The Leipzig Research Centre Global Dynamics | ReCentGlobe invites you to the Druckfrisch digital book discussion. Nicola Miller (University College London) presents her new book "Republics of Knowledge".

The book examines nineteenth-century networks of knowledge in Latin America and offers new insights into the process of nation-making. It was not, as has been assumed in research so far, common language or collective identities that united citizens in Latin America into a common national idea, but the promise of access to modern information and global knowledge.

The book will be discussed by Agustina Carrizo de Reimann (University of Leipzig) and Olaf Kaltmeier (University of Bielefeld). The event will be chaired by Axel Körner (University of Leipzig/ University College London).

The conversation is open to the public and will take place online via Zoom: http://bit.ly/2O6rkj7.
The term 'republic of knowledge' stands for an ideal political community in which republican values —autonomy, equality, liberty, justice— are invested and realized in equitable access to knowledge for everyone. This ideal was embedded in the political discourse of the Spanish American republics.

PROF. DR. NICOLA MILLER
Professor of Latin American History, University College London.
MODERATOR

PROF. DR. AXEL KÖRNER
Leibniz Professor, University of Leipzig/
Professor of Modern History, University
College London

DISCUSSANTS

DR. AGUSTINA CARRIZO DE REIMANN
Postdoctoral Researcher at the Research Centre
Global Dynamics, University of Leipzig

PROF. DR. OLAF KALTMEIER
Professor for Ibero-American History,
University of Bielefeld

DRUCKFRISCH DIGITAL BOOK DISCUSSION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17 | 4 PM (CET) | WWW.RECENTGLOBE.UNI-LEIPZIG.DE
The rise of nation-states is a hallmark of the modern age, yet we are still untangling how the phenomenon unfolded across the globe. Here, Nicola Miller offers new insights into the process of nation-making through an account of nineteenth-century Latin America, where, she argues, the identity of nascent republics was molded through previously underappreciated means: the creation and sharing of knowledge.

Drawing evidence from Argentina, Chile, and Peru, Republics of Knowledgetraces the histories of these countries from the early 1800s, as they gained independence, to their centennial celebrations in the twentieth century. Miller identifies how public exchange of ideas affected policymaking, the emergence of a collective identity, and more. She finds that instead of defining themselves through language or culture, these new nations united citizens under the promise of widespread access to modern information. Miller challenges the narrative that modernization was a strictly North Atlantic affair, demonstrating that knowledge traveled both ways between Latin America and Europe. And she looks at how certain forms of knowledge came to be seen as more legitimate and valuable than others, both locally and globally. Miller ultimately suggests that all modern nations can be viewed as communities of shared knowledge, a perspective with the power to reshape our conception of the very basis of nationhood.