



The Cambridge Economic History of Modern Europe: Volume 1, 1700-1870

By Stephen Broadberry, Kevin H. O'Rourke

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Unlike most existing textbooks on the economic history of modern Europe, which offer a country-by-country approach, The Cambridge Economic History of Modern Europe rethinks Europe's economic history since 1700 as unified and pan-European, with the material organised by topic rather than by country. This first volume is centred on the transition to modern economic growth, which first occurred in Britain before spreading to other parts of western Europe by 1870. Each chapter is written by an international team of authors who cover the three major regions of northern Europe, southern Europe, and central and eastern Europe. The volume covers the major themes of modern economic history, including trade; urbanization; aggregate economic growth; the major sectors of agriculture, industry and services; and the development of living standards, including the distribution of income. The quantitative approach makes use of modern economic analysis in a way that is easy for students to understand.

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"The Cambridge Economic History of Modern Europe shows the power of economics to illuminate history. It adopts a continental standpoint that emphasizes the dominant patterns of European development as well as providing a comparative context that highlights national differences. The volume synthesizes the research of historical economists and growth theorists. The combination leads to a more profound understanding of the causes of economic success and failure than was previously available. This seriously good book is the first thing to read if you want to understand the economic history of Europe." -Robert C. Allen, Professor of Economic History, University of Oxford, and Fellow of Nuffield College

"The Cambridge Economic History of Modern Europe is well launched by this collective tour de force. This compendium is modern both in its subject matter and in its thoroughly up-to-date scholarship. The contributing authors have succeeded in distilling an often technical literature into an undergraduate-friendly interpretive synthesis." Peter H. Lindert, Distinguished Professor of Economics, University of California, Davis"

"I strongly recommend this book to readers. It is first a magnificent, unequalled introduction to European economic history. Furthermore it is a plea for the development of not only comparative but also quantitative economic history. It is finally a splendid synthesis exercise, which aims at presenting a cultured audience with the lessons drawn from advanced research in the field of historical economics and/or econometric history devoted to Europe from the eighteenth century to the present day, using clear and understandable terms." -EH.Net

"Eleven papers provide a unified economic history of modern Europe." -Journal of Economic Literature

About the Author

Stephen Broadberry is Professor of Economic History at the University of Warwick and a Co-ordinator of the Economic History Initiative at CEPR. His recent publications include *The Economics of World War I* (2005, as co-editor) and *Market Services and the Productivity Race, 1850-2000: Britain in International Perspective* (2006).

Kevin O'Rourke is Professor of Economics at Trinity College Dublin and a co-organiser of the CEPR's Economic History Initiative. His recent publications include *The International Trading System, Globalization and History*, 2 volumes (as editor, 2005) and *Power and Plenty: Trade, War, and the World Economy in the Second Millennium* (2007, with Ronald Findlay).

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