



PROGRAM SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE
'300 YEARS OSTENDE COMPANY'

VENUE: VLIZ (Flemish Institute for the Sea) – InnovOcean Campus; Jacobsenstraat 1, 8400 Oostende, Belgium

THURSDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2023

9:15 Opening remarks

- Jan Mees (VLIZ) & Eduard Somers (Royal Belgian Marine Society)
- Carl Decaluwé (Governor of the Province of West-Flanders)
- Frederik Dhondt (Vrije Universiteit Brussel), Torsten Feys (VLIZ), Stan Pannier (VLIZ) & Michael-W. Serruys (Royal Belgian Marine Society)

10:00 Key Note 1

Small companies in a global perspective – Cátia Antunes (Leiden)

11:15 BREAK

11:45 Session 1 – The Ostend Company and its European merchants and investors

1. *France and the Ostend Company* – Pierrick Pourchasse (Brest)
2. *The Lisbon link: Uncovering the Portuguese connection of the Ostend Company (1714-1730)* – Gijs Dreijer (Leiden), Susana Münch Miranda (Lisbon) & João Paulo Salvado (Évora)
3. *The Danish Ostend legacy: Supercargo Pieter Van Hurk in Copenhagen* – Benjamin Asmussen (Copenhagen)

13:15 LUNCH

14:30 Session 2 – The Ostend Company's European market: Shipping and smuggling

4. *A Cantonese fairy tale. The Ostend tea trade and smuggle (1718-1756)* – Jan Parmentier (Antwerp)
5. *The Ostend Company and the Sound Toll Registers, Dutch and Frisian skippers in Ostend* – Jelle Jan Koopmans (Groningen)
6. *Lighter and brighter: Indian cottons in Brussels in the first half of the eighteenth century* – Veronika Hyden-Hanscho (Klagenfurt)

16:00 BREAK

16:30 Session 3 – The Ostend Company's homeport(s) in the Austrian Netherlands

7. *The Ostend Company and the Port and City of Ostend* – Michael-W. Serruys (Brussels)
8. *A rivalry of maritime aspirations between Bruges and Ostend (1715-1730)* – Erik Muls (Leuven)



FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2023

9:00 Key Note 2

Merchants or soldiers? The Ostend Company: local actions, maritime power and military conflicts in China and Bengal – Wim De Winter (Leuven)

10:15 *BREAK*

10:45 Session 4 – All on board to Asia

9. *Commensality on board the Ostend Company's East Indiamen* – Dennis De Vriese (Brussels)
10. *Instability and uncertainty in an Ostend settlement in Cobelon* – Karel Staněk (Prague) & Michal Wanner (Prague)
11. *The aftermath of Banquibazar: Dutch takeover, English mansion and Bengal police academy (1745-2020)* – John Everaert (Ghent)
12. *Maritime comradeship and artistic taste. Eighteenth century clay portrait figures of the officers from Ostend and Danish East India Companies* – Yi-Chieh 'Mireille' Shih (Leiden)

12:45 *LUNCH*

14:00 Session 5 – The Ostend Company and European diplomacy

13. *David and Goliath? Reassessing colonial competition and the struggle for global empire between the Dutch republic and the Habsburg Monarchy in the case of the Ostend Company* – Jonathan Singerton (Amsterdam)
14. *Law and interest: The politico-legal battle on the Ostend Company and 'la vie du droit' (1725-1730)* – Frederik Dhondt (Brussels)
15. *'The Emperor himself [...] permitted the ships to go to the Indies': Charles VI and the end of the Ostend Company* – Charlotte Backerra (Göttingen)

15:30 *BREAK*

16:00 Session 6 – The Ostend Company and new societal ideas

16. *The Ostend Company: Law of the Sea debates in the Age of mercantilism* – Stefano Cattelan (Brussels)
17. *'What if everyone would do it freely?' The Ostend Company and the invention of modern business practices in eighteenth century St.-Petersburg, Russia* – Alexei Kraikovski (Genoa)

17:00 Conclusion