

ECONOMISTES AND THE REINVENTION OF EMPIRE

Exploring the myriad efforts to strengthen colonial empire that unfolded in response to France's imperial crisis in the second half of the eighteenth century, Pernille Røge examines how political economists, colonial administrators, planters, and entrepreneurs shaped the recalibration of empire in the Americas and in Africa alongside the intensification of the French Caribbean plantation complex. Emphasising the intellectual contributions of the Economistes (also known as the Physiocrats) to formulate a new colonial doctrine, the book highlights the advent of an imperial discourse of commercial liberalisation, free labour, agricultural development, and civilisation. With her careful documentation of the reciprocal impacts of economic ideas, colonial policy and practices, Røge also details key connections between Ancien Régime colonial innovation and the French Revolution's republican imperial agenda. The result is a novel perspective on the struggles to reinvent colonial empire in the final decades of the Ancien Régime and its influences on the French Revolution and beyond.

PERNILLE RØGE is Assistant Professor of History and convener of the Early Modern Worlds Initiative at the University of Pittsburgh. She is author of numerous articles and book chapters on the eighteenth-century French, Danish, and British colonial empires. She is also co-editor of *The Political Economy of Empire in the Early Modern World* (2013), with Sophus Reinert, and of the International Review of Social History's special issue on *Free and Unfree Labor in Atlantic and Indian Ocean Port Cities, 17th-19th Century* (2019), with Pepijn Brandon and Niklas Frykman.

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ECONOMISTES AND THE REINVENTION OF EMPIRE

*France in the Americas and Africa,
c. 1750–1802*

PERNILLE RØGE

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*For Anders,
Oskar Emil and Otto*

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Note on the Text

Throughout the text, I refer to the Secrétariat and Secrétaire d'État de la Marine during the Ancien Régime as the Ministry and the Minister of the Marine. Similarly, I refer to the Secrétariat and Secrétaire d'État des Affaires étrangères as the Ministry and Minister of Foreign Affairs. While researching this book, the Archives nationales d'outre-mer in Aix-en-Provence made the Correspondance à l'arrivée de la Martinique, Sous-série C8 and the archive on Personnel colonial ancien, Série E, XVII^c-XVIII^c available online. I have added their 'Référence Internet' for those documents in these two series that I consulted online but also preserved the archival reference.

Abbreviations

| | |
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| ADG | Archives départementales de la Gironde |
| ANOM | Archives nationales d'outre-mer, Aix-en-Provence |
| ANPMP | Archives nationales, Paris, Mirabeau Papers |
| AP | Archives Parlementaires de 1787 à 1860, French Revolution Digital Archive, University of Stanford. http://frda.stanford.edu |
| FM | Musée Arbaud, Aix-en-Provence, Fonds Mirabeau |
| MAE | Ministère des affaires étrangères, Paris |
| NAK | National Archives, Kew |

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