

# **MARITIME LABOUR HISTORY WORKING GROUP (EUROPEAN LABOR HISTORY NETWORK)**

**Newsletter No 13, 23 November 2019.**

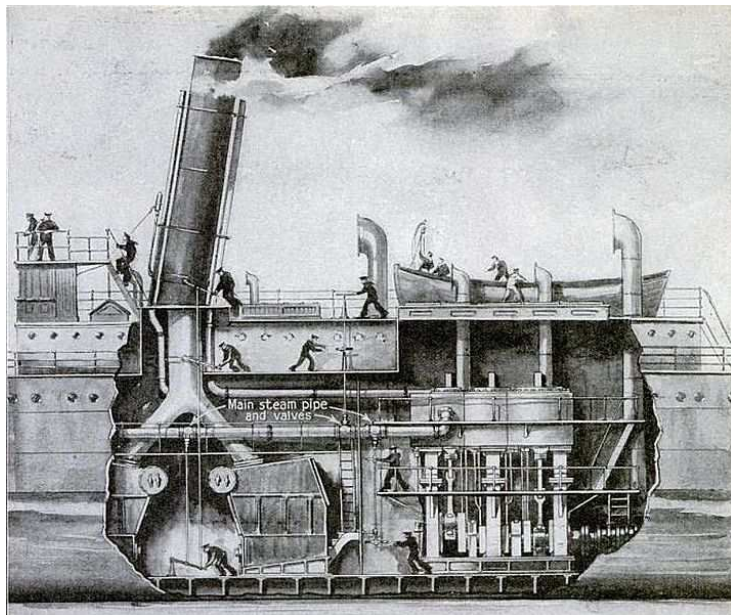
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## **CONFERENCES**

**3<sup>rd</sup> European Labour History Network Conference at Amsterdam, 18-21 September 2019** foto

The Maritime Labour History Working Group organized four sessions with the following papers:

*FRONT OFFICE, BACK OFFICE: OLD AND NEW JOBS IN THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY AFTER 1850 (Organized by Karel Davids, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands)*



**From Sail to Steam: Labour Composition, Wage Distribution and Career Perspectives on Belgian Merchant Vessels, 1850-1900.**  
*Kristof Loockx, University of Antwerp / Free University of Brussels, Belgium.*

**Between Sea and Land. Seamen in Port Services. Barcelona, 1870-1930.** *Enric Garcia Domingo, Universitat de Barcelona, Spain.*

**From the Captain's Tiger to the Chief Steward. Career patterns of the Catering Personnel working on British Passenger Liners, 1860-1938.**  
*Sari Mäenpää, Maritime Centre Forum Marimum, Finland*  
[smaenpaa@hotmail.com](mailto:smaenpaa@hotmail.com)

**Passenger Pigeons. The Rise and Decline of Radio-operators in the Dutch Mercantile Marine in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.** *Karel Davids, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands.*

**Working the Greek cargo steamers in late nineteenth, early twentieth century.** *Dr. Apostolos Delis. Institute for Mediterranean Studies. Foundation of Research and Technology; Thomas Kalesios, Institute for Mediterranean Studies/University of Crete*



*SEAFARERS ON BOARD AND ASHORE*

**“Moving in, moving out and moving about” – Migration Flows of Seafarers as seen by the Census Records, Gothenburg ca. 1880-1930.** *Tomas Nilson, PhD, Halmstad University*

**The Social Insurance for Seafarers in the Early Years of the Foundation of the Greek State. Some Preliminary Thoughts about Greek Seamen’s Pensions Fund.** *Alkis Kapokakis (University of Crete / I.M.S. / F.O.R.T.H)*

**Crime and class struggle between decks: the case of the Austrian Lloyd.** *Matteo Barbano. Institute for Mediterranean Studies. FORTH*  
Matteo Barbano

#### *PORTS AND MARITIME COMMUNITIES*

**Great Entrepreneurs, Medium-sized Businessmen and Workers: The Jews and Sea in Thessaloniki (1920-1925).** *Dr. Shai Srougo, Department of Jewish History, University of Haifa.*

**The socio-professional transformation of la Barceloneta in the XIX<sup>th</sup> century: labor strategies and demographic behavior in the twilight of the age of sail.** *Eduard Page Campos PhD Student. Universitat de Barcelona*

**Working for the Empire: the structure of wages of the public sector at the Port of Dakar (1911-1960).** *Daniel Castillo Hidalgo. Independent Scholar.*

**Proletarianization and social ascent in maritime loading and unloading. Boats and cranes in the port of Barcelona, 1835-1880.** *Jordi Ibarz Gelabert. Universitat de Barcelona*

#### *LABOUR MARKETS*

**“From Shipowners to Engineers. Labour market trajectories during the transition from sail to steam”.** *Dr. Katerina Galani, Institute of Mediterranean Studies- FORTH*

**From Sicily to Salonika Jewish Fishermen as part of Mediterranean Net(work)?** *Dr. Gila Hadar Jewish History, Haifa University.*

**Colonial seafarers creating a trans-imperial space. British Empire and steamship labour circulations (1850-1950).** *Justine Cousin, Université Paris IV Sorbonne*

**From the foremen's taverns to 'redondilla' and 'turno numerado': The emergence of the rotating systems at the saltpeter and coal Chilean docks' in the early 20th century.** *Camilo Santibáñez. Universidad de Santiago de Chile*

**Desertion & Destitution: Britain and Indian Merchant Seamen, 1939-45,** *I.E. Johnson-White. University of Roehampton, London.*



Two other colleagues were expected to attend the meeting but it was not possible (David P. Lacerda Marco Caligari). All papers were interesting but even more fruitful were questions and comments after the presentations. We should be really proud of the working group and the increasing presence of maritime issues among scholars and research projects. We would like to take advantage of this opportunity to thank the participants again. We hope that in meetings to come we will meet again. We hope as well to see other colleagues that could not attend Amsterdam conference.

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### **European Labour History Network consolidates its role and future**

During the conference at the International Institute of Social History in Amsterdam, there were some meeting in which the coordinators of the different working groups discussed different options about the



internal organization of the network, etc. One the main issue was the next venue. After a first proposal from Hungary and a discussion about its



convenience considering the political situation, a second option (to be confirmed, is to organize next conference at Vienna, but with a strong collaboration from Hungarian academics, in order to express disgust and to express that we not leave them alone in front of the bad situation.

There will be a meeting of the coordinators of the working groups at Leiden, The Netherlands, in coincidence with the European Social Science History Conference (ESSHC) on 18 - 21 March 2020. There probably the next steps will be decided.



### **European Social Science History Conference, Leiden, March 2020**

We have sent a proposal of panel to the ESSHC 2020 to be held at Leiden. The title of the panel is *Forms of Remuneration in Maritime Industries: Living from the Sea On-board or Ashore*. This are the proposed papers:

#### *FIRST SESSION*

**Wages in the loading and unloading of cargo in the port of Barcelona (1770-1940).** Jordi Ibarz & Dr. Brendan J. von Briesen. Universitat de Barcelona. SeaLit Projecte

**Becoming rich by serving the King?.** Jeremy Young. Historical Society of Guadeloupe

**From share to wage: the evolution of the forms of payment in the merchant marine of Camogli (1830s-1880s)** Leonardo Scavino, University of Genoa-NavLab)

**Understanding seamen's wages (and estimating their real income) between 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> centuries.** Enric Garcia. Universitat de Barcelona. SeaLit Projecte

#### *SECOND SESSION*

**What's in a Wage? The Work Contracts of British Merchant Seafarers 1850 to 1914.** Valerie Burton, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St John's, Canada

**Wages and Weights: Contested Payments of North Atlantic Fishermen, 1965-75.** Colin J. Davis. Department of History, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Remuneration of deck and engine crews on Greek cargo steamers in the early 20th century.** Apostolos Delis, Institute for Mediterranean Studies. Foundation of Research and Technology – Hellas

**Naval Recruitment, Internal Colonization, and Primitive Accumulation in Early Modern Europe.** Niklas Frykman. University of Pittsburgh

You can find more information at <https://esshc.socialhistory.org/node/116>



To bring together scholars who explain historical phenomena using the methods of the social sciences

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**IMHA 8th International Congress of Maritime History- IMHA, June 30- July 03 2020.**

A call for paper was launched for the conference, *Old and new uses of the oceans*, organized per International Maritime History Association and CITCEM –U. PORTO (Transdisciplinary Research Centre Culture, Space and Memory – University of Porto).

Although as a Working Group we had not proposed a particular set of sessions, as far as we know some members will participate in this meeting.



If some of you are going to attend the meeting in some way or another, please inform us so we can share this information.

You can find more information at <https://imha.info/2019/03/12/8th-imha-international-congress-of-maritime-history/>

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### **Female shipbuilders cast aside after World War Two.**



Any opportunity to remember the role of women in maritime industries is welcomed. We invite you to see a short video at the BBC News that reminds us about the thousands of women that contribute to the war efforts in the Allied side, had an opportunity to show their values and capacities,

and were cast aside in a shameless way. Give your tribute looking at one testimony at <https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-scotland-46373771/the-female-shipbuilder-cast-aside-after-world-war-two>

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***PLEASE SEND US INFORMATION ABOUT BOOKS, RESEARCH IN PROGRESS, EXHIBITIONS, CONFERENCES OR ANY SUBJECT THAT MIGHT BE OF INTEREST FOR THE GROUP. NEW INFORMATION WILL BE POSTED IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.***

***IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER PLEASE SEND AN E-MAIL TO US AND YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS WILL BE DELETED FROM THE LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.***

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