

PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
THE HISTORY OF CENTRAL BANKING IN LATIN AMERICA  
IN 2021 (PROVISIONAL DATE)  
MEXICO CITY

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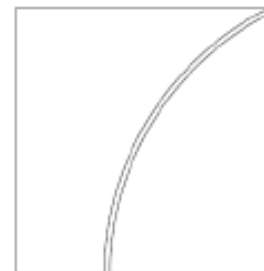
Meeting of Central Bank Librarians at the Bank of  
Spain – 2 October 2019

# BACKGROUND

- BIS- project on “Leveraging History by Defining Best Practice: The Historical Monetary and Financial Statistics (HMSF) Project”, now expanding and attempts to include Latin American countries



BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS



BIS Working Papers  
No XXX

Leveraging History by Defining Best Practice: The Historical Monetary and Financial Statistics (HMSF) Project

By Claudio Borio, Øyvind Eitrheim, Marc Flandreau, Pilar Nogues-Marco and Jan F. Ovigstad (editors)

Monetary and Economic Department

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## OBJECTIVE

- Organize a meeting to gather archivists, economists and historians, from central banks and from academia, to foster the organization and use of central banks' archives for economic and historical research as well as to strengthen their relevance for the strategic objectives of central banking policy.

<b>Enactment Law</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Foreign Advisor</b>	<b>Nationality of Foreign Advisor</b>	<b>Dehay and Levy Independence Index</b>
30.06.1921	South Africa	South Africa Reserve Bank	Sir Harry Strakosch	Great Britain	0.63
09.03.1922	Peru	Banco de Reserva del Perú /	None	-	0.73
<i>Reformed</i> 03.09.1931		Banco Central de Reserva del Perú	Edwin Walter Kemmerer	US	0.82
11.07.1923	Colombia	Banco de la República de Colombia	Edwin Walter Kemmerer	US	NA
20.01.1924	Poland	Bank of Poland	None	-	0.48
<i>Reformed</i> 13.10.1927			Edwin Walter Kemmerer	US	0.56
24.05.1924	Hungary	National Bank of Hungary	League of Nations	International / Great Britain	0.69
07.01.1925	Mexico	Banco de Mexico	Inspired by E.W. Kemmerer	US	0.64
23.05.1925	Czechoslovakia	National Bank of Czechoslovakia	None	-	0.62
22.08.1925	Chile	Banco Central de Chile	Edwin Walter Kemmerer	US	NA
30.06.1926	Guatemala	Banco de Guatemala	Edwin Walter Kemmerer	US	NA
04.03.1927	Ecuador	Banco Central de Ecuador	Edwin Walter Kemmerer	US	NA
07.12.1927	Greece	Bank of Greece	League of Nations	International / Great Britain	NA
19.07.1928	Bolivia	Banco central de Bolivia	Edwin Walter Kemmerer	US	NA
11.06.1930	Turkey	Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey	Gerard Vissering /Leon Morf	Netherlands / Switzerland	0.49
06.03.1934	India	India Reserve Bank of India	Hilton Young Commission	Great Britain	NA
19.06.1934	El Salvador	Banco Central de Reserva de El Salvador	Frederick Francis Joseph Powell	Great Britain	NA
03.07.1934	Canada	Bank of Canada	Sir Charles Addis	Great Britain	NA
27.11.1933	New Zealand	Reserve Bank of New Zealand	Otto Niemeyer	Great Britain	NA
28.05.1935	Argentina	Banco Central de la República Argentina	Otto Niemeyer (add note)	Great Britain	NA
05.11.1936	Costa Rica	Banco Nacional de Costa Rica	Hermann Max	Chile	NA
08.07.1939	Venezuela	Banco Central de Venezuela	Hermann Max	Chile	NA

## ANTECEDENTS

- In the last years, central banks around the world have attempted to facilitate access to historical documentation to researchers and to the general public
- Among the last of such efforts, the digitalization and uploading of primary documents are now deemed essential

## THE SITUATION IN LATIN AMERICA

- Efforts to organize and promote the use of central bank archives have been witnessed in countries such as Mexico, Colombia, and Peru.
- The historical archives are indispensable for transparency and information requirements inherent to central bank autonomy.
- Hence, many central banks have embarked on enormous investments to organize and maintain their archives.

## POSITIVE EXTERNALITIES

- Increase in students' interest on Latin America's central banking history
- The number of PhD dissertations, high quality books and academic papers continue to proliferate.

## PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- Archivists have been sharing their experiences during the same period.
- To name but a few of these events:
  - The Central Bank of Colombia co- organized with El Colegio de México and Rutgers University a first meeting in 2007 to bring together archivists and researchers and eventually form an Association on History and Banking Archives in Latin America
  - The Central Bank of Mexico organized a small workshop on the history and archives of banks in Latin America in February 2010
  - The Central Bank of Argentina organized a conference on the international experiences of banks' archives in October 2012.





### ARCHIVAL WORKSHOP

#### DATE

14 Jun 2018 at 11:30am to 4:45pm

#### LOCATION

Collegio Carlo Alberto  
Piazza Arbarello 8

Torino, Italy

#### SHARE THIS EVENT



#### DOWNLOADS

Programme



## 'Good' archives

14 Jun 2018 at 11:30am  
Torino, Italy

*eabh* in cooperation with Fondazione 1563 per l'Arte e la Cultura della Compagnia di San Paolo and UPIER (Uses of the Past in International Economic Relations)

This one-day workshop is designed for financial institutions' archivists, researchers and potential users. How can archives prepare their collections of information in a way that puts them to their best use? How do researchers use archive collections? Are there new ways that they can be used by financial institutions themselves as they face challenges of the present and future? How can the historical records be made accessible to and exploited by a wider audience? How can archives help us to reflect on legacy of the social purposes that inspired the origins of many financial institutions and the role of banks and finance in society?

### Programme

14 June Moderator: April Miller, World Bank Group Archives

11:30 Welcome coffee

12:00 Welcome

Anna Cantaluppi, Director of Fondazione 1563 per l'Arte e la Cultura della Compagnia di San Paolo  
Hugo Bänziger, Banque Lombard Odier, Chairman of *eabh*

12:10 Keynote Speech  
Catherine Schenk, UPIER

12:25 Session 1



ITALY

## TODAY'S CHALLENGES

- Central banks need to better identify areas of opportunity and benefit from the archival sources they keep
- We believe that this positive scenario invite us to consolidate and boost the increased interest on central banking in Latin America and deepen its understanding from the economic, historical and social perspectives

## RELEVANT ISSUES FOR TODAY'S DEBATES ON CENTRAL BANKING

- The relevance of central banks' autonomy, the development of economic statistics;
- Long-term analyses on the nexus between financial development and economic growth;
- The origins of central banks in the region and their relations with banks and governments;
- Central bank's historical experience facing banking panics and bank failures;
- The connections between banks and industry,
- The evolution of banks' regulation

## VISIBILITY OF CENTRAL BANKS' ARCHIVES

- Digitalization's best practices
- Policies to facilitate archives' accessibility
- Construction of banking and financial databases

## Partners and Synergies

- *Collaboration with the European Banking History Association (EABH)*
- *Collaboration with the BIS.* This meeting may also contribute to the visibility of the region's progress on the building of long-term statistical series.
  - Conference complementary to the BIS- project

## HOST INSTITUTION?

- Banco de México?
- CEMLA?
- Your own institution??

**GRACIAS!**

Comentarios, quejas, sugerencias: [juan.flores@unige.ch](mailto:juan.flores@unige.ch)