

July 18th, 2018

## Invitation Letter from EHESS

The École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) together with the Campus Condorcet, and in partnership with the Association Française d'Histoire Économique (AFHE), are extremely honored to invite you to Paris for the XIX<sup>th</sup> World Economic History Congress in 2021.

EHESS, founded in 1975, owes a lot to Fernand Braudel, a leading figure of the *Annales* school, who also played a decisive role in the birth of the International Economic History Association, along with Michael M. Postan. Following up on this strong position in economic history built in the past, French economic history is extremely active today and wide open to other social sciences. This is pretty clear in the activities of the Association Française d'Histoire Économique (AFHE), currently headed by Pr. Guillaume Daudin. Besides, the French context is also characterized by a strong relationship between economics and economic history. Paris School of Economics (PSE), a major partner to Paris WEHC, is a good illustration how the both fields interact in Academia in France.

The wide ranging perspectives of economic history in France are fully reflected in EHESS, the main institution in social sciences in Paris. This position will be reinforced in 2019 by the new settlement of EHESS in the Campus Condorcet, where the 2021 congress will take place.

The Campus Condorcet is a major site of the « *Grand Paris* » metropolis project. It already gathers eleven institutions (University Paris 1 Sorbonne, University Paris 3 Sorbonne Nouvelle, University Paris 8 Saint-Denis, University Paris Nanterre, University Paris 13 Villetaneuse, EHESS, French Institute for Demographic Studies INED, Maison des sciences de l'Homme Paris Nord, École Pratique des Hautes Etudes, École nationale des Chartes, National Center for Scientific Research CNRS). The Campus will have a large central library and a multi-media center of resources, providing useful amenities for the congress. Besides, various buildings on the site will provide rooms and lecture halls, with all technicalities set in. The Campus Condorcet will be the key Parisian place for social sciences and humanities and will offer a great opportunity of exchange and discussion for researchers coming from all over the world to the XIX<sup>th</sup> World Economic History Congress.

The location of the Campus Condorcet itself is extremely attractive and stimulating. Close to the Campus Condorcet stand the National Archives, the Cité des sciences et de l'Industrie ("La Villette"), the Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace (Le Bourget), the warehouse of the Musée des arts et métiers (80,000 artefacts), the laboratories of the national museums office (RMN), the National Archives in Pierrefitte-sur-Seine, the Diplomatic Archives in La Courneuve, the Cité du Cinéma, the R&D site of Saint-Gobain inc. In addition, the area is a former industrial territory that has been rehabilitated and is actively studied and valorized by researchers (in particular those working on industrial heritage, migrations, and the history of labor). The setting of the congress in the Campus Condorcet is a wonderful opportunity to discover the past and present of a territory in transition. Not only will cultural tours and events be organized during the congress but the surroundings will provide useful resources. For instance, the plenary sessions will be hosted in two remarkable places: 1) the Dock Pullman (formerly the General Stores of Paris, listed to the National Heritage, 3200 m<sup>2</sup>, lecture hall, stage, screen, private spaces) and the Centre of Congress of the Cité des sciences et de l'Industrie ("La Villette").

The Cité des sciences et de l'Industrie is a world famous cultural center located in northern Paris. Participants at the WEHC congress will have access to all exhibition areas (including the Cité des Enfants/Kids' Corner, the Geode for 3D scientific movies, and the Planetarium) and to an exhibition on industrial revolutions, of which the École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales is the leading organizer. The Center of congress itself is a key place for meetings.

The resources of Paris are another major reason to enjoy the congress. A rich cultural program is being prepared, in collaboration with the Parisian Tourist Office. Besides enjoying Paris exceptional museums and urban views and landscapes, we will offer to discover the economic history of the city with the visits of the recently created Cité de l'Economie et de la Monnaie, founded by the Banque de France (2018), of the Coins, Medals and Antique Department of the National Library (BNF), of the Paris Mint Museum which has been renovated and reopened in 2017. We will also lead you across places related to the economic and industrial heritage like the Musée des arts et métiers, the Musée des arts décoratifs, the Musée de la mode (Palais Galliera), but also the great realizations of French civil

engineering : Paris railway stations and bridges, masterpieces of architecture and engineering, the Metropolitan subway with the whole range of advanced technologies that were used to build it, the Eiffel Tower as emblematic of the success of civil engineering in the XIX<sup>th</sup> century. Tours will be organized through these sites, also including Paris stadiums (Parc des Princes, Stade de France), the urban areas of La Défense and Bercy, the Opéra Bastille, the Musée d'Orsay (formerly the Orsay railway station), the Bibliothèque nationale de France. Industrial heritage will also be enhanced by visiting the Grands Moulins de Paris, the artisanal *faubourg* Saint-Antoine, and the beautifully renovated canals, wharfs and docks that help revive the link between the city and the Seine river and offer a range of recreational facilities.

Access to the Campus Condorcet is extremely easy by public transportation, for instance by direct rapid train line (RER B) especially from Roissy-Charles de Gaulle airport. The Campus is very well linked to central Paris, by RER B, by subway, by four bus lines, and two tramway lines. People registered to the Congress will have access to a single travel card for Paris and the Paris region, valid from two to seven days. Free water shuttles as well as free eco-friendly buses will be available from the Campus Condorcet and nearby, as well as electric bikes that could be booked with the congress badges. Several "event stations" will concentrate a large number of bicycles. In addition, the city is well-known for its highly developed public transportation network with: 16 Metro lines serving 304 stations, 5 suburban train lines, 9 green & noiseless modern streetcar lines, 378 bus lines, 18,000 taxis, 1,740 electric cars at 600 stations, 20,000 Velib' (Parisian bikes) at 1,800 stations, 600 km of cycle lanes.

Accommodation and catering will be provided on the Campus itself (residential hall, 400 rooms), and nearby in north of Paris (students' institution service CROUS: 200 studio flats; plus 9 hotels with 600 rooms in Aubervilliers and Saint-Denis). In addition, of course, there are accommodations in downtown Paris (Cité universitaire: 500 rooms; and a selection of hotels by the Paris Tourist Office). Catering on the Campus Condorcet, provided by the CROUS, will be abundant and diversified (dining room for 400 people with 4 services, select restaurant for 100 people, administrative restaurant, cafeteria for 80 people, 2 food-trucks and buffets in front of lecture halls).

All details (sponsors, registration, program, site information, cultural program, transportation information etc.) will be provided on the website of Paris WEHC which is already active and where you can watch our promotional movie: <http://www.wehc2021.org>

Paris bid for the XIX<sup>th</sup> World Economic History Congress is fostering a major interest among Parisian academic institutions, as attested by the many letters of support. All academic institutions in Paris and in the Paris region and connected to economic history are supporting WEHC 2021. There is also a growing interest at the national level as demonstrated by the support of various public and private organizations. The XIX<sup>th</sup> World Economic History Congress is creating strong expectations among academics but also among officials and leading firms, because it will be the first major event taking place in the Campus Condorcet, enhancing the resources of this renovated suburban site. The strong support that we have been getting will allow us to propose low fees registration and to provide financial assistance for doctoral and post-doctoral students by means of 100 grants of 1,500 €. A special effort will be made for welcoming students from distant areas and from countries needing students' funding.

On behalf of the Association Française d'Histoire Économique, the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales and the Campus Condorcet, we are looking forward to welcoming you in Paris in 2021 and to providing the international academic community an exceptional meeting site in one of most beautiful cities in the world.

Sincerely,

Liliane Hilaire-Perez

Senior Research Fellow, Professor of History and Head of the Concourse Program

Guillaume Daudin

Professor of Economics and President of the AFHE