

XXIX Encontro da APHES
Special international session: “Inequality, conflict and redistribution”

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“Inequality and social conflict in 1930s Spain.”

Abstract:

This paper analyses the rise in social conflict in 1930s Spain. It first argues current views of violence and conflict in 1930s Spain are obscured by class, inference and sampling biases. I then develop an explanation of the rise of social conflict during the Second Republic based on crucial changes in the governance of conflict rather than on changes in the economic determinants of conflict. I argue the state’s low infrastructural power (using the concept proposed by Michael Mann) explains the spread of riots and insurrections.

Key words: conflict, inequality, agrarian development, land reform.