



A Tapestry of Rules

Institutions and cloth industries in global comparative perspective, 1750-2000

June 30—July 01, 2022

About the Workshop

This workshop is organized by the research team engaged in the European Research Council funded project, *Race to the Bottom? Family labour, household livelihood and consumption in the relocation of textile production between ca. 1780 and 1990*. For more information on the project please visit www.textilelab.net

A Tapestry of Rules is a small intimate workshop bringing together scholars working on temporal and geographic comparisons of textile industries of different regions.

Overview

Traditions of textile manufacturing have developed in nearly all parts of the globe. However, the characteristics and development trajectories of these industries have differed markedly over time and across space. The global centre of manufacturing gravity has shifted from East to West and back again over the past three centuries, while in some cases, handicraft industries have persisted, but industrialization has long remained elusive. This workshop specifically explores the role of formal and informal institutions – the social, economic, political, and cultural “rules of the game” (North 1990) – in influencing textile manufacturing in different world regions over time, with particular reference to the interlinking relationships between institutions and other explanatory variables. While we highlight relationships between institutions, households, and industry, this workshop also includes studies that take a macroeconomic, policy-oriented approach.

The workshop will be held in a hybrid format: the live sessions will be held at Utrecht and virtual sessions on MS teams.

Workshop Organizing Committee

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For administrative/logistical queries please contact Bianca Visser <b.visser@uu.nl>

We also welcome external participants who are interested in the workshop. You can do so by joining us virtually via MS TEAMS. For those interested, please send a request to Bianca Visser <b.visser@uu.nl>

Workshop Programme
Day 1, Thursday, June 30, 2022

Time	Session No	Session Title	Speakers	Papers: Short Titles	Allotted time
10:30-12:00		Utrecht city walk with Bianca			
12:00-13:00		Participant welcome with sandwiches/tea			
13:00-14:30	I	Labor, institutions & employment in the 19th and 20th centuries	Sumeet Mhaskar	Gender, Caste and Religion and Mumbai's Textile Workforce, c.1870s-2009	13:00-13:30
			Tamer Guven	Wages and Demography in the Ottoman State Textile Factories	13:30-14:00
			Johan Svanberg	Free and Unfree Labour in the Swedish Textile and Garment Industry 1951-1972	14:00-14:30
14:30-15:00		Tea Break			
15:00-16:30	II	Innovations & Production Strategies in Global Perspective	Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk and Kate Frederick	Competition, adaptation and resilience in textile manufacturing in the 'periphery', 1860-1960	15:00-15:30
			Sabine Bolk	Things That Talk: Fabric(s) of Leiden	15:30-16:00
			Alka Raman	Indian Cottons and the Evolution of Printing and Dyeing in the British calico industry, 1720-1860	16:00-16:30
16:30-17:00		Tea Break			
17:00-18:00	III	Keynote Lecture	Jeremy Prestholdt	Between Osaka and Mombasa: Japanese industry, African consumers, and imperial capitalism	17:00-18:00
18:00		Dinner			

Workshop Programme
Day 2, Friday, July 01, 2022

Time	Session No	Session Title	Papers in Session	Allotted time
10:30-12:00	IV	Trade, Markets, and Institutions in the Global South	Miki Sugiura	Selling Cheap under Rules: Japanese Clothes and Shoes in the African Market, c. 1919–1942 10:30-11:00
			Karuna Dietrich Wielenga	The dynamics of state, society and politics in the transformation of the handloom industry in south India, 1800-1960 11:00-11:30
			Aditi Dixit	The Indo-Japanese Raw Cotton Trade, ca 1850-1940 11:30-12:00
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch			
13:00-15:00	V	Gender, Work & (In)equality	Corinne Boter and Sarah Carmichael	Sub-regional specialization, majority gender shares, and the gender wage gap in the Lancashire cotton textile industry, 1886-1906 13:00-13:30
			Liz Suarez Visbal	Circular Economy and the Apparel Value Chain 13:30-14:00
			Marta Pagliuca Pelacani	Textiles as memory and agency in the Italian sharecropping community 14:00-14:30
			Malin Nilsson and Kathryn Gary	Getting the Wheels Spinning: Home Spinners in Swedish State Manufactories 1767 to 1797 14:30-15:00
15:00-15:30	Tea Break			
15:30-17:00	VI	Closing talk: Popularizing textile history	Virigina Postrel	Weaving The Fabric of Civilization 15:30-16:00
		Remarks by discussant and closing ceremony	Tirthankar Roy	16:00-17:00