CHAIR

HERMÈS
PARIS

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PARIS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
ÉCOLE D'ÉCONOMIE DE PARIS

Opening Economics

Interdisciplinary workshop
Ports: between history and economics

Organized by the Urban Economics, History and Society research group,
funded by the Opening Economics Chair at Paris School of Economics

November 25th – 2 to 4 pm

Room R2-21 – 2nd Floor – Campus JOURDAN

Or online via zoom (ID: 937 1740 7626 - Passcode: 766864)

On-line or in person attendance is free, but attendees are required to register here.

Welcome coffee at 1:30 pm in room R2-20

Silvia Marzagalli, historian at the Université Côte d'Azur, will propose an online presentation around the historical database on ports that is developed as part of the PORTIC project: "**Old Regime shipping and trade in France: understanding ports' activities through digital humanities**"

Abstract: The ANR program PORTIC data on maritime transport (database Navigocorpus) and the French balance of trade (database Toflit18) to better understand the spatial and economic dynamics at work at the eve of the Revolution, which resulted in increasingly integrated markets. To do so, we are producing three case studies, while also developing on-demand visualisations of data on shipping for further research. Finally, the program's PI prepared a book with over 90 maps to present the organisation of ports and maritime trade in France. This seminar presents the main outlines of this still ongoing research program.

Guy Michaels, economist at the London School of Economics, will present a work in progress entitled "**Identifying Agglomeration Shadows: Long-run Evidence from Ancient Ports**" (with Richard Hornbeck and Ferdinand Rauch).

Abstract: We examine "agglomeration shadows" that emerge around large cities, which discourage some economic activities in nearby areas. Identifying agglomeration shadows is complicated by endogenous city formation, however, and a "wave interference" that we show in simulations. We use the locations of ancient Mediterranean ports, which seeded modern cities, to estimate shadows cast on nearby areas. These patterns extend to modern city locations, more generally, and illustrate how encouraging growth in particular places can discourage growth of nearby areas.