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***Coercion, unfree labour and skill levels during the Spanish Civil War: Railway enterprises, mining and iron and steel industry in comparative perspective*.**

During Spanish Civil War forced labour for prisoners and prisoners of war was one of the tools for political repression in both sides, mainly under fascist one. In this paper we aim to better understand the economic logic of the deployment of thousands of captives, mainly regarding relationships between demand of unfree labourers and the skill level required. Taking into account the proposals by Fenoaltea and Acemoglu & Wolitzky we will consider to which extent demand of forced labour by enterprises was mainly oriented to effort-intensive and low-skill activities, and in which circumstances forced labourers were deployed by enterprises for high-skill activities. In order to deal in depth with this question we will analyse different sectors, such as railway companies, mining and iron and steel industry, not only during Civil War but also in its aftermath.