

Representations of the Past: The Writing of National Histories in Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century Europe (NHIST)

Research Networking Programme — Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH)



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Coming Up for Air - Thoughts on NHIST at Mid-Term

In the autumn of 2005, after two and a half years, NHIST underwent the standard mid-term evaluation required for all European Science Foundation (ESF) programmes. The independent (and anonymous) peer reviewers came to very positive conclusions, noting that the management of the programme was 'first class - efficient, driven and coherent'. The reviewers were enthusiastic about the scientific quality of the programme, suggesting it could 'change the face of European historiography and stimulate new discussions at national and European level'. It was felt that the research outputs of the programme addressed the nature of the relationship between the state and historiography, providing contemporary relevance by going to 'the heart of debates about identity, sovereignty, nationality and the European Union'. The quality and impact of networking activities were also praised, it being noted that the programme was 'tremendously valuable in assisting collaboration between scholars all over Europe, particularly Eastern Europe'.

The ESF's Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH) consequently found, 'The SCH has a very positive overall impression of the programme. It seems to be well on track and has a high-level research profile. The SCH is impressed with the publication record as well as with the ambitious publication plans for a six-volume series, of which the preparation is already well underway. The SCH has no doubt about the publication plans being met.' The fact that NHIST has been able to win additional support from the research councils of Iceland and Luxembourg, which joined the programme in 2005, also demonstrates that the programme is being received with great interest even in the smaller states of Europe. Twenty-four research councils now support NHIST across Europe.

Such positive evaluations of course also mean that NHIST will strive even more to fulfil the enormous potential of European networking which it has always perceived as the key advantage of ESF programmes (see Figure 1). This newsletter will provide the scientific community and the interested reader with a progress report about the developments concerning the programme since the publication of the last newsletter in October 2004. It will also provide an outlook onto the next two and a half years and the activities planned during the second half of the programme.

As with the first newsletter, we start with a keynote text that discusses some of the substantive issues that are at the heart of the NHIST programme. Funded by an organisation such as the ESF, which unites European research councils, NHIST is necessarily focussing its analytic gaze on Europe. However, its programme chairs and team leaders have been acutely aware right from the beginning of the potential charge of Eurocentrism. This is why, through the Swiss national historical association, they lobbied successfully at the World Historical Congress in Sydney in July 2005 to have its topic turned into one of the major congress themes with the aim of contextualising its research findings on Europe in a discussion about the role of national histories in the wider world. Such globalisation of the research agenda of NHIST will be an important task of the future and we are glad that it has been possible at least to provide an initial exploration of global perspectives on the history of national historiographies in Sydney.

The keynote text is, once again, followed by the team reports, where team leaders of the four NHIST teams reflect on the progress made since 2004 and provide a brief outlook on the activities planned for the next two and a half years. Since October 2004, NHIST also organised two further cross-team conferences. In the spring of 2005, a conference in Geneva pursued questions about the relationship between politics and national histories and one year later a conference in Oxford asked about the specific ways in which national histories across Europe used and abused the middle ages. Reports about both conferences can be found in this newsletter.

The website of the NHIST programme has become an increasingly important means of sharing information between the NHIST teams and of providing a window to the outside world informing scholars and other interested parties across Europe about NHIST's progress and activities. It is a reflection of the growing importance that NHIST's executive group attaches to the website that it was decided at the executive group meeting in Bologna in January 2006 to ask a professional website designer to redesign and manage the website. The newsletter provides a separate article reporting about the revamped website and its manifold functions.

In the spring of 2006, NHIST organised a second successful call for travel and exchange grants providing opportunities in particular for younger scholars across Europe to participate in NHIST workshops and research activities. A report about

the travel and exchange grants will provide information about what kind of activities were promoted through NHIST.

The programme chairs have also continued to promote not only European networking within NHIST but also to network NHIST with cognate projects elsewhere in Europe and the wider world. Thus, we provide a report about NHIST panels that were organised at the 2006 conference of the Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism held at the London School of Economics, about links with Daniel Woolf's exciting project to edit a global history of historiography, and other links established over the past two years.

NHIST has not only produced a wealth of scholarly activities. It has also made the news, which is why we decided to incorporate a section in this newsletter citing what others in Europe have said about us. Arguably, such judgments say more about the programme and its benefits than anything that we could say from within the programme. A final section of the newsletter is dedicated to the publication schedule of NHIST. Here you find descriptions and reviews of books, special editions of journals and articles that have already appeared or are in press, and you will also find comprehensive information on the six volume book series to be published with Palgrave MacMillan and other stand-alone publications directly derived from NHIST activities.

By the time the final conference will be held at the University of Manchester in the early summer of 2008, many of these publications will have appeared and others will be well on their way. The final conference will be the triumphant finale of five years of hard and systematic work on the writing of national histories across Europe. It will bring together most of the scholars who have written articles and participated in other ways in NHIST activities and will itself set the standards for future activities in the field of history of national historiographies.

Until then much work still needs to be done and, as programme chair and programme co-ordinator, we would like to express our special thanks to the co-chairs and team leaders who have developed close personal friendships and intellectual partnerships over the last years. The harmony within the wider programme team has been vital to the communicative and organisational success of NHIST. Furthermore, we would like to thank the more than one hundred scholars from 30 European countries who continue to co-operate tirelessly with

NHIST in its explorations of national history writing. A very big thank you also goes to the scientific secretary of the programme at the ESF, Dr Monique van Donzel and to the administrative secretary of the programme at the ESF, Ms Madelise Blumenroeder, whose patience and unstinting support for the programme has been invaluable throughout. Last, but not least, a heart-felt thank you also has to go to Dr Maurice Bric, NHIST's rapporteur on the Standing Committee for the Humanities. From the beginning, he has given generously of his time to advise the programme chair and help him over many intellectual and bureaucratic hurdles. If the programme has been running smoothly and successfully and is on track it is in no small measure due to the combined efforts of all the people mentioned above.

Stefan Berger
NHIST programme chair
and
Andrew Mycock
NHIST programme co-ordinator

Country of origin of member organisations contributing to the ESF/NHIST programme



Towards Global Perspectives on the Writing of National Histories

Stefan Berger (University of Manchester)

History was a crucial element with which to construct nations and national identity. Nation-builders everywhere agreed: their nation had to have a history – the longer and the prouder the better. Creating national historical consciousness was widely seen as the most important precondition for engendering true national feeling in the wider population, as both the ethnicisation of the nation and its sacralisation only took shape against the background of history and heritage. But how, when, under which conditions and by whom was history used to create national identity? Was it used differently in different parts of the world? Was there a European master narrative of national history and were all other narratives of the nation derived from this master copy? Can we and should we make Europe and European national histories the benchmark for all other parts of the globe? (Attempts to come to a global history of historiographies have been undertaken by Thorstendahl 2000, Fuchs and Stuchtey 2002, and Iggers and Wang 2002.)

If we are talking about all forms of national history the latter is clearly absurd. Forms of narrating the nation existed in other parts of the world for considerably longer and taking a variety of forms (Woolf 2006). However, if we are dealing with the kind of ‘scientific’ history that rose to prominence in late eighteenth century Europe and spread to the entire globe with European forms of colonialism and imperialism, then one might ask with greater justification whether and to what degree the model of European ‘scientific’ national history was indeed adopted and adapted in various parts of the world. Dipesh Chakrabarty, whose book on ‘provincialising Europe’ has done so much for attempts to overcome Eurocentrism, has pointed out that notions of authentic non-European representations of the past are problematic, as, in scientific discourse, the very definition of history derives from Europe everywhere. (Chakrabarty 2000, 1992).

Let me therefore, first of all, summarise what I see as some of the key characteristics of European national history writing in order to ask, in a second step, to what extent these characteristics can also be found elsewhere in the world. I will conclude with some observations about the global spread and appeal of national history writing.

First, European national histories’ claim to ‘scientificity’ (Feldner 2003) proved attractive to historians in other parts of the world, because of its

promises of ‘authenticity’, ‘hard evidence’ and ‘authoritativeness’. Processes of professionalisation and institutionalisation of historical writing were almost everywhere accompanied by the transfer of historian ideas from Europe, although more often than not such transfer was based on crude misunderstandings of European historians. (For the case of US-American historians, see Lingelbach, 2003). But in many parts of the world the constitution of ‘scientific’ national history came to be seen as a vital contribution to nation formation which in itself was perceived as necessary step on the road to modernisation and Westernisation. Japanese historians were earliest off the mark and replaced the traditional Sino-centric with a new nation-centred view of history. Historians from all parts of the globe flocked to European, and, after the turn of the century, increasingly to North American universities to learn about the new ‘Western’ ways of ‘scientific’ historical thinking. Western outposts in the colonial world, such as the American university in Beirut, were also important agents of the transfer of historical ideas and practices. Operating within the modernist framework of European national histories, historians in other parts of the world sometimes sought to demonstrate that their nation had everything that European nations had and more.

Secondly, the rise of historicism in Europe was accompanied by Romantic modes of narration. Romanticism established the unique characters of nations, authenticated vernacular languages, literatures and cultures and developed models of rise and decline, golden ages, lost homelands and national revivals that deeply informed ‘scientific’ forms of national history writing in the nineteenth century. Historian ideas in Romantic garb also found powerful expression elsewhere: Canadian ‘northernness’, the importance of the ‘frontier’ in US and South African historiography, Quebec’s ‘gallic spirit’, Australia’s notions of the outback and ‘mateship’, Argentina’s emphasis on settlers conquering the vast open spaces of the pampas are just a few examples of the power of Romantic narratives in the non-European world. And in the Arab-speaking world, India and Africa, ideas of cultural rediscovery and revival and the search for their own ‘antiquity’ were often connected to the construction of Romantic national narratives. Neoconfucianism in China can perhaps be described as a parallel to Romanticism in Europe in that both seem to have been pre-occupied with metaphysical and moralising concerns about the national past. (Wang 2003)

Thirdly, when Romantic forms of national history writing were challenged by what one might term positivist history writing in Europe towards the end of

the nineteenth century, it led to an ever more rigorous application of the arsenal of 'scientific' methods. Positivists often debunked what they perceived as the myths of Romantic national history writing. Frequently they were sceptical of attempts to ground national history in concepts of 'the people' and instead favoured the roles of states and governing elites, but they always strongly maintained the self-image of the historian as national pedagogue. If anything, they set out to provide the nation with a more truthful mirror in which it could appear in all its glory. Scientific nationalism in other words remained largely unaffected by the transition from Romanticism to positivism in history writing. Positivism also had a major impact on the Americas and Australia but it is interestingly only in Australia that more positivist approaches seem to have contributed to a more self-critical national history in the form of Keith Hancock's critique of the 1930s alleging that isolationism and an over-dependence on the state had produced a culture of mediocrity. Perhaps it is the very lateness of the adoption of the national principle in 'scientific' history writing in Australia which explains why nationalist paradigms failed to take root quite so strongly as in other parts of the world.

Fourthly, in 'scientific' history writing, twentieth-century Marxism, both inside and outside of Europe, often took the mantle of positivism and was not averse to matching it to a nationalist outfit in Stalinist Russia, much of post-1945 Communist Eastern Europe, Communist China and North Korea and in Communist regimes throughout post-independence Africa. In the Arab world, Marxism provided the incentive to merge the concept of nation with the idea of revolution in attempts to provide social justice within the framework of a continuous and proud Arab culture, notably in Nasserite Egypt. In many parts of the developing world Marxism was the ideology which seemed best suited to explain underdevelopment and exploitation by international capital whilst at the same time holding out the vision of the continuation of a modernist progressive national project. Especially during the 1960s and 1970s Marxist approaches to national history provided a common reference frame for historians across different continents. But Marxist approaches also underpinned powerful critiques of national master narratives. Critiques of feudalism in India, for example, helped to formulate more self-reflexive national narratives from the 1960s onwards.

Fifthly, European national histories and identities were constituted in complex interactions with regional histories and identities. (Thiesse 1999) Regional histories also became building blocks of national histories elsewhere, e.g. China and the Indian world.

(Duara 1995, chap. 6; Confino and Skaria 2002) The narrative constitution of nation emerged at the interface of interacting and relational local and regional narratives of identity. Ideas of Heimat and a sense of 'home' were a vital resource which nation builders could take from established discourses of locality and region. Whereas bordering within national frameworks became more porous and fluid, bordering vis-à-vis external territories not included in the nation became more rigid and more tightly defined. Such dual processes of internal and external bordering were more complete at an earlier time in Western than in Eastern Europe, where transnational empires prevented the establishment of borders along nationally constructed lines for longer.

Sixthly, nationalist concerns in history writing were not infrequently bound up with the pursuit of transnational agendas. In Europe the Napoleonic ambition to recast European spatial identities produced multiple attempts to justify French expansion across the continent and, of course, violent nationalist counter-reactions everywhere in Europe. Concepts such as Central Europe (Mitteleuropa) were frequently used to justify German expansionism in particular. And the European project of colonialism produced multiple attempts to justify national missions in the wider world. In the non-European world we encounter similar interlinkages between nationalist concerns and transnational perspectives. Thus, for example, national historians in Japan soon narrated the story of the Japanese nation in a way that justified Japanese expansion in South East Asia. In Africa the search for an authentically African civilisation in antiquity and the body of research focused on the transatlantic slave trade are powerful examples of the ways in which concern for the African nation drove historians to look beyond the boundaries of the nation state.

Seventhly, scientific nationalism existed alongside the internationalist commitment of historians to the universal applicability of 'scientific' history. Like other sciences, the historical sciences also underwent a thorough internationalisation in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries with diverse attempts in Europe, Asia and the Americas to form transnational associations and networks. Mostly those networks were regional, uniting continents or parts of continents, rather than global, at least to begin with (on attempts to build a world historical congress see Erdmann 2005). Pan-Europeanism, pan-Arabism and pan-Africanism are three prominent examples of political transnational projects underpinned by a good deal of historical writing which deserves greater analysis and comparison. Whereas transnationalism in much of European historical writing at the beginning of the twenty-first century is meant as a

Keynote text

conscious attempt to overcome the national orientation of historical writing, in the USA transnationalism could be said to serve the national interests. Not only is it an important means to understand better the international position of the only remaining superpower, it also tends to transmit the self-image of the USA as home of liberalism, democracy, progress, individualism and enterprise – an image which is crucial to maintaining the idea of an American mission in the wider world. (Smith 2006)

Eighthly, European national histories were heavily gendered. (O'Dowd and Porciani 2005). It became standard narratological practice in Europe to feminise national enemies, bemoan the rape of one's own nation by others and celebrate the nation as family. Similarly ideas of 'mateship' and 'frontiers' in several white-settler national narratives encouraged the strong gendering of national narratives and often gave supposedly male characteristics, such as courage, physical strength, endurance, perseverance and struggle priority over alleged female characteristics. Colonialist discourses in Europe and Japan also frequently feminised the indigenous population in an attempt to justify the paternalist authority of the coloniser over the colonised.

Ninthly, it is testimony to the very strength of the national framework in historical writing that the national paradigm was successful in accommodating and subsuming religious, class and race histories. Whilst the transnational categories of religion, class and race had the potential of challenging the dominance of the national master narrative throughout the modern period and throughout the world, they in fact rarely did so. They developed their most powerful appeal not against but in conjunction with the national narratives. In the Spanish, Polish, Latin American and Quebecois nations, Catholicism became a key ingredient in the national narratives, as was Protestantism for the storylines in Britain, Germany, Scandinavia, Switzerland, and the USA. Similarly close relationships existed between the Orthodox religion and Romanian, Russian and Greek national histories. Different confessional affiliations within one and the same nation could produce very different, rival national storylines. In the non-European world, Hinduism in India as well as Shintoism in Japan and Confucianism in China, Korea and Vietnam all forged strong relationships with national narratives. In sub-Saharan Africa and parts of Asia Christian missionaries were vitally important for writing tribal histories which later came to inform national history writing in Africa. In nation states such as Nigeria, which is divided into a Muslim north and a Christian south, Muslim and Christian national narratives produced rival accounts of national developments

which rarely even talked to each other. Arguably the most problematic relationship between national and religious paradigms in history writing can be found in the Arab-speaking world. As within the tradition of socialist pan-Arabism, anti-Islamic sentiment prevailed, the failure of socialist pan-Arabism and the accompanying rise of Islamism brought ideas to the fore which saw constructions of an Arab nation as little more than a Western imperialist plot. To many Islamists, Arabism finds expression in Islam and not in the nation. Yet at the same time, the Islamic Republic of Iran seems to have no difficulty in merging religion with fervent nationalism.

If religion was frequently nationalised in historical narratives, the same can be said for class histories. Class rarely replaced nation. It mostly just gave a different spin to nation. Most labour history, as it emerged in the twentieth century around the globe, remained firmly within the framework of national history.

Race entered historiographical discourses with the rise of Social Darwinism in late nineteenth century Europe. It grew out of the intense early concern of national narratives with ethnicity and ethnicised cultures and led in turn to attempts to categorise European nation states according to alleged racial affinities. Hence it provided new typologies of friends and foes in national discourses or set up powerful new arguments in favour of old typologies of friends and foes. Versions of German *Volksgeschichte* rose to prominence in different parts of Europe in the inter-war period. (Hettling 2003) In other parts of the world race was, for a long time, something to be silenced in national histories, as it threatened national unity and homogeneity. The Americas provide multiple examples of this. One of the most intriguing mergers between the concepts of nation and race took place in parts of Latin America, where racial fusion between colonisers, slaves and the indigenous population allegedly produced a new type of national citizen who was supposedly superior to the Europeans. Of course, the concept of the mixed-race nation was a far cry from social reality, but it still provides a fascinating counter-construction to European mergers of race and nation which were all built on notions of racial purity and homogeneity.

In more recent times it has been the rediscovery of racial discrimination, not infrequently culminating in systematic murder and genocide, which has contributed to history wars in diverse corners of the world which in turn have done considerable damage to the idea of proud national histories. The fate of the indigenous populations in the Americas and Australia as well as the transatlantic slave trade of Africans and

the genocides of Armenians and Jews have all triggered massive national debates and they have in turn frequently led to more self-reflective national storylines, although they have equally produced strong reactions against what Geoffrey Blainey in the Australian context has dubbed 'black armband history'.

Tenthly, it is ironic that at a time when the national paradigm in history writing was to become questionable in many parts of Europe it rose to popularity and prominence in those parts of the world seeking to harness its powers in the anti-colonial struggle. After the Second World War, Europe experienced what I have described elsewhere as a 'delayed break' with its national traditions of historical writing. (Berger 2005) From the late 1950s onwards, the dark first half of the twentieth century with its world wars, genocides and ethnic cleansing was to throw its shadows over the commitment of historians to nationalism. In Western Europe the European Union was beginning to encourage historians to think anew about ways of Europeanising historical writing. In North America disadvantaged sub-groups in society began to discover history as a powerful tool to legitimate their own aims and gain recognition within the nation. The same process can be analysed for several Latin American countries starting from the 1990s onwards, when African and indigenous groups began using history to protest against centuries of discrimination. In Australia the construction of a unified and glorious past was relatively short lived, starting only in the 1930s, and from the 1950s onwards critical voices could already be heard loud and clear. Hence scientific national histories in many parts of Europe and white-settler societies were characterised by an emphasis on diversity rather than homogeneity. By contrast, elsewhere in the world nationalist paradigms in the writing of scientific national histories still seem to rule supreme. The history wars in the Far East over Japan's war-time record, the abuse of 'patriotic' history by the Mugabe regime in Zimbabwe, and the attempts by Hindu historians to authenticate an exclusivist nationalist paradigm and project a composite Hindu identity far back into history are only three prominent recent examples of the power of national pasts over historical discourses in various parts of the world.

By way of conclusion, what does our brief survey reveal concerning the hotly contested debate between those, like Partha Chatterjee, who have maintained that anticolonial nationalisms are distinctive and authentic forms of nationalism, and those like Benedict Anderson, who have argued that non-European national discourses are wholly derivative of European models? (Anderson 1991;

Chatterjee 1993) By just looking at 'scientific' national histories, one would have to side with Anderson, as it seems beyond reasonable doubt that the European model of 'scientific' national history was hugely influential in the wider world and has been setting the parameters for academic history writing everywhere to this very day. While, at the beginning of the twenty-first century, it may have declined in importance in Europe, North America and Australia, it still is far from being marginal or a spent force. In other parts of the world, notably in the Far East, India, parts of Africa and Latin America it seems to reign over historical discourse with virtually undiminished power. As I have tried to highlight in my all-too-brief comments above, many narratological strategies of European national histories have spread successfully from Europe across the wider world and informed constructions of 'scientific' national histories everywhere. And yet, restricting ourselves to the gaze of 'scientific' national history is narrowing the validity of Anderson's claim substantially. We will still have to look at other genres and forms of narrating the nation (Berger and Eriksonas 2007) in order to come to a balanced assessment concerning the power and spread of the European model of modern nation formation.

Keynote text

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This is an edited and abbreviated version of the address given to the world historical congress in Sydney introducing the congress's major theme 2b which was dedicated to the writing of national histories. For a more detailed version and all the papers of the sessions see Stefan Berger, Writing the Nation. Towards Global Perspectives, Palgrave MacMillan, 2007.

Workshop and Team Reports

The momentum created by the successful launch of the NHIST programme, as outlined in our first newsletter published in October 2004, has been sustained through the development of the research agendas by all four teams. Each team has adopted distinctive approaches both in the scheduling of its activities and the management of research outputs. This has allowed for and encouraged the development of research approaches that reflect the unique structural and intellectual environments of each team but also confirm the common core aims and objectives of the NHIST programme. The commonality of purpose and interconnectivity of the different research agendas of the four teams has been successfully reflected in two further cross team conferences in Geneva in 2005 and Oxford in April 2006. The following section provides a summary progress review of each of the four teams' activities since the last newsletter and of the second and third cross team conferences.

Team 1: Institutions, Networks and Communities

Team Leader: Professor Ilaria Porciani
(Università di Bologna)

By focusing on the social actors who construct national histories, Team 1 has sought to investigate networks, communities and institutions to explain the relationship between the professionalisation of the historical discipline and the emergence of national histories during the last two centuries. The core of the research focuses on how the institutionalisation and professionalisation of history shaped the different national historiographies. More specifically, the team investigates the role of historical institutions, and specific networks of sociability and communication, in the process of nation-building. It analyses the impact of politics on the institutionalisation of the historical discipline and it pursues the question when, where and why women entered the historical profession.

The practices and intellectual environments of historians were influenced not only by the unique conditions that related to the construction of particular nation-states, but also by the nature and timing of issues which arose within each national experience. History became both a concern of national importance and a professional discipline and, together with national institutions, formed the infrastructure of national historiography. They were the instruments with which the authors of national histories and editors of national collections of sources were able to construct, develop and disseminate their image of the past. At the same

time, as a result of the combination of the professionalisation and the nationalisation of historiography, this infrastructure gave the image of the national past a 'scientific' character. Thus, such institutions not only made national historiography possible, they strongly influenced its content that they also 'justified' through the implied promotion of associations with science.

We already know much about the beginnings of the historical profession and about the construction of strong ties between historiography and nation in some of the European countries. Yet, we still largely ignore what happened in other areas, which have been long excluded from the international literature, often because of language barriers. One of the core aims of the research agenda of Team 1 is to include these both in a larger comparison and in the study of cultural transfer.

As part of the six volume 'Writing the Nation' series published by Palgrave Macmillan, Team 1 will produce two volumes which explore and compare the varying chronological patterns as well as institutional developments in different European countries. They will document the development of the historical discipline in Europe throughout the last two centuries and cover all European countries from the older nation-states such as France or Spain to the newly emerged countries such as Estonia or Slovenia.

The first volume by Team 1, edited by Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna) and Lutz Raphael (University of Trier) and titled '*Atlas of the Institutions of European Historiographies 1800 to the Present*', will provide an original framework of comparative research through a set of innovative maps that will offer a unique historical resource. The *Atlas* will consist of individual country-by-country analyses with brief accounts and chronologies of the professionalisation of history writing. The second section of the volume will examine at greater length transnational and comparative questions. The *Atlas* will provide essential information on the professionalisation of history and the role of institutions in that process. It will thus be an indispensable reference base for the entire project and will provide, for the first time, a solid and valuable reference book on a European scale that is available to the public.

The framework of analysis is defined chronologically and provides information on the institutional setting of national historiographies in Europe at eight moments in time: prior to 1850, 1850, 1875, 1900, 1928, 1955, 1980 and 2005. These European maps

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will focus on historical scholarship at university level and in academies showing both the number of professionals involved and the location of the institution where these professionals worked. The maps will also help to localise associations as well as historical museums, and provide information on the number of historical journals published in each country in the given years. Diagrams, illustrations, as well as short texts will highlight specific aspects of the often-complicated history of the different national historiographies, e.g. its proximity and its strong ties to both centres of power and *lieux de mémoire*. It will also consider the profound impact of nation-building processes, wars, revolutions and totalitarian regimes on the production of historical knowledge.

After this broad European perspective, each country assessed will be presented individually through a series of comprehensive articles. Each of them will include an overview of the development of the main trends of the national historiography. They will present the specificity of the institutional settings of the historiography together with an essential bibliography and a synthetic chronology. Around 50 scholars and leading experts in the field coming from 41 countries compose the team of contributors. The cartographic project, researched and produced at the University of Trier, has been entirely financed by the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*.

For the first time the gendered character of the historical profession will also be mapped in the Atlas. This draws on the Team 1 workshop on the theme of *Women Historians and National Histories in Europe, 1800-2004* that was organised by Professor Nicholas Canny at the Centre for the Study of Human Settlement & Historical Change, National University of Ireland, Galway in October 2004. The scientific organisers were Ilaria Porciani and Mary O'Dowd (Queen's University Belfast) and the conference programme involved a total of twenty-three scholars based in twelve European countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom). The contributors were a mixture of established scholars and younger researchers or postgraduate students presenting the results of their doctoral research. The programme for the conference was divided into four sessions with commentaries and discussion on fourteen papers. The workshop sessions explored the participation of women in the writing of history in the first half of the nineteenth century; the entry of women into university and the experiences of the first generation of female graduates in history; the progression of women historians in the mid-twentieth century, and women historians in the academic community. Through a series of case studies, the status of

women and their intellectual interests in institutions of historical research in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries were also explored. The proceedings, edited by Mary O'Dowd and Ilaria Porciani, were published as a special issue of one of the internationally leading journals in the field, *Storia della Storiografia* (2004, vol. 46).

The manuscript of the Atlas, which is estimated to be completed by the end of 2008, will be structured as follows:

Introduction: *The landscape of European historiography: mapping institutions, networks and communities*, Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna) and Lutz Raphael (University of Trier)

Section One:
Europe (general maps)

to 1850: 2 maps (to each map: one double page with text, illustrations, small maps, photos, etc. of academies, associations, journals, museums, professionalisation, publication of sources)

1875 2 maps

1900 2 maps

1928 2 maps

1955 2 maps

1980 2 maps

2005 2 maps

Section Two:
Empires (including smaller maps)

- The British Empire, Robert Anderson (University of Edinburgh)
- The Habsburg Empire, Ernst Bruckmüller (University of Vienna)
- The Ottoman Empire, Ferdan Ergut (Middle East Technical University, Ankara)
- The Russian Empire, Alexander Antonschenko (Petrozavodsk State University)

Section Three:

Countries

- Iceland, Guðmundur Hálfðanarson (University of Iceland)
- Denmark, Claus Møller Jørgensen (University of Aarhus)
- Norway, Jan Eivind Myhre (University of Oslo)
- Sweden, Håkan Gunneriusson (University of Uppsala)
- Finland, Mervi Kaarninen (University of Tampere)
- Estonia, Aadu Must (University of Tartu)
- Latvia, Andris Sne (University of Latvia)
- Lithuania, Valdas Selenis (Pedagogical University of Vilnius)
- USSR and Russia, Alexander Antonschenko (Petrozavodsk State University)

- Belarus, Anna Zadora (Institute of Political Studies, Strasbourg)
- Ukraine, Serhii Petrovych Stelmakh (University of Kyiv)
- Moldavia, Constantin Ungureanu (University of Babeş-Bolyai)
- Poland, Jerzy Centkowski (University of Rzeszów)
- Austria, Ernst Bruckmüller (University of Vienna)
- Hungary, Eva Ring and Kristina Kurdi (University of Eötvös Lóránd Budapest)
- Czechoslovakia /Czech Republic (Bohemia and Moravia), Pavel Kolář (Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung Potsdam)
- Slovakia, Adam Hudek (Slovakian Academy of Sciences)
- Bulgaria, Dobrinka Parusheva (Institute of Balkan Studies, Sofia)
- Romania, Bogdan Murgescu and Angela Toader (University of Bucharest)
- Yugoslavia, Ulf Brunnbauer (Free University, Berlin)
- Serbia, Ulf Brunnbauer (Free University, Berlin)
- Croatia, Ulf Brunnbauer (Free University, Berlin)
- Montenegro, Ulf Brunnbauer (Free University, Berlin)
- Macedonia, Ulf Brunnbauer (Free University, Berlin)
- Slovenia, Ulf Brunnbauer (Free University, Berlin)
- Bosnia Herzegovina, Ulf Brunnbauer (Free University, Berlin)
- Albania, Valentina Duka (University of Tirana)
- Greece, Vaggelis Karamanolakis (University of Crete)
- Turkey, Ferdan Ergut (Middle East Technical University, Ankara)
- Cyprus, Chris Schabel (University of Cyprus)
- Malta, Charles Dalli (University of Malta)
- Germany, Matthias Middell and Torben Jansen (University of Leipzig)
- Belgium, Jo Tollebeek (University of Leuven)
- The Netherlands, Rengenier Rittersma (European University Institute, Florence)
- Luxembourg, Sonja Krmec (University of Luxembourg)
- Switzerland, Irène Hermann (University of Geneva)
- France, Emmanuelle Picard (Service d'Histoire de l'éducation, Paris)
- Italy, Mauro Moretti (The University for Foreigners of Siena) and Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna)
- Spain and Catalonia, Mariano Esteban De Vega and Francisco Javier Castro Ibaseta (University of Salamanca and University of Madrid) Lluís Roura y Aulinas and Antonio Ramon Peña (Autonomous University of Barcelona and Barcelona State Archive)
- Portugal, Sergio Campos Matos and Joana Freitas (University of Lisbon)
- Great Britain, Robert D. Anderson (University of Edinburgh)
- Ireland, Mary O'Dowd (Queen's University Belfast)

Section Four:

Cross-country contributions

- 'Writing European History outside Europe', Katja Naumann (University of Leipzig)
- 'Bilateral commissions', Marina Cattaruzza and Sasha Zala (University of Bern)
- 'International historical congresses', Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna)
- 'Historical museums', Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna)

An additional workshop, organised by Ilaria Porciani, was held 9th-11th June 2006 at the University of Bologna. It provided an opportunity for some established and newer team members to interact and compare the findings from the first set of data for the Atlas prior to final collation, editing and publication. It was generously co-financed by the University of Bologna as well as by the Italian national project on gender and nationalism directed by Ilaria Porciani and financed by the Italian Ministry for Research (COFIN 2003) with additional support for participants provided by the European Science Foundation short travel grant programme for developing researchers.

Team 1 Workshop at the University of Bologna, June 2006



Workshop and Team Reports

In addition to the *Atlas* volume, Team 1 is also preparing a complimentary second volume in the NHIST 'Writing the Nation' series that will be edited by Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna) and Jo Tollebeek (University of Leuven) and is titled 'Institutions, Networks and Communities of National Historiography Comparative Approaches'. The volume focuses on the institutions, networks and communities in which national historiography in nineteenth and twentieth-century Europe took shape, and will produce comparative thematic essays that take into consideration many aspects of the historical profession and many ways of its institutionalisation. Attention will be paid to the changing role of history professors, and to academic competitions, to the birth of national archives, academic competitions, source publications, historical journals, and the great narrative syntheses of the national past and historical museums. These were all important elements of the infrastructure of national historiography.

In the nineteenth century, large-scale projects that aimed to publish source material about the national past were launched in many European countries. The *Monumenta Germaniae Historica* were often taken as a model in this regard, but there are many instances of older national projects being referred to. Equally important were the historical journals. As historiography gradually acquired a 'scientific' character, it was felt that there was a need to create forums in which historians could quickly present the results of their research and enter into discussion with one another. *Institutions* formed the infrastructure of national historiography and were the instruments with which the authors of national histories were able to construct, develop and disseminate their image of the national past. At the same time, as a result of the combination of the professionalisation and the nationalisation of historiography, this infrastructure gave the image of the national past a 'scientific' character. The institutions thus not only made national historiography possible, they also 'justified' it through the association with science that they implied.

Along with more institutionalised instances, diverse *networks* worked to mould and propagate their image of the past. These social and intellectual *networks* in which national historiography arose in the European countries formed a complex entity comprising various levels. They invented their own sociability, ceremonies and working practices, starting out from existing institutions or creating new organisations. Thus, a rich landscape came into being and became the backbone of historiography across Europe. Indeed, prior to *nationalised*

historiography, academies and societies acted as centres of learning including historical scholarship. When national historiography took shape and the universities became the privileged sites of historiography, such institutions continued to exist. The historians of the national past used these networks in order to mould and propagate their image of the past. In order to do this, they had to take account of traditions that were always multi-layered and often contradictory. They themselves adopted a 'national' position, but this did not prevent them from (continually) harbouring other loyalties.

Consideration of the impact of *communities* will be discussed in the third part of the volume, again illustrating the pluriformity of national historiographies. The *communities* in which the national images of the past originated were in no way homogeneous. In certain cases, contrasting pictures of the (national) past arose in alternative communities that existed alongside and in opposition to the dominant social community. In other cases, it became apparent that 'traditional' social groups, who in the revolutionary period at the end of the eighteenth century had been pushed to the background, continued to play a major part in national historiography. As will be shown, national historiography was not just about 'victors' within a male-dominated and bourgeois society, but also about minorities, exiles, women, priests and members of the aristocracy. Ethnic minorities, for example, deployed the past in order to lend force to their political demands and set about working on their own national culture. Meanwhile national history was also written by and in communities of exiles. This is true, for example, for the many communities of exiles from Eastern Europe in Paris and elsewhere, and for the Spanish exiles who left their country, and its civil war, in the 1930s. For these exiles too, the writing of (national) history formed an important instrument for accentuating or preserving their own identity and strengthening their mutual ties.

The pluriformity may be illustrated in other ways, by focussing on socio-professional groups such as the clergy. As views of the world became increasingly secular, the fraternity of historians was also laicised. However, the clergy did not disappear from view completely, either within the Catholic or Protestant contexts, and it remained a community that continued to play its part also in historiography. Nonetheless, the question arises as to how large that part by then was, to what extent the clergy devoted its historiographical powers to national historiography (and not exclusively to the history of the Church, for example), and whether it participated in the same networks as lay historians.

It is inevitable that a number of topics of this history of institutions, networks and communities of national historiography will have to be dealt with in case studies. However, in each of the chapters, there are three main methodological concerns:

1. A *diachronical* approach whereby each of the chapters will explicitly consider the processes of professionalisation and institutionalisation of history writing throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
2. A *comparative* approach: the discussion will at all times aim to compare the situation in various European countries, so that the differences and similarities of the analysed processes will become apparent.
3. The *representativeness* of the cases will have to be assessed. To what extent did the analysed processes corroborate dominant patterns? Or, conversely, did they form exceptions to these patterns? In that case, what makes them interesting?

In November 2005 a NHIST workshop, 'Institutions, Networks, and Communities of National Historiography: Comparative Approaches' was organised by Professor Jo Tollebeek at the University of Leuven. It brought together members of Team 1 to focus on the institutions, networks and communities within which national historiography in nineteenth- and twentieth-century Europe took shape. The workshop was largely devoted to detailed discussion of the draft versions of the chapters of the book that the team will publish in the programme series. In the course of this discussion, three sets of questions arose regarding the content, structure and progression of the volume. The Leuven workshop was a crucial step towards the realisation of the planned volume. This will be the first book to present and discuss the institutions, networks and communities of national historiography within a systematic, transnational and comparative framework.

Chapter 1 - Introduction: institutions, networks and communities, Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna) and Jo Tollebeek (University of Leuven)

Part 1: Institutions

Chapter 2 - The Archives, Tom Verschaffel (University of Leuven)
Chapter 3 - The Academic Competitions, Mónika Baár (University of Essex)
Chapter 4 - The Source Publications, Daniela Saxer (Collegium Helveticum, Zurich)

Chapter 5 - The Historical Journals, Claus Möller Jørgensen (University of Aarhus)
Chapter 6 - The Professors, Mauro Moretti (The University for Foreigners in Siena)
Chapter 7 - The National Extra-University Institutions, Lutz Raphael (University of Trier)
Chapter 8 - The Great Syntheses, Jo Tollebeek (University of Leuven) and Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna)
Chapter 9 - The Museums, Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna) and Jo Tollebeek (University of Leuven)

Part 2: Networks

Chapter 10 - Academies and Learned Societies, Jean-Pierre Chaline (Sorbonne University)
Chapter 11 - National Associations, Gabriele Lingelbach (University of Trier)
Chapter 12 - Local, Regional and Provincial Societies, Alan J. Kidd (Manchester Metropolitan University)
Chapter 13 - International Networks, Jan Eyvind Myhre (Oslo University)
Chapter 14 - Ideological Organisations, Mariano Esteban de Vega (University of Salamanca)

Part 3: Communities

Chapter 15 - Ethnic Minorities, Ernst Bruckmüller (University of Vienna)
Chapter 16 - The Exiles, Monika Mandelíčková (University of Olomouc)
Chapter 17 - Women, Mary O'Dowd (Queen's University, Belfast)
Chapter 18 - The Clergy, Irène Herrmann and Franziska Metzger (University of Geneva)
Chapter 19 - The Aristocracy, Eva Ring (University of Eotvos Lorand, Budapest)
Chapter 20 - Conclusions, Jo Tollebeek (University of Leuven) and Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna)

The total length of the volume is 180,000 words and the manuscript will be ready by the end of 2008.

Future Team Workshops:

The chapters for the second volume of Team 1, 'Institutions, Networks and Communities of National Historiography: Comparative Approaches' will be finalised at the next workshop which will be held in Salamanca, 9th-11th November 2006. The local organiser will be Professor Mariano Esteban de Vega. A further workshop will be held in the autumn of 2007 at the University of Aarhus in Denmark. The local organiser is Professor Claus Møller Jørgensen

Professor Ilaria Porciani
Professor Lutz Raphael
Professor Jo Tollebeek

Workshop and Team Reports

Team 2: Narrating National Histories

Team Leader: Professor Chris Lorenz
(Free University of Amsterdam)

Since the last Newsletter Team 2 has organised one plenary workshop in order to finalise the chapters of volume 3 of the NHIST 'Writing the Nation' book series edited by Stefan Berger and Chris Lorenz, titled 'Society and the Nation: Ethnicity, Class, Religion and Gender'. Next to this plenary workshop, three small meetings have been organised for Team 2 members co-authoring a chapter in the aforementioned book. There was a meeting of the authors of the chapters on Germany, France and Switzerland held in Paris, a meeting of the authors of the chapter on the successor states of the Habsburg Empire held in Vienna, and a meeting of the authors of the chapter on Nordic states held in Copenhagen.

The plenary workshop *Narrating National Histories in Europe*, organised by Team 2 took place at the Siemens foundation in Munich, 24th-26th October 2005. The local organiser was Stefan Jordan, bringing together 27 regular contributing members of Team 2. Following the outline of this volume, the first section of the workshop discussed thematic contributions on the nation and its 'Other' and one more general contribution dealing with the notion of 'master narratives'. In the second section contributors presented several country comparisons of two or more European countries in order to examine their similarities, differences and processes of cultural transfer. This section also included a chapter on Jewish historiographies as an example of early transnational historiography in Europe.

In the first section of the volume there is a common focus on the notion of the nation in comparison to the other master narratives centred on ethnicity, religion, class and gender (the so called 'Others' of the nation). The aim of these four chapters is to identify the similarities, differences and transfers between the narrative construction of the nation as a form of collective identity and the narrative construction of other important forms of collective identity, like religion, ethnicity, class and gender. Although gender cannot be treated as a master narrative, the chapter on gender and nation examines the nation as an essentially gendered category. The introductory section of the volume also contains a chapter reflecting upon the meaning of notions of 'master' narrative.

The first section is introduced by Krijn Thijs' (Utrecht) thoughts on 'The concept of master narrative and its application to historiography'. In his opinion, the ambiguous usage of the master narrative concept must be traced back to the different interpretations of the status of the 'master' within master narratives, conceived of variously as 1) 'maestro narratives', 2) 'ruler narratives', or 3) 'narrative frames'.

Joep Leersen (Amsterdam) in his contribution on 'Nation and Ethnicity' locates the roots of national narratives in the Romantic period around 1800 and argues that ideas about 'the nation' in Europe usually derive from 'historicist nationalism'. According to his argument, the notions of ethnicity, nation, race, and people were used pretty indiscriminately in the nineteenth century both in the historical and in the 'para-historical' disciplines and the idea of an ethnic foundation of the nation are still present in latent form today.

In 'Nation and Religion' James Kennedy (Amsterdam) systematically explores the relationship between religion and the nation in national historiographies in Europe. He distinguishes two patterns in this respect. According to the first pattern, religion has been superseded by the nation in the nineteenth century. The 'objective' national viewpoint simply transcends the 'partisan' religious views of the past. According to the second pattern, religion and the nation have merged in the idea of the 'holy nation', eventually transforming the cult of the nation into 'political religion'. This sacralisation of the nation has been quite common in Europe. Kennedy traces the changes of these two patterns over the last two centuries in Europe, emphasising the essentially contested character of the relationship between ideas of the nation and religion.

In their contribution on 'Nation and Class', Thomas Welskopp (Bielefeld) and Gita Deneckere (Gent) consider class to be a historical category that is central to social history, rather than that of the nation. Even if one is not able to speak unambiguously of a 'counter-historiography' opposing the hegemonic historiographical representation of the national past, the 'scientific' status of this tradition has always been problematic. The equation 'history = national history' could also be read as 'national history = scientific = true' whereas alternative class histories have traditionally been stamped as ideological, Marxist, partisan and/or unscientific. Even though 'scientific' historians have been unmasked as producers of historical myths par excellence, the "truth" of the class histories is still embattled in academic historiography.

Jitka Malecková (Prague/New York) in her chapter discusses the problematic field of 'Nation and Gender'. She points out that the interest that both men and (particularly) women historians have paid to women has undoubtedly been connected with the women's movement, resulting in the two heydays of women's history in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Nevertheless, the gendering of society has had no substantial impact on mainstream national histories. One could say that women are included in master narratives only when it serves the interests of the nation. Women are 'added' to the existing national master narratives, rather than new narratives being elaborated, revising the periodisation of national history or including new domains of life.

Hugo Frey (Chichester) and Stefan Jordan (Munich) opened the second section of country comparisons with their study of Germany and France. The authors argue that different relationships pertain between the master narratives in these two cases. Whereas in laicistic France, Religion and State/Nation were considered two completely different spheres, in Germany they were closely connected. Further differences between France and Germany are located in the use of the term 'class' in both historiographies: while in France this category could be related to the nation, in Germany class was a counter-discourse to the national narrative outside the borders of 'scientific' history.

Christoph Cornelissen (Kiel), in his chapter on the national historiographies of Germany and Italy will pursue the many influences that encouraged Italian historians to follow a German historian model, but he will also pay due attention to the many modifications and adaptations and to the specifics of the Italian national historiography vis-à-vis the German one.

Guy Marchal (Luzern) will contribute a chapter on the interrelationship of Swiss national historiography with the master narratives of ethnicity, class and religion, providing valuable comparative outlooks to German, French and Italian national historiographies, which, because of the linguistic closeness to diverse linguistic communities in Switzerland, had a particular influence on the shape of Swiss national histories.

Peter Aronson (Linskoeping), Narve Fulsas (Tromsø), Pertti Haapala (Tampere) and Erik Jensen (Copenhagen) deal with the case of Scandinavia and Finland. They conclude that, with regard to professional history, Sweden and Finland seem to have experienced the greatest difficulties in constructing a stable national master narrative with the active participation of professional historians,

but for different reasons. Finland, because of its stateless past and its unhelpful war-time experiences, and Sweden, because of its imperial past and the problems connecting this past to a social-democratic present. Denmark adjusted earlier and more decisively to a new national framework as a consequence of the collapse of the conglomerate Danish state in 1864. In Norway the tradition of national history seems to have been the most continuous and least interrupted of the Nordic countries.

Marnix Beyen (Antwerp) considers the case of the Netherlands and Belgium. His main conclusion is that national history writing is much more threatened by 'the Other' in Belgium than is the case in the Netherlands. In the Netherlands national history pinpointing origins centuries ago still reigns supreme (although the genre was heavily debated for some time), while in Belgium this type of national historiography is being reduced to an amateur genre. Beyen argues that this striking difference between the Dutch and Belgian national historiographies in relationship to their 'Others' can be located in the 'belated' modernisation of the Netherlands in comparison with Belgium. Benoît Majerus (Luxembourg) has recently added a section on Luxembourg to Beyen's chapter. Majerus devotes special attention to the circumstance that Luxembourg has known no national academic historiography until very recently, meaning that Luxembourgian historians worked in a rather different institutional and political context. The link between the nation and its historians in Luxembourg therefore is not as strong as in states where most academics were civil servants.

Keith Robbins (Lampeter) argues that in Great Britain and on the British Isles ethnicity, religion, class and gender have each constituted historiographical 'Others' in relation to the nation (or nations). The relation between these narratives is complex: they have been subject to change rather than static alternatives to 'our island story/stories'.

In their contribution on Spain and Portugal, Sergio Campos Matos (Lisbon) and David Mota Alvarez (Salamanca) represent the case of the Iberian Peninsula. They argue that in Spanish and Portuguese historiographies, historian ideas of the peninsular nations tended to dominate and are organised around the idea of ethnic origins. They were informed by organicist conceptions of decadence and progress and, by an obsession with identifying (and exorcising), those responsible for decline. After the 1960s, this obsession was replaced by a more distanced concern with understanding economic backwardness in a comparative perspective. Interestingly, Portuguese

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and Spanish historians hardly ever took note of each other, reflecting strong individual and autonomous national traditions.

Gernot Heiss (Vienna), Pavel Kolář (Potsdam), Dušan Kováč (Bratislava) and Árpád von Klimó (ZZF Potsdam), examine the case of the former Habsburg Empire and the later successor nations of Austria, Hungary and the Czech and Slovak Republics. The authors highlight the fact that German-Austrian historiographical nationalism was concentrated on the imperial monarchy, while other ethnic groups within the empire constructed national historiographies that sought to do away with or gain as much autonomy as possible from that monarchy. While the historiography of the empire united diverse ethnic national narratives, national historiographies portrayed other ethnic groups within the empire as 'others'.

With a particular focus on Poland and the Czech lands, Maciej Janowski (Budapest/Warsaw) widens the perspective of the volume further to eastern European nations. The dominant controversy in historical debates in East-Central Europe involves theories of endogenous and exogenous national development, which include the question how different or similar their national trajectories have been from 'the West'.

Going further East, Vero Wendland (Leipzig) is dealing with Russia and its Western borderlands. All of these nations were 'belated' in the sense that they were excluded from the first part of the process of nation-building, as they were still parts of multi-national empires (Russia, Habsburg). They were also, much later, excluded from the second part of the process of nation-building, not being independent nation-states but part of the successor empire of Russia, the Soviet Union.

Marius Turda (Oxford Brookes) will be dealing with national historiographies in the Balkans, focussing in particular on Rumania, but including comparative perspectives with a range of other Balkan nations. His chapter will trace the diverse ways in which national historians of the Balkans sought to overcome both the Ottoman legacy and the claim by many Western historians that theirs were 'unhistorical' nations.

Hercules Millas (Athens) argues in his chapter that, as far as nation-building is concerned, Greece and Turkey share similar roots. Both states were founded by negating the Ottoman Empire: Greece rejected the Ottoman legacy altogether while Turkey transformed it. Greek nation-building

preceded that of Turkey by about one century and Millas argues that this circumstance explains why the Greeks are in the offensive and the Turks in the defensive, both representing the other nation as its opposite.

In Ulrich Wyrwa's (Berlin) contribution on Jewish historiographies in Europe, four different types of narrative are distinguished: a) the universal-historical narrative, b) the regional- or local-historical narrative, c) the narrative based on the idea of a liberal nation-state, in which Jews and Non-Jews were integrated and, lastly d) the Zionist narrative. The editors will submit the volume to the publisher in the spring of 2007.

Between 19th and 21st October 2006, the second phase of Team 2 will start with a workshop at the University of Manchester, to be locally organised by Professor Stefan Berger and Dr Andrew Mycock, entitled 'Microstudies in National Historiography'. In this phase a micro-historical approach focussed on individual national historical texts will be pursued after the overview-approach of phase one. Professor Lorenz has presented a first sketch of a common framework for contributions to be collected in this second phase of the work of team 2.

Professor Stefan Berger
Professor Chris Lorenz

'Whose turn next?' EH Shephard, Punch cartoon 18 May 1938, in Murawska-Muthesius, Katarzyna, 'Mapping the New Europe: cartography, cartoons and regimes of representation', *Centropa*, 4/1 (2004), 4-19.



**Team 3:
National Histories and its interrelation with
Regional, European and World Histories**

Team Leaders: PD Dr Matthias Middell (University of Leipzig) and Professor Lluís Roura y Aulinas (Autonomous University of Barcelona)

During 2005, Team 3 organised two meetings which were essential in the preparation of their volume in the 'Writing the Nation' book series. The first was a workshop that took place in Paris on 21st May 2005. The local organiser was Jean-Clément Martin, Director of the Institut d'Histoire de la Révolution Française, Université Paris I – Panthéon-Sorbonne. Scholars from Italy, Greece, Tunisia, France and Germany discussed the impact of the French Revolution on European historiographies through a comparative analysis of the Mediterranean region. Beside the empirical findings, this gave the opportunity to discuss methodological approaches to comparative historiographies through the selection of specific events in European history, such as the French Revolution. A publication of the papers presented during the conference is in preparation.

The second meeting of Team 3 was part of the First European Congress on World and Global History held in Leipzig on 22nd-25th September 2005. With more than 350 participants from 28 countries, the Congress was an excellent opportunity to bring together specialists in the various fields of World History with researchers reflecting on the development of historiography in Europe and elsewhere. The overarching theme of the Congress focused on the search for specific European perspectives in World and Global History. The Congress was organised in four sections focusing on historiographical traditions, teaching world history in schools and universities, methodological approaches and themes of empirical work done in the field of world history. Forty-six panels, with four to six contributions each, provided the opportunity for scholars to present and discuss World and Global History in European historiographies and to compare it to recent developments in the US, Australian, African, Indian and Chinese academia.

The panels organised by Team 3 were particularly important. One of the central aspects of European historiography is the established tradition of 'Universal History' since the enlightenment of the eighteenth century, and its transformation into Eurocentric forms of modernisation and Eurocentric Marxist approaches. The panels explored how world, global or general histories have challenged nationalised historical representations in different

parts of Europe. The panels had a common agenda and a questionnaire was distributed to all participants of team 3 panels that will structure a forthcoming publication of its results. The questionnaire posed the following questions:

- What did authors understand by the term 'World History' with respect to general history in their respective countries? (This question also sought to ascertain in what way notions such as transnationalisation of history, comparative approaches or questions of cultural transfers or intercultural transactions are discussed within respective national contexts).
- Are there periods or phases in which World History has been ignored or criticised? (Can the authors identify discourses in a specific period and/or individuals?)
- What role does the theory of modernisation play in the development of world historiography in the different countries?
- What role has Marxism in its various forms played?
- In what way has the Annales School, as a dominant paradigm within the international historiography of the twentieth century, influenced world historiography within the various countries?
- What role does world and general history play in each historical culture generally? (textbooks for school and university, controversies about the direction of historiography).
- Which institutions and journals have had a special importance for world historiography in each country, what is their orientation and who are their decisive protagonists?
- What are the principal interconnections of world historiography produced by respective fieldworks, common methods and discussions? Are there distinctive methods of communication such as regular bilateral or international colloquia?
- What influence does world historiography have on the debate within the international community and on the development of historiography in Europe generally?
- What is the relationship between Imperial history and World history in the historiographies under consideration?

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A number of panels were organised, chaired or co-chaired by members of Team 3, and members of the various NHIST teams presented papers:

Panel one, chaired by Andreas Eckert (Hamburg), focused on comparing historiographical approaches to world history in Western Europe during the twentieth century. Stefan Berger (Manchester) discussed imperial history in Britain and reflected on the weakness of World History in the proper sense of the term in British historiography. Jean Clément Martin (Paris) used the very specific moment of the Bicentenaire in 1989 to compare the influence of the interpretation of the French Revolution on narratives of World History in various European countries. Matthias Middell and Katja Naumann (both Leipzig) followed with presentations on the German writing of World History in the twentieth century, comparing diachronically but also synchronically the approaches at various places and underlining the thesis that World History writing was more a strength at a few universities instead of being an aspect of the 'national' historiography.

Panel two focused on 'Writing World History in Southern Europe' and was chaired by Anne Friedrichs (Leipzig). It brought together authors on Greece (Antonis Liakos), Spain and Catalonia (Lluís Roura y Aulinas and Alberto Gil Novales) and Italy (Eduardo Tortarolo). Liakos highlighted that world or universal history was very strong in the nineteenth century in Greece, but that it is today much weaker. He discussed the specificity of Greek universal history that emphasises the Ancient period as 'supranational model of patriotism' that encourages an intensive nationalist approach to world history. The two Spanish authors developed the idea of a long tradition of imperial and universalist historiography since the 16th century, but also analysed the impact of the Franco period when nationalist right-wing ideologies also transformed world history approaches. For the Italian case, Tortarolo underlined the strong impact of national and European driven narratives. He offered the hypothesis that global history is much more important to the historical culture of former (or actual) imperial(ist) powers.

Panel four was devoted to world history writing in Northern and North Eastern Europe. Carol Adamson (International School of Stockholm) gave an overview on the debate on global history in Sweden from the time of Snorri Sturluson to the writing of Eli Filip Heckscher in the first half of the twentieth century. Adamson criticised the overwhelming interest by Swedish historians in national and European aspects of history and the lack of attempts to create a truly global history. However, she also emphasised the

efforts made, for example, at the University of Gothenburg to develop area studies on a global level. Felix Brahm (Hamburg) gave a comprehensive overview of African Studies in Europe, comparing German universities to their partner institutions in Russia as well as in France. Peter Mario Kreuter (Marburg) discussed presentations of world history for children in some Nordic countries, while Tomasz Schramm (Poznan) answered the question of the panel by looking at the relationship between World History and Polish Historiography in the second half of the twentieth century. Mathias Mesenhöller (Leipzig) provided a comparison of imperial historiographies in Russia, Sweden, Poland, Austria and Germany, based on contributions to a NHIST workshop held in Leipzig in 2004 that will be co-edited with Frank Hadler (Leipzig) and published in 2007. Anne Friedrichs (Leipzig) provided a comparative analysis of the imperial historiography in France and Britain. Ida Blom (Bergen) concluded the panel by commenting on developments in world history writing in Northern Europe, and the role of gender in the "Northern" interest in world history.

Panel seven, chaired by Miroslav Hroch (Prague), was oriented towards methodological problems of writing world history as part of a larger history of cultural interactions. Michel Espagne (Paris) and Michael Geyer (Chicago) compared the concepts of cultural transfers and global history as well as attempts to write a history of cultural encounters as the basis of renewed world history. Ulrike Lindner provided a third concept within her contribution on 'Histoire croisée as an approach in colonial history' that explored the interconnected perceptions of colonial practices in Germany and in Great Britain before the First World War. Antonis Liakos (Athens) discussed the transplantation of colonial history within world histories and its impact on the perception of the world within different cultures/civilizations. Dirk van Laak (Jena) used the example of technological projects of Europeans in Africa in order to discuss the different aspects of an entangled history under the conditions of asymmetric power relationships.

Panel eleven was devoted to the various forms of conceptualising the world in classrooms at schools and universities. Introduced by Hanna Schissler (Braunschweig), the panel compared case studies focusing on the United States (Renate Briendenthal), attempts to create a European identity (Theresa Wobbe), and German experiences with world history at school (Hanna Schissler).

Panel fifteen, chaired by Matthias Middell and Frank Hadler (both Leipzig), was devoted to the question how world history is actually taught in different parts

of the world. What are the European experiences compared to those made in Australia (Marnie Hughes-Warrington, Sydney), South Africa (Jonathan Leyens, Stellenbosch), and the U.S. (Patrick Manning, Boston and Sven Beckert, New York). Margarete Grandner (Vienna), Matthias Middell (Leipzig) and Patrick O'Brien (London School of Economics) provided European contributions.

Panel twenty discussed 'Regimes for the Production and Diffusion of Useful and Reliable Knowledge in China and Europe, 1368-1839'. Addressing one of the key issues of European understanding of world history since the late nineteenth century, it compared Eurocentric approaches to the development of Europe with Eurasian approaches. Peer Vries (Leiden) and Patrick O'Brien (London) introduced the panel with an overview of the different periods of understanding, and their impact on the construction of European historical identity. Andrea Komlosy (Vienna) discussed in her contribution the work by Andre Gunder Frank and its Impact on European and North-American concepts of the 'world-system'. The gender aspect of writing world history was analysed in greater detail by a panel organised by Ida Blom (Bergen) and Ruth-Stephanie Merz (Leipzig).

Summaries of most of the panels at the Congress can be found on the electronic journal www.geschichte-transnational.clio-online.net. In May 2006, an enlarged version of the summaries was published with some papers from the conference in a special issue of *Historical Social Research* (Cologne), and more papers have been published in *Comparativ* (5-6, 2005). Others will follow during 2006.

The 2006 workshop of Team 3 will be held in Athens between 21st and 23rd September. The local organiser will be Antonis Liakos, and the theme of workshop is "The European canon of history". The workshop aims to compare in which ways European history is conceptualised in different European countries, and seeks to explore similarities and differences in the choice of events, key persons and meta-narratives connecting specific national or even regional histories with the construct of a common European past. Contributions from all parts of Europe will give the opportunity to compare from a solid empirical basis. The team will then concentrate on the preparation of their volume for the 'Writing the Nation' series, edited by Matthias Middell (Leipzig) and Lluís Roura y Aulinas (Barcelona), titled 'World, Global and European Histories as Challenges to National Representations of the Past'. The volume will explore the complexity of transnational alternatives to national history writing in Europe as a contribution to a history of historiography of Europe

and the ongoing debate on how to escape from the nationalistic framing of history writing and how to conceptualise transnational history.

Today, transnational and global history approaches garner much more attention than they had ten or twenty years ago. The recent growth of interest in world history would appear to be a result of the latest developments towards 'globalisation' since the historical breakthrough of 1989/91. Often, new trends in historical writing are localised within the US and are juxtaposed with a more traditional approach towards historical teaching and research in Europe that is characterised as old fashioned, nationalised and separate from the interest in postcolonial and global perspectives. Some authors even argue that the new global history is the antithesis of the old Eurocentric universal history developed since the eighteenth century (secularised Enlightenment historiography) or even dating back to much older traditions (Christian master narratives). Is European historiography definitively regressive when compared with North American methodologies, or should we re-read historical master-pieces and popular representations of the past in Europe as examples of a more balanced relationship between established predispositions towards nationalisations of historical culture and its challenge by transnational approaches?

If so, we have to ask what to include into a detailed description of such transnational tendencies. We have not only to look for books which are explicitly devoted to transnational phenomena, but also those dealing with Europe and regional constellations transcending the national paradigm such as Mitteleuropa or 'East-Central Europe' as well as Northern Europe or the 'West' or the 'East' etc. At the same time, world history was not always universalistic but has dealt in many ways with globalisation in the midst of the nineteenth century and around 1900 as well as during the decolonisation crisis of the period after World War Two. The recent attention given to a history of interactions has its foundations in methodological debates on comparative history that emerged before and after World War One. A productive European tradition of writing the history of cultural transfers or entangled histories comes much more from those inspirations than from the new global history in North America – a good example of parallel innovation with more or less complete ignorance of competing attempts.

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Even from these opening remarks, one may conclude that the picture is more nuanced and a look back to the history of European historiographies is of some value. The outcome we expect is not to confront the argument in favour of North American world history writing with an emphatic overestimation of European efforts, but an attempt to profile diverse paths in different regions of the world to deal with the (common) challenge of globalisation. During the nineteenth century, national histories grew in popularity, not because they rejected global connections, but because they gave an opportunity to integrate both connectivity and the idea of cultural autonomy (as well as superiority towards other nations, races and world regions). Historians attempted to offer historical narratives and emotionalising representations of the past as instruments to address the time-space-compression of their time. However, the advantages of the national paradigm became problematic even for some historians at the end of the nineteenth century. When confronted with the dynamics of North American capitalism and news about the victorious Japanese in 1905 in the Far East, they became less convinced by the long term superiority of their own cultures. This stimulated new debates on how to develop new approaches which overcome the parochialism of national history and the self-confidence of what would be later defined as modernisation theory. The world histories they published in the decade before and after 1914-18 were often marginalised in professionalised historiography but well received by the larger public.

After World War One, national historiographies came also under fire by another development, the so-called *Volksgeschichte*. This ethno-centric historiography has received significant contemporary academic attention, and has often been linked to post-war revisionism and to right-wing movements. At the same time, it has put the question of the region-nation-relationship on the agenda again, which had seemingly been answered definitively by the integration of regions into the nation-states in the last third of the nineteenth century and by the full integration of regional history into nationalised narratives. It is not surprising that the openly revisionist variant of ethno-centric histories was marginalised after 1945. However, less politicised approaches have apparently influenced social history; for example, in Germany, in the immediate period after World War Two. Monographs in regional history have undoubtedly contributed to some transnational attempts within the social/societal history school that, since the 1970s, have a progressively European character. In the competing paradigm, the French *Annales* School has had

significant influence on many historiographies inside and outside Europe. This has encouraged the re-commencement and redefinition of debates concerning the relationship between regional, national and transnational or global approaches in history writing.

During the 1950s and 1960s, European countries were confronted, to differing degrees, with the intellectual consequences of decolonisation and at the same time, they had to find answers to the North American intellectual hegemony. Area studies became more prominent and had to overcome the now old-fashioned practices of *Kolonialwissenschaften* or colonial studies. Some of the most important area studies historians in European countries attempted to revert to non-politicised philological approaches which had their origins in the late nineteenth century. For historians, the new interest in area studies (including the study of North American societies) raised again the question of how to include the 'non-Western' or 'extra-European' history into their master narratives.

Once more, a period of interest in world history was opened and characterised by significant multivolume works such as Braudel's history of the early modern world, which extended the influence of Paris to many historians all over the globe. Similarly, Zukov's ten volumes of world history, posited within an orthodox Marxist perspective, were published in Moscow in the late 1950s and then translated into several languages across the Eastern block.

While 'dependencia' theory and Wallerstein's world system theory fascinated historians, the European debate was much more critical towards master narratives and *meta-récits* in the 1970s. Fragmentation became the slogan; deconstruction, instead of search for transnational alternatives, became the most prominent approach towards national histories, with authors such as Benedict Anderson, Ernest Gellner, Eric Hobsbawm and Terrence Ranger being especially prominent. The cultural focus was much less attentive to questions of space until the end of the 1980s. At the same time, new coalitions emerged under the umbrella of an often imprecisely developed idea of cultural history. Historians now dealt with anthropology and literature, including symbolic and performative acts, and linguistic and iconic approaches. Marxist historiography, at the same time, confronted its delegitimation. The intellectual, as well as institutional, crisis of Marxist historiography had of course also consequences for the formulation of transnational alternatives to national representations of the past. In some parts of Europe, we can identify

a strong re-nationalisation after 1990, but others were overwhelmed by a debate on globalisation as a realisation of the ideas of free market economy and liberal concepts of freedom in politics. After some hesitation, historians attempted to address the new world order by doubling their efforts to write transnational or global history. This means, of course, they had to make choices (as they have done continually) regarding what should be re-actualised from older concepts and traditions and what had to be totally renewed.

What is remarkable, but to a large degree ignored even in very recent publications, is the dialectic of local answers to these processes and, at the same time, a tendency towards European interaction within a community of historians that is, in itself, an example of transnationality. The major goal of this volume within the Palgrave-Macmillan series on 'Writing National Histories' is to use the common effort of a group of more than thirty-five historians from all parts of Europe for a comprehensive study of the ways Europeans have formulated their alternatives to national histories since the midst of the nineteenth century. The contributions will analyse general trends and underline at the same time the important differences between the European historiographies. The reasons for these differences can be found both in the history of the countries itself and in the specific developments of their historiographies.

To realise this, the volume will be organised in chapters that will compare as many cases as possible. Some chapters will compare historiographies with regard to thematic or methodological approaches, for example world history, imperial history, or the European canon of what should be integrated into a standardised minimum of the continent's history. The same can be said for the influence of Marxist historiography – different by definition in those parts of Europe, where it became dominant as the hegemonic ideology, from those countries where it became an influential part of the intellectual life but never a dominant discourse.

Other chapters will compare how European historiographies have reacted to phenomena concerning Europe as a whole. The French Revolution will serve as such an indicator, but also the loss of colonial power as well as the fascist expansion and the suppression of people during the Nazi's hegemony over large parts of Europe when historians had to flee into exile and were confronted with very different experiences. Jewish history will be included as an example of transnational practice of

writing the history of a transnational group both challenging fundamentally the national paradigm of historical writing.

The volume is the result of five years of collaborative work of Team 3 within the NHIST programme. The team met since 2003 for four thematic workshops. The first workshop was devoted to the definition of the main research areas; the second one to regional and imperial histories; the third one was a smaller workshop on the historiography of the French Revolution in Southern parts of Europe; and the fourth one, linked to the First European Congress in World and Global History, dealt with world history writing in European countries, and the last one, planned for September 2006, will bring together specialists of a critical history of European histories. From 2007 onwards, the team will meet once or twice a year for editorial meetings devoted to the discussion of chapter drafts and the relationship between introduction and the individual contributions.

This strategy has allowed Team 3 to profit from the expertise of many more academics than will be presented as authors in the series volume. Chapters in the proposed book are not identical with the presentations at the workshops, but they try to synthesise what was presented and discussed there. The idea behind this is to overcome the level of country-by-country case studies. Authors are invited to use the results of the workshops and the empirical findings from several historiographies to provide more typology-oriented comparisons.

By this means, we hope to present new interpretations of transnational challenges to the national paradigm that seemed to be so dominant in European historical representations. That will allow a new step forward in favour of a transnational history which is today discussed as the form of historical representation which is most suited to describe the experiences of people living under the conditions of the beginning 21st century. As for the whole series, we focus on the production of professional historiography and place them within the context of (perhaps more influential) forms of historical representations (like monuments, textbooks, symbolic acts in states or communities etc.), though we will not try to include all those forms into our analysis. The argument for this strategy is given in the main proposal for the series, but we share the conviction that professional historiography is today perhaps not the most popular form of historical presentations, but it remains a respected authority for public debate on the plausibility of all the ways history is represented in European societies.

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The volume is planned with a substantial introduction and fourteen chapters dealing not with all phenomena of transnational historical writing but with those that are the most relevant for today's changes in historical representations.

Chapter 1 - Matthias Middell (Leipzig) and Lluís Roura (Barcelona), Introduction

Chapter 2 - Michel Espagne (Paris), European Traditions in Writing Intercultural History: The Origins of Transnational History

Chapter 3 - Matthias Middell (Leipzig) and Katja Naumann (Leipzig), European Perspectives on World History Writing

Chapter 4 - Andreas Eckert (Hamburg), Area Studies in Europe and the National History Mainstream – East and West Compared

Chapter 5 - Anne Friedrichs (Leipzig) and Mathias Mesenhöller (Leipzig), Imperial Historiography in Europe Compared

Chapter 6 - Lluís Roura (Barcelona), Colonisation, Decolonisation, and Imperial Historiography of the Iberian Peninsula

Chapter 7 - Sorin Antohi (Budapest), Imperial History as Challenge to National Historiography

Chapter 8 - Diana Mishkova (Sofia), Is there any serious Challenge to National History on the Balkans?

Chapter 9 - Antonis Liakos (Athens), The Formation of an European Canon of Historiography

Chapter 10 - Jean-Clément Martin (Paris), Historical Representations of the French Revolution in Europe

Chapter 11 - Tomasz Schramm (Poznan), Balázs Trencsényi (Budapest) and Matthias Middell (Leipzig), Was Marxist Historiography a Challenge to National Histories?

Chapter 12 - Dan Diner (Leipzig), Transnational Groups and the Challenge to National Representations of the Past

Chapter 13 - Edoardo Tortarolo (Turin), Historians in Exile

Chapter 14 - Anne-Marie Thiesse (Paris), Regional Histories and the National Paradigm in European Historiography

Chapter 15 - Geneviève Warland (Brussels), The Interplay of Regional, National, and Transnational History in Belgium as a Case study of wider European trends

All chapters will be submitted in a first draft during the summer of 2007 and discussed in the above mentioned editorial meetings. Final drafts will be submitted in early 2008, and translations (where necessary) and editing will take another 4-5 months. Therefore, the final versions will be available in the summer of 2008. The volume should appear according to the general plan of publication of NHIST in 2009. A further editorial workshop will be organised for the autumn of 2007 to be held in Leipzig or Dresden. Further details will be released on the NHIST website.

PD Dr Matthias Middell (Leipzig)
Professor Lluís Roura y Aulinas (Barcelona)

Team 4: Overlapping National Histories

Team Leaders: Prof. Tibor Frank (ELTE Budapest) and Dr. Frank Hadler (GWZO Leipzig)

Overlapping National Histories in Europe is the subject and focus of Team 4 in the European Science Foundation/NHIST programme. Details of the scholarly content of Team 4 are outlined in depth in the ESF NHIST *Newsletter*, No. 1 (pp. 11-14). NHIST Team 4 continued to organise annual workshops to discuss all the papers in its chosen field, made all the necessary efforts to find experts for the missing areas and prepare chapters for the planned NHIST series to be published by Palgrave-Macmillan.

The 2004 ESF NHIST Team 4 workshop meeting took place on 26th-28th November, 2004, in Budapest, Hungary, at the Eötvös Loránd University as well as the Korona Hotel and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences nearby. Tibor Frank (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) acted as local organiser. Participants included team leaders Frank Hadler and Tibor Frank, together with Jacob Barnai (Israel), Ragnar Björk (Sweden), Ciaran Brady (Ireland), Marie-Elisabeth Ducreux (France), Jörg Hackmann (Germany), Ilkka Liikanen (Finland), Jon Mathieu (Switzerland), Xose-Manoel Núñez-Seixas (Spain), Milan Řepa (Czech Republic), Niek C. F. van Sas (The Netherlands), Ilya Solomeshch (Russia), Rafał Stobiecki (Poland), Werner Suppanz (Austria), as well as Éva Ágh-Ring and Mónika Baár (Hungary) from Team 1. Team leaders Ilaria Porciani (Team 1, Italy) Chris Lorenz (Team 2, The Netherlands), Matthias Middell (Team 3, Germany) and Lluís Roura y Aulinas (Team 3, Spain) were also present in Budapest; Linas Eriksonas represented NHIST programme chair, Stefan Berger.

The workshop discussed the improved and revised papers of team members on comparative case studies covering 'Overlapping National Histories in Europe'. The Budapest meeting was destined to continue the work on conflicting European historiographies by discussing papers as follows:

- **Ilkka Liikanen**,
"The Concept of Border and Territorial Overlaps in Finnish National History Writing"
- **Ilja Solomeshch**,
"Abundance of Karelias: Paradigms for Studying Overlapping Past and Presents"
- **Jörg Hackmann**,
"From Confrontation to Reconciliation? German-

Polish Historiographical Interrelations on the German-Polish Territorial Overlap"

- **Rafał Stobiecki**,
"The Image of Eastern Borderlands (Kresy Wschodnie) in Polish Historiography in Exile after 1945"
- **Marie-Elisabeth Ducreux**,
"A Somewhat Different View of Nations, Peoples and the Habsburg Empire. An introduction to Universalgeschichte, as it was taught in Bohemian upper secondary schools, 1860-1913"
- **Milan Řepa**,
"The Czech-German Coexistence as a Significant Feature of Central European History"
- **Niek C. F. van Sas**,
"The United Kingdom of the Netherlands (1814-1830): A Case of overlapping national histories"
- **Ciaran Brady**,
"Overlaps in Irish Historiography"
- **Ragnar Björk**,
"The Overlapping Histories of Sweden and Norway: The Union from 1814 to 1905"
- **Jon Mathieu**,
"The Uses of Nature in Nation Building and National Historiography: Switzerland and Austria Compared"
- **Werner Suppanz**,
"The Habsburg Monarchy in the Historiography of the Austrian Republic"
- **Xose Manoel Núñez-Seixas**,
"Inner-Iberian Historiographical Overlaps"
- **Jacob Barnai**,
"Jewish National Historiography of Palestine"

Robert J. W. Evans (Oxford University), in person, and István Deák (Columbia University, New York), in writing, evaluated the team 4 papers. Papers not directly focusing on a territorial overlap (Ducreux, Mathieu) were given special attention and ultimately withdrawn from the project. Recognising the need for a more uniform and homogeneous pattern to prevail in the papers, Tibor Frank presented a common structure that the team leaders advised members to follow in the final draft of their papers, quoted later as 'the Budapest rules'. Every paper should cover a particular historiographical overlap by discussing the following points:

- I Abstract
- II Introduction
- III Summary of facts of spatial overlap:
 - Geographic area considered
 - Languages of region
 - Ethnic groups involved
 - Religious affiliations
 - Cultural situation

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- Numbers of people involved
- IV The nature of overlap
- V Representation of Historians, Schools, Institutions, Journals
- VI Conflicting Issues
- VII Summary: Lessons, Eventual Applications, Divergences, Resolutions
- VIII Appendix ((To be compiled in the planned Palgrave-Macmillan volume)
 - Glossary of Terms
 - Chronology
 - Biographical Dictionary
 - Maps
 - Other Illustrations
 - Bibliography
 - Index
 - Bio-bibliographical note on the author

Team 4 held a joint meeting at Eötvös Loránd University with Team 3, on common objectives and the book series to be published based on the work of all four NHIST teams. Information was provided on the NHIST programme and the planned series by all team leaders present, by Linas Eriksonas, who represented Stefan Berger, and by Robert J. W. Evans (Oxford).

The third in a series of team meetings, the most recent ESF NHIST Team 4 workshop, took place on 1st-4th December 2005 in Dresden at the Brücke/Most Stiftung (Reinhold-Becker-Strasse 5, Dresden). This is a newly established German foundation created to maintain cultural and scholarly relations with the Czech Republic, and as such, the very symbol of what Team 4 is doing. The venue proved to be an excellent choice, providing the suitable multicultural background for the third meeting of Team 4. Frank Hadler (GWZO, Leipzig) acted as local organiser.

Participants included team leaders Tibor Frank (Hungary) and Frank Hadler (Germany), together with Jacob Barnai (Israel), Ragnar Björk (Sweden), Ciaran Brady (Ireland), Jörg Hackmann (Germany), Ilkka Liikanen (Finland), Elena Mannová (Slovakia), Xose-Manoel Núñez-Seixas (Spain), Robin F. C. Okey (UK), Uffe Østergård (Denmark), Milan Řepa (Czech Republic), Drago Roksanđić (Croatia), Niek C. F. van Sas (The Netherlands), Ilya Solomesh (Russia), Rafał Stobiecki (Poland), Werner Suppanz (Austria). NHIST programme chair Stefan Berger as well as NHIST programme co-ordinator, Jonathan Hensher of Manchester University, UK was present on the occasion. The Dresden workshop aimed to continue the work on overlapping and/or conflicting European historiographies by discussing papers on specific European geographic/geopolitical areas structured as follows:

Northern Europe

- **Ilkka Liikanen**,
'The Origins of the Eastern Border as the Grand Controversy of Finnish National Historiography'
- **Ilya Solomeshch**,
'Abundance of Karelias: Paradigms for Studying Overlapping Past and Present'
- **Ragnar Björk**,
'Sweden and Norway: Overlaps in Nordic Historiographies'
- **Uffe Østergård**,
'Danish-German Historiographical Overlap Concerning Schleswig-Holstein'

Southern Europe

- **Xose Manoel Núñez-Seixas**,
'Real and Imagined Overlaps in Iberian State and Stateless Nationalisms in the nineteenth and twentieth Centuries: A Joint Interpretation'
- **Jacob Barnai**,
'Main Dilemmas in Israeli Historiography'
- **Drago Roksanđić**,
'The Concept of 'Multiple Borderlands' in Recent Croatian Historiography: Research Practices and Controversies'
- **Robin F. C. Okey**,
'Overlapping Historiographies in Bosnia'

Central Europe

- **Werner Suppanz**,
'Hegemony or Supranationalism: Narratives on National Overlaps in the Habsburg Empire in Austrian Historiography after 1918'
- **Jörg Hackmann**,
'From Confrontation to Reconciliation? German-Polish Historiographical Interrelations on the German-Polish Territorial Overlap'
- **Rafał Stobiecki**,
'National vs. Imperial History: On the Polish-Russian Historiographical Dispute in the nineteenth and twentieth Centuries'
- **Elena Mannová**,
'Challenged by a Thousand Years of Territorial Overlap with Hungary: Historiography in Slovakia'
- **Milan Řepa**,
'The Czechs, the Germans and Sudetenland: Historiographical Dispute in the 'Heart of Europe''

Western Europe

- **Niek C. F. van Sas**,
'The Netherlands and Belgium: From a Short Territorial to a Long Historiographical Overlap'

- **Ciaran Brady**,
'Looking Backwards: Conflicting Nationalities, Competing Histories, and the Formation of the Irish Historical Profession'

Each of the papers was circulated prior to the workshop amongst team members, before being discussed by the team in an effort to bring the various papers closer to each other in terms of structure, substance, and form and to prepare the Team 4 volume of the planned Palgrave-Macmillan series. Stefan Berger served as a commentator on the papers presented. The discussion focused on a range of issues, such as the problem of 'overlap' of different national histories of the same European areas, the historiography of conflicting nationalisms, the translation of national debates into historiographical discussions, the fight for territory and the fight for identity, the competing narrative structures and ideological paradigms, the problems of reconceptualisation and reperiodisation, the 'Phantommerz' of the successor states of former empires, the role of foreign historians in the domestic historical and historiographical discussions, as well as the function of major national and international encyclopaedias in the perception of national historiographical conflicts.

The team leaders, occasionally with the generous help of NHIST Steering Committee members, were able to find experts for the previously missing areas, including Alsace-Lorraine, Austria/Hungary, and Transylvania. Although the team has attempted to cover most of the important 'overlapping' areas in Europe, it does not strive, however, to cover every single region in terms of its historiography. The book to emerge out of the deliberations is not to serve as an encyclopaedia but rather as a European synthesis based on a set of case studies highlighting the problem of historiographical overlap as a theoretical concept. About 20 different regional approaches will be presented with a common methodology and shared principles. The common patterns accepted in Budapest in 2004 were considered by team members who came visibly closer to a common pattern and found common ground.

Stefan Berger provided information on the progression of the planned six-volume series to be produced by the various teams and to be published by Palgrave-Macmillan. The manuscript based on the work of Team 4 will be edited by the team leaders and scheduled for delivery in late 2007 and publication during 2008.

On 2nd December 2005 the team visited the State Archives of Saxony in Dresden (Sächsisches

Staatsarchiv Hauptstaatsarchiv Dresden), attended a lecture by Dr. Niels Brübach on 'Keeping Records on the Past of Saxony and Europe: The Holdings and Functions of the Dresden State Archives', and studied some of the key documents preserved in the archives.

The goals of Team 4 were presented in the paper 'Overlapping Histories: Border and Historical Writing in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries', given by Frank Hadler at the Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism Annual Conference held in London, March 29th 2006.

Team 4 was represented in the third ESF/NHIST cross-team conference, 'The Role of Medievalism in the Writing of National Histories' held in New College, Oxford in April 2006 by the team leaders and also by Ilkka Liikanen and Niek C. F. van Sas.

In the Autumn of 2006, the team leaders, in their capacity as editors of the fifth volume of the Palgrave Macmillan 'Writing the Nation' series, plan an editorial meeting in Leipzig, with the possibility of a second editorial meeting to be held in Budapest in 2007. A workshop for Team 4, 'Cartography as a Historiographical Argument in the Writing of National Histories in Europe', will be held on 29th-30th September 2006 at the University of Leipzig. This workshop will allow 'new' members of Team 4 to meet the team leaders for a discussion of their contributions. Contacts with all team members will be maintained with personal and intensive e-mail consultations on specific issues and cases.

Professor Dr. Tibor Frank
Dr. Frank Hadler

'Map of Hindoostaan', James Rennell (1782), in Goss, J.,
The Mapmaker's Art: a history of cartography (London,
Studio Editions, 1993), plate 7.16 opposite p. 251.



Cross-Team Conference Reports

NHIST Second Cross-team conference - Château de Coppet and Université de Genève, Geneva, 12th-14th May 2005

A second cross-team conference was organised by Professor Christoph Conrad at the Université de Genève on 12th-14th May 2005, titled 'A Usable Past? Roles of the historian and the politics of memory'. The conference aimed to discuss broader issues pertaining to the work of all four teams. Over 40 colleagues representing all the research teams of NHIST discussed the contributions presented by a number of the core researchers and senior scholars of the programme as well as by invited speakers. There could have been no better moment to have a comparative debate on questions of memory and its uses since all participants had the images of the commemorations of the freeing of the concentration camps and the end of the Second World War 60 years ago in their mind that dominated the media in spring 2005.

The conference focused on the reactions to major upheavals of contemporary European history (the Revolutions of the nineteenth and twentieth century, the two World Wars) and asked how the search for a 'usable past' after these conflicts involved historians in typical roles (as documentarist, expert, propagandist, witness) and redefined their relationship to their craft and to the instances of power. Moreover, several speakers addressed the question how a common European historical identity can be built by a generation of historians who takes the constructed character of memory for granted.

'Memory' has become one of the most important issues of international historiography in the last twenty to twenty-five years. In two ways, our view of the making of modern historical research and writing has been modified by this challenge. First, the commemorative or memorial function of any representation of history has been stressed and put alongside the rhetorical dimension dear to Hayden White and alongside the critical function associated with various 'new' histories of the twentieth century. Secondly, through concepts like the 'invention of tradition', the 'politics of memory' or the 'lieux de mémoire' the construction of a useful past by governments, political forces, and civil society has attracted much attention. Historians found an interesting way out of the embarrassing competition between collective memory and academic history by turning 'memory' and its uses into a fashionable object of historical research.

Olivier Dumoulin from the University of Lille opened the conference with a talk on the issue of the historian as an expert. It is a topical issue as a

number of NHIST Steering Committee members, who serve on various historical boards in their respective countries, have to deal with it in their new roles as historical experts. For example, Dušan Kováč has been asked by the court to serve as a 'historian witness' in a trial of one alleged Nazi collaborator. Dumoulin sees such experts as standing at the crossroad between historiography and public politics. There are three possible expert roles for the historian to assume: the historian can act as an advisor (for example, Aadu Must, a member of the NHIST Steering Committee has been also advising the current President of Estonia Arnold Rüütel); the historian could be called up to appear in court as 'expert witness' (the case of Dušan Kováč); or the historian could be an appointed expert on various commissions set up by the government (Uffe Østergaard has been appointed to various bodies by the Ministry of Culture). Dumoulin sees these three different roles as formative of the way 'truth' is presented and communicated by the historian. Hence the 'historian's truth' is shaped by the role the historian has to perform.

Niek C. F. van Sas (University of Amsterdam) raised the issue of the important of a 'national historical canon' within the context of attempts to renationalise the history of the Netherlands. Van Sas first looked at the national master narratives that had been produced and replicated throughout the last two centuries. He established that the dominant narrative, shaped by the image of the Netherlands as a great power during the seventeenth century, was undone by the de-nationalisation of the historiography in the 1960s and 1970s. Van Sas argued that the focus on the crimes against humanity committed during the Second World War was essential to the undoing of the national paradigm.

Uffe Østergaard (Jean Monnet Professor in European Civilization and Integration and Head of the Department of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the Danish Institute of International Studies) discussed the issue of 'European memory' in relation to the discourses about the Second World War and the Holocaust. Østergaard analysed the work of historical commissions set up in different European countries with the aim to reach some sort of consensus on a particular country's involvement in the mass murder of Jews and other citizens of their and other countries under Nazi occupation. He argued that the rigorous pursuit of holocaust and genocide studies in Denmark has facilitated a growing recognition among Danes that their country was not only a victim but also a collaborator of Nazi Germany. In his view, such negative spin put on Danish history during the Second World War is not

unique, as other European governments have sponsored an 'official' memory of the Holocaust as a European historical event.

Keith Robbins (University of Wales, Lampeter) provided an analysis of the British discourses of the war memory against the background of the post-war reality, considering the projection of victory within the context of the decline of the empire in the immediate years after the war. He described the search for a fitting date to memorialise the war and discussed the alternatives that existed at the time. He noted that the commemoration of the Second World War was incorporated into the agenda for Remembrance Day (11th November). However, Robbins stressed that the contemporary political climate shaped responses to commemoration, though this was open to on-going reinterpretation and contextualisation by historians who adopted a more critical stance towards the official culture of public memory.

Sacha Zala (University of Bern) explored the involvement of historians in the public sphere as editors of state documents, particularly foreign policy documents before and after the First World War. He explained how this removed historians from the academic environment, as they were more involved in public institutions. This limited the ability of some historians to check the accuracy of documents examined, thus increasing the potential for editorial intervention from third parties linked to state institutions.

The conference concluded with three papers focusing on case studies. Attila Pók (Director of the Historical Institute in Budapest), spoke on memory politics in Hungary after 1989. He explored the link between historiography and memory construction in four directions: in academia, politics, school and collective memory. Eelco Runia (University of Groningen) examined the phenomenon of 'naming of names' in public ceremonies as, for example, at the commemoration of the victims of the infamous terrorist attack against the World Trade Centre in New York. The final presentation was provided by Enrique Ucelay-Da Cal (Autonomous University of Barcelona), who argued that Spain lacks political and civic culture because of the multiplicity and tentativeness of sundry political loyalties, their unstable nature and the celebration of Spain's traumatic past influences historical writing, which encouraged a number of competing historical narratives, and challenged the rigidity of an overarching and homogenous national narrative.

Christoph Conrad closed the discussion by underlining three important perspectives of the current debates that were touched upon during the

conference: a) the interdependence of collective, often national memory and academic historiography; b) the various roles of the historian between state power and instrumentalisation on the one hand, and objectivity and scholarly autonomy on the other hand; c) the necessity to "look the historian over the shoulder" as a way to de- or re-construct his or her production of discourses on the past.

Papers presented:

- **Olivier Dumoulin (France),**
The Historian as Legal Expert
- **Niek C.F. van Sas (Netherlands),**
National history as crisis management
- **Uffe Østergaard (Denmark),**
The Holocaust in European memory
- **Keith Robbins (UK),**
1940 and Britain's 'finest hour' in the national historiography since 1945
- **Attila Pók (Hungary),**
1956 and the national historiography in Hungary
- **Enrique Ucelay Da Cal (Spain),**
Celebrating trauma: historians and the difficulties of building civic culture in Spain
- **Eelco Runia (Netherlands),**
Committed History
- **Sacha Zala (Switzerland),**
Editing an usable past

Cross-Team Conference Reports

NHIST Third Cross-Team Conference, New College, Oxford University 6th-7th April 2006

The third NHIST cross-team conference on 'The Role of Medievalism in the Writing of National Histories' drew over fifty delegates and presenters from across Europe and further a field. The local organiser was Robert Evans, the Regius Professor of History at the University of Oxford. Together with Guy Marchal (Luzern) they brought together Oxford-based scholars with a wide range of academics from all four teams associated with the NHIST programme. The central theme of the conference sought to explore 'The Role of Medievalism in the Writing of National Histories'. This drew on a range of methodological approaches that addressed the question of how European nations made use of their medieval pasts in the construction of their modern identities. The annual meeting of the NHIST Steering Committee on 8th April 2006 followed the conference.

The seminal issue of how nineteenth and twentieth-century scholars accessed and disseminated sources from the medieval period was a consistent theme throughout the conference. The full variety of national traditions were represented, facilitating the development of a broader understanding of how the growth of medievalism from its antiquarian roots formed a defined discipline in the nineteenth century that was a key element in contemporary understanding of national histories and their accordant identities. Bernadette Cunningham's (Royal Irish Academy) paper on the 'Transmission and Translation of Medieval Irish Sources in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries' drew on a wide range of literature to emphasise the fact of language change. This, she argued, helps explain why the mediation of early modern scholars was so important to the nineteenth and early twentieth century scholars whose cultural concerns drew them into the study of the medieval Irish past. Wendy Davies (University College London) adopted a comparative perspective on the uses made of medieval history by Celtic countries as part of projects of nationalist construction in her paper on 'The Role of the Early Middle Ages and National Identities: the contrasting approaches of Celtic countries'.

The role of the medieval past in developing notions of ethnic identity formed another important strand of enquiry for participants. Bryan Ward Perkins (Trinity College, Oxford) examined this in an English context in his paper on 'The English and the Anglo-Saxons in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries'. Malcolm Vale (St. John's College, Oxford) examined

the use of the middle ages in the forging of ethno-national identity in his discussion of 'The Hundred Years War and Anglo-French identities: the case of Joan of Arc'. This process of identity formation through *exempla* was also the theme of Lawrence Goldman's (St Peter's College, Oxford) paper on 'The Construction of British National Identity in the Dictionaries of National Biography 1882-2004'.

This question of the use made of the history of the middle-ages in Europe is of particular importance to the historiographer on account of the liminal status of the medieval past between the realms of national myth and documented fact. Several speakers analysed this phenomenon in their papers. In particular, Michel Margue (Luxembourg) examined the role of medieval myth in a Luxembourgish context in his discussion of '*La Découverte du Moyen Age: Mythes Médiévaux et Construction de l'identité Nationale à l'exemple du Luxembourg*'. Due to illness, Pit Péporté (Edinburgh) kindly presented Michel Margue's paper. František Šmahel (Prague), meanwhile, examined parallel developments in a Czech context in his paper, "'Old Czechs were Hefty Heroes": The Construction and Reconstruction of Czech National History in its Relationship with the Great Medieval Past'. The integration of the medieval past with contemporary national narratives has not always proved straightforward. In the case of Norway, Jan Myhre (Oslo) discussed 'The Problems of Decline and Continuity: The Middle Ages in Norwegian Historiography', while Peter Raedts (Nijmegen) examined the problematic relations between the Dutch and their history in 'A Serious Case of Amnesia: The Dutch and their Medieval Past'.

The conference concluded with papers from Johannes Niehoff-Panagiotidis (CEU Budapest) who focused on 'To Whom Belongs Byzantium? Greeks, Turks and the Present of the Medieval Balkans', which provided a comparative overview of the historiographical competition regarding the Byzantine Empire, and its impact of the development of national master narratives. Ilaria Porciani (Bologna) and Mauro Moretti (Sienna) concluded proceedings with their examination of 'Italy's Many Middle Ages'. The authors sought to trace how medieval history studies developed in Italy over the first half of the nineteenth century. They argued that the case of Italy stands as a laboratory and as a reference point, even outside Italy, for analyses of the origins and nature of modern forms of liberty, as well as the problem of decadence. When it comes to organising studies and publishing sources – which took place later in Italy than in France or Germany – they noted that

Italian models are revived (Muratori), although account is taken of European experiences; especially German. Italian culture does not contain any Novalis-style instances of full-scale idealization of the Middle Ages. They noted that the focus of interest is on the institutional process and the urban context. Reference to a work like Sismondi's *Histoire des Républiques Italiennes* is mandatory, from a historiographical, political or religious point of view. Highlighting the multivalence of the Italian Middle Ages, Porciani and Moretti focused on the important debate of the 'Lombard question', which is bound up with Italy's failure to unify politically, and with how the Italian Middle Ages follow on from/break with Roman institutional and civil tradition. They concluded by highlighting the watershed of the post-unification years, when historiography turns technical, going in for social and class history rather than national issues, and when the appeal of the Middle-Ages makes an impact on other dimensions of the collective imagination.

ESF/NHIST Third Cross-team Conference Delegates
at New College, Oxford – 8th April 2006



Papers presented:

- **Bernadette Cunningham (Royal Irish Academy)**
'Transmission and Translation of Medieval Irish Sources in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries'
- **Wendy Davies (University College London)**
Comparisons between Celtic Countries 'The role of the early middle ages and national identities: the contrasting approaches of Celtic countries'
- **Bryan Ward Perkins (Trinity College, Oxford)**
'The English and the Anglo-Saxons in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries'
- **Malcolm Vale (St. John's College, Oxford)**
'The Hundred Years War and Anglo-French identities: the case of Joan of Arc'
- **Lawrence Goldman (St Peter's College, Oxford and Oxford DNB)**
'The Construction of British National Identity in the Dictionaries of National Biography 1882-2004'
- **Jan Myhre (Oslo)**
'The Problems of Decline and Continuity: The Middle Ages in Norwegian Historiography'
- **Peter Raedts (Nijmegen, Netherlands)**
'A Serious Case of Amnesia: The Dutch and their Medieval Past'
- **Michel Margue (Luxembourg)**
La découverte du Moyen Age: mythes médiévaux et construction de l'identité nationale à l'exemple du Luxembourg'
- **František Šmahel (Prague)**
"Old Czechs were Hefty Heroes": The Construction and Reconstruction of Czech National History in its Relationship with the Great Medieval Past'
- **Johannes Niehoff-Panagiotidis (CEU Budapest)** 'To Whom Belongs Byzantium? Greeks, Turks and the Present of the Medieval Balkans'
- **Ilaria Porciani (Bologna) and Mauro Moretti (Sienna.)**
'Italy's Many Middle Ages'

New NHIST Website Online

A new NHIST website was launched in April 2006 to provide an up-to-date internet resource that keeps members of the NHIST programme and other interested parties informed of developments regarding workshops, conferences, travel grants, and other research and networking activities. KMOS, a communications and media service provider based in Leipzig, was commissioned to provide a revised internet resource for the NHIST programme. Mr Oliver Storch has constructed the new site, which has built on the strengths of previous NHIST internet provision, but has been redesigned to offer a new web image for the programme and superb functionality for NHIST members, researchers and the wider web audience.

Central to the revision of the website provision is the need to ensure that the programme is communicating up-to-date information on its research outputs, workshops, travel grants and publication activities. One of the central features of the new site is a prominent news section that is updated on a monthly basis to provide programme members and other interested parties with information about NHIST. This will encourage greater interactivity and topicality of the NHIST programme and supplement the NHIST newsletters in disseminating information to a wider audience.

The site provides a comprehensive summary of the NHIST programme's aims and objectives, details on programme chairs, team leaders, coordinator, and the Steering Committee. It also provides a detailed overview of the research agendas, membership and activities of each of the four research teams and cross-team activities. The potential for the site to provide a resource whereby team members can up-and down-load articles and draft chapters for the forthcoming 'Writing the Nation' and other publication projects, has been acknowledged and is a core feature of the site. The downloading section is divided into 5 categories, one for every team and one for cross team materials. Each team section has a separate password restricted areas, though all teams provide some materials that can be accessed without restriction by interested parties outside of the programme.

The new NHIST website provides an opportunity for programme members to interact and for other interested parties to keep up-to-date with NHIST news and developments. If you have any comments regarding the site, please contact the NHIST programme coordinator. The new site details are as follows: www.uni.leipzig.de/zhsesf

NHIST Steering and Executive Committee meetings

The annual Executive and Steering Committee meetings held for the ESF/NHIST programme are essential in planning, budgeting and organising of the activities for each team and the overall project. Each team leader provides an overview of workshop, research and publication planning and activity to the committee. The budget for the NHIST programme for the forthcoming year is discussed and finalised. The development of research and publication strategies that benefit each team and overall programme are central to each Executive and Steering Committee meeting. Each meeting also provides an opportunity for committee members to discuss beneficial networking opportunities, and invited guests have been asked to make presentations.

During 2005, the Executive Committee met at the Catalan Museum of National History in Barcelona (14th-15th January), whilst the Steering Committee congregated at the University of Geneva (14th March). These meetings provided an opportunity for the programme chair, Professor Stefan Berger, to welcome one new member of the NHIST Steering Committee, Professor Michel Margue of the University of Luxembourg on behalf of *Fonds National de la Recherche*. There was also a report on the success of the NHIST panel organised at the European Social Science History Conference in Berlin on 26th March 2004. The ESF Mid-term Evaluation report was also discussed extensively at both meetings and suggestions for amendments were made regarding drafts presented. It was decided to have a second call for travel grants during early 2006. The Steering Committee extended warm thanks of appreciation to Dr. Linas Eriksonas who completed his contract as Programme Coordinator for the NHIST programme in August 2005.

In 2006 the Executive Committee met at the University of Bologna (21st-22nd January) whilst the Steering Committee met at New College, Oxford (8th April). The programme chair welcomed Michael Strang of Palgrave Macmillan to the meeting in Bologna to discuss the publishing of the 'Writing the Nation' series. Professor Daniel Woolf of the University of Alberta kindly provided an overview of the 'The Oxford History of Historical Writing' programme at the Oxford meeting. The programme chair was also extremely pleased to welcome another new member of the NHIST Steering Committee, Professor Guðmundur Hálfðánarson, representing the Icelandic Research Council. When Dr. Jonathan Hensher (Manchester University), who succeeded Dr. Eriksonas as programme coordinator in September 2005, chose to resign his

position in March 2006, NHIST was extremely pleased to gain the services of Dr. Andrew Mycock (Manchester University) who has been acting as programme co-ordinator since April 2006.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the local organisers of the Executive and Steering Committees for their hard work in organising their respective meeting, particularly Professor Lluís Roura y Aulinas (Barcelona), Professor Christoph Conrad (Geneva), Professor Ilaria Porciani (Bologna) and Professor Robert Evans (Oxford).

NHIST Travel and Exchange Grants

The second call for travel and exchange grants to support research into areas of the programme that have been identified as in need of further research was issued in January 2006. Forty-one applications were received from candidates originating from seventeen countries across Europe covering a wide-range of research areas that were related to or complimented the scientific activities of the four NHIST teams. Eleven applications from nine countries were accepted for funding after deliberations by the Executive Committee of the NHIST programme and approval from the ESF.

List of Short Term grant awardees and their projects

- **Dr Gudrun Exner (Vienna)**,
Institutions, Networks and Communities in National Historiography in Austria
- **Dr Arnd Hoffmann (Essen)**,
National History of Catalonia
- **Dr Emanuele Picard (Paris)**,
Les chaires d'histoire universitaires et leurs relations avec les milieux régionalistes : mise en perspective du cas français par le cas italien au XIX^e siècle.
- **Dr Monika Stromberger (Graz)**,
National history of small countries around 1918: between Monarchy and new States. A comparison of Slovakia to Slovenia
- **Ms Anna Zadora (Strasbourg)**,
Search for the Past for Building a Future. Belarusian History Writing: between East and West.

List of Exchange Grant Awardees and their projects

- **Dr Mónica Baár (Essex)**,
Academic Competitions in National History
- **Ms Anne Julia Friedrichs (Leipzig)**,
Historiographies of Empire: A Comparative Analysis of Britain and Germany

- **Francisco Xavier Castro Ibaseta (Madrid)**,
Institutionalisation of history in Spain and Portugal: Comparative research
- **Miss Orla McArt (Galway)**,
'Nineteenth century reinterpretations of national history of the early-modern centuries: The Irish and German experiences; comparison and contrast'
- **Rengenier Rittersma (Leuven)**,
Different Landscapes of National Historiographies: a survey on the institutional aspects of historiography in Belgium and the Netherlands
- **Miss Maria Cecilia Vignuzzi (Bologna)**,
Historical associationalism in Italy and France in the nineteenth century

The ESF/NHIST Executive Committee would like to thank all those who applied or took interest in the travel grant programme, and looks forward to working with the successful applicants.

NHIST Networking Activities

Since its inception in the spring of 2003, NHIST has enjoyed excellent links with a range of research groupings pursuing similar agendas. Thus, for example, Pasts Inc. at the Central European University, under its director, Professor Sorin Antohi, has been an extremely helpful and valuable partner, co-organising workshops for teams 2 and 3. Professor Chris Lorenz will also be editing a number of volumes emerging from co-operation between the NHIST and Pasts Inc. The NHIST fits in well with an interest of Pasts Inc. in the history of historiography and historical theory and plans for future co-operation are currently being discussed between Professor Stefan Berger and members of Pasts Inc.

Links with CLIOH-net through Professor Guðmundur Hálfðánarson from the University of Reykjavík have resulted not only in Iceland joining NHIST but also in an ongoing exchange of ideas and practices between CLIOH-net and NHIST. CLIOH-net is a network of historians from a wide range of European countries who have been successful in obtaining European framework funding for a project on the writing of European history. Professor Stefan Berger has met key protagonists of CLIOH-net, such as Professor Steven Ellis (National University of Ireland, Galway) and Professor Guðmundur Hálfðánarson to discuss co-operation with the NHIST. Professor Hálfðánarson attended the first cross-team conference of the NHIST at the University of Glamorgan and encouraged the Icelandic research council to join the NHIST programme in the spring of 2005. The second workshop of Team 1 was organised by the home institution of Professor Ellis,

the National University of Ireland, Galway, with Professor Nicholas Canny, Irish representative on the steering committee, acting as local organiser.

Co-operation with the director of the *Kulturwissenschaftliche Institut* in Essen, Professor Jörn Rüsen, led to fruitful co-operation over the setting up of two panels for the major theme on historiography at the world historical congress in Sydney in 2005, where 1300 historians from more than 70 countries assembled. Whereas the programme chair of NHIST, Professor Stefan Berger from the University of Manchester, took special responsibility for a panel on national history writing in global perspective, Professor Rüsen organised a cognate panel discussing the role of utopia in historiography. Thus, a whole day at Sydney was organised around themes that are at the heart of the NHIST programme that was thereby able to write itself into and contribute to the global agenda setting of historiography¹.

Geisteswissenschaftliches Zentrum Geschichte und Kultur Ostmitteleuropas (GWZO), based at the University of Leipzig, is a major research institute focussing on the history of east central and Eastern Europe. It has developed a keen interest in exploring the evolution of historiographical agendas during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and co-sponsored an event of Team 4 in December 2004 that explored the interrelationship between imperial and national history writing in Eastern Europe.

The Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism (ASEN) is arguably the most prestigious international association in this interdisciplinary field of study. It is based at the London School of Economics (LSE), which also hosts an annual ASEN conference. In the spring of 2006, the Association's conference was organised under the title 'Nations and their Pasts. Representing the Past, Building the Future'. The organisers approached the NHIST programme chair to give a keynote lecture to the conference on day one of the conference proceedings and it asked him to organise two NHIST panels informing the conference delegates further about the NHIST programme on day two of the conference. Professor Stefan Berger delivered a paper entitled 'The Power of National Pasts: Writing National History in Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Europe' which was well received. Team leaders of all four teams, Professor Ilaria Porciani (Bologna), Professor Chris Lorenz (Amsterdam), PD Dr Matthias Mziddell (Leipzig) and Dr Frank Hadler (Leipzig), gave papers about the work of their respective teams that engendered considerable interest. Two hundred

copies of the first NHIST newsletter and of the Palgrave MacMillan promotional flyer outlining the planned 'Writing the Nation' book series were distributed among the delegates who came from across Europe and the wider world.

There has also been fruitful contact between NHIST and a project entitled 'The Oxford History of Historical Writing' directed by Professor Daniel Woolf from the University of Alberta in Canada. On his website, Professor Woolf describes the aims of the Oxford History as providing a 'full-coverage scholarly survey of the history of historical writing across the globe'. The NHIST programme chair invited Professor Woolf to the third cross-team conference and the steering committee meeting at the University of Oxford in April 2006, where he gave a well-received report about his own project. Professor Woolf envisions close co-operation between his own project and NHIST with several of his volume editors and contributors being recruited from within the ranks of NHIST. For further details see: www.arts.ualberta.ca/~dwoolf/oxfordhistory.html

EurhistXX is a network of contemporary historians and contemporary history research institutes. They invited the NHIST programme chair to their network meeting in Potsdam in 2004. The theme of the NHIST interested the members of EurhistXX greatly, and features prominently in the series of workshops and conferences held by EurhistXX. At the 2005 EurhistXX conference on October 21st-22nd 2005 in Dublin, Professor Stefan Berger, a personal associate of the EurhistXX network, gave a paper on 'Reconstituting National Historiographies After War and Violent Conflict in twentieth Century Europe'.

The South-East Asia National History Group in Seoul and Tokyo is a group of scholars from the Far East exploring similar themes as the NHIST, but for a different region of the world. Contact has been made between the two groups. Professor Stefan Berger published an outline of the NHIST programme in Korean in the Korean journal 'Contemporary Criticism'. One of the chairs of the South-East Asia National History Group, Professor Jie-Hyun Lim from Hanyang University, Seoul, attended the first cross-team conference of the NHIST and delivered an excellent comparative paper on the writing of national histories in Japan and Korea. Professor Berger has in turn attended conferences organised by Professor Lim's Research Institute of Comparative History and Culture in Seoul in 2003 and 2006 on the theme of 'Comparing Mass Dictatorships', where he presented papers on diverse aspects of historiographies of mass dictatorships in Europe.

¹ Stefan Berger, 'Rückkehr der Geopolitik: Landnahme oder Migration? Welthistorikerkongress in Sydney', in: *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* 28th July 2005.

What Others Say about NHIST

The following are examples of reports in diverse media about specific NHIST activities and the programme as a whole. They are reprinted here without comment, as they speak for themselves.

Harriet Swain, 'Cracking the Identity Code with a Humble Fried Egg', The Times Higher Educational Supplement, 3rd March 2006

'When Chancellor Gordon Brown proposed a British Day to rival America's Fourth of July, he acknowledged how far history helps shape a nation's modern identity. It is an issue that the new Iraqi government confronts daily, and the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism will show what a complex business it is. About 400 scholars from five continents will attend Nations and the Pasts ... to discuss what is involved in constructing a nation's history. For Stefan Berger, chair of the project 'Representations of the Past: The Writing of National Histories in Europe', the key ingredients are myths, heroes, a long pedigree and clear gender distinctions. His plenary presentation will draw on early findings from a five-year trans-European research project involving scholars from 29 countries. He will demonstrate the striking similarities in the way historians wrote about different European nations during the past two centuries.'

'News in Quotes', BBC History Magazine, Vol.7, 7 (July 2006)

Professor Stefan Berger of Manchester University explains why the conference he is convening on 'National Histories in Europe' (19th-21st October) is dealing mostly with the period 1750 to the present; "The words 'nation' and 'nationalism' begin to take on a rather different meaning from about 1750 onwards. While commentators across Europe were talking about nations since the middle ages, it is only in the bridge period to modernity, 1750-1850, that nation replaces all other forms of identity, e.g. religious or dynastic forms of identity, as the prime form of identity providing the crucial cement between rulers and ruled".

Philip Hunter, 'ESF helps Europe how to write its history', ESF News Release (to be published autumn 2006), www.esf.org

"...The ESF's five-year Scientific Programme 'Representations of the Past: The Writing of National Histories in Nineteenth and Twentieth Century

Europe (NHIST)", which started in May 2003, exemplifies this drive to establish a broader European culture within which national differences can still thrive, by creating a common approach to the study of national history. One important question being considered within this programme is whether there is such a thing as a single coherent European historical perspective that can bridge the gap between the different national views. The ESF's NHIST programme was launched just before the latest round of EU enlargement and has faced the daunting challenge of ending the longstanding divide in historical perspective between eastern and western Europe that has lingered since the Cold War ended in 1990. ... NHIST, which runs until mid-2008, will continue investigating the many facets of national history writing and its close interrelationship with national identity formation in Europe. Through championing comparative and trans-national approaches to history writing it will contribute in a major way to the 'Europeanisation' of history writing."

Unibo Magazine (University of Bologna), June 2006 – 'La ricerca storiografica per la prima volta su una cartina'

The project is part of the Palgrave Macmillan 'Writing the Nation' series, which is scheduled to be published in six volumes between 2007 and 2009. It will tell us where and who did historical research in Europe in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The project was presented at the opening of the new Centre for the Political and Intellectual history of the twentieth century at the Department of Historical Disciplines. It aims to reconstruct the setting of the national historiographies across Europe, from Iceland to Cyprus and Portugal to Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia. "It is the first time" notes Ilaria Porciani, Professor of Modern and Contemporary History at Bologna and a team leader of the NHIST project, "that this kind of work has been done". Professor Porciani is co-operating with Professor Raphael of the University of Trier in this project.

Many professional historians exist in Italy as well as in other countries, according to the first maps shown in the press conference. Iceland has only 17 historians, but considering the number of inhabitants this is the highest density of historians pro capita. Professor Porciani makes the point that for a very long time historiography was almost wholly a male profession.. A recent volume of the highly respected journal, *Storia della Storiografia*, which was edited by Professor Mary O'Dowd of Queen's University, Belfast and Professor Porciani (*History Women*, vol. 46) addresses this shortcoming.

NHIST Publications Plans

The NHIST programme seeks to provide a range of research outputs that reflect the distinctiveness and interconnectivity of the research conducted by the four research teams. In the following section, we provide a brief overview of the publishing agreement that NHIST has agreed with Palgrave Macmillan and other publication activity conducted by each team.

'Writing the Nation' – ESF/NHIST sign publishing contracts with Palgrave Macmillan

It is with great pleasure that the European Science Foundation and Executive Committee of the NHIST programme announce the signing of contracts with Palgrave Macmillan to produce a six volume series, titled 'Writing the Nation'. The volume series will reflect the distinctive and interconnected research agendas of the four teams of the NHIST programme and will be published during 2007-9. In announcing the agreement with Palgrave Macmillan, NHIST programme chair, Professor Stefan Berger commented that 'This series of books will form a formidable handbook. They make use of comparative and transnational methods to provide overviews of the development of modern national historiographies in more than thirty European countries. The series, involving more than 100 scholars from across Europe, will set the agenda for all work on the history of national historiographies for years to come.'

Volume One:

Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna) and Lutz Raphael (University of Trier) (eds): Atlas of the Institutions of European Historiographies 1800 to the Present.

Volume Two:

Ilaria Porciani (University of Bologna) and Jo Tollebeek (University of Leuven) (eds): Institutions, Networks and Communities of National Historiography Comparative Approaches.

Volume Three:

Stefan Berger and Chris Lorenz (eds): Society and the Nation: Ethnicity, Class, Religion and Gender.

Volume Four:

Matthias Middell and Lluís Roura y Aulinas (eds): World, Global and European Histories as Challenges to National Representations of the Past.

Volume Five:

Tibor Frank and Frank Hadler (eds): Borders and Nations: Confrontations and (Re-)Conciliations.

Volume Six:

Stefan Berger and Christoph Conrad: Historical Consciousness and National Identity Formation in Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Europe.

Enquiries regarding the 'Writing the Nation' series are welcomed and should be forwarded to Professor Stefan Berger (Stefan.berger@manchester.ac.uk).

The 'Writing the Nation' series seeks to analyse in depth national historiographies and their relationship to wider national historical cultures in 29 contemporary European nation-states. A sustained and systematic study of the construction, erosion and reconstruction of national histories across a wide variety of European states is a highly topical and extremely relevant exercise for two reasons. First, because of the long and successful history of the national paradigm in history writing, and secondly, because of its re-emergence as a powerful political tool in the 1990s in the context of the end of the Cold War and accelerating processes of Europeanisation and globalisation. National histories form an important part of the collective memory of the peoples of Europe. National bonds have been and continue to be among the strongest bonds of loyalty. A genuinely transnational and comparative investigation into the structures and workings of national histories will play an important part in both understanding the diversity of national histories in Europe and preparing the way for further dialogue and understanding among European nation states. The project aims in particular at bringing together the histories of Western and Eastern Europe in a concerted attempt to bridge the historiographical divide that was cemented by the long Cold War division of the Continent.

Methodologically, the project unites cultural transfer and comparative approaches, which are best suited to explore the complex relationship between national historiographies and national historical cultures in Europe. More specifically the book series will compare the role of social actors and institutions, as well as the importance of diverse narrative hierarchies in nationally constituted historiographies. It attempts to organise the comparison between historiographical and other representations of the past to draw conclusions about the effectiveness of diverse forms of representation within specific historical cultures. It also promotes comparisons between different nationally constituted historical cultures in such a way as to take account of different contexts, interactions, exchanges, misunderstandings and conflicts.

Any look at more than one national historiography will reveal their strong interrelatedness. Historians writing national history did not do so without taking account of developments in other countries. While institutionally and intellectually, history was 'nationalised' in the course of its nineteenth-century professionalisation, historians at the same time began to think of themselves as belonging to a single cosmopolitan community of scholarship. Even over periods during which aggressive nationalism poisoned mutual academic relations, historians often remained aware of other national agendas and publications. Cultural transfer studies have begun to explore questions such as: why were some intellectual departures received in a different national environment and others ignored. How far were particular institutes, organisations and individuals responsible for making specific academic 'products' of one country accessible in another? How far were national works or approaches to history re- and even misinterpreted in different national contexts? When and why have there been significant instances of the policing of the boundaries of one national historiographical tradition against encroaching influences of another? What was the role of exiled historians in facilitating contacts between different historiographical cultures? Perceptions and transfers are equally crucial to our understanding of national historiographies as are comparisons. The last decade has witnessed an acceleration of projects involving comparative and cultural transfer approaches.

The four NHIST teams will produce five of the six volumes, details of which are provided in the team reports section of this newsletter. The final volume in the series will be a co-authored volume, rather than an edited collection, and is titled 'Historical Consciousness and National Identity Formation in Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Europe'. Two of the chairs of the European Science Foundation programme, Professor Stefan Berger and Professor Christoph Conrad, will take it upon themselves to give a broad synthesis of the results of the five-year long research programme, draw comparative and transnational conclusions and outline the directions for future research. The volume will provide an assessment of the places where a wider national historical consciousness was being produced. This includes the increasingly professionalised and institutionalised production of historical texts at universities and academies, but it also has to take account of alternative genres and media, including literature, visual arts, music, monuments and the cinema/ television. Historiography needs to be contextualised within wider historical representations of the past. It will give an evaluation of the relationship between the political developments in

diverse European nation states and the historiographical developments. While national historical writing did not necessarily follow particular political caesuras, the latter often had an important impact on the way that national narratives were being produced. National historiographies were rarely, if ever, characterised by a complete unity of purpose. One can find dominant national master narratives, but their narrative strategies (and their politics) were often contested. In the *longue durée* one can usefully distinguish between, on the one hand, the writing of history as legitimisation of existing political systems, and, on the other, the writing of oppositional histories which aimed to undermine the dominant versions of national narratives. Where nation and state have not been one, national history writing often sought to legitimate and anticipate the coming of the national state. Yet everywhere national history never appears in the singular. Every national history tends towards homogenisation but in effect produces diversity and dissonance by producing counter-narratives that are often informed by different political perspectives.

Historical myths have often played a central role in national historical text production. National histories everywhere have been and continue to be closely intertwined with historical myths: What was the precise nature of the relationship between historical interpretations, long-established invented traditions and myths about specific historical topics and motifs? Historical myths can be continuous or they can break down at certain key junctures of national history (e.g. Germany after 1945). They can become submerged and they can become virulent again (e.g. the former Yugoslavia). An interesting question to pursue is what happens to national myths during periods of interregnum, when the old versions of the past have collapsed but new ones have not yet emerged.

Finally, the volume will create a typology of national historical narratives in Europe. It will build on a wide range of existing typologies which range from Frederick Engels's famous distinction between 'historical' and 'unhistorical' nations to Miroslav Hroch's attempt to distinguish between a) national histories which can refer back to a long and continuous statehood, b) national histories which have to deal with a discontinuous history of statehood and can refer mainly to historical memory and myths, and c) national histories which cannot even construct the flimsiest of traditions of independent statehood. The volume intends to cover a wide range of European nation states including all major ones and very many of the smaller nations of Europe. It will deal with both Western and Eastern Europe in equal measure.

The four teams of the NHIST programme have not only been extremely busy in collaborating and collating research for their respective team volume(s); in addition a number of publications have emerged from team workshops and cross-team conferences. This supplements the core research agenda, and confirms the vitality and productivity of the members of the NHIST programme:

**O'Dowd, Mary and Porciani, Ilaria (eds),
'History Women',
Storia della Storiografia (2004, vol. 46)**

As noted in the review for Team 1, this volume was published as a special issue of one of the leading journals in the field. It was launched at the Museo del Risorgimento in Milan in November 2005 and at the State Archive of Florence in May 2006.

- **Ilaria Porciani and Mary O'Dowd,**
History Women. Introduction pp.3-34
- **Jo Tollebeek,**
Writing History in the Salon vert (pp.35-40)
- **Maria Pia Casalena,**
La participation cachée des femmes à la construction de l'histoire nationale en Italie et en France (1800-1848) (pp.41-58)
- **Irène Herrmann,**
Au croisement des impasses de la démocratie? Les femmes et l'écriture de l'histoire nationale Suisse (1870-1930) (pp.59-68)
- **Nadia Clare Smith,**
Irish Women Historians - 1900-1950 (pp.69-78)
- **Gianna Pomata,**
Rejoinder to Pygmalion.
The origins of women's history at the London School of Economics (pp.79-104)
- **Hannah-Villette Dalby,**
Between Diaspora and Heimat. German-Jewish women historians and the writing of post-war German-Jewish historiography (pp.105-118)
- **Effi Gazi,**
Engendering the writing and teaching of history in mid-war Greece (pp.119-129)
- **Ida Blom,**
Women in Norwegian and Danish historiography C. 1900 - C. 1960 (pp.130-151)
- **Meervi Kaarninen and Tiina Kinnunen,**
"Hardly any women at all". Finnish historiography revisited (pp.152-170)
- **Krassimira Daskalova,**
The politics of a discipline: women historians in twentieth century Bulgaria (pp.171-187)
- **Anna Scattigno,**
Femmes, associations et histoire dans les universités européennes. Le cas de la "Società Italiana delle Storiche" (pp.188-202)

**Stefan Berger and Linas Eriksonas (eds),
Narrating the Nation. The Representation
of National Histories in Different Genres,
Berghahn Books, Oxford, 2007.**

The stories we tell each other about our national belonging and being constitute the nation. These stories change over time and place and are always contested, often violently so. Few paradigms in the realm of cultural sense-production have been as powerful as the national one, and the prominence of nationalism as an ideology and social movement in the world of today testifies to its continued and global appeal. The NHIST programme is focussed on a systematic and comprehensive comparison of national historiographies in Europe that takes into account the processes of cultural transfer between these historiographies. However, the programme directors and team leaders are not blind to the need to explore the importance of other genres to the evolution and shaping of national narratives, which is why they organised a conference on this topic at the University of Glamorgan in May 2004. This book is largely the result of that conference. It starts with three chapters on the relationship between scientific history writing and the promotion of national narratives, followed by explorations of national narratives in other genres. The second part deals with literary representations of the national past, while the third part discusses film and the fourth part analyses the relationship between national identity, architecture, the fine arts and music. A final section introduces some non-European perspectives on narrations of the nation.

All of the contributions to this present volume problematise the narration of the nation in different genres and thus contribute to more self-reflective approaches to national histories. They point towards the need to explore the links between different genres more closely. How national pasts were represented in and through a variety of different genres needs many more comparative and transcultural explorations. This volume is just one small step to a deeper understanding of how national narratives contributed to cultural sense-production in the modern world. We are pleased to announce that Berghahn books will publish this volume in 2007.

Introduction

Chapter 1 - Narrating the Nation: Historiography and Other Genres, Stefan Berger (University of Manchester)

Part I. Scientific Approaches to National Narratives

Chapter 2 - National Histories: Prospects for Critique and Narrative, Mark Bevir (UCLA, Berkeley)

Chapter 3 - Historical Representation, Identity, Allegiance, Allan Megill (University of Virginia)
Chapter 4 - Drawing the Line: 'Scientific' History between Myth-Making and Myth-Breaking, Chris Lorenz (Free University of Amsterdam)

Part II. Narrating the Nation as Literature

Chapter 5 - Fiction and the Circulation of National Histories, Ann Rigney (University of Utrecht)
Chapter 6 - Institutionalising and 'Nationalising' Literature in Nineteenth-Century Europe, John Neubauer (University of Amsterdam)
Chapter 7 - Towards the Genre of Popular National History: Walter Scott after Waterloo, Linas Eriksonas (Vilnius)
Chapter 8 - Families, Phantoms, and the Discourse of 'Generations' as a Politics of the Past: Problems of Provenance: Rejecting and Longing for Origins, Sigrid Weigel (Technical University Berlin)

Part III. Narrating the Nation as Film

Chapter 9 - Sold Globally - Remembered Locally: Holocaust Narratives and the Construction of Collective Identities in Europe and the US, Wulf Kansteiner (SUNY, Binghamton)
Chapter 10 - Cannes '56/ '79: Riviera Reflections on Nationalism and Cinema, Hugo Frey (Chichester University College)

Part IV. Narrating the Nation as Art and Music

Chapter 11 - From Discourse to Representation: 'Austrian Memory' in Public Space, Heidemarie Uhl (University of Graz)
Chapter 12 - Personifying the Past: National and European History in the Fine and Applied Arts in the Age of Nationalism, Michael Wintle (University of Amsterdam)
Chapter 13 - The Nation in Song, Philip V. Bohlman (University of Chicago)

Part V. Non-European Perspectives on Nation and Narration

Chapter 14 - 'People's History' in North America: Agency, Ideology, Epistemology, Peter Seixas (University of British Columbia, Vancouver)
Chapter 15 - The Configuration of Orient and Occident in the Global Chain of National Histories: Writing National Histories in Northeast Asia, Jie-Hyun Lim (Hanyang University, Seoul)

Stefan Berger (ed.), *Writing the Nation. Global Perspectives, Basingstoke Palgrave MacMillan, 2007.*

This volume has its origins in the panel organised for one of the major themes on historiography for the World Historical Congress in Sydney in 2005. The papers by Smith, Dutra, Hearn, Wang, Seshan and

Thioub were given their first airing there. Schaebler was recruited later and asked to fill an important gap. All authors from the outset of the project were presented with the ESF-NHIST conceptual framework and asked to apply this framework to their part of the world or justify why it could not be applied. Starting from the NHIST project of course lays any undertaking like this open to the charge of Eurocentrism and the introduction to this volume spends much time discussing why it is justified making use of European conceptual frameworks when discussing 'scientific' national histories.

All of the chapters discuss the origins of Western 'scientific' historical discourse in their respective continents and provide overviews of the narrative constructions of nation as they were deployed in different parts of the world. The concept of historical time posed different problems in the colonial and postcolonial world in comparison to the European world and these divergences are clearly brought out by the different contributions to this volume. It also discusses in depth how national historians were often caught between the desire to commit themselves to deeply national (and often nationalist) agendas and their espousal of transnational values of historical scholarship. Belonging to a transnational community of historians and writing for the nation often clashed – with nationalism frequently winning out over transnational sentiments, at the very least in the century between 1850 and 1950.

The positivist challenge to Romantic forms of national history writing towards the end of the nineteenth century did not significantly alter the relationship between history writing and nationalism. Positivism's more rigorous donning of the mantle of scientificity did not dent the desire of most positivists to serve the nation and act as national pedagogues. In many parts of the world, Marxism portrayed itself as heir to the positivist tradition. Whilst Marxist historiography could provide more critical perspectives on national traditions and histories, it frequently built on national(ist) assumptions and historiographies and produced Marxist-nationalist narratives (particularly noticeable in Stalinist Russia, Communist Eastern Europe and Communist China and North Korea).

However, class narratives, whether in their Marxist or non-Marxist guises, were not the only ones that fell woefully short of fulfilling their potential as challengers of the national paradigm. As all of the chapters in this volume discuss the interrelationship between national storylines and narratives of class, religion and ethnicity/ race, it becomes clear that the concept of 'nation' had the capacity of subsuming all other 'master narratives' under its wings and merging with

them in a wide variety of representations. The gendering of national histories was one of their most striking characteristics everywhere, yet we know so little about the ways in which national narratives were gendered that research into this area is woefully needed. With the exception of some pioneers, such as Bonnie Smith, Ilaria Porciani, Mary O'Dowd and Angelika Epple, little has been produced in this area.

All of the chapters in this volume conclude with contemporary perspectives on the importance and scope of national history writing in the rapidly globalising world of today. Nowhere one might conclude from their discussions have national histories entirely lost their appeal, but there seems to be a striking difference between the prominence of more self-reflective and self-critical national histories in much of Europe, North America and Australia which contrasts sharply with the continued popularity of scientific nationalism in large parts of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Only in the Arab world does Islamism pose an existential challenge to national narratives. After the failure of socialist notions of an Arab nation, some Islamist discourses on the nation condemn national history as a Western invention alien to the traditions of Islam.

The volume is meant as a further step towards the globalisation of the history of historiography. Scholars such as Rolf Thorstendahl, Benedikt Stuchtey, Eckhard Fuchs, Georg Iggers and Q. Edward Wang have undertaken important steps in this direction. No doubt we still have to travel some distance if we want to arrive at genuinely transnational and comparative perspectives on historiography, but it is to be hoped that this volume will be one small contribution on this path. We are proud to announce that Palgrave Macmillan will publish this volume in 2007.

Chapter 1 - Introduction, Stefan Berger (Manchester)
Chapter 2 - The Power of National Past: Writing National History in Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Europe, Stefan Berger (Manchester)
Chapter 3 - Seven Narratives in North American History: Thinking the Nation in Canada, Quebec, and the United States, Allan Smith (Vancouver)
Chapter 4 - The Mirror of History and Images of the Nation: The invention of a national identity in Brazil and its contrasts with similar enterprises in Mexico and Argentina, Eliana de Freitas Dutra (Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte)
Chapter 5 - Writing the Nation in Australia: Australian Historians and Narrative Myths of Nation, Mark Hearn (Sydney)
Chapter 6 - Between Myth and History: the Construction of a National Past in Modern East Asia, Q. Edward Wang (Rowan, New Jersey)

Chapter 7 - Writing the Nation in India: Communalism and Historiography, Radhika Seshan (Pune)

Chapter 8 - Writing the Nation in the Arabic-speaking World, Birgit Schaebler (Erfurt)

Chapter 9 - Writing National and Transnational History in Africa – the Example of the 'Dakar School', Ibrahima Thioub (Cheik Anta Diop University, Dakar)

Middell, Matthias; Naumann, Katja and Roura y Aulinas, Lluís (eds) World and Global History in Europe, Leipziger Universitätsverlag / Akademische Verlaganstalt, 2006

Team Three's 2005 workshop was held in conjunction with the World History Congress at the University of Leipzig, which was attended by over 350 delegates. Four NHIST panels on world historical writing were well attended by conference delegates. The volume will bring together contributions from the workshop and seek to explore the impact of world and global history in Europe. Contributions provide discrete national and comparative analysis of the relationship between national histories within global and world contexts.

- **Matthias Middell (Leipzig), Katja Naumann (Leipzig) and Lluís Roura y Aulinas (Barcelona)**, Introduction
- **Antonis Liakos (Athens)**, Universal History in Greece and the Place of Greece in European Universal Histories
- **Edoardo Tortarolo (Turin)**, Momigliano and the Universal History Writing in Italy
- **Michel Espagne (Paris)**, Enlightenment Historiography of the World – the Göttingen School and its International Impact
- **Lluís Roura (Barcelona)**, Imperial and World Historiography in Catalonia
- **Alberto Gil Novales (Madrid)**, Universal Histories in Spain
- **Geneviève Warland (Brussels)**, Belgian Attempts to Conceptualize World History
- **Harriet Zunzdorfer (Leiden)**, Dutch Discussions about World and Global History
- **Andreas Eckert (Hamburg)**, Imperial History in Britain and in France Compared
- **Hanna Schissler (Braunschweig)**, World History at School in Europe and in the U.S.
- **Carol Adamson (Oslo)**, Nordic Traditions in World History Writing

- **Katja Naumann (Leipzig),**
German, French and Swiss Efforts to Write World History in the Second Half of the twentieth Century
- **Andrea Komlosy and Margarete Grandner (Vienna),**
Discussions about World History among Austrian Historians
- **Tomasz Schramm (Poznan),**
Polish Traditions of World and General History from the late nineteenth Century until 1989
- **Sorin Antohi (Budapest),**
Empire and Nation from an Hungarian Perspective
- **Frank Hadler (Leipzig),**
World History Writing in Czechoslovakia 1918-1989
- **Balázs Trencsényi (Budapest),**
Marxist Universal Historiography as Opposition to National History Writing
- **Diana Mishkova (Sofia),**
We the People. Traditions of National and World History Writing in Bulgaria and Romania
- **Alexei Miller (Budapest),**
Imperial Historiography in Russia

Stefan Berger (University of Manchester) and Chris Lorenz (Free University of Amsterdam) (eds), *The Nation and its Other Part II. From the Macro-Historical Overview to the Micro-Historical Example, from Contexts to Texts (working title)*

The second phase of Team 2's work for NHIST will make a fresh start by shifting the focus from the macro-historical overview type of article to micro-historical examples of national historiographies. This volume will analyse the construction of the nation and its others at the level of individual exemplary texts in which the comparative and transnational aspects are built into the case studies themselves. Each case study will focus on the textual and the intertextual level - the level of narrative - and not at the biographical level of historians. There are plenty of biographical studies of famous historians around and there is no intention to add another volume to this field, however interesting these studies may be in themselves. The volume will provide analyses of narrative structures and strategies of at least two national histories from different nations in their intertextual relationship.

- **Jörg Hackmann (University of Greifswald),**
Narratives of Baltic Nation-Building in the Writings of the Estonian Historians Hans Kruus and Ea Jansen and of the German Historian Reinhard Wittram

- **Pavel Kolář (ZZF Potsdam),**
Frantisek Graus and Eva Priester
- **Peter Schöttler (CNRS, Paris),**
Marc Bloch and Henri Pirenne
- **David Laven (Manchester),**
The Italian Middle Ages as Viewed Through the Work of French, British, Italian, German and Swiss historians
- **Geneviere Warland (Brussels),**
The Religious Wars in the National Histories of Blok, Lamprecht, Lavissee and Pirenne
- **Xose Manuel Nunez (Santiago de Compostela),**
How to write History of "transnational" Civilisation? A comparison of Portuguese and Spanish national Historians, 1870-1920.
- **Effi Gazi (Greece),**
Theorising and Practising Historicism in South-Eastern Europe: Spyridon Lambros and Nicolae Jorga
- **Mónika Baár (Essex),**
Religious figures and heretics in national histories: Luther, Hus, Jeanne d'Arc, Zwingli and Calvin
- **Thomas Welskopp (Bielefeld),**
Robert Grimm and Eduard Bernstein: national histories and the labour movement
- **Árpád von Klimó (ZZF Potsdam)**
Comparative perspectives on Gyula Szekfű
- **Marc Caball (University College Dublin)**
Standish James O'Grady and Richard Bagwell
- **John L. Harvey (St. Clouds),**
The Nation, the West and European Identity: An Anatomy of the Harper Series The Rise of Modern Europe
- **Angelika Epple (Hamburg),**
'A Strained Relationship: Epistemology and Historiography in 18th and nineteenth Century Germany and Britain'.
- **Marina Loskoutova (St Petersburg) and Andrew Mycock (Manchester),**
The Empire Strikes Back? The Historiography of 'High Imperialism' and its impact on history teaching in Britain and the Russian Federation

Liakos, Antonis (ed) *The European Canon, Leipziger Universitätsverlag / Akademische Verlagsanstalt, 2007*

This volume will derive from the papers presented at Team 3's 2006 workshop in Athens. The volume investigates tendencies in the writing of European Histories in Europe, tendencies of convergence and divergence since the nineteenth century, and relationships between the national paradigm and those tendencies in European Histories. The volume will be published during 2007.

- Antonis Liakos (Athens), Matthias Middell (Leipzig) and Lluís Roura y Aulinas (Barcelona), European History as a Challenge to National History and the Formation of a European Canon
- Antonis Liakos (Athens), Case Study: Greece
- Edoardo Tortarolo (Turin), Case Study: Italy
- Lluís Roura y Aulinas (Barcelona), Case Study: Catalonia and Spain
- Anne Friedrichs (Leipzig), Case Study: Britain
- Margarete Grandner (Vienna), Case Study: Austria
- Matthias Middell (Leipzig), Case Study: Germany and France Compared
- Geneviève Warland (Brussels), Case Study: Belgium
- Tomasz Schramm (Poznan), Case Study: Poland
- Balázs Trencsényi (Budapest), Case Study: Hungary
- Diana Mishkova (Sofia), Case Study: The Balkans
- Andreas Eckert (Hamburg), European History seen from Africa
- Katja Naumann (Leipzig), European History seen from the United States

*Hadler, Frank and Mesenhöller, Mathias (eds)
Lost Greatness and Past Oppression in East
Central Europe: Representations of the Imperial
Experience in Historiography since 1918,
Leipziger Universitätsverlag / Akademische
Verlagsanstalt, 2007*

Political restructuring in East and Central Europe since World War I has repeatedly led to ideological reorientation by the affected societies, to which the respective (national) historiographies contributed considerably. Dealing with lost greatness or past experiences of oppression played a central role in this. As these issues were highly dramatic, or easily dramatised, the subject proved to be unusually sensitive, and often crucial to the historical construction of national identities. Master narratives were conceived and put to internal as well as external competition, reflecting, if nothing else, political situations or projects of the time. Nowadays some of those narratives have fallen into oblivion, while others are all too present in public discourse or on the verge of revival, yet the context of their accrual seems to be forgotten.

The volume intends to explore such historiographic representations by means of a set of case studies: to describe how they came into being and developed later on, to relate them to changes in the political

theatre, and to discuss their present relevance. Topics dealt with are turning points in the history of post-imperial historiography, their interdependence with then current affairs (or lack of it), i.e. how interpretations of the past served as mobilizing, legitimizing or elucidating narratives for a new order, or as projection surfaces for contemporary political (or social) projects. Finally their lasting effects come into focus, for instance as strategies of self-positioning in trans- and supranational contexts.

National regeneration and transnational integration are ongoing processes in Eastern and Central Europe, and are accompanied by new crises of orientation. Thus, interpretations offered by historical scholarship are once more gaining political relevance and those of "lost greatness and past oppression" the more so. To reflect critically on their geneses and changes therefore appears to be academically rewarding as well as politically desirable.

Frank Hadler and Matthias:
Mesenhöller (Leipzig), Introduction

I. Das Schwedische Dominium Maris Baltici / The Swedish Dom. maris baltici 1617 - 1721

- Ragnar Björk (Södertörn):
The Swedish Baltic Empire in Modern Swedish
Historiography
- Klaus Zernack (Berlin):
Imperiale Erfahrungen in der Ostseeregion im
Spiegel der Historiographie des 20.
Jahrhunderts: Die polnische Perspektive
- Ilgvars Misāns (Rīga):
Gute Zeiten? Schlechte Zeiten?
Die „Schwedenzeiten“ in der lettischen
Geschichtsschreibung

II. Der Polnisch-Litauische Commonwealth / The Polish-Lithuanian C'wealth 1569 - 1772/95

- H.-J. Bömelburg (Lüneburg):
Zwischen imperialer Geschichte und
Ostmitteleuropa als Geschichtsregion: Oskar
Halecki und die polnische „jagiellonische Idee“
- Jurate Kiaupienė (Vilnius):
Between Two Concepts: From Ethnic Nation
State to Commonwealth. The Lithuanian Point of
View

III. Das Osmanische Reich / The Ottoman Empire 1526 - 1699

- Fikret Adanir (Bochum):
Von der Adria bis zur Chinesischen Mauer: Das
osmanische Erbe und Visionen einer Großtürkei
in Nationsbildung und Globalisierung

- **Géza Dávid / Pál Fodor (Budapest):**
From Philological to Historical Approach:
Twentieth-Century Hungarian Historiography of
the Ottoman Empire
- **Stefan Troebst (Leipzig):**
Vertraute Fremdheit Das Osmanische Reich in
der makedonischen Geschichtskultur

IV. Die Hohenzollerndynastie / The Hohenzollern Dynasty 1701 - 1918

- **Nicolas Berg (Leipzig):**
Preußen – ein ‚lieux de mémoire‘ für die
deutsche Geschichtsschreibung zwischen
Weimar und Bonn
- **Markus Krzoska (Mainz):**
Die Hohenzollernmonarchie in der polnischen
Geschichtskultur seit 1918

V. Die Habsburger Monarchie / The Habsburg Monarchy 1648 - 1918

- **Werner Suppanz (Graz)**
Der lange Weg in die Moderne: Narrative der
Habsburgermonarchie in der österreichischen
Geschichtswissenschaft seit 1918
- **Tibor Frank (Budapest):**
“Kakania” Remembered: The Austro-Hungarian
Compromise in Hungarian Historiography (1867-
1945)

VI. Das Petersburger Imperium / The Petersburg Imperium 1721 - 1917

- **Rafał Stobiecki (Łódź):**
Comparing Polish Historiographies on the
Petersburg Empire: Second Republic - People's
Republic - Exile
- **Mati Laur (Tartu):**
Die Russenzeit und das Russische Imperium in
der estnischen Geschichtsschreibung seit 1918

***Berger, Stefan and Mycock, Andrew (eds)
'Writing National History in Europe', special
issue of Storia della Storiografia, no. 4 (2006)***

This special issue of *Storia della Storiografia* is presenting the research agendas and preliminary results of NHIST at half time. Stefan Berger and Christoph Conrad start their introduction to the NHIST programme with some comments on the topicality of studying national history writing at the beginning of the twenty-first century. Presenting NHIST within the existing research landscape on national history writing, they develop some methodological benchmarks for the NHIST programme and provide some insights into, first, the interrelationship between history writing and societal power relationships, secondly, the issue of methodological nationalism and its alternatives, thirdly, the relevance of historiographical turns and

caesuras, and, finally, the importance of genre to historical narrative.

Ilaria Porciani subsequently gives an overview of the emergence of a European atlas of historiography that has been one of the central focus points of her team. She discusses the methodological pitfalls of data collection and presents some theses on the development of the historiographical profession in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. She also provides some tantalising comparative hints regarding the development of chairs of history writing, the institutionalisation of archives across Europe, the great syntheses of national history writing and many other aspects of the history of national historiographies. Chris Lorenz and Stefan Berger will pick up the theme of the construction of national histories through narrative and provide insights into the relationship between national master narratives and narratives of class, religion and ethnicity/ race. Furthermore, they will comment on the gendering of national narratives across Europe, a theme that is heavily under-researched at present and was, of course, the subject of a previous NHIST-led special issue of *Storia della Storiografia* (see above). Berger and Lorenz will argue for a fundamental narratological caesura in the writing of national histories in the European bridge period between 1750 and 1850 and go on to investigate narrative techniques in Enlightenment, Romantic and positivist national histories. They will conclude their survey by asking whether one can speak of a move towards postnational national histories since the second half of the twentieth century.

Matthias Middell and Lluís Roura consider the intricate interrelationships between national histories and their sub- and trans-national rivals. How did regional history contribute to the construction of national histories? When and under which conditions did regional history challenge cohesive national narratives? Was national history writing the basis of European history writing or did the Europeanisation of historical writing challenge the very notion of national historical development. How did world history relate to national history? Those are just some of the questions discussed in NHIST's research team 3, and their preliminary findings are summarised here by Middell and Roura. Finally, the chapter by Tibor Frank and Frank Hadler deals with the important issue of territorial overlaps in national histories. Many European nation states claimed territory as their own that was also claimed by one or several other nation states. These contested territories often loomed large in national histories. Frank and Hadler will discuss the various ways in which borderlands were made a central topic in national histories and ask to which extent the existence of such territorial overlaps

shaped the entire narratological structure of national histories. Overall, this special issue of *Storia della Storiografia* is meant to inform the wider community of scholars interested in historiographical questions about the conceptual ideas behind NHIST and the progress of the NHIST programme after it has been running for three years. It will also draw attention to the research lacunae that still exist in research about national historiographies.

- **Stefan Berger and Christoph Conrad**,
'National Historiographies in Transnational Perspective: Europe in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries'
- **Ilaria Porciani**,
'The Institutionalisation and Professionalisation of Historical Writing'
- **Stefan Berger and Chris Lorenz**,
'National Narratives and their "Others": Ethnicity, Class, Religion and the Gendering of National Histories'
- **Matthias Middell and Lluís Roura**,
'National Histories between Sub- and Transnational Histories'
- **Tibor Frank and Frank Hadler**,
'Overlapping National Histories: European Borderlands and their Impact on National History Writing'

NHIST Review Articles

Members of the Executive Committee and team members have authored a number of reviews of the NHIST programme. These have introduced and outlined the overall aims and objectives of the NHIST programme, the core themes, and research team membership and activities. These reviews expand the narrative of the programme, thus encouraging understanding of the unique nature of NHIST, and outline the methodological research approaches that provide contextual understanding relating to the publications outlined above.

- **Stefan Berger**,
'Representations of the Past: The writing of national histories in Europe', *Contemporary Criticism [Korean]* 2002, p.166-199
- **Stefan Berger**,
'Representations of the Past: The writing of national histories in Europe', *Debate: A Review of Contemporary German Studies*, (2004, Vol.12, 1) pp.73-96
- **Stefan Berger**,
'A Return to the National Paradigm? National History Writing in Germany, Italy, France, and Britain from 1945 to the Present', *Journal of Modern History* (2005, Vol. 77) pp. 629-678.

- **Emmanuelle Picard**,
'Quelques réflexions autour du projet de l'European Science Foundation - Representations of the Past: The Writing of National Histories in Europe', *Histoire de l'éducation* (January 2006)
- **Ilaria Porciani**,
'Le storiografe nazionali nello spazio europeo', *Passato e Presente* (2004, Vol. 63) pp. 113-123

'Engraving of the Muse of History from Bernard de Montfaucon's "Antiquite" (1719)',
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