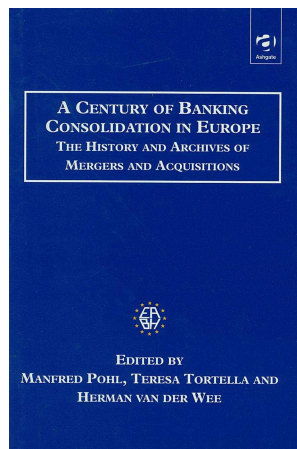


A Century of Banking Consolidation in Europe - The History and Archives of Mergers and Acquisitions-



From the nineteenth century to the late twentieth century the European banking sector experienced countless mergers and acquisitions. The outcome of this century of consolidation is strikingly similar across the continent, with the banking sector of each country now dominated by a handful of giant banking corporations.

Consolidation and concentration trends in banking were the themes of the Academic Archive Colloquium of the European Association for Banking History held in Madrid in June 1997. This volume is comprised of the 18 papers and responses presented at the Colloquium by a truly international group of delegates. Some of the themes explored in the book include: the significance of mergers for bank archives; the regulation of mergers and their impact on banking legislation; reactions to consolidation both from legislation; reactions to consolidation both from within and outside the banking industry; and case studies of particular mergers and their impact on the wider banking community.

Youssef Cassis's introductory chapter provides a general survey of trends in the consolidation process and suggests that the advent of the Euro may herald a new era in the history of European banking consolidation.

The Editors

Manfred Pohl is founder and Deputy Chairman of the *European Association for Banking and Financial History (EABH) e.V.*. Additionally, he is Chief Executive Officer and founder of the Institute for Corporate Cultural Affairs e. V. (ICCA e.V.) and Frankfurter Zukunftsrat e.V.. He was educated at the University of Saarbrücken, where he received his PhD in History in 1972 and started lecturing at Frankfurt Goethe University in 1981, where he became an honorary professor in 1992. He received the European Award for Culture at the European Parliament in Strasbourg in October 2001. In 2011 he was awarded with the *Verdienstkreuz 1. Klasse* of the Federal Republic Germany for his charitable commitment in the European banking and financial sector. His publications include, among many others, *Hochtief und seine Geschichte. Von den Brüdern Helfmann bis ins 21. Jahrhundert*, written by Manfred Pohl in cooperation with Birgit Siekmann in 2000 as well as numerous monographies on economic and business history. One of his recent publications is *Responsible Business: How to Manage a CSR Strategy Successfully* with Nick Tollhurst in 2010.

Teresa Tortella is Head of the Archives and Numismatic Department at the Banco de España, Madrid since 1990. In 1978 Tortella joined the Banco de España and ever since she has been in charge of the Historical Archives. Over the years she has also taken over responsibilities for the Bank's Record Management as well as the Numismatic Department. Currently she is a member of the ICA/SBL (Section of Business and Labour Archives) Steering Committee. She has published several articles and studies on archives and numismatic topics. Her publications include *The First Banknotes of Banco Nacional de San*

Carlos 1782-1829 in 1997 and in 2000 *A Guide to Sources of Information on Foreign Investment in Spain 1780-1914*.

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