning (with Fabian Wahl)** (Humboldt University): Observability of Soil Quality, State Capacity, and Political Fragmentation: The Monstrum Germanicum

15.00—15.15  Coffee break

15.15—16.30  **Keynote lecture**  
**James Robinson** (University of Chicago): Commercialization and Industrialization: Evidence from the Dissolution of the English Monasteries

16.30  Conference ends

**Keynote speaker**

**James A. Robinson**  
**University of Chicago**

James Robinson is a University Professor at the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago. He was formerly the Wilbur A. Cowett Professor of Government at Harvard University. He studied economics at the London School of Economics, the University of Warwick and Yale University. He previously taught in the Department of Economics at the University of Melbourne, the University of Southern California and before moving to Harvard was a Professor in the Departments of Economics and Political Science at the University of California at Berkeley. His main research interests are in comparative economic and political development with a focus on the long-run with a particular interest in Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa. He is currently conducting research in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone, Haiti and in Colombia where he has taught for many years during the summer at the University of the Andes in Bogotá.
## List of invited participants

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Joerg Baten</td>
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<td>Miroslav Zajiček</td>
<td>University of Economics, Prague</td>
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Maps to event venues

A — University of Economics, Prague, Žižkov campus (all talks)
B — Restaurant Mlýnec (Workshop Dinner)
Local organisers
Miroslav Zajíček (Chairman)
Tomáš Cvrček

WEast organisers
Tamas Vonyo
Mikolaj Malinowski
Jacob Weisdorf

Contact
Email: miroslav.zajicek@vse.cz
Website: www.weast2016prague.cz
WEast website: weast.info
Department website: kie.vse.cz