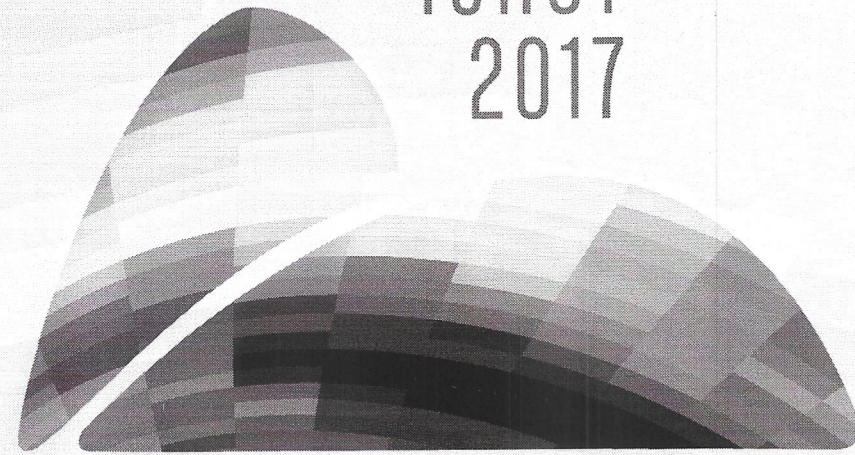


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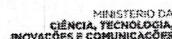
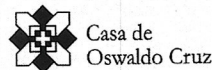
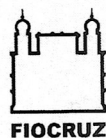
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Relations between pharmaceutical monopolies and biomedical research: an up-to-date reading by Tamás Szmrecsányi

Rosa Maria Corrêa das Neves, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz

We understand the studies of Tamás Szmrecsányi on the methodological need to relate the historiography of science and technology with economic development as an important contribution to give complexity to the history of science. In part of his studies, the first in the sense of interacting an internalismo and a historiographical externalism from the economic point of view, we identify the periodization relative to the first, second and third industrial revolutions as reference for the economic study of science and technology.

In our studies on contemporary science and our professional intervention in the field of scientific education in the biomedical field, we work with the hypothesis that the organization of contemporary biomedical research has relations with the dynamics of pharmaceutical conglomerates continuously concentrated since the 1980, an aspect of the imperialist phase of capitalism, consolidated since the beginning of the 20th century. If our hypothesis is admissible, we dare to suggest that this initial periodization of Tamás Szmrecsányi is not a direct reference for the organization and development of the biomedical sciences and beyond, and that for each science there may be a specific periodization. In spite of a supposed peculiarity in the relations between economic development and specific scientific and technological development, we consider correct the more general relation that the economist proposes between the scientific development and phases of development of capitalism.

Tamás Szmrecsányi; pharmaceutical monopolies; contemporary science; imperialism
