

# **REGENSBURGECONNEWS**

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021

WISHING ALL OUR READERS A YEAR OF PEACE, JOY AND WELL-BEING!



# **NEWSLETTER 2021-01**

## **CALENDAR:**

## IOS/UR Seminar (Prof. Frensch)

Gerda Asmus (University of California San Diego and Heidelberg University):

State capacity and local economic development: The Russian state in the Urals

## **Economic and Social History Seminar**

Esther Sahle (University Oldenburg): Law & Gospel Order: Resolving Commercial Disputes in Colonial Philadelphia

#### special time

Tuesday, Jan 19 17:00-18:30 Zoom-meeting

Wednesday, Jan 20 18:00-20:15 Zoom-meeting

#### ABSTRACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION:

#### **IOS/UR Seminar (Prof. Frensch)**

Gerda Asmus:

State capacity and local economic development: The Russian state in the Urals

Abstract: This study investigates the causal effect of state capacity at the subnational level on economic development. For this purpose, it takes advantage of the increase in state capacity in the aftermath of the largest peasant rebellion in Tsarist Russia which took place in the southern part of the Urals between 1773 and 1775. There is indeed ample historical evidence suggesting that in the wake of the rebellion, the Russian imperial state increased the number of military and civilian administrators in the southern Urals. The empirical approach compares changes in developmental outcomes in areas marginally affected by the rebellion to those who were marginally not affected, by employing a geographic regression discontinuity design along the boundary of the rebels' movements. The results suggest that the local development of state capacity following the rebellion had persistent effects on economic development until World War I.

Info:

Zoom Link: https://ios-regensburg-de.zoom.us/j/81328256245

Meeting ID: 813 2825 6245

#### **Economic and Social History Seminar**

Esther Sahle:

Law & Gospel Order: Resolving Commercial Disputes in Colonial Philadelphia

Abstract: Trade in the British Atlantic grew a great deal. While acknowledging that this growth had important economic consequences, scholars have yet to fully explain its causes. Combining concepts from the New Institutional Economics and Legal Pluralism, this paper argues that formal religious institutions were key. Based on records from colonial Philadelphia, it shows how the Quaker meeting created a legal forum to resolve commercial disputes. It enforced its verdicts by gathering and disseminating information about disputes locally and across the Atlantic world through the Society of Friends' formal organisation of meetings. Thereby, it reenforced reputation mechanisms, facilitating the expansion of Philadelphia's trade. The paper contributes to debates on institutions, legal pluralism, and religious diasporas.

#### Info:

Zoom Link: https://uni-regensburg.zoom.us/j/99496312592

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# RegensburgEconNews

Newsletter of the Institute of Economics and Econometrics, University of Regensburg

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