

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

under the impact of state-socialist coordination of infrastructures within the COM-ECON. Heike Knortz is interested in the border-transcending labour migration in Western Europe (and the effect the immigration of unskilled labour had on the need to develop innovative branches further); while Christian Marx focuses on the chemical industry and asks of Europeanization means above all better conditions for the expansion of multinational. Richard Vahrenkamp argues in his piece about the distribution of products over the long twentieth century that logistics play more and more a decisive role for integration, and finally, Hans-Peter Ullmann's key-note

to the underlying 27th Conference of the Society for Social and Economic History (April 2017 in Bonn) raises the question if different debt cultures are counterproductive or even dangerous to the continental integration. He remains conscious of the political implications of a notion such as debt culture (and in particular when relating it without further qualification to both states and national cultures). It can lead to inappropriate stereotypes (as demonstrated in the German public during the Greek debt crisis or in the strange division between an economical North and smooth South within the European Union).

Matthias Middell