

8.2. Social and economic convergences and divergences in the rural world: the Alpine space (16th-19th Century)

Panel organiser: Lorenzetti, Luigi, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Switzerland; Mocarelli, Luca, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy

Over the last years, several studies have highlighted the role of political factors in the development of specific social and economic pathways in the Alpine area. Besides influencing ways of organising and managing resources, political and power relations within territorial systems may also have defined several solutions through which local communities and national structures have ensured their production processes. Through a comparative approach, this session aims at comparing some characteristics of the social and economic structures of some areas of the Alpine area from a historiographical point of view. The aim is to verify the existence of regional models specific to the economic structures of the rural context and linked to power relations structuring the territory. In this context, four main areas can be outlined, referring to four political contexts whose characteristics have significantly influenced the regional territorial system: a) the western one, under the influence of Duchy of Savoy and the Kingdom of Sardinia (Piedmont valleys, Valle d'Aosta region, French valley of Savoy), b) the central one under the Swiss influence (Ticino and Valtellina regions), and Hispanic-Austrian influence (Como, Brescia and Bergamo valleys), and c) the eastern one, under the influence of Venice and Habsburg Monarchy (Trentino-Alto Adige, Friuli, Tyrol, Slovenia). Between the 16th and 19th century, these different areas are characterised by political pathways with alternating phases of convergence and divergence, from the political and institutional organisation point of view, as well as power relations between the State and local communities. This session aims at investigating the role of these contexts in the definition and development of the economy in the Alpine rural world. This analysis is articulated around several elements which are at the intersection between the political, economic and social sphere, and can therefore contribute to providing a pattern and understanding potential regional economic and productive models. In particular, we would like to highlight a) the regional characteristics of different forms of property and any transformation they underwent in time; b) their influence on regional productive systems; c) the relationship between the economy and the development of pluriactivity forms; d) the productive conversion models in relation to changes in regional political and economic organisation; e) the penetration of a credit economy in rural economy and its coming into contact with the agriculture economy and real estate.

Chair: Mocarelli, Luca, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy

Wednesday, 21 August 2013 // 1100 – 1300 // Session 8 – Room A-119

8.2.1. Territorial systems and political idioms: diverging pathways in the Western Alps

Albera, Dionigi, University of Aix-Marseille, France

This paper will explore the role of power relations in the structuring of territorial systems in the Western Alps, focusing on the period between the 16th and the 19th centuries. More specifically, it will examine the political framework of the relationship between local territories and the state. A general model concerning the refraction of the political and juridical idioms on the productive and reproductive processes at a local scale can thereby be established. In order to define regional (and sub-regional) models, the paper will compare the evolution of the areas under the influence of the Duchy of Savoy and the Kingdom of Sardinia (Piedmont valleys, Aosta Valley, Savoy) with that experienced by the Alpine regions belonging to the French Kingdom. This comparison will allow the identification of two clearly distinct configurations by showing several divergences in changes in the political and administrative situation of local territories within state dynamics. The final part of the paper will argue that these different experiences influenced demographic, economic and social transformations at the local level, giving birth to the development of discrete pathways in the Western Alps.

8.2.2. Notes on the Rural World in the Alpine valleys of Lombardy (18th–19th Centuries)

Tedeschi, Paolo, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy

The aim of this paper is to illustrate some aspects of the rural world in the Alpine valleys of Lombardy during the 18th and 19th centuries. Although this region belonged to three different States (the Austrian Empire, the Republic of Venice and the Swiss Con-

federation) until 1797, the characteristics of the rural economy were similar. Nevertheless, at the end of the 18th century, the French invasion changed the political context: all Lombard valleys were included in the Cisalpine Republic and their new administrative status was established during the Napoleonic age and the Congress of Vienna. This partially influenced the productive systems and the economy of the Alpine valleys because the French and Austrian governments decided to promote the sale of public land and other real estate which was closely linked to the agricultural sector, such as hay lofts, cattle sheds, stock rooms and flour mills. The process of privatisation did not improve the yields of land and created environmental problems where new private owners over-exploited their new properties. A subsequent change was the decision by the Italian government to eliminate most of the ecclesiastic institutions that financed small landowners and manufactures, reducing loans for Alpine agriculture and industry.

8.2.3. Continuity and change: economy and institutions in the rural space in Friuli and Trentino-Tyrol (16th-19th Century)

Bonoldi, Andrea, University of Trento, Italy

In early modern times, economies of Tyrol and Friulian mountains were characterized by the presence of activities related to the exploitation and marketing of local resources (agriculture, livestock, forestry, mining) and of a wide range of services: trade and migration of skilled workers. In both contexts, during the nineteenth century, this model was compromised by the deep transformations of the production and exchange, which led to their marginalisation. During the Restoration, in Friuli and Tyrol, there was a progressive penetration of the legal and administrative principles of the modern state which significantly affected both the spaces of self-government and the institutions regulating economic activities. These historical processes affected contexts whose institutional bases were quite different. After the end of the Napoleonic hegemony in Europe, both territories passed under the sovereignty of the Habsburgs. In Tyrol the large transformations of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries inserted themselves in the groove of a partial administrative and institutional continuity; in the mountains of Friuli, on the other hand, with the fall of the Venetian Republic, the change was significant. The aim of our study is to evaluate, in a comparative perspective, the evolution of the relationship between economics and institutions in Tyrol and in the mountains of Friuli between 16th and 19th Centuries.

8.2.4. Rural economy in the Julian Alps: a Slovenian model?

Panjek, Aleksander, University of Primorska, Slovenia

The paper deals with the part of the Eastern Alps named Julian Alps that from the 16th to the 19th century were Habsburg territory and are nowadays in Slovenia. A striking characteristic of the region is that the early modern peasant economy structurally integrated agricultural with non-agricultural income sources. This feature is comparable to other Alpine areas, but in our case the peasants show a larger variety of additional activities. The paper first presents the fundamental characteristics of the political and institutional organisation and of the power relations structuring the territory (State, feudal lords, rural communities). Then it discusses the rural economic structure, paying particular attention to the following points, highlighted within this session: a) the forms of property; b) their influence on the economic structure and productive system; c) the relationship between the economy and the development of pluriactivity forms. The role of the 'specific' feudal context in defining the rural economy in the Julian Alps is then discussed. The paper proposes the definition of "integrated rural economy" for a system characterized by a structural integration of agricultural and different non-agricultural sources of income in the rural population as a whole as well as within the peasant households (integrated peasant economy), and presents the characteristics of this area to the necessary comparison with other South-Alpine regional realities.

Participants

Albera, Dionigi

Dionigi Albera is Research Director of IDEMEC (Institut d'ethnologie méditerranéenne, européenne et comparative) at the CNRS and the University of Aix-Marseille. His research fields touch the alpine and mediterranean areas, focusing on anthropological theories of complex societies, on family and kinship systems, on migratory phenomena and social mobility. In 2011 he published the volume *Au fil des générations – Terre, pouvoir et parenté dans l'Europe alpine (XIVe –XXe siècles)*, Grenoble, Presses Universitaires de Grenoble.

Bonoldi, Andrea

Andrea Bonoldi is researcher in economic history at the University of Trento. He is member of the editorial staff of the review "Geschichte und Region / Storia e regione" and "Studi Trentini di Scienze Storiche". Research interests are the development processes in the Alps during the Contemporary and Modern Age with a particular attention for fairs and merchants nets and for the industrial and financial dynamics in the Tyrolean area as well. In 2012 he published with Maurizio Cau, *Il territorio trentino nella storia europea, Vol. 4: L'età contemporanea*, Trento, FBK Press.

Lorenzetti, Luigi

Luigi Lorenzetti is professor at the Università della Svizzera Italiana where he coordinates the Laboratorio die Storia delle Alpi. He is a member of the editorial staff of "Histoire des Alpes - Storia delle Alpi - Geschichte der Alpen". His research fields are Economic and Social History of the Alps and the Swiss Historical Demography. He has published many articles on family systems, migration practices, credit and land markets in the southalpine area in Modern and Contemporary Age. In 2010 he published the Volume: *Destini periferici. Modernizzazione, risorse e mercati in Ticino, Vallese e Valtellina 1850-1930*, Udine, Forum editrice.

Mocarelli, Luca

Luca Mocarelli is Professor of Economic and Social History at the University of Milano-Bicocca. His research fields are the environmental History and its resources, the History of tourism, the Economic History of Towns and the industrial history of the Lombard valleys in Modern Age. Since 2012 he is president of the International Society for Alpine History. In 2002 he edited the volume *Tra identità e integrazione. La Lombardia nella macroregione alpina dello sviluppo economico europeo (secoli XVII-XX)*, Milano, Franco Angeli.

Panjek, Aleksander

Aleksander Panjek is associated professor at the University of Primorska. Central fields of his research work include economic and social history of the Modern Area and Contemporary History. His research interest include various topics, especially urban and rural history, the agricultural economy and the society of the Old Order. In 2002 he published the volume *Terra di confine. Agricoltura e traffici tra le Alpi e l'Adriatico: la contea di Gorizia nel Seicento*, Mariano del Friuli, Ed. della Laguna.

Tedeschi, Paolo

Paolo Tedeschi is Researcher at the Faculty of Economics at the University of Milano-Bicocca. His researches are related with the economic and institutional History of Europe in contemporary Age and the economic history of alpine areas. He dedicated many studies to the economic systems, the relations between production and credit and the land market in rural Lombardy in Modern Age. In 2006 he published the volume: *I frutti negati: assetti fondiari, modelli organizzativi, produzioni e mercati agricoli nel Bresciano durante l'età della Restaurazione (1814-1859)*, Brescia, Fondazione Civiltà Bresciana.