

International workshop
"Corporate Networks in Europe during the 20th Century"

12-13 November 2010

Utrecht University, Drift 21, Sweelinckzaal

The international workshop on “Corporate networks in Europe during the 20th century” will explore a particular aspect of capitalism: the networks between companies and their leaders. Contributing to the debate on Varieties of Capitalism, the presenters will compare corporate networks in both large and small European countries during the 20th century. The group of presenters is diverse consisting of economists, sociologists, political scientists, economic historians and business historians and representing different European countries.

A corporate network can be seen as one of several economic institutions that allow economic actors to coordinate their interactions. Consequently, one might expect that there would be cross national differences in the structure of the networks based on the degree of coordination in a particular market economy (coordinated market economy vs. liberal market economy). Hence, the structure of the corporate network in a particular country is a useful indicator of its economic organization, of the links between financial and industrial companies and of its corporate governance system. Moreover, changes in the network structure reveal adjustments in the economic organization.

Please find below the programme of the workshop. If you wish to attend the workshop please send me an email to let me know which days you want to join us.

Gerarda Westerhuis: g.k.westerhuis@uu.nl

Programme

Friday 12 November

9.00 – 9.30 Registration, coffee/tea

Session 1 Chair: Keetie Sluyterman; Discussant: Thomas David

9.30 – 9.45 *Opening - Gerarda Westerhuis – Introduction to the International Research Project and Goal of the Workshop*

9.45 – 10.45 Keynote speaker - **Frans Stokman** - *Experiences from the 'Networks of Corporate Power' Project and New Perspectives for Present Studies*

10.45 – 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 – 11.45 **Paul Windolf** - *Germany, France and the US: a Statistical Network Analysis (1900-1938)*

11.45 – 13.00 Lunch

13.00 – 14.30 Session 2 Chair: Joost Dankers; Discussant: Eelke Heemskerk

Thomas David and Gerhard Schnyder – *The Rise and Decline of the Swiss Company Network, 1910-2010*

Martin Ivanov – *Are Interlocking Directorates Good for Growth: Bulgarian Big Business 1910s–2000s*

14.30 – 15.00 Coffee break

15.00 – 17.30 Session 3 Chair: Paul Windolf; Discussant: Frans Stokman

Michelangelo Vasta and Alberto Rinaldi - *The Italian Corporate Network: 1913-1983*

Catherine Comet - *The recent Evolution of French Corporate Networks*

Short break

Bruce Cronin - *Structures of the British Corporate Elite 1904-2009*

19.00 Dinner

Saturday, 13 November

8.30 - 9.00 Coffee/tea

9.00 – 10.30 Session 4 Chair: Gerhard Schnyder; Discussant: Kees van Veen

Gerarda Westerhuis and Abe de Jong – *The Dutch Corporate Network: Structural Changes during the Period 1903-2003*

Julia Brennecke - *Structuring Principles of the recent Board-Director-Network in Germany: An Exponential Random Graph Model Approach*

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30 Session 5 Chair: Bram Bouwens; Discussant: Meindert Fennema

Livia Ghita and Marc Deloof - *The Rise and Decline of the Belgian Business Elite Networks in the Twentieth Century*

Martin Iversen – *Carrier of competences?: Mærsk Line and the Management Network of the Danish Shipping Industry, 1990-2010*

12.30 – 12.45 Closing – **Thomas David**

12.45 – 13.45 Lunch