



## **MARTIN STARK**

After having studied social and economic history at the University Hamburg, Martin Stark obtained his PhD in Modern History at University of Trier. His research focuses on the economic and social history of the 19th and 20th Century and on applying methods and theories of Social Network Analysis on historical topics. He is a member of the Historical Network Research initiative and part of the developer team of the software Venn-Maker, a tool for visual data collection and quantitative and qualitative analysis of social networks.

## **Geographical Networks in History:** case studies, methods and tools

Among historians, network terms have been used mainly metaphorically so far. A number of studies have now shown that both theories and methods derived from Social Network Analysis (SNA) can be fruitfully applied to selected bodies of historical data/records. For several of these historical research projects the analytical integration of the geographical dimension is of special interest and poses a methodological challenge. This presentation will discuss methodological approaches towards social networks and geographical issues based on selected historical case studies. As applying formal methods and theories of SNA on historical topics is still a challenge, the talk also discusses recent developments in software solutions to lower the hurdles for exploring social and in particular geographical networks.