

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

## Newsletter No 6, 6 February 2016.

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### CONFERENCES

*3rd International Conference in Economic and Social History "Labour History: production, markets, relations, policies" (from the late Middle ages to the early 21st century). 24-27 May 2017. University of Ioannina, Greece*

Thanks to our working group, Maritime Labour History will have a significant representation in this conference, with three sessions on Friday 26 May. The final program will be as follows:

*\*Maritime Labour 1.* Organizer: Gelina Harlaftis / Chair: Jordi Ibarz

Gelina Harlaftis (Ionian University), *Transforming the island seafaring culture to corporate business culture. Crews on the ships of the Onassis shipping group*; Dr Katerina Vourkatioti, *Personel management policies of the House of the Ralli brothers*; Laskaro Tzioti, (Ph.D. candidate, Ionian University), *On board. Greek Seamen on the eve of World War II*

*\*Maritime Labour 2.* Organizers: Gelina Harlaftis, Jordi Ibarz, Enric Garcia Domingo / Chair: Gelina Harlaftis

Alexandra Papadopoulou (IMS/FORTH), *Maritime Labour on the sailing ship fleet of the island of Spetses, 1850-1870*; Apostolos Delis (IMS/FORTH), *Seafaring lives in transition. Mediterranean maritime labour and shipping and the challenge of globalization, 1850s-1920s*; Enric Garcia Domingo (University of Barcelona), *The Long Road to Recognition: the Profession of Ship Engineer in the Spanish Merchant Marine (1877-1980)*; Aurora Iannello (PhD candidate, University of Turin), *Workers of the sea. A history of labour in Palermo shipyard from 1945 to 1970*

*\*Maritime Work in the Context of Crises.* Organizers: Jordi Ibarz, Enric Garcia Domingo / Chair: Enric Garcia Domingo

Paz Iver Medina (University Jaume I), *From Guilds to Positos: Decay, Evolution and Reorganization of Cantabric Fishermen's Associations.1833-1918*; Jordi Ibarz (University of Barcelona), *Workers Attitudes to the Mechanisation of Unloading Coal in the Port of Barcelona, 1896-1922*; Christos Mais (Historian, Research Associate of the Thessaloniki Port Authority) & Kostas Paloukis (Historian, Research Associate of

the Thessaloniki Port Authority), *The evolution of labour at the Port of Thessaloniki: From the 1920s Free Zone of Thessaloniki to the 1970s Thessaloniki Port Authority*; Shai Srougo (University of Haifa), *Jews and Thessalonikian-Greeks in a Common Struggle in the Docks Against the Influx of Greek Refugees (1922-1925)*

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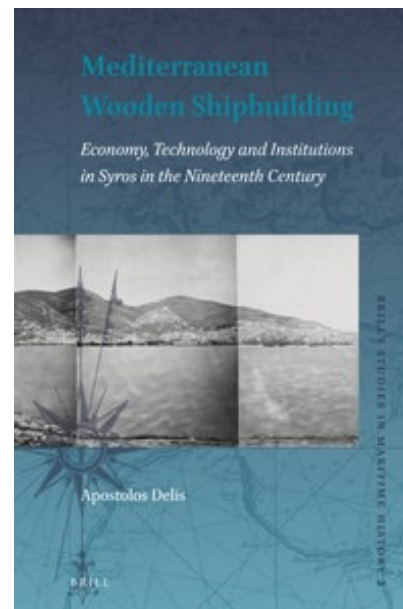
## PUBLICATIONS

We offer you information about publications that can be of your interest. In this newsletter all of them are from members of our working group. Please keep us informed about your recent publications on the topic on labour and maritime industries.

***Mediterranean Wooden Shipbuilding. Economy, Technology and Institutions in Syros in the Nineteenth Century***, by Apostolos Delis, *Institute for Mediterranean Studies/FORTH*

In this work Apostolos Delis analyses the wooden shipbuilding industry of the port of Syros, an important maritime and commercial crossroad in the nineteenth century eastern Mediterranean. The main axes of analysis are the economic, technical and institutional aspects of the industry in relation to the wider international context of shipping and trade. Based on unpublished archival sources, multi-language secondary literature and the employment of interdisciplinary theoretical tools Apostolos Delis not only highlights the national and international significance of Syros' shipbuilding industry, but also contributes novel material to our knowledge of wooden shipbuilding in the Mediterranean.

You can find more information at:  
<http://www.brill.com/products/book/mediterranean-wooden-shipbuilding>.



**“Paul Robeson, Black Dockworkers, and Labor-Left Pan-Africanism,”** African American Intellectual History Society, July 26, 2016.

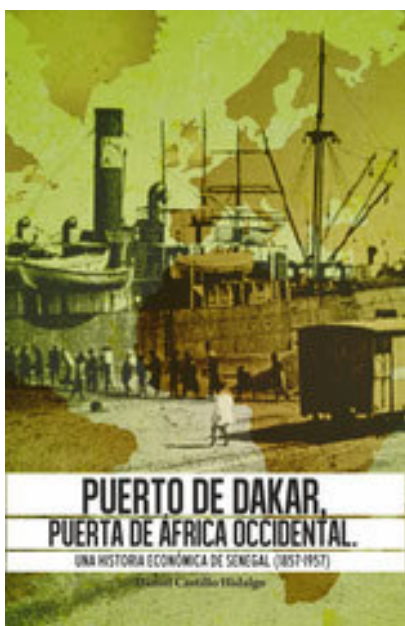
This is a short essay, by Peter Cole, on Paul Robeson and black dockers in the San Francisco Bay. You can view it at: [aaihs.org/paul-robeson-black-dockworkers-and-labor-left-pan-africanism/](http://aaihs.org/paul-robeson-black-dockworkers-and-labor-left-pan-africanism/). Cole is the author of *Wobblies on the Waterfront: Interracial Unionism in Progressive Era Philadelphia* (University of Illinois Press, 2013) and is currently at work on a book entitled *Dockworker Power: Race, Technology & Unions in Durban and the San Francisco Bay Area*. So this is one of his main fields of research and offers a different approach on stevedores' history, focusing on an international point of view.

*Drassana, Revista del Museu Marítim de Barcelona*, No. 24, 2016.

In the last issue of the journal of the Museu Marítim de Barcelona you can find some articles on maritime labour history. On one hand, it includes four research articles in a monographic dossier: José Manuel Vázquez Lijó (Universidad de A Coruña): *Quiñones, anticipos y jornales: la factoría de pesca de Porto do Son, 1788-1789*; Brendan Von Briesen (Universitat de Barcelona): *A 'turn' for the better: Modalities of contract, work, and remuneration in the maritime-cargo handling subsector in Barcelona during liberalization (c. 1760-1840)*; Olga López Miguel (Universitat de Barcelona): *La Maestranza en el Mar. Contratación y remuneración de carpinteros y calafates a bordo de buques mercantes catalanes (s. XVIII-XIX)*; Antonio Farina (Università di Cagliari; Stiftung fuer Sozialgeschichte des XX Jahrhunderts): *La estructura del salario en los astilleros alemanes (1870- 1960). Trabajo a destajo, scientific management y organización obrera.*

On the other hand, you can also find an article by Laura Caruso in which she summarizes the main features of her PhD thesis. The title of the article is *Tripulantes del sur: trabajo y condiciones laborales en la navegación mercante argentina (1890-1920)*

***Puerto de Dakar, puerta de África Occidental. Una Historia Económica de Senegal (1857-1957)***, by Daniel Castillo, Veredalibros, La Orotava. Castillo Hidalgo, D. (2016)



This book provides an explanation of the development of the port and port community of Dakar (Senegal) and its influence on the Senegalese economy as a whole during the period of colonial occupation. The study incorporates a comprehensive analysis of the process of introduction and adaptation of the Senegalese economy to the dynamics of globalization through transport infrastructures, but also of the evolution in the organization of port work, the consolidation of port business networks or the institutional change. The book critically analyses this process of economic transition, taking into account the long-term consequences on economic structures and the phenomena of dependence and economic vulnerability on which international relations are based between the countries of the North and those of the Global South. This book is the result of a research work that began in 2006 and is still in progress, whose most important result was the reading and defence of PhD thesis in 2012. This work adapts and expanding the contents and theoretical approximations fruit of the advances developed



since then. Original sources from French and Senegalese archives have been enriched with other sources from documentary institutions, and a complete revision and updating of Africanist historiography.

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## ACTIVITIES

### *LGBT History Month at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich.*

February is LGBT History Month - a time when across the United Kingdom it is celebrated and reflected on LGBTQ+ lives throughout history. Importantly 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of the partial decriminalisation of male homosexuality. To mark this Royal Museums Greenwich will be running a season of events, activities, workshops and talks throughout February. Join us for an evening of speakers talking about gender in the armed forces, a family festival, arts and crafts workshops and much more.



Our colleague Jo Stanley attracts again our attention to the queer history, in this occasion in the navy. As she points out, for 200 years from 1627 naval buggery was a hanging offence. The 1967 Sexual Offences act

liberalised laws. But homosexuality on ships was still illegal in the Merchant Navy until 1994 and in the armed forces until 1999. A long road to accepting diversity.

Read more at <http://www.rmg.co.uk/discover/behind-the-scenes/blog/lgbt-history-month#X9UoIjgOsaWB7hb2.99>

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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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