

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	page vi
1 Merchant guilds, efficiency and social capital	1
2 What was a merchant guild?	19
3 Local merchant guilds	41
4 Alien merchant guilds and companies	94
5 Merchant guilds and rulers	160
6 Commercial security	192
7 Contract enforcement	250
8 Principal-agent problems	315
9 Information	344
10 Price volatility	391
11 Institutions, social capital and economic development	414
<i>Bibliography</i>	435
<i>Index</i>	476