
Noticeboard

Conferences

An international conference is being planned for the Autumn of 1994 on the theme of social and labour forces, European trade unions and the process of European integration. Those interested in contributing to this conference should write for further information to Andrea Ciampani, Fondazione Giulio Pastore, Via Fontanella di Borghese, 35, 00186 Roma, Italy.

EAST–WEST RELATIONS: CONFRONTATION AND DÉTENTE, 1945–89,
at the University of Bochum, Federal Republic of Germany,
22–25 September 1993

This international congress will not consist of a series of lectures. Rather, the combination of thoroughly prepared panel discussions and reports of research in progress (= sections) should make it possible both to deal with particular themes which run through the entire epoch and to discuss pioneering research in depth. A brief programme describing the theme and question areas of the panels and the sections is as follows:

- 22 Sept: **Panel I:** The global contest – the USA and the Soviet Union and the interactions between bloc consolidation and détente in Europe
Chairperson: Ernst-Otto Czempel, Frankfurt
Keynote address: Curt Gasteyger, Geneva
- 23 Sept: Research in progress and papers
A: Interactions between the Soviet Union's *Westpolitik* and the state of relationships between the United States and Western European states and organisations
B: The reactions of Western Europe towards the policies of the Soviet Union in Eastern Europe
C: Relations between East and West European states: realities and 'missed opportunities'
Panel II: Divided Europe – divided Germany
Chairperson: Christoph Bertram, Hamburg
Keynote address
- 24 Sept: Research in progress and papers
A: Divided Germany and their European neighbours
B: The two German states and their relationships to the superpowers
C: German–German relations
Panel III: The economic dimensions of the East–West conflict and the politics of East–West trade
Chairperson: Michael Kaser, Oxford
Keynote address: Norbert Walter, Frankfurt

25 Sept: Research in progress and papers

A: East–West trade between denial strategies and bridge-building

B: Arms exports and the power-projection of the blocs

C: The question of knowledge: think tanks and their views on the performance of the economies

Panel IV: The Cold War as an historical epoch

Chairperson: Wilfried Loth, Essen

Final address: Gustav Schmidt, Bochum

Anyone wishing to receive details should write to Professor Gustav Schmidt, Lehrstuhl für Internationale Politik, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Geb. GC 04-705, Postfach 10 21 48, 4630 Bochum 1, Federal Republic of Germany.

New Association and New Journal

In November 1990, twenty-three banks and institutions from eleven European countries founded the European Association for Banking History e.V., which is intended to act as a link between banking practitioners, academics and bank historians by stimulating and disseminating research results in the field of banking and monetary history. It is engaged in a number of projects:

1. It plans to hold a yearly Colloquium on Bank Archives, the first of which was held at the Banque Paribas in Paris on 28 February–1 March 1991. The title was ‘The Situation of Bank Archives in West European Countries’, and archivists reported on the position in the UK, France, Spain, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Germany. In addition John Orbell of Baring Bros in London spoke on the ground rules for establishing an archive system in a bank, Jean-Marie Thiveaud spoke on ‘Histoire, consulting et marketing’, and Manfred Pohl spoke on ‘Histoire et Enterprise’. The proceedings have been published by the Association.

2. It also plans to hold a yearly Academic Colloquium, the first of which was held at De Nederlandsche Bank in Amsterdam on 16–17 September 1992, the subject being ‘How to write the history of a bank’. There were six sessions – one on how to write the history of a central bank, one on how to write the history of savings banks and co-operative banks, and four on how to write the history of commercial banks, each session devoted to a group of countries. Added fizz was given to the proceedings by the fact that the first day coincided with so-called ‘Black Wednesday’, when the pound was driven out of the Exchange Rate Mechanism, and members of the colloquium desperately tried to discover what was happening outside the walls of the Bank.

3. The Association is publishing a *Handbook on the History of European Banks*, which is intended to serve as a reference book for all those seeking ready information on the banking history of a European country or the history of a particular bank.

4. The Association is sponsoring a research project, entitled ‘The financial revolution in Europe 1850–1914’, which will be managed and co-ordinated by Professor Philip Cottrell of the Department of Economic History, University of Leicester, Leicester, England. The purpose is to look into the capital and funding sources of the joint stock banks which developed during the second half of the nineteenth century in the European countries.

5. The Association is sponsoring an academic journal, which will be published by Cambridge University Press, entitled the *Financial History Review*. The editors are Professor Cottrell and Dr Youssef Cassis (Business History Unit, the London School of Economics), and the first issue is scheduled to appear in April 1994.

For information on any and all of the above, write to Ms Brigitte Hatke-Beck, European Association for Banking History e.V., Alte Rothofstraße 2–4, D–6000 Frankfurt am Main 1, Germany. Tel. (069) 131 0 231; FAX no.: (069) 7150 8336.