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978-0-521-17312-4 - Global Perspectives on Global History: Theories and Approaches in a Connected World

Dominic Sachsenmaier

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## Global Perspectives on Global History

In recent years, historians across the world have become increasingly interested in transnational and global approaches to the past. However, the debates surrounding this new border-crossing movement have remained limited in scope as theoretical exchanges on the tasks, responsibilities, and potentials of global history have been largely confined to national or regional academic communities. In this groundbreaking book, Dominic Sachsenmaier sets out to redress this imbalance by offering a series of new perspectives on the global and local flows, sociologies of knowledge, and hierarchies that are an intrinsic part of historical practice. Taking the United States, Germany, and China as his main case studies, he reflects upon the character of different approaches to global history as well as their social, political, and cultural contexts. He argues that this new global trend in historiography needs to be supported by a corresponding increase in transnational dialogue, cooperation, and exchange.

DOMINIC SACHSENMAIER is Assistant Professor of Trans-Cultural and Chinese History at Duke University.

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## Acknowledgments

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A book of this kind could not have been written without many conference travels and research stays in different parts of the world, most notably in North America, Europe, and East Asia. Without a comparatively high degree of mobility it would have been hardly possible for me to start reflecting on the status quo of global and transnational historical research in different parts of the world as well as, more generally, on the global landscapes of historical scholarship. Over a period of about five years, my employers, the University of California, Santa Barbara, and subsequently Duke University, were both generous in granting me ample time as well as resources to pursue my studies, often far away from my professional bases. In addition, extramural funding from various institutions allowed me to spend extended periods in different countries, mainly to consult library materials and interview scholars from a wide range of fields. Among the institutions sponsoring single segments of my own research were the University of California's Pacific Rim Program, Humboldt Foundation in Germany, the Academy of Korean Studies Grant funded by the Korean Government (AKS-2010-DZZ-3103), and the German National Research Foundation. In addition, I had both the pleasure and honor to enjoy summer fellowships at the Berlin Social Science Research Center, the Erasmus Mundus Global Studies Program (Leipzig), and the Institute of Advanced Study in Constance/Germany, where I completed the first full version of my manuscript.

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