

ROME FRESH MEETING 2026

Transport, Infrastructure, and Long-Run Development: Historical Evidence

28–29 SEPTEMBER 2026

Final programme

MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

9:30 – 10:00 WELCOME

- **10:00 – 10:30** **Stefan Nikolić**, *Railways and economic development in a small agrarian economy: Bulgaria, 1880–1910*
- **10:30 – 11:00** **Gianni Marciante**, *The Rise of the Knowledge Economy*

11:00 – 11:30 COFFEE BREAK

- **11:30 – 12:00** **Nico Meffe**, *Calling up Change: How the Spread of the Telephone Expanded Employment Opportunities for American Women from 1880 to 1940*
- **12:00 – 12:30** **Georgios Tsiachtsiras**, *Railroads and Literacy: Evidence from Italy*
- **12:30 – 13:00** **Luigi Pascali**, *The Republic of Letters and the Rise of the West*

13:00 – 15:00 LUNCH

- **15:00 – 15:30** **Andrea Xamo**, *The Spark and the Rail: The Effects of Railway Electrification in Italy, 1901–61*
- **15:30 – 16:00** **Michele Zampa**, *Paving the Way: Highway Access and the Reconfiguration of Local Labor Markets in Italy*
- **16:00 – 16:30** **Flavio Malnati**, *Fast Car to Boom and Bust: Transportation Technology and Its Causal Effects on Rural Economic Development*

20:00 SOCIAL DINNER at Taverna Latina, via Tommaso da Celano 14, 00179 Roma

TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

- **10:00 – 10:30** **Masahiro Kubo**, *Regime Change and Local Industrialization: Evidence from the Meiji Restoration*
- **10:30 – 11:00** **Tom Görges**, *Railways and the Educational Elite: Evidence from Nineteenth-Century Denmark*

11:00 – 11:30 COFFEE BREAK

- **11:30 – 12:00** **Victoria Bel**, *The Long-Term Impact of Railways on Economic Development and Nation-Building: Evidence from Ethiopia*
- **12:00 – 13:00** **Keynote speaker — James Fenske**

13:00 – 15:00 LUNCH

- **15:00 – 15:30** **Zahra Behrouzmoghadam**, *Transport Accessibility and Population Change in Spain (1800–1930): Evidence from a Reconstructed Multimodal Network*
- **15:30 – 16:00** **Luigi Moretti**, *The causal analysis of railways networks: Sources of endogeneity and the least-cost path approach*

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