



2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021

## RESEARCH SEMINAR ECONOMIC HISTORY, GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT\*

We invite all researchers and students to discuss! The upcoming presentation takes place **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021**:

### Speaker:

Esther Sahle, PhD (University of Münster)

### Title:

The Diaspora-State: Resolving commercial conflict in the British Atlantic

Trade in the British Atlantic grew a great deal. While acknowledging that this growth had important economic consequences, scholars have yet to fully explain its causes. Combining concepts from the New Institutional Economics and Legal Pluralism, this paper argues that formal religious institutions were key. Based on records from colonial Philadelphia, it shows how the Quaker meeting created a legal forum to resolve commercial disputes. It enforced its verdicts by gathering and disseminating information about disputes locally and across the Atlantic world through the Society of Friends' formal organisation of meetings. Thereby, it re-enforced reputation mechanisms, facilitating the expansion of Philadelphia's trade. The paper contributes to debates on institutions, legal pluralism, and religious diasporas.

**Date:** 15.07.2021

**Time:** 16:30 (4:30 p.m.)

**Place:** online (Internet browser: Firefox or Chrome recommended)

Please contact Dr. Albers for link and password.

**Contact for questions:** Dr. Hakon Albers ([hakon.albers@wiwi.uni-halle.de](mailto:hakon.albers@wiwi.uni-halle.de))

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\* [https://iw.wiwi.uni-halle.de/research\\_seminar/](https://iw.wiwi.uni-halle.de/research_seminar/). In cooperation with Prof. Fertig, Prof. Grieben, and Prof. Kopsidis.