Proposal for the 3rd MMHN Conference

Katerina Vourkatioti

The Economic Aspect of the Voyages of the Sailing Ship “Ag. Panteleimon” – 1873-1877

Undoubtedly, the most profitable grain trade in the 19th century was on the route from South Russia to Western Europe. This trade started to rise from the 1830s onward and during the 1870s was at its peak. Greek owned sailing and steam ships took up a great part of these transportations. They sailed from South Russia and the main destinations were Italian ports, Marseilles and London. They carried grain to Europe and brought back industrial goods.

The sailing ship “Ag. Panteleimon” took an active part in this trade. During the years 1873-1877 she made 8 journeys from the Black Sea to Italian ports and Marseilles and back. In this paper I intend to review the voyages through the ship’s expense book. My aim is to see the fixed costs, the usual port expenses and also the special expenses occurred, how some of these costs were connected to individual ports or routes. Also, to see the difficulties they had to face, the economic impact of them and how they could overcome them. Finally, I would like to see the balance sheet of each voyage and whether the outcome was a positive or negative one.
CV
Katerina Vourkatioti holds a PhD from Panteion University on “Ralli Bros. 1814-1961, the archetype of the Greek Diaspora entrepreneurship”. She has conducted research in British archives and libraries. Her research interests are mainly focused on Business, Maritime and Entrepreneurial History in the 19th and early 20th cen