



About this Series

It provides both established and early-career researchers with an opportunity to present their on-going research concerning transimperial history.

Title

European Trans-Imperial Corporate Cooperation in the French Colonies: The Eurafrikan Illusion in Italy and West Germany, 1950–1960

Date

13:00–14:00 (GMT)
Friday, 29 November 2024

Venue

Zoom
Registration required.
Scan the QR code below.

Description

On 28 November 2022 Ursula Von Der Leyen, President of the European Commission, stated that “Africa and Europe are bound by geography and a common destiny”. As scholars have documented, the idea of a common future between these two continents—embedded in the geopolitical concept of Eurafrika—initially emerged during the interwar period and played a significant role in shaping European integration during decolonization. In this presentation, Dr Giovanni Costenaro will show how, during the 1950s, Eurafrika emerged as a project of transimperial cooperation among European industrial and financial groups focused on the economic development of the French empire. In addition, Dr Costenaro will analyze how this cooperation was connected to the emergence of the first European Institutions which, he argues, functioned and operated as late-imperial institutions.

Presenter

Dr Giovanni Costenaro is an international and global historian specializing in European transimperial corporate networks and their impact on colonial and post-colonial economic policies. He holds a PhD from the European University Institute, where he successfully defended a thesis entitled *European Trans-Imperial Corporate Cooperation in the French Colonies: The Eurafrikan Illusion in Italy and West Germany, 1950–1960*. During his studies, he was a visiting researcher at the University of Aix-Marseille and at Humboldt University, and a Henri Rieben scholar at the Foundation Jean Monnet pour l'Europe in Lausanne. Currently, he is conducting research at the Historical Archives of the European Union, where he is preparing a book manuscript based on his thesis, which explores the ideological and economic intersections of European integration and decolonization.



Giovanni Costenaro

