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Constructing America : a constructivist contemplation of the relationship between the Franco-German Americanization-debate and national identity, 1918-1933

Publication status and date:

Published: 19/10/2017

Document Version

Other version

Citation for the published version (APA):

Jacque, SI. (2017). *Constructing America : a constructivist contemplation of the relationship between the Franco-German Americanization-debate and national identity, 1918-1933*. [Doctoral Thesis, Erasmus University Rotterdam]. Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam (EUR).

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Propositions

- 1) In the relevant four case studies of this research pro- and anti-Americanism were a catalyst for the creation, definition and refinement of national identity.
- 2) The number of primary sources, i.e. the sample size, would not have changed the conclusion as drawn in proposition number 1.
- 3) For the period 1918-1933 the United States of America offered the only viable socio-economic model and reference point to define what it meant to be German and what it meant to be French.
- 4) The life and personal experiences of the four authors studied in this thesis were crucial for their either positive or negative perception of the USA and Americanization.
- 5) The use of Constructivist Theory in historical research requires an operationalization of the theory which is specific to the research subject.
- 6) Crisis of national identity are generated by an exogenous shock.
- 7) Modern-day anti-Americanism is still used as a tool of reenforcing national identity.
- 8) Modern-day pro-Americanism primarily incorporates political dimensions rather than economic and cultural ones.
- 9) Globalization has eroded the potential of anti-Americanism, making particularly European anti-Americanism policy-specific.
- 10) The perceived instability of the political system induces the need to reenforce national identity.
- 11) The USA can no longer be considered as a hegemon in world politics.