



XXIII RIDGE FORUM

2026 RIDGE MAY FORUM

LACEA-EHN Workshop on Historical Development PROGRAM

LACEA-EHN Co-directors

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Eduardo Montero, University of Chicago

Michela Giorcelli, UCLA

May 20-21, 2026

The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados

Day 1: May 20

Building Sagikor Centre for Lifelong Learning, Room: LR12

NOTICE: All times are in Barbados Time (UTC-4)

Presenters will have 45 minutes for their presentation

09:50-10:00	Opening Remarks
10:00-10:45	<p>▶ SESSION 1: STATE FORMATION AND RELIGION</p> <p>A Political Economy Approach to State Religion and Holy Wars Emmanuelle Auriol, Toulouse School of Economics</p>
10:45-11:30	<p>Religious Orders and State-Building Marcos Salgado, FGV EPGE</p>
11:30-12:00	Coffee break
12:00-12:45	<p>▶ SESSION 2: CONFLICT, INSTITUTIONS, AND GEOPOLITICS</p> <p>Long-Run Exposure to Centralized Institutions and Contemporary Conflict: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa Emilio Depetris-Chauvin, PUC Chile</p>
12:45-13:30	<p>Geopolitics and Institutional Change: The Napoleonic Wars and the Abolition of the British Slave Trade Gabriel Leon-Ablan, King's College London</p>
13:30-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-15:15	<p>▶ SESSION 3: LAND AND PROPERTY RIGHTS</p> <p>Land Reforms in Developing Financial Markets: Lessons from England's Land Enclosures, 1750-1830 Karine van der Beek, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev</p>
15:15-16:00	<p>Property with Different Rights: The Long-Run Effects of Ecuador's Agrarian Reform Adrian Nicholas Gachet, Tecnológico de Monterrey</p>

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-18:00 ► **KEYNOTE LECTURE: POLITICAL FRAGMENTATION, FORCED MOBILITY AND KNOWLEDGE ACCUMULATION IN EUROPE BEFORE 1800**

● David de la Croix, UCLouvain

Day 2: May 21

Building Sagicor Centre for Lifelong Learning, Room: LR12

10:00-10:45 ► **SESSION 4: MIGRATION, MARKETS, AND DEVELOPMENT**

Outmigration and Economic Development: Evidence from the Italian Mass Migration

Gianluca Russo, CUNEF University

10:45-11:30 Railroads, Market Access, and Indigenous Land Dispossession

Rob Gillezeau, University of Toronto

11:30-12:00 Coffee break

12:00-12:45 ► **SESSION 5: KNOWLEDGE AND SOCIAL PERSISTENCE**

Coffeehouses and the Rise of Science

Jens Oehlen, Stockholm University

12:45-13:30 My Mother Was a Suffragette: The Intergenerational Effects of Women's Right to Vote

Gabriel Cruz, University of Maryland, College Park

13:30-14:30 Lunch break

14:30-15:15 ► **SESSION 6: POLITICAL CHANGE AND HISTORICAL LEGACIES**

The Long-Run Persistence of Social Networks

Juliana Jaramillo Echeverri, Banco de la República

15:15-16:00 The Political Costs of Taxation

Joseph Enguehard, ENS de Lyon & University of Bologna

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-17:15 ▶ **SESSION 7: LONG-RUN DEVELOPMENT AND DIVERGENCE**

When Did Argentina Lose Its Mojo? A Short Note on Economic Divergence

Sebastian Katz, Central Bank of Argentina

17:15-18:00

Sugar, Hardship, and Aftermath of Slavery

Marie Beigelman, King's College London