



# WEast Workshop

Belgrade 2014

## Understanding the Economic Development of Eastern Europe

Organised by the WEast Initiative and BBA



Venue: Belgrade Banking Academy,  
12 Zmaj Jovina Street, Belgrade

5-6 July, 2014

For further info regarding  
the WEast Initiative and BBA please visit:  
[www.weast-initiative.blogspot.com](http://www.weast-initiative.blogspot.com)  
[www.bba.edu.rs](http://www.bba.edu.rs)

Saturday, 5 July 2014

9.00 - 9.30: Registration and Reception  
9.30 - 9:45: Opening Statement: **Hasan Hanić**  
(Belgrade Banking Academy Dean)



10:00 - 11:00 **Keynote lecture: Stephen Broadberry** (LSE)  
**Accounting for the Great Divergence**



11.15 - 13:00 **Session A: Human capital and innovation**  
**Chair: Jacob Weisdorf**  
(University of Southern Denmark)

**Ralph Hippe** (London School of Economics) and  
**Joerg Baten** (University of Tuebingen, CEPR and CESifo)

'Keep them ignorant.' Did inequality in land distribution delay regional numeracy development?

**Elena S. Korchmina** (National Research University Higher School of Economics) and  
**Ilya B. Voskoboynikov** (National Research University Higher School of Economics, GDC)

Russian veterans of the Napoleonic wars and competency improvement of local officials: evidence from the Ryazan province in the end of 18th century

**Jelena Rafailović** (Institute for Recent History of Serbia)  
Innovative activity through the lens of patent statistics in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch break**

14.00- 15:45 **Session B: Elites and state formation**  
**Chair: Branko Milanović** (CUNY Graduate center)

**Matthias Morys** (University of York)  
**Martin Ivanov** (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences)

The emergence of a European region: Business cycles in South-East Europe from political independence to World War II

**Elena S. Korchmina** (National Research University Higher School of Economics) and  
**Andrei Markevich** (New Economic School Moscow)

Poll tax and modern state formation in the 18th century Russia. A case study of the Ryazan province

**Filip Novokmet** (Paris School of Economics)

Top incomes in Eastern Europe in the interwar period: the comparison of Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia



16:15 – 18:00 **Session C: Instances of growth and decline in the 20th century Balkan economies**  
**Chair: Matthias Morys** (University of York)

**Ivo Bićanić** (University of Zagreb),  
**Milan Deskar-Škrbić** (Arhivanalitika Ltd),  
**Jurica Zrnc** (Croatian National Bank)

An empirical study of structural flexibility: Points of discontinuity and convergence in Yugoslavia 1950-1990

**Ivo Bićanić** (University of Zagreb) and  
**Dora Tudja** (University of Zagreb)

Long time series of Croatian GDP

**Leonard Kukić** (London School of Economics)

Human capital accumulation and economic growth in Yugoslavia, 1945-1990

20:00 **Dinner for conference presenters**

Sunday, 6 July 2014

10.00 - 10.45 **Lecture: Branko Milanović**  
(Graduate center, City University of New York)  
**Between Kuznets and Piketty: How to understand inequality changes in the last 200 years**



11.15 - 13:00 **Session D: Industrialisation, endowments and spatial economics**  
**Chair: Stephen Broadberry** (LSE)

**Hana Nielsen** (Lund University)

The role of coal in the Czech industrial revolution (1830-1870)

**Stefan Nikolić** (University of York)

Determinants of industrial location: Kingdom of Yugoslavia in the interwar period

**Hrvoje Ratkajec** (University of Koper)

Slovenian lands and Trieste (1900-1929) - from the process of industrialization to the economic region

13:00 - 14:00 **Lunch break**

14.00 - 15.45 **Session E: Causes and consequences of the Polish partitions'**  
**Chair: Joerg Baten**  
(University of Tuebingen, CEPR and CESifo)

**Mikolaj Malinowski** (Utrecht University/Humboldt University)

Freedom and decline; Polish state formation and rye market disintegration, ca. 1500-1772

**Piotr Koryś** (University of Warsaw) and  
**Maciej Tymiński** (University of Warsaw)

Labor market of Polish lands on the eve of 20th century – evidence from official statistics

**Paweł Bukowski** (Central European University)

Long-run persistence of the Empires. The impact of the partition of Poland on education



16:00 - 16:30 **Conclusion of the workshop / future plans**

