

CALL FOR PAPERS - special issue of the Danish historical journal, *temp: tidsskrift for historie*, on

Infrastructures

Infrastructures are systems of networks used for the transfer of people, goods, information, raw materials etc. They are a key element in all human societies. Infrastructures are not only important parts of the glue that keeps societies together but actually a precondition for creating communities. Infrastructures help not only to create internal cohesion in a society but also create links and connections to other societies. At the same time, however, infrastructures are instrumental in creating differences and establishing patterns of centers and peripheries.

The study of infrastructures cannot be limited to investigations into their materiality, techniques or technological innovations. More important are studies of the intentions underlying the development of infrastructures and the consequences of infrastructures, intended as well as unintended. Infrastructures have, for instance, been of crucial importance in nation-building processes by facilitating cultural, social and economic cohesion but they have also helped create national centers and peripheries. Transnational infrastructures have been both a precondition and a vehicle for the development of international cooperation but have also posed challenges and dangers. From the mid-19th Century the mobility of armies increased dramatically with the coming of the railways, and today we experience how the world-wide-web is used for attacks on states, institutions, firms and individuals.

From this point of departure, we invite contributions from fellow historians and colleagues from other disciplines. We welcome contributions exploring any historical period and geographical setting. We do, however, primarily want to situate the issue in relation to central historiographical debates, state-building on the one hand and the center-periphery dynamics on the other. In our opinion analyses of infrastructures are also often strengthened by including transnational (or transregional) and/or comparative perspectives.

Deadlines:

Abstracts (at least 300 words): 15 September 2017

Articles: 15 August 2018

Contributions are expected to be of approximately 6-8,000 words and can be written in English, Danish, Norwegian or Swedish. They should be sent to our editors at temphist@hum.au.dk

Please send contributions and possible questions to:
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