
ANNOTATIONEN

Felix Brahm / Eve Rosenhaft (eds.): *Slavery Hinterland: Transatlantic Slavery and Continental Europe, 1680–1850*, Woodbridge: Boydell Press 2016, 261 p.

The co-edited collective volume, *Slavery Hinterland*, appears in the book series, *People, Markets, Goods: Economies and Societies in History*. Previous titles in the series have focused on British or English history, and therefore this book, while suiting the series' title, appears to deviate from the prior monographs and volumes published there. This book seeks to illuminate the experiences of historical actors in societies not directly involved in the trafficking of enslaved Africans (i.e. not Britain) with a focus on people from Central and Southern European societies but argues that their lives were nevertheless touched by this transatlantic trade in human beings and plantation economies. Since this volume's publication in 2016, the series has mainly returned to a British focus but a forthcoming collective volume in the series will build on the thesis in *Slavery Hinterland*, "by looking beyond slavery and American plantations." That book, *Globalized Peripheries: Central Europe and the Atlantic World, 1680–1860*, edited by Jutta Wimpler and Klaus Weber, will be released in 2020 and therefore this is a developing dialogue that may be of interest

to *Comparativ* readers: to what extent have transformations in Central Europe as well as lived experiences been impacted, entangled, and implicated in the transatlantic economies? *Slavery Hinterland*, in fact, opened with a terminological discussion on why *hinterland* became a guiding concept of the book rather than *periphery*, a term that suggests "that areas in continental Europe were subordinate in importance to the Atlantic world" (p. 6).

This book consists of eight body chapters, as well as a comprehensive introduction by the editors and an afterword by Catherine Hall. The more specific guiding question for this volume is: what did people in Europe not directly participant or implicated in the slave trade perceive of slavery and anti-slavery discourses between 1680 and 1850? The volume is the product of a conference on the topic in 2012 hosted in Liverpool at both the university and the International Slavery Museum, located at a major site of the transatlantic slave trade. This volume, however, looks even further to the "hinterland" of slavery, particularly at societies far removed from the Atlantic coast: German-speaking lands, Italian speaking lands, and Denmark. The volume, most obviously and successfully seeks out the German experience, distance, and moral perception of the slave trade and slavery, as most contributions (also in

Globalized Peripheries) skew towards contributions from German-speaking lands that mainly center on experiences of individuals, families, etc. What is refreshing about the volume is its ability to go beyond a new imperial history framework to examine colony and metropole within an analytic framework: the actual connectivity and perceptions of colonialism reached far beyond any imperial container.

This volume may offer new perspectives and source material for scholars of transatlantic or transregional empires directly implicated in the slave trade or plantation slavery as well as historians of Atlantic slavery, abolition, commodities, and commerce. Yet one can imagine that for many scholars working in these fields, they may not have the language competencies for primary research in Central Europe; this book offers new empirical perspectives for these historians. To that end, the book is followed by a helpful bibliography, which is not always the case in collective volumes. This book also will be insightful for historians of Germany's later colonial project, which did not emerge from scratch in the late nineteenth century but was informed by longer-term received perceptions of race, slavery, and colonialism.

Megan Maruschke

Günther Schulz/Mark Spoerer (Hrsg.): **Integration und Desintegration Europas. Wirtschafts- und sozialhistorische Beiträge (=VSWG-Beiheft 244), Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag 2019, 230 S.**

The very brief introduction to this collective volume has been written together by

the outgoing and the incoming president of the Society for Social and Economic History. The chosen title may lead some readers on a false track: At least those expecting a discussion of current European integration and disintegration will be surprised by Philipp Rössner's excellent overview of economic governance tools developed since the fourteenth century across Europe or Yiannis Kokkinakis' discussion of the difficulties with state-building in Greece before 1914 and the role the financial sector played therein. Rössner builds on his enormous knowledge of both economic theories and practices to argue that Europe has developed a particular rich repertoire of interventions into the economic sector and many of them are often presented as relatively new while he can demonstrate that they are part of a much longer experimentation. Kokkinakis on the other hand starts with a single case study of the ambition in Crete to build a sovereign state and to merge later with Greece but his message is also rather general: the financial institutions play an often underestimated role when it comes to the compatibility of political entities.

The other papers are closer to each other and they circulate around the notion of infrastructure. Christian Henrich-Franke, Cornelius Neutsch, Laura Elsner, and Guido Thiemeyer look at a series of important figures who turned the building of such infrastructures towards border-crossing functions and include the regulation of the Rhine shipping in the early nineteenth as well as the ISDN-standard in the late twentieth century. Uwe Müller broadens the perspective to the Eastern part of Europe and asks for the proportions between national and transnational perspectives