



Fronsperger and Laffemas

16th-century Precursors of Modern Economic Ideas

Edited by Erik S. Reinert and Philipp Robinson Rössner, By Leonhard Fronsperger and Barthélemy de Laffemas

Pub Date: 02 May 2023

Binding: Hardback

Price: £80.00 / \$110.00

ISBN: 9781839987083

Extent: 250 pages

Size: 153 x 229 mm / 6 x 9 inches

RIGHTS Exclusive: WORLD

BISAC CATEGORY: BUSINESS & ECONOMICS /

Free Enterprise & Capitalism, BUSINESS &

ECONOMICS / Economic History, BUSINESS &

ECONOMICS / Development / Economic

Development, BUSINESS & ECONOMICS / Economics

/ Theory, BUSINESS & ECONOMICS / Industries /Manufacturing

BIC CODE: KCZ

Series: Economic Ideas that Built Europe; Anthem Other Canon Economics

This volume introduces two unique and hitherto largely unknown contributions to the making of modern economic knowledge and makes them available internationally for the first time in full English translation. Together the two texts present the early history of two main pillars of economics, the role of individual interests (Fronsperger) and the role of government policy (Laffemas). Written in 1597 Barthélemy de Laffemas' General Regulation for the Establishment of Manufactures (originally in French: Reiglement général pour dresser les manufactures), emphasises the necessity of manufacturing industry as a source of the wealth of nations. Located somewhat at the cross-roads between medieval Scholasticism and early mercantilism he presents a basic version of the infant industry argument and European standard model of economic development which made it into later doctrines of thought including Colbert, Friedrich List and 19th- and 20th-century economic policy, including the post WWII Marshall Plan.

Leonhard Fronsperger's On the Praise of Self-Interest (German original: Von dem Lob deß Eigen Nutzen, 1564) is the first documented instance of the 'Mandeville paradox', a theorem in modern economics usually associated with much later writings including Bernard de Mandeville's Fable of the Bees (1705/14), and Adam Smith's Wealth of Nations (1776). Vested in Renaissance Humanism southern German military surgeon and polymath Fronsperger argues – without moving into the abstractions of neoliberalism – that possessive individualism and self-interest are key forces moving the human economy forward, contributing to virtuous cycles of enrichment and economic development.

Contents

Introduction; 1 Barthélemy de Laffemas (1545–ca. 1611) as an Early Economist: Context and Scholarly Voices in the English-language Literature, Erik S. Reinert and Philipp Robinson Rössner; 2 General Regulation for the Establishment of Manufactures (1597), Barthélemy de Laffemas Translated from the original French by Philip Stewart; 3 Leonhard Fronsperger (1520–ca. 1575) as an Early Apology of the Market Economy, Rainer Klump and Lars Pilz; 4 Leonhard Fronsperger 'On the Praise of Self-Interest' (1564), Translated from the original Early New High German by Philipp Robinson Rössner with Julia McLachlan

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Erik S. Reinert is a Professor of Technology Governance and Development Strategies, at Tallinn University of Technology. He is also Honorary Professor at the Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, University College London.

Philipp Robinson Rössner is a Professor (chair) of Early Modern History, The University of Manchester.

Ordering in North America, Latin America and Caribbean

Ingram Publishers Services (US)
1 Ingram Blvd. Mail stop
#512 Laverne, TN 37086, United States
Tel: +1 866 400 5351
ips@ingramcontent.com

Ordering in the UK/Rest of the World

Ingram Publishers Services (UK)
1 Deltic Avenue, Rooksley
Milton Keynes, MK13 8LD
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 1752 202300 | Fax: 01752 202330
IPSUK.Orders@ingramcontent.com

Ordering in Australia

NewSouth Books
C/O Alliance Distribution Services (ADS)
9 Pioneer Avenue
Tuggerah 2259 NSW, Australia
Tel: +61 (02) 4390 1300 | Fax: +1800-66-44-77
adscs@alliancedist.com.au