

# AFTER ONE YEAR

*After one year* or *au bout d'un an* is the title of the brief editorial introduction of the fifth edition of the journal *Annales d'histoire économique et sociale* from 1930. With no intention of pretentiously comparing ourselves with a world-famous journal, these introductory words are equally entitled. Exactly one year ago the new editorial board, elected in 2010 and gathered around the journal project, published its issue of the *Pro tempore* journal. Of course, without the support of the students and professors, all the Croatian and international associates, this project would not be possible, so I would like to thank them on behalf of the entire editorial board.

Remembering the editorial introduction, written exactly eighty-one years ago by two friends and collaborators, Lucien Febvre and Marc Bloch, has deeper reasons than the more obvious ones. The topics of our new issue, the anniversary of the French *Annales* journal (1929-2009) and business history or the history of business, were proposed by the chief editor accepted by the editorial board with a very serious programme. The importance of the *Annales* journal for world and Croatian historiography is immeasurable. In the last ten years, since the reissuing of Marc Bloch's *Feudal Society* (2001) until today, we have welcomed the translations of many books and articles connected with that current in French intellectual life. These are works which have inspired generations of historians and have driven them to certain topics of research, approaches and ways of opening problems which are significant and characteristic for the New history. The historians around the *Annales* journal have, since 1929, put a strong imprint on many new methodologies and innovative methods, through the four or five generations. These are world-famous names, such as Marc Bloch, Lucien Febvre, Pierre Goubert, Fernand Braudel, Pierre Chaunu, Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, Georges Duby, Jacques

Le Goff, Roger Chartier, Jacques Revel and many other coryphaei of historical science. The very existence of the *Annales* „School“ is still not universally accepted among historians, although the many interviews with experts on the historiography of the *Annales*, published in this journal, have proven the exact opposite. Moreover, innovation and starting new approaches in historiography are some of the qualities of each of these generations; didn't Jacques Barzun define the purpose of the school as the elimination of ignorance and neglect,<sup>1</sup> the exact basic achievement of the *Annales* School.

It is seemingly difficult to make a connection between historiography and the School's achievements to the topic of business history, but they are very close, in a sense. The original programme of the *Annales d'histoire économique et sociale* put a special emphasis on economic issues, alongside the basic idea of avoiding the traditional approach to the history of events (*histoire événementielle*), which gave itself the role of judging the past and present by supporting modern nationalisms with historical examples of heroes, kings and leaders of yesterday. Very early, already in 1931, the editorial board recognised the importance of topics covered by the American *Harvard Business School*, led by N.S.B. Gras. In that issue Marc Bloch wrote a brief introduction on the American experience in dealing with culture and economy, and following that, a French translation of the N.S.B. Gras article „Les affaires et l'histoire des affaires“ was published.<sup>2</sup> Business history, a discipline which entails the usage of business reports, yearly statistics, marketing projections and financial computations as primary sources which explain change in history, was a part of Marc Bloch's programme. By warning Paul Valéry in his *The Historian's Craft* that historians must find archives connected to their topic,<sup>3</sup> Bloch indicated that there were many unused materials in the business archives of various companies. The later editions of the *Annales* journal will seldom pay attention to the American research of the history of business, but under Fernand Braudel the interest towards economic history, the history of business transfer and macroeconomics, will be increased, albeit without the application of business history. From 1945 to approximately the 1960s, numerous volumes were published under the auspices of the *Ecole pratique des hautes études*, and these focused on problems ranging from agriculture and viticulture, and to a greater extent, industry, merchant companies, fairs, banking and credits. Through the research of sources such as merchant papers, port documents, public records, tariffs and tolls, the ebb and flow of these phenomena were reconstructed.<sup>4</sup>

Although Braudel kept up with the development of business history, which he thought derived from the model set by Joseph A. Schumpeter,<sup>5</sup> his own works were the causes behind a great amount of critical attention towards other approaches, and the more general changes in historiography during the 1960s shifted the basis from economic history towards historical anthropology and various other disciplines. The structuralist New history eventually showed itself to have little common ground with business history; a history which was closer to Braudel than to Bloch, propagating a decisive withdrawal from the central role of personalities and political power, did not conform to the usual methods of historians who researched business and entrepreneurship, as the dominant role of boards, executive decisions and strategies made by businessmen, managers and owners, could not be evaded.<sup>6</sup> This is why economic history, be it „classic“ or the one influenced by the *Annales*, prevailed for some time. However, by the beginning of the 1980s, the trends changed again. Business history

was more present in France, as in the *Annales* journal with important articles written by Patrick Fridenson, one of the rare French historians who systematically worked on the history of business and companies at that time.<sup>7</sup> But the differing paths of economic and business history became very evident in practice, and the former predominance of economic research was never reestablished.

The mentioned determinants, presented in this issue to its readership, are the most important points of contact between the two topics. This is the reason why they are intertwined in this volume, throughout all the journal's sections. This created the need, and the opportunity, to refresh and recombine the settled sections of the journal, which has enabled the journal to have a new structure, alongside the new look of the design. The basis of the journal consists of the sections *Viewpoints* and *Studies*, while a special enlarged sections *On historiography* was formed this time, and it encapsulates some former sections. The editorial to this new section was written by Georg. G. Iggers, Professor Emeritus at the Department of History, University of Buffalo. He presented his fresh and acute insights on historiography. I would like to use this opportunity to thank him for his help. Alongside that, this volume presents for the first time an unusually large number of interviews, which stem from the wish to converse in a more detailed and comprehensive way about the eightieth anniversary of the *Annales* journal. I would especially like to thank Professor Dr. Drago Roksanđić, who guided us through that project with his full support and many advices. I hope that these changes will enable all the students of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and other collaborators of the journal, to put forward their own research interests, problems and approaches through the defined categories which are formed with the sections in the *Pro tempore* journal. The new structure of the journal represents the rich palette of various critical opinions and interests, which should encourage a polemical dialogue within the journal. This double issue has gathered the, so far, largest number of foreign associates and reviewers. Alongside the texts written by students of history, we have collected contributions from thirteen different countries, from Austria, Brazil, France, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Germany, Poland, the United States of America, Slovenia, Serbia, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom. The purpose of this is to further the knowledge of the Croatian readership about some new papers and orientations of distinguished historians from abroad, as well as presenting many authors with whom we have, until now, been less familiar. In addition, the editorial board has initiated a historiographical cooperation on an international level, which opens a space for newer, deeper understandings of the progress and different directions which some research, topics or sub-disciplines of historical science have in contemporary times. On the other hand, the many articles which this journal has gathered show us clearly that the new generations of students do not lag behind the trends of modern historiography, but are well acquainted with them and are capable of maintaining a critical approach to important topics.

It is the duty of this journal, its present and future editorial boards, to open a space for new cooperations and connections, as well as presenting its readership with new, different, altered and neglected methodological and theoretical issues and in this way encourage, first and foremost, the new generations of students to actively engage with a long-term process of actualising the problems and approaches of Croatian historiography. This double issue has, I hope, at least partially succeeded.

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In conclusion, we have to extend our gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the successful work of the *Pro tempore* editorial board, and has thereby ensured the quality to which our readership has become accustomed. Firstly, these are the authors of papers, critical and historiographical essays, reviews and other contributions in this volume. I would like to thank, on behalf of the editorial board, to all the reviewers who gave us useful advice, patiently reviewed articles which were sent to them, gave us copies of books for reviewing, whenever possible, and directed the whole operation of the editorial board. Of course, the quality of the *Pro tempore* journal, as with all journals, is immeasurably marked by the proofreaders, designers and translators. I hope their effort is well reflected in this issue. To conclude, I should thank the sponsors and donors without which this issue of the *Pro tempore* journal would not be possible, in particular the Department of History at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and its head, Bruna Kuntić-Makvić.

History still has the charm of an unfinished excavation.  
— *Marc Bloch (Feudal Society)*

The reality of history lies in details, and in the writing of a sketch the writer is painfully aware that at every generalisation, he will subvert the very facts he wishes to emphasize.  
— *Joseph Alois Schumpeter (Konjunkturzyklen)*

— **Filip Šimetin Šegvić**, Zagreb, 22nd March, 2011

**CONFERENCE „RIVER SAVA AND THE CITY OF ZAGREB:  
PAST EXPERIENCE AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT“**

110 years ago, the first regulation of river Sava was organized in the area surrounding the city of Zagreb. Also, 45 years ago a devastating flooding of the river Sava left a disastrous mark on Zagreb. To celebrate these two anniversaries, a scientific meeting was organized, named „River Sava and the city of Zagreb: Past experience and future development“. The meeting was held in the headquarters of Croatian Waters on 26th of October 2009. It was co-organized by the Croatian Economic and Eco-history Society and the Croatian Hydrological Society, under the patronage of the Croatian Waters. Around 30 presenters, experts and authors of various profiles participated at this event. Each participant had the task of analyzing the relationship between river Sava and the city of Zagreb, as well the meaning of the relationship in the local and regional context. Among the moderators of the meeting were Mirela Slukan Altić and Drago Roksandić.



Pro Tempore

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# Pro Tempore

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