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Professor (emer.) of Economic History

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Born in 1928 in Lier, Belgium
Studied Law, Philosophy, Political and Social Sciences, History, and Economics at the University of Leuven, the University of Paris and at the London School of Economics

PROJECT

War and Monetary Policy. The National Bank of Belgium, the Brussels Bank of Issue and the Belgian Government, 1938-1948

Belgian monetary and financial policy was influenced strongly by the Second World War. The threat of a German invasion led to a wide range of specific monetary and financial measures. When the invasion occurred and the National Bank's headquarters, following the Belgian government, moved to France, policy adjustments were necessary. The return of the Bank to Brussels after the German occupation of the country and the exile of the government to London complicated monetary and financial policy once again, since the Bank in its policy was squeezed between the demands of the German military administration at Brussels, the needs of the German administration in Berlin, and the distrust of the Belgian government in exile at London. The postwar monetary reform, prepared in Brussels and in London and successfully implemented by Minister of Finance Gutt in October 1944, became a model of monetary policy for the whole of Europe and the basis of Belgium's successful economic recovery during the immediate postwar era.

Recommended Reading

Wee, Herman van der. *A History of European Banking*. Antwerp: European Investment Bank/Fonds Mercator, 2000.

- . *The General Bank, 1822-1927: a Permanent Challenge*. Tiel: Lannoo, 1997. (German edition: *Die Generale Bank: 1822-1997: 175 Jahre, eine ständige Herausforderung*.)

- . *Prosperity and Upheaval: the World Economy 1945-1980*. 3rd edition. London: Penguin, 1987. (French edition: *Histoire économique mondiale, 1945-1990*. Louvain-la-Neuve: Academia Duculot, 1990.)

PUBLICATIONS FROM THE FELLOWS' LIBRARY

Van der Wee, Herman (Leuven,2009)

A small nation in the turmoil of the Second World War : money, finance and occupation (Belgium, its enemies, its friends, 1939 - 1945)

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De Nationale Bank van België 1939 - 1971. Oorlog en monetaire politiek: de Nationale Bank van België, de Emissiebank te Brussel en de Belgische regering, 1939 - 1945 <engl.>

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Van der Wee, Herman ([S.l.],2005)

Oorlog en monetaire politiek : de Nationale Bank van België, de emissiebank te Brussel en de Belgische regering, 1939 - 1945

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De Nationale Bank van België 1939 - 1971

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Van der Wee, Herman (Antwerpen,2002)

CERA, 1892 - 1998 : die Kraft der genossenschaftlichen Solidarität

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=1372741194>

Van der Wee, Herman (Cambridge,2000)

The twentieth century : an economic retrospective

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Van der Wee, Herman (Tielt,1997)

Die Generale Bank : 1822 - 1997 ; eine ständige Herausforderung

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Die Generale Bank

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Van der Wee, Herman (Antwerpen,1994)

Het huidig verankeringsdebat in een historisch perspectief : lezing ... op de academische zitting naar aanleiding van de publicatie van het jaarverslag 1992 door de Gewestelijke Investeringsmaatschappij voor Vlaanderen ; [Leuven, 28. Oktober 1993]

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=669190926>

Van der Wee, Herman (Antwerp,1994)

A history of European banking

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=198413882>

Van der Wee, Herman (1993)

Antwerp as a world market in the sixteenth and seventeenth century

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=895124777>

Van der Wee, Herman (Aldershot, Hampshire [u.a.],1993)

The Low Countries in the early modern world

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=127990585>

Van der Wee, Herman (Leuven,1990)

Metropolitan cities and their hinterlands in early modern Europe : proceedings ; tenth International Economic History Congress Leuven, August 1990

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=669190934>

Studies in social and economic history ; 9 / edited by Herman Van der Wee

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