

Call for Papers

The Economic and Financial History of Colonialism

Diversity in Development: Colonial Legacies and Varied Paths of Growth

University of Groningen, 26-27 March 2026

Following the successful inaugural workshop on the financial history of (de)colonization hosted at the University of Antwerp in 2025, the second edition of this **workshop series** will take place at the **University of Groningen** on **26-27 March 2026**.

This year's theme, "*Diversity in Development: Colonial Legacies and Varied Paths of Growth*," invites new perspectives on how colonial economic and financial systems shaped long-term development trajectories across regions. The workshop aims to foster comparative and interdisciplinary dialogue on the mechanisms through which colonial institutions, fiscal regimes, and financial structures influenced the diversity of post-colonial growth experiences.

We encourage submissions that examine how different colonial models - whether extractive or developmental, centralized or decentralized, formal or informal - produced distinctive economic outcomes. We particularly welcome comparative contributions across empires and regions, from the relatively diversified colonial economies of East Asia or the settler dominions to the more extractive or commodity-dependent cases in Africa, the Caribbean, and Southeast Asia.

We welcome **both descriptive and analytical papers**, including case studies and comparative research. The workshop seeks to bring together scholars from economics, history, political economy, and related disciplines, and warmly encourages participation from early-career researchers.

Please submit an **extended abstract (500–800 words)** or a **full paper** to feb.his@rug.nl by **15 December 2025**. Authors of accepted papers will be **notified by the end of December**. Each paper will have an assigned discussant to ensure ample feedback and discussion time. The organisers will cover the costs of dinner, lunch, and accommodation. Please note that travel expenses cannot be reimbursed.

We look forward to welcoming you to Groningen for two days of lively exchange on the economic and financial history of colonialism and the diversity of development paths it produced.

Following the workshop, we aim to produce a special issue of *Economic History of Developing Regions* focused on the **theme of the workshop**, featuring a selection of papers. While preference will be given to submissions from invited presenters, workshop participation neither guarantees inclusion nor requires submitting to the issue.

For further details, feel free to reach out to us at the same email address, or contact one of the organisers directly: **Jutta Bolt** (j.bolt@rug.nl) or **Amaury de Vicq** (amaury.de.vicq@rug.nl).



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