

Peer H. H. Vries

Main publications after 1995

- Verhaal en betoog. Geschiedbeoefening tussen postmoderne vertelling en sociaal-wetenschappelijke analyse (Leiden 1995). PhD. 657 pages. (Story and argument. The study of history between postmodern story-telling and social-scientific analysis)

This book contains an extensive and intensive analysis of various debates between those who plea for history as a social science in which theoretical, explanatory generalisations, structure and method play a prominent role, versus those who are more in favour of an interpretive-descriptive, narrative approach. I analyse the positions in the debate and indicate my own position.

- Three chapters on the economy of early modern Western Europe in B.M.A. de Vries, ed., *Van agrarische samenleving naar verzorgingsstaat. De modernisering van West Europa* (Groningen 2000) pages 51-134. (From agrarian society to welfare state. The modernization of Western Europe). The book has gone through three editions and big changes and has been translated, in earlier versions, in Hungarian and Russian.

- Three chapters in H. Beliën en G.J. van Setten, eds., *Geschiedschrijving in de twintigste eeuw. Discussie zonder eind* (Amsterdam 2001; first edition Amsterdam 1991) pages 181-222, 223-239 and 301-341. (History in the twentieth century: a debate without end). I wrote chapters on the *Annales*, on historical sociology and on 'the return of the narrative'. It has gone through three editions.

- 'Europa en de rest: Braudel over het kapitalisme' in: M.Ph. Bossenbroek, M.E.H.N. Mout en C. Musterd, eds., *Met de Franse slag. Opstellen voor H.L. Wesseling* (Leiden 1998) 238-260. (Europe and the rest: Braudel on capitalism).

- 'Should we really ReORIENT?', *Itinerario, European Journal of Overseas History*, 22, 3 (1998) 19-38, a review-article of Andre Gunder Frank, *Reorient. Global economy in the Asian Age* (Berkeley, Los Angeles and London 1998). Frank reacted and I responded (pages 16-24) in *Itinerario, European Journal of Overseas History*, 22, 4 (1998).

- 'Hoe het Westen rijker werd: 'the Rise of the West' in economisch perspectief', *Theoretische Geschiedenis* 25, 4 (1998) 291-321. (How the West grew rich: the Rise of the West from an economic perspective. (An extensive review, synthesis and evaluation of recent literature on 'the West and the Rest' in the early modern era). With a colleague I was editor of the special issue of this journal in which this article appeared. It was called: The West. A special case?

- 'Culture, clocks, and comparative costs. David Landes on the wealth of the West and the poverty of the rest', *Itinerario, European Journal of Overseas History* 22, 4 (1998) 67-89, a review-article of David .S. Landes, *The wealth and poverty of nations. Why some are so rich and some so poor* (London and New York 1998). Landes reacted and I responded (pages 16-22) in *Itinerario, European Journal of Overseas History* 23-1 (1999).

- 'Are coal and colonies really crucial? Kenneth Pomeranz and the great divergence', *Journal of World History* 12 (2001) 407-446.
- 'The role of culture and institutions in economic history: can economics be of any help? *NEHA Jaarboek* 64 (2001) 28-60. Also published on the net <http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/economicHistory/GEHN/GEHNWorkshops.htm>.
- *Via Peking terug naar Manchester: Engeland, de Industriële Revolutie en China* (Nijmegen 2001) 1-48. (*Via Peking back to Manchester. Britain, the Industrial Revolution, and China*). Inaugural lecture at Nijmegen University. In 2009 a Japanese translation of this text has been put on the Web.
- 'Governing growth: a comparative analysis of the role of the state in the rise of the West', *Journal of World History* vol.13, issue 1 (2002) 67-138.
- *Via Peking back to Manchester. Britain, the Industrial Revolution, and China* (Leiden 2003) 109 pages, some 62,000 words, a revised, greatly extended and updated version of my inaugural lecture at Nijmegen University.
- 'Hoe Malthus, uiteindelijk, ongelijk kreeg. De Industriële Revolutie in Engeland als het doorbreken van het Malthusiaans plafond', *Leidschrift* vol. 18, issue 2 (2003) 109-167. (25,000 words). (How Malthus, in the end, was proved wrong. The Industrial revolution as an escape from Malthusian constraints).
- 'Is California the measure of all things global?: a rejoinder to Richardo Duchesne', *World History Connected*, a so-called e-journal, vol. 2, issue 2. The text, written on invitation, is 11,500 words and contains a reaction to Duchesne's review of my *Via Peking back to Manchester. Britain, the Industrial Revolution, and China*.
- 'In gesprek met Peer Vries', in: Leo Noordegraaf, ed., *Waarover spraken ze? Economische geschiedbeoefening in Nederland omstreeks het jaar 2000* (Amsterdam 2005) 275-290. An interview with me about global history.
- 'A world of striking differences. State and economy in early modern Britain and China' *Nankai Economic Journal* (2007) 4, 73-92, in Chinese
- A review of Christopher Mills Isett, *State, peasant, and merchant in Qing Manchuria, 1644-1862*. EH.Net Economic History Services, Aug 10 2007. URL: <http://eh.net/bookreviews/library/1250> 2800 words.
- A review of Hans-Heinrich Nolte, *Weltgeschichte. Imperien, Religionen und systeme 15.- 19. Jahrhundert* (Vienna, Cologne, Weimar 2005) <http://geschichte-transnational.clio-online.net/rezensionen/id=7142>, October 2007, 4700 words.
- A review of John Darwin, *After Tamerlane. The global history of empire since 1405* (London 2007) in: *British Scholar* vol. 1, issue 1 (2008) 111-117.
- 'The industrial Revolution' in *Encyclopaedia of the Modern World* (Oxford University Press, 2008) Volume 4, 158-161.

- 'The California School and beyond: how to study the Great Divergence?' *Journal für Entwicklungspolitik / Austrian Journal of Development Studies*, vol. 24, issue 4 (2008) 6-49.
- ed., Global History. An issue of *Österreichische Zeitschrift für Geschichtswissenschaften / Austrian Journal of History* vol 20. issue 2. (Innsbruck, Vienna, Bozen 2009).
- 'Editorial', *Österreichische Zeitschrift für Geschichtswissenschaften / Austrian Journal of History* vol 20. issue 2. (Innsbruck, Vienna, Bozen 2009) 5-22.
- 'Global economic history: a survey', *Österreichische Zeitschrift für Geschichtswissenschaften / Austrian Journal of History* vol 20. issue 2 (2009) 133-170.
- An interview with Felipe Fernández-Armesto, *Österreichische Zeitschrift für Geschichtswissenschaften / Austrian Journal of History* vol 20. issue 2. (2009) 170-183.
- 'A world of surprising resemblances?' In: *The role of the state in the Great Divergence*. Special Issue of *Leidschrift. Leiden Historical Journal* (2009) 35-49.
- *Zur politischen Ökonomie des Tees. Was uns Tee über die englische und chinesische Wirtschaft der Frühen Neuzeit sagen kann* (Vienna 2009) 161 pages.
- a Chinese translation, with a new Introduction of seven pages of my 2003 book *Via Peking back to Manchester. Britain, the Industrial Revolution, and China* (Beijing 2009) 143 pages.
- 'The California School and beyond: how to study the Great Divergence?' *History Compass* 8 (2010) 1-22. This is a revised version the article with the same name that appeared earlier in *Journal für Entwicklungspolitik / Austrian Journal of Development Studies*, vol. 24, issue 4 (2008) 6-49.
- ACCEPTED a review article of 10,000 of Jürgen Osterhammel, *Die Verwandlung der Welt. Eine Geschichte des 19. Jahrhunderts* (München 2009). To be published in *Comparativ. Zeitschrift für Globalgeschichte und Vergleichende Gesellschaftsforschung*,
- ACCEPTED: for *The Oxford History of Historical Writing. Volume V, Chapter 6: 'Global economic history'*, to be published by Oxford University Press 2010, 10,000 words.
- ACCEPTED - Europe and the rest: Braudel on capitalism, a translation of a revised and lengthened version of 'Europa en de rest: Braudel over het kapitalisme' in: M.Ph. Bossenbroek, M.E.H.N. Mout en C. Musterd, eds., *Met de Franse slag. Opstellen voor H.L. Wesseling* (Leiden 1998) 238-260.

- ACCEPTED: by Brill Publishers in the Global Economic History Series, *A world of surprising differences: state and economy in early modern Western Europe and China*. 200,000 words.

Work in Progress

- a book, in English, on economic globalisation in the early modern world. A text of more than 110,000 words has already been written. Its preliminary title is: 'Early modern globalisation? Reflections on the economic history of the early modern world.'

- a publication in English, called: 'The spectacular rehabilitation of early modern China: the global silver sink and the most competitive economy of the world?' The text is some 80,000 words.

- a comparison, in English, of the economic developments in Great Britain, China and Japan during the period from roughly 1700 to the beginning of the twentieth century.

The big underlying theme of my work has been and will continue to be 'the origins of modern economic growth: comparisons and connections.' To put it in Moses Abramowitz's terms what interests me is the problem of catching up, forging ahead and falling behind in economic history. What caused the emergence *and* continuation of the Great Divergence between rich and poor nations? After having finished the projects I have just described, I will extend my field and pay more attention to India and the Ottoman Empire, two other highly advanced, organic economies.