



10th Biennial Report of the
European Society for Environmental History
2019–2021

prepared by Marco Armiero
President 2019–2021

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Muchaparara Musemwa, South Africa – South Africa
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Onur Inal, University of Vienna, Austria – Turkey
Giacomo Bonan, Dipartimento di Storia Culture Civiltà, Università di Bologna, Italy – Italy
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Tatiana Perga, Institute of World History, National Academy of Science of Ukraine, Kiev – Ukraine

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Giacomo Parrinello (Chair), Sciences Po, France

Introduction

Those have been difficult times for all; those are still difficult times. According to the most reliable sources, almost 4 million people have died of COVID-19. For the World Bank -- not precisely a group of radicals --, COVID-19 will push between 88 and 115 million people into extreme poverty by the end of this year. All the statistics point to the unequal effects of the pandemic, hitting harder the most vulnerable people in our societies. You will agree that those living in the slums, those working in the warehouses or the logistic sector, or those with precarious jobs have paid a higher price to the pandemic.

Having in mind the immense suffering of people affected in their bodies, their families, and their means of survival, I feel almost uncomfortable to speak about our difficulties as an academic society; therefore, I would like to invite all of us to think -- even just for a moment -- about those who have been affected most by the pandemic. Let me take this opportunity to thank the entire ESEH for the support I have received during my COVID-19 severe illness. That was clear proof that ours is, of course, a scholarly society but also a community of friends who care for each other. This is not my merit but I am grateful to my predecessors and to all of you who made the ESEH as it is today.

I am starting my report from the pandemic because, obviously, it has strongly affected the life of our society in the last two years, and perhaps it will continue to affect it in the future. I will say a few things about this in a moment. Here let me add that starting from the pandemic is also the best way to stay committed to my vision of a society deeply embedded into the challenges of the present.

How has the pandemic affected us, as an academic society? How has it affected us as scholars and perhaps the entire discipline? I wish I could be more precise about this; I tried to launch a questionnaire about the pandemic but unfortunately, we have not been able to finalize it yet. But I strongly believe this should be a priority.

Then, I will not report on the many burdens we have all faced; but let me say briefly a few things about this. We know that the pandemic has affected female scholars more than male scholars, especially where the lockdown has been more severe and female scholars have been squeezed between research and domestic care. We also know that Ph.D. students have been dramatically affected by the pandemic, often forced to change their research projects and almost always trapped in a quite individualized frame. Junior researchers and colleagues with precarious contracts have often lost their incomes. For all, isolation and anxiety have had a deep impact. Several of the things I will present later have been done aiming to address at least the isolation in which the pandemic has forced most of us.

The drastic reduction -- even erasure -- of mobility has been the most crucial challenge for our society. First of all, it has forced us to postpone our biannual conference in Bristol, which was supposed to happen precisely during these very days. Postponing our most important and loved event has not been an easy decision. With the local committee and the chair of the program committee (Sandra Swart), we worked hard to find solutions, but in the end, we decided that it would be wrong to ignore the exceptionality of this time. I want to thank once again the Bristol local committee, the program committee, and all the people who have submitted an abstract for the conference.

While the conference has been postponed, we have decided to get together for two days in July -- more or less when the Bristol conference was supposed to happen --, not only because we have some business to attend - including voting for the president -- but even more because in these difficult times we wish to nurture a community of care and hope, as we have tried to do during these two days.

Among many other things, the biannual conference has always been a crucial moment for the stabilization and growth of the society: to be very clear, we often renew our subscription on the occasion of the biannual conference. I can reassure you that we have not lost our subscriptions; actually, we have 44 more members than we had at the time of the GA in Tallinn.

This is the result of our collective work, which has been particularly intense and I would say creative during this period.



Treasurer's Report

2019

In the conference year 2019 we had extraordinary income, donations amounted to 630 Euro and a crowdfunding campaign to finance the dissertation award launched by NextGATe yielded 741. Moreover, we got a share in the surplus of our Tallinn conference amounting to 3.700 Euro plus book auction with 755. As a singular donation ESEH received a royalty of 1.876 Euro from Berghahn publishers after the first dozen of books have appeared in our series.

Income of 17.160 altogether met with almost as much capital from the preceding years, so that we could easily spend 18.805, some 1.600 more than our extraordinary income that year. Most of the expenditures were travel costs for the conference, 4 eseh officials in need were reimbursed with 3.658 Euro and 29 delegates in need received 8.612 Euro, 1800 were spent for prize winners altogether. The honorariums for plenary and roundtable speakers amounting to 2750 have been more than counterbalanced by the conference surplus. Apart from the conference, 1.050 Euro were spent for 2 archival research grants plus transfer fees. Fix costs for banking and website with PayPal facility amounted to 192 and 729 Euro respectively.

European Society for Environmental History e.V., Account 2019

Income 2019	Kind of income	Euro_IN
Capital from 2018	Giro+PayPal+Savings	17.104,82
Savings interests	net 2019	0,05
Membership fees	net via PayPal and Giro	9.457,83
donations	by 4 members	630
Crowdfunding	for Dissertation-Prize, net	741,14
Book auction at conference	by delegates and publishers	755
Conference surplus share	from Univ. Tallinn	3.700,00
Royalty for 1st dozend in book series Env & Hist	by Berghahn publisher, net	1.876,63
	Total Income 2019	€ 17.160,65
	plus Capital 2018	34.265,47

End of year 2019	Euro
31.12.2019 Savings	5220,91
31.12.2019 Giro	9573,36
31.12.2019 Paypal	678,38
31.12.2019 total	15.472,65

Expenses 2019	partner	Euro_EX
Bank fees insbes. internat. transfers	Postbank Dortmund	192,52
Website hosting & pay-option	Host Europe, Google & Digitalpayment	729,95
2 research travel grants	incl. Transfer fees	1.050,00
Conference travel reimbursement board members & RRs	Vicepres. & 3 of 17 Regional-Representatives (Isr, Kro, Rum)	3.658,35
Travel grants for Conference Tallinn	29 delegates from disadvantaged regions incl. transfer-fees	8.612,00
St Andrews-Article-Prize 2019 plus conference fee	prizewinner team Hartman	1.050,00
Tallinn-Dissertation-Prize	2 prizewinners	750
Honorarium 1 roundtable	5 discussants	1.250,00
Honorarium 2 plenary speakers	Prof. Brown, Prof. Hornborg	1.500,00
	Total expenditures 2019	18.805,71

Balance 2019 €	-1.632,17 €
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Controll formula:	
Capital plus total income 2019	34.265,47
minus total expenditures 2019	-18.805,71
results in capital end of 2019	15.472,65

2020

The next year, 2020, was - luckily for ESEH - a non-conference year anyway, so that there were no financial problems thanks to an income of 6.115 Euro from eseh members. In contrast, total expenses, including 2 workshop and 1 research grants, amounted only to 2.763 Euro and the resulting surplus of over 3.300 Euro helps to manage challenges of the postponed conference with the split off online meeting and OGM.

European Society for Environmental History e.V. ACCOUNT 2020

Income_2020	Kind_of_Income	SumIN_€	Expenses_2020	Beneficiary	SumEX_€
from 2019	Giro+PayPal+Savings	15.472,65	Bank Fees esp. intl. transfer fees	Postbank Dortmund	142,84
Savingsbook interests	netto interests 2020	0,04	Website pay-option	Digitalpayment	478,8
Membership Fees	net via PayPal or Giro	5.990,00	Website Hosting etc	Host Europe, Google	325,76
Donations	net via PayPal or Giro	125,94	Archival travel grant	Varfolomeeva	500
	Total_Income_2020	6.115,98	Small Workshop co-sponsoring incl transfer	1 Greek and 1 Ukrainian workshop	1.021,00
	<i>plusCapital2019</i>	<i>21.588,63</i>	Membership in umbrella associations	EASSH & ICEHO fees 2020	231,58
			Notary	Dr. Wehrstedt	63,22
End of Year 2020	Euro		Total_Expenses_2020		2.763,20 €
31.12.2020 Savings	5.220,90				
31.12.2020 Giro	12.815,17		Control formula:	<i>Again: savings plus total income 2020</i>	<i>21.588,63</i>
31.12.2020 Paypal	789,36			<i>Again: total expenses 2020</i>	<i>2.763,20</i>
31.12.2020 Total	18.825,43 €			<i>Balance 2020: €</i>	<i>18.825,43 €</i>

2021

European Society for Environmental History e.V. Budget 2021

ESEH Budget 2021 July 3

capital 2021-1-1	from 2020 altogether	18.825,41 €	Expenses_2021	Beneficiary	SummEX
membership fees	until June 30, net	7.093,27 €	Expenses already paid		
donations	dto. by members	195,00 €	Bank Fees 6 months	Postbank Dortmund	158
			Website Hosting & payfacility 6 months	HostEurope & Digitalpay	395
			Website renovation and relaunch	Rosa Lo Monte Webdesign	2.082
capital 2021-6-30	note	SummiN	Small conference Grant 2019	Uni Debrecen, print conf. Volume 2021	477
giro		15.764 €	EASSH basic fee	Europ. All. Sci. Soc. Hum.	100
paypal		826 €	ICE-HO basic fee	Intl Cons. Env. Hist. Org	90
savings		5.221 €	St. Andrews Article Prize 2021	prize winner	500
fees after OGM etc	ca	600 €	Tallinn Dissertation Prize 2021	prize winner	500
	Total	22.412 €		SUB-total already settled:	4.302 €
Postponed conference expenditures etc = extra reserve			Expenses 2nd half 2021		
For 2022 conf. Fee + travelcost 3 Prize winners ca.		2.000 €	Bank Fees next 6 months	Postbank Dortmund ca.	180
For 2022 Bristol conference reserve travelcostsum		3.000 €	Website Hosting & payfacility next 6 months	HostEurope & Digitalpay ca.	400
Reserve: Turku Book Prize Funds for 2023 seq.		4.000 €	Registration fees election	notary / district court ca.	100
Minimum reserve total		11.000 €	1 archival copy grant 2021	Kentel reimbursement London files	250
			Turku Prize 2021 and Poster Prize 2022	sponsored 100% by RCC & WHP	0
			Online OGM ballot system	survey monkey, ca.	200
Budget max. to spend 2021		11.412 €	Online events July 8-9, technical devices	share for university IT services ca.	400
			Online events July 8-9, honorarium	translator, guest speaker, roundtable ca.	1.700
			<i>issues by new board still in 2021</i>	<i>e.g. workshops etc. or reserve l.b.d</i>	<i>2.400</i>
				SUB-total 2nd half 2021 ca.	5.630
				Total Expenditures ca.	9.932,18

Proceeding to this year 2021, ESEH accounts have already received more than 7500 Euro from members as fees or donations, supposed some 600 more arrived after this OGM income could amount to more than 22.400 for this year 2021. However, it must be kept in mind to spare funds for the postponed conference in Bristol next year, some 11.000 Euro at minimum, so that about another 11.000 could be spent.

In the first half year ESEH has spent already 4.302 Euro, including 2.082 for the new website and 1.000 for 2 of the prizes to be announced afterwards at the OGM, and for the 2nd half some 3.300 will be due, mostly for the current online meetings. Thus, the new board could easily spend additional 2.400 and still remain below 10.000 Euro.

According to this report the treasurer thinks that ESEH is in a stable financial situation. In case of any major expensive project, as in 2019 the introduction of a new award financed by crowd funding, the board could launch a specified call for donations. Thus, the treasurer recommends that the membership fee can be kept stable at 25 Euro annually, 10 if average monthly income is below 1.000 Euro, or 500 for life-membership.



Support for Young Scholars

The pandemic has also affected this line of activities. We could not have our summer school for obvious reasons. The research grant scheme, aiming to cover fieldwork costs especially for early career scholars, did not make sense in the global lockdown. For this reason, we have decided to support the digitalization of archival materials, instead of in-person traveling (I must thank Ulrich Koppitz because he came up with this contingency plan).

The Nextgate initiative, coordinated by Roberta Biasillo, has continued working. In particular, NextGate has made amazing progress in the implementation of the [dissertation database](#), including 37 new dissertations. From November in total we added 37 new dissertations to the database, more than doubling the total number. NextGate has also started a collaboration with the platform [envhistnow.com](#); bridging to other associations/platforms was a crucial point for the past two years of the society and I am grateful for Nextgate's contribution.

As she promised as a candidate, our vice-president, Andrea Gaynor, has worked together with the Nextgate to organize a mentorship program: seven meetings involving 14 early career researchers and 3 senior scholars. This is perhaps one of the cases in which the digitalization of our activities, brought by the pandemic, had positive results, facilitating the participation and interaction among ESEH members.

Support for Scholarly Development

The mentorship program and the possibility offered by the digital turn lead us almost naturally into this next section of my report on scholarly development. While the pandemic has drastically affected the usual activities -- like small workshops --, we have counter-acted exploiting at the best the potentialities of digitalization. Thanks to the work of the council of the RRs - and in particular I wish to thank Tim Soens, especially, and Ruth Morgan, Paula Schönoch, Sandra Swart, and Martin Knoll, we have organized the series of webinars [Environmental history Today!](#) Through an [open call](#), we have organized 10 webinars from March to July 2021; more than 400 people have registered, with attendance to each webinar between 20 and 40 people.

The diversity committee has organized another series of webinars with the title: [ESEH Critical Environmental History: Power, Resistance and Justice](#) -- and I wish to thank all the diversity committee for it. So far we have held two events, one on disabilities and the other on gender (many thanks to Andy Flack and Katie Holmes for this), gathering almost 100 people; many more registered and hopefully will watch the videos.

We also had two regional workshops, again in the digital format. In September 2020, there was a workshop on [Conflicts and the environment in modern Greece](#). In June 2021 there was a regional workshop on Environmental [History in Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia](#).

The ESEH has endorsed -- without any financial support - two international conferences: [Istanbul Unbound: Environmental Approaches to the City](#), held online in April 2021 and [La montagna si rilegge](#), which will be held in Italy in July 2022. Let me thank those who have been instrumental for such events: Georgios Vlachos, Ziga Zwitter, K. Mehmet Kentel, and Stefano Morosini, and of course the many ESEH members who have participated in those events.

The ESEH has participated in the Environmental History Week, organized by the ASEH with two events: on April 20th, we have co-sponsored the event [Modern global environmental agenda: problems, challenges, prospects, experience of Ukraine](#) with our regional representative from that region, many thanks then to Tetiana Perga; on the 21st we have hosted the event [Postcards for Unstable Times](#), which was promoted with a call for ideas throughout the society (in this case my gratitude to Wilko Graf von Handenberg who has made the event possible and of course to the participants).



Recognition of Outstanding Scholarship

The ESEH awards for articles, books, dissertations and posters are landmarks in the life of our society and they have a wider impact in the environmental history field. Postponing the 2021 conference has implied also to postpone the attribution of the poster prize, which the ESEH and the White Horse Press manage together.

The St Andrews Article Prize received 31 submissions (against the 2019 26 submissions). The prizes will be announced later today. We received articles in 5 different languages. The committee awarded the prize to Bathsheba Demuth for her [article](#) “The Walrus and the Bureaucrat: Energy, Ecology, and Making the State in the Russian and American Arctic, 1870–1950” (*The American Historical Review*, Volume 124, Issue 2, April 2019, Pages 483–510, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ahr/rhz239>).

The Tallinn Prize for the best PhD dissertation in environmental history received 29 applications; most of the dissertations were written in English (19), but often by non-native speakers, which means that the research implied a deep knowledge of various languages. All the dissertations are now included in the ESEH database and quoting from the Tallinn Prize committee, “[they] were all of high quality”. The Tallinn Prize went to Daniele Valisena for his dissertation [Coal Lives: Italians and the Metabolism of Coal in Wallonia, Belgium 1945–1980](#) (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden). The Tallinn committee has also decided to give a special mention to Odinn Melsted, Martin Meiske, and Ana Sekulić.

The Turku Prize for the best book in European environmental history is managed together by the ESEH and the Rachel Carson Center. This year we have received about 50 submissions, 5 books were shortlisted:

- Lydia Barnett (Northwestern University): *After the Flood: Imagining the Global Environment in Early Modern Europe*
- Thomas Fleischman (University of Rochester): *Communist Pigs: An Animal History of East Germany's Rise and Fall*
- Nicolai Hannig (TU Darmstadt): *Kalkulierte Gefahren. Naturkatastrophen und Vorsorge seit 1800*
- Thomas Lekan (University of South Carolina): *Our Gigantic Zoo: A German Quest to Save the Serengeti*
- Luigi Piccioni (Università della Calabria): *The Beloved Face of the Country: The First Movement for Nature Conservation Protection in Italy, 1880–1934*

The winner of the 2021 Turku Prize was Nicolai Hannig.

Communication

We have revamped our website, hiring a professional web designer (we paid 1500 EUR). The aim was to have a more contemporary website, easier to navigate and offering more features, including videos. We have also renewed the logo of the society, nonetheless, leaving intact its main concept and design. We have been very active on social media; the ESEH Facebook page is followed by more than 2500 people, our Twitter account has 1700 followers; Instagram 83. I do believe there is room for development here, for instance increasing our reach and organizing better the nowadays multiple social media channels connected to the ESEH.

We have continued to publish our Notepad, under the coordination of the ESEH vice-president Andrea Gaynor. After the fantastic series, edited by Marcus Hall, on regional environmental historiographies, we have decided to dedicate the Notepad to relevant present issues and the activities of the various ESEH committees. Our main concern was to find ways to attract a readership to the Notepad while communicating some significant society's initiatives. We have published the following notepads:

- [ULRIKE PLATH, KATI LINDSTRÖM, *Singing on the Submarine: Conference Review for ESEH 2019, 'Boundaries In/Of Environmental History'*, Tallinn, Volume 26, Number 1, February 2020, pp. 140-142\(3\)](#)
- [MARCO ARMIERO, *An Academic Society amid this Storm. A Note from the New ESEH President*, Volume 26, Number 2, May 2020, pp. 297-304\(8\)](#)
- [MARCO ARMIERO, *Something I Have Learned from COVID-19*, Volume 26, Number 3, August 2020, pp. 451-454\(4\)](#)

- [ROBERTA BIASILLO, ELIZABETH HAMEETEMAN, ELENA KOCHETKOVA, NOÉMI UJHÁZY, MONIQUE PALMA, SIMONE SCHLEPER, ADAM WICKBERG, *Early-Career Environmental Historians for a Sustainable Academia*, Volume 26, Number 4, November 2020, pp. 617–621\(5\)](#)
- [KATIE HOLMES, *The ESEH Diversity Committee*, Volume 27, Number 1, February 2021, pp. 183–186\(4\)](#)
- [MARCO ARMIERO, LISBETH VAN GRIFT, ANTONIO ORTEGA SANTOS, ANDREA GAYNOR, *What does it mean for you to produce socially engaged environmental history?* Volume 27, Number 2, May 2021, pp. 331–334\(4\)](#)
- [WILKO GRAF VON HARDENBERG, TIM SOENS, KATIE HOLMES, ANDREA GAYNOR, *ESEH round-up of recent initiatives*, Volume 27, Number 3, August 2021, pp. 509–512\(4\)](#)

Conferences

As already mentioned, the Bristol conference had to be postponed to 2022. Apart from the effects of the pandemic on the conference, it is remarkable to notice the wide interest that our conferences attract. We received 342 submissions, considering the uncertainties of the times a remarkable success. My deepest gratitude to Sandra Swart and all the program committee as well as to Andy Flack, Marianna Dudley and the Local organizing committee.

In conversation with the organizing and the program committees, the ESEH board had decided to postpone the conference to 2022. Nonetheless, we will not postpone the following conference which will happen in 2023. The Conference Site Selection Committee has worked very hard, especially considering the general conditions in which they had to operate: my deepest gratitude to Ulrike Plath, the chair of the committee, and all the members. It is a great joy to announce that the 2023 ESEH conference will be held in Bern Switzerland. Let me express my deepest gratitude to our dedicated members -- and in particular to the chair of the local committee Christian Rohr, who have decided to embark in such an intensive and challenging enterprise.

Membership and Regions

The ESEH membership has always been extremely dependent on the biannual conferences. The year when the conference is held, our membership is always higher; this is because people pay their fee in person at the conference and also because it is always more convenient to register for the conference as an ESEH member. In this sense, we can be quite satisfied with the present condition of our membership. Please keep in mind that we should consider two kinds of membership lists: on one hand we have the list of people who have paid at least once their fee; on the other the list of people who are up-to-date with their payment. In the first list we have 1250 members (+ 84 considering the 2019 list); in the second list we have 315 members. In the future, I believe we should find ways to have a more stable membership basis.

Internal Organization

We have established several new committees aiming to involve more ESEH members in the society's life while fostering some important themes we believe deserve special attention. The new committees were: Diversity Committee; Teaching Committee; ESEH History Committee, and Sustainability Committee. I have already mentioned some of the initiatives taken by the Diversity committee. We have taken a proactive stance regarding diversity; for instance when asked to sponsor an event we always ask that gender balance will be ensured. The diversity committee has also drafted, together with the Bristol committee, a short diversity statement that I propose should become the ESEH standard statement for every and each event of our society.

Regarding our collective history, we have worked in two directions. On one hand we have worked to ensure a more functional passage of information and materials, collecting and [archiving](#) reports and guidelines from each committee. On the other hand, we have tried to recover the history of the society, starting an oral history project with our own members and trying to map and collect, if possible, documents. This second initiative has been quite difficult and we hope it will continue in the future with better results. The teaching committee has started working on a visual Atlas of the environmental history of Europe, gathering so far three short lectures; we hope to continue this initiative in the future.

In order to strengthen the connection between regions, the society has held two meetings between the RRs and the president, one on July 28, 2020 and the other on December 14th, 2020. In the future, this could be held on a more regular basis.

Outreach & Social Engagement

The society has tried to intervene in some relevant debates and issues, releasing short statements in solidarity with the [students](#) mobilizing against climate change (the Fridays for Future movement) and with the [anti-racist mobilizations](#) following the tragic murder of George Floyd.

For the future this aspect of our society should be better developed and planned.

Appendix:

Council of Regional Representatives | Biannual Report 2019–21

Edited by Martin Knoll

Avant propos

On its 10th Ordinary General Meeting, held in Tallinn, Estonia, 22 August 2019, the European Society for Environmental History approved the creation of new regions: 1) Ukraine, 2) North Macedonia and 3) a joint region consisting of Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia. As result of the votes by the OGM the following colleagues took office or stayed in office as Regional Representatives:

RR Australasia: Ruth Morgan, RR Benelux Countries: Tim Soens, RR Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia: Žiga Zwitter, RR Czechia and Slovakia: Doubravka Olšáková, RR France: Charles-François Mathis, RR German Speaking Countries: Martin Knoll, RR Great Britain and Ireland: Chris Pearson, RR Greece: George L. Vlachos, RR Hungary: András Vadas, RR Israel: Yaron J. Balslev, RR Italy: Giacomo Bonan, RR North Macedonia: Aleksandar Shopov, RR Poland: Małgorzata Praczyk, RR Portugal: Inês Amorim, RR Romania: Calin Cotoi, RR Russia: Anastasia Fedotova, RR South Africa: Muchaparara Musemwa, RR Spain: Santiago Gorostiza, RR Ukraine: Tetiana Perga.

On its business meeting, held in Tallinn, Estonia, 22 August 2019, the incoming Council of Regional Representatives designated Martin Knoll Chair for another period. The following RRs were designated Board members: Anastasia Fedotova, Onur Inal, Martin Knoll, Kati Lindström, Charles François Mathis. Yaron Balslev was designated as new member of the Nomination Committee.

The following collection of reports gives an impression of the scholarly activities and growing networks in the society's regions. Roundabout 17 of 24 months covered by this report, stood under the conditions of Covid19-pandemic crisis. I suggest to read these reports also as testimonial of productivity and co-operation in face of the crisis.

Salzburg, Austria, 7th July 2021

Martin Knoll

Regional Representative German Speaking Countries, Chair Council of Regional
Representatives

Australasia, reported by Ruth Morgan

Australian and New Zealand Environmental History Network

The Environmental History Network was established in 1997 to facilitate communications between scholars working across a range of departments at the Australian National University and surrounding government, business, cultural and scientific institutions and independent scholars. Since its foundation, it has expanded to include all states in Australia as well as New Zealand, and there are members in a range of other countries with interests in Australian and/or New Zealand environmental history.

On behalf of the Australian and New Zealand Environmental History Network, I (Ruth Morgan) present the following brief overview of activities involving our members and/or sponsored by our Network -

Australasian Workshop on Teaching Environmental History and Humanities

14-15 November 2019, State Library of New South Wales

Sponsored by ICEHO, the University of Western Australia, and the State Library of New South Wales

Workshop convenors: Andrea Gaynor, Nancy Cushing, Emily O'Gorman and Jan Oosthoek

Workshop report: <https://www.environmentalhistory-au-nz.org/2019/12/report-on-australasian-workshop-on-teaching-environmental-history-and-humanities-november-2019/>

Environmental History in Australia

July 2020, Humanities in the Regions Conference 2020

ANZEHN committee members presented a series of short videos that explored the breadth of topics currently being researched within environmental history in Australia.

Conference videos: <http://www.achrc.net/humanities-in-the-regions-2020/asynchronous-presentations/hir2020-environmental-history-in-australia/>

ANZEHN Video resources

September 2020

During the first COVID-19 lockdown in Australia, committee members of the Australian and New Zealand Environmental History Network produced a collection of introductory videos on some current approaches to environmental history.

Available: <https://www.environmentalhistory-au-nz.org/2020/09/new-anzehn-video-resources/>

Inaugural ANZEHN Conference

12-15 October 2020

ANZ Environmental History Network hosted its first online conference, addressing the themes of Recovery, Restoration, Renewal and Resistance.

Watch the presentation videos here:
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLj1TGAjm2zHpAqsCldAH1HwWPr0yftPjk>

Restoring Forests in Times of Contagion

October 2020, ANZEHN Insights

To celebrate the 400th anniversary of the birth of John Evelyn in 1620, the ANZEHN supported the publication of a collection of essays edited by John Dargavel and Ben Wilkie.

Available online: <https://www.environmentalhistory-au-nz.org/insights/restoring-forests-in-times-of-contagion/>

ASEH Environmental History Week: ANZEHN Happy Hour & YouTube Video Launch

26 April 2021

ANZEHN organised a social event and launched a series of new videos about the environmental history of Australasian places, featuring Nancy Cushing and Rohan Lloyd.

See: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLj1TGAjm2zHqjKTe6RtSC7hcMpW0jBR10>

Work of ANZEHN members:

For an overview of the work of ANZEHN members, see the regular 'publications round-up' (coordinated by Daniel Rothenburg): <https://www.environmentalhistory-au-nz.org/publications/publications-archive/>

ANZEHN and beyond:

2019/20 Bushfires

- In the midst of the 2019/10 bushfires in Australia, ANZEHN members were among the Australian historians who signed an open letter in support for climate action - <https://climatelinkedfires.wordpress.com/>

Working Paper on Sustainable History

- In early 2020, ANZEHN members contributed to, and endorsed, the 'Working Paper on Sustainable History: the responsibilities of academic historians in a climate-impacted world' - <https://sustainablehistorywp.wordpress.com/>

Australian Historical Association Sustainability Motion

- In July 2021, ANZEHN members were among those who endorsed a motion at the 2021 AGM of the Australian Historical Association to recognise the climate emergency and commit to evaluating how its activities can prioritise sustainability.

Upcoming events -

- 15 July 2021 - Australia and New Zealand Environmental History Network AGM
- 15 July 2021 - Book launch and roundtable: Emily O'Gorman, *Wetlands in a Dry Land* (University of Washington Press, 2021)
- 29 Nov-2 Dec 2021 - Green Stream, Australian Historical Association Annual Conference, UNSW, Sydney

For more information about the ANZEHN, check out our website and sign up for our newsletter:
<https://www.environmentalhistory-au-nz.org/>

A/Prof Ruth Morgan
Centre for Environmental History
Australian National University, Canberra

Baltic States Region, reported by Kati Lindström

2019 marked in many ways a year of peak activity in the Baltic region, particularly Estonia, with the 2019 ESEH conference in Tallinn. Organising the 2019 conference created an important momentum, media attention, as well as national, regional and international visibility, and allowed to engage new people with our activities. At the same time, it also meant that immediately after the 2019 conference, there was an acute need of taking a break and concentrating on accounting, writing and thinking instead of large-scale events, at least in the Estonian part of the Baltics.

BALTEHUMS (Baltic Environmental Humanities and Social Sciences) lunch at ESEH 2019 brought together a considerable number of interested scholars and it was decided to create a mailing list for further information exchange. Currently, the mailing list baltehums@kth.se is hosted at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, but is being moderately used and can be joined by writing to the undersigned. It includes scholars from the whole wider Baltic region, not strictly from the Baltic states region of the ESEH. Much of the information is still spread through KAJAK, Estonian Centre for Environmental History's Facebook page. Nationally, there is also an all-Estonian mailing list under KAJAK.

COVID-19 pandemic made the break from large-scale events longer than planned, when the Second Baltic Conference for Environmental Humanities and Social Sciences (BALTEHUMS) planned for May 2020 at Kaunas University, Lithuania, had to be cancelled. Given the good number of high-level proposals, the cancellation was disappointing, but the only possible option at a time when everybody was overwhelmed by excessive online teaching, suspended school and other emergencies. Next BALTEHUMS conference is planned to be held online for November 1-2, 2021, and is hosted by KAJAK and University of Tallinn.

Developing larger regional collaboration among the three Baltic States was somewhat halted during the pandemic. Edited collection of articles on Baltic Animal History that includes authors of all the three Baltic states is currently in its last stages of preparation. No all-Baltic online event series was developed during the pandemic, although such a possibility was discussed. Instead, KAJAK has held a series of online book discussions in Estonian and several smaller international and national workshops online concerning ongoing research (climate, industrial

landscapes in literature, disease). These online events form a part of a wider series of events held in Estonia to celebrate KAJAK's 10th anniversary. KAJAK and other Baltic environmental historians joined also the ASEH Environmental History Week 2021, both as participants of the ESEH environmental postcards for future campaign, as well as with our own event on Applied environmental humanities.

The region continues to be strong in education and training new specialists, including collaboration with actors outside university (museums, manors, schools, a brewery) for practice-based learning. Many of our new environmental historians have joined the field already during their undergraduate studies. However, as a region with a small population, we are still few, often officially employed in other disciplines and working interdisciplinarily rather than strictly with environmental history. Situation in the three Baltic States continues to differ and the pandemics has not been helpful in fostering links between Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian historians and increasing our presence in the ESEH, even if the interdisciplinary collaboration across the Baltics has been improving.

Kati Lindström (kati.lindstrom@abe.kth.se)
Regional Representative for the Baltic States

Benelux-region, reported by Tim Soens

ESEH-Benelux supplements the existing (intensive) collaboration between Environmental History Research Groups in the Low Countries, notably through the BENELUX-based Journal for the History of Environment and Society, which has seen its [fifth volume](#) appearing in Autumn 2020: and has developed in an open-access platform for high-quality research on the historical interactions of environment and society, coordinated from the Low Countries, but geographically open to other regions as well. The 2020 volume was a special issue on COVID-19 and Environmental history, with 20 contributions from all over Europe and beyond.



November 19th 2020 the Annual congress of the Royal Netherlands Historical Society (KNNH) was organized by Petra Van Dam (VU Amsterdam), and focused on [More than the Human Past. Historians, Eco-history and Environmental Humanities](#). Tim Soens (UAntwerp) gave a keynote lecture.

In the spring of 2021, with fellow RR's, Tim Soens organized the [ESEH Environmental History Today online seminar series](#). For four months, environmental historians from all over the world presented their research, leading to stimulating exchanges, and creating an archive of what is currently happening in the field of Environmental History. The sessions have been recorded and have been turned into a [Youtube-series](#).



Environmental History Today! ESEH On-Line Seminar Series

Between March and July ESEH is hosting an on-line seminar series, open to everyone.

Registration for one or more sessions via [this link](#)

More info: secretariat@eseh.eu or
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...>

Those registered will receive a link two days before the seminar

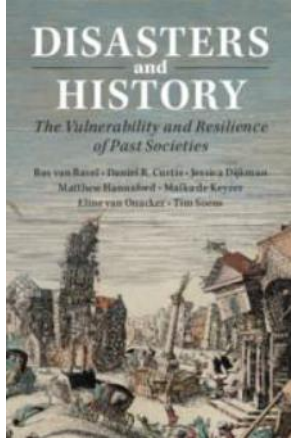


1	30 March 2021 11 AM CET / <i>From the American Steppes to Białowieża Primeval Forest. Book launches David Moon / Tomasz Samojlik & Anastasia Fedotova.</i>
2	08 April 2021 5 PM CET / <i>Portuguese Environmental History - Flying sands, wrecks, shores and plants in a comparative perspective Ana Isabel Lages, José Rafael Soares, Luís Pedro Silva & Manuel Miranda Fernandes</i>
3	20 April 2021 5 PM CET / <i>A more-than-human history of the depeoplement of the páramos around Bogotá, Colombia. Flaminia Ceballos, Santiago Martínez & Ana-Maria Garrido</i>
4	29 April 2021 5 PM CET / <i>Environmental History reverts Political Ecology & STS Sam Grivett / Matthew Pridka</i>
5	11 May 2021 11 AM CET / <i>Book Launch: Blue Infrastructures: Natural History, Political Ecology and Urban Development in Kolkata Jena Mukherjee</i>
6	20 May 2021 5 PM CET / <i>Cultural perspectives on the Environmental History of the United States. Stéphanie Desrivè & Erik Strömberg</i>
7	1 June 2021 11 AM CET / <i>Green Internationalists: Nordic Environmental Cooperation, 1957-2008. Malina Antonia Buro</i>
8	20 June 2021 5 PM CET / <i>The Environmental History of the Alps. Book Launches Wilko Graf von Hardenberg / Tiza Zwirner & Leonid Baxanov</i>
9	22 June 2021 5 PM CET / <i>River Monsters at Meer: Hybridity and the Medieval Environmental Imagination Ellen Arendt</i>
10	1 July 2021 5 PM CET / <i>Ecology of colonialism C.C. McKee, Napamichane Shiweda, Phiroli Mnyaka & Kristine M. Douglass moderated by Vera Sinauer-Schub</i>

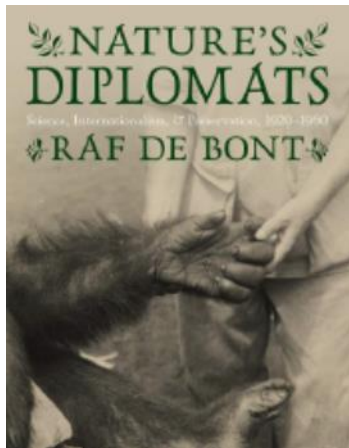
New appointments in the field of Environmental History:

- Liesbeth van de Grift, Professor of International History and the Environment, [Utrecht University](#).
- Raf De Bont, Professor of History of Science and the Environment at [Maastricht University](#)
- Iva Peša, Assistant Professor in Contemporary History, with emphasis on Environmental History at the University of [Groningen](#).
-

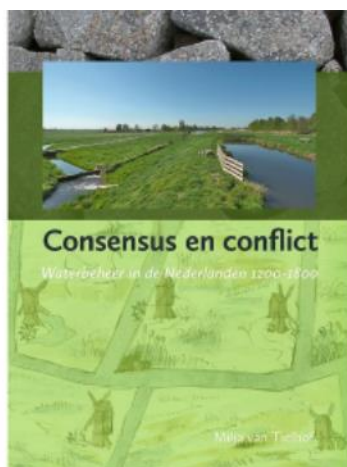
A selection of recent publications:



Van Bavel, B., Curtis, D., Dijkman, J., Hannaford, M., De Keyzer, M., Van Onacker, E. and Soens T. (eds.), *Disasters and History. The Vulnerability and Resilience of Past Societies*, Cambridge, UP, 2020.



De Bont, R., *Nature's Diplomats. Science, Internationalism and Preservation, 1920-1960*, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2021.



Van Tielhof, M., *Consensus en Conflict. Waterbeheer in de Nederlanden, 1200-1800*, Hilversum, Verloren, 2021.

Britain and Ireland, reported by Chris Pearson

Despite the pandemic affecting many activities during this period, ESEH members and environmental historians more generally in the UK and Ireland have been active:

- The main activity is preparing the next ESEH conference, which has now been postponed until 2022. This will be based in Bristol and the conference team are looking forward to hosting the physical and online elements of the conference.
- The Environmental History Workshop held two successful events at Northumbria in 2019 and Liverpool/online in 2020: <https://environmentalhistoryworkshop.wordpress.com/>
- The Wellcome Trust funded the MedEnv network to explore the intersections between the environmental and medical humanities: <https://medenvnetwork.wordpress.com/>
- The AHRC has funded a £1,000,000 project to explore footpaths in postwar Britain: <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/about-brookes/news/the-great-outdoors---1-million-grant-to-study-countryside-rights-of-way/>

2 July 2021

Chris Pearson
University of Liverpool

Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia, reported by Žiga Zwitter

1. In 2019, the fifteenth volume of the journal *Economic and Ecohistory* was published, it is a special issue dealing with history of the Drava River (editor-in-chief: Hrvoje Petrić: https://hrcak.srce.hr/index.php?show=toc&id_broj=19384). In 2020, it was followed by the sixteenth volume (editor-in-chief: Hrvoje Petrić, co-editor: Žiga Zwitter) – a special issue titled *Historical Climatology in the Context of Human and Environmental History of the Eastern Adriatic, the Carpathian Basin and the South-Eastern Alps*. The sixteenth volume includes the following research papers in English:

- Andrea Kiss: Weather and Weather-Related Natural Hazards in Medieval Hungary IV: Documentary Evidence from 1401-1450
- Krešimir Kužić: Examples of the *Bura* Wind Effects in the Eastern Adriatic Area According to Chronicles, Travelogues, and Military Reports (15th century-18th century)
- Lajos Rácz: Carpathian Basin – the Winner of the Little Ice Age Climate Changes: Long-Term Time-Series Analysis of Grain, Grape and Hay Harvests between 1500 and 1850
- Katarina Botić: Historical Weather Data from Chronicon Conventus Franciscani Brodii in Savo (1706-1932): An Attempt to Reconstruct Microregional Weather Patterns and Their Influence on Daily Life
- Nataša Kolar: Extraordinary Winter Weather Events in the Area of Ptuj from 1700 to 1941
- Ema Pašić, Dina Pašić, and Hrvoje Petrić: Impacts of the Volcanic Eruptions of Vesuvius (1771) and Icelandic Laki Fissure Eruption (1783-1784) on the Bosnian Eyalet in the Northwestern Part of Ottoman Empire
- Dorin-Ioan Rus: Weather Anomalies in Transylvania, the Banat and Partium from 1813 to 1818, as Reflected in Contemporary Sources
- Andrej Studen: It is Still Almost Half a Year until Harvest: The Raging Hail in the Postojna District in August 1864 and Its Consequences
- Jelena Mrgić and Bogdan Dražeta: Seeing, Sensing, and De/Scribing – Narratives on Weather and Climate in Preindustrial Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Mauro Hrvatin and Matija Zorn: Climate and Hydrological Changes in Slovenia's Mountain Regions between 1961 and 2018
- Nikola Ostojčić and Vinko Udiljak: Natural Disasters on the Island of Vis in the 1930s: Analysis of Natural Hazards in the Context of the Development and Importance of Winemaking and Viticulture

Full texts are available here: https://hrcak.srce.hr/index.php?show=toc&id_broj=20228.

2. On June 16, 2021, our on-line roundtable *Environmental History in Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia: Developments, State and Perspectives* (<http://eseh.org/environmental-history-in-bosnia-herzegovina-croatia-montenegro-north-macedonia-serbia-and-slovenia-developments-state-and-perspectives/>) took place. The roundtable included the following talks: *Everyone is welcome. Environmental history beyond disciplinary identities* (keynote lecture by Marco Armiero), *Environmental History*

in Bosnia & Herzegovina: A New Paradigm in Bosnian Historiography (Amir Duranović), *Environmental History in Croatia: The Origins, State and Perspectives* (Borna Fuerst-Bjeliš and Hrvoje Petrić), *A Forgotten Context: Environment in the Montenegrin Historiography* (Ivan Laković and Olga Pelcer-Vujačić), *From Floods to Tourism: A Critical Assessment of Existing and Potential Scholarship on Macedonian Environmental History* (Joe Djordjeovski, Darko Leitner-Stojanov, Petar Todorov, and Aleksandar Shopov), *From the Visible Absence to the Impending Uprising: Ecological Movements in 21st Century Serbia* (Jelena Mrgić and Milica Prokić), *Environmental History in Slovenia: Developments, State and Perspectives* (Maja Andrič, Željko Oset, Jelka Piškurić, Tjaša Tolar, Borut Toškan, Matija Zorn, and Žiga Zwitter). The roundtable was co-organized by the ESEH, the Research Section of the Historical Association of Slovenia, Center for Historical Research (Sarajevo), KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Environmental Humanities Laboratory (Stockholm), Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (Berlin), Rachel Carson Centre for Environment and Society (Munich), Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (Institute of Archaeology & Anton Melik Geographical Institute), Society for Croatian Economic History and Environmental History, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje (Institute of National History), Study Centre for National Reconciliation (Ljubljana), University of Belgrade's Faculty of Philosophy (Department of History), University of Ljubljana's Faculty of Arts (Department of History & its Research Team Slovene History), University of Montenegro's Historical Institute, University of Nova Gorica's School of Humanities, University of Sarajevo's Faculty of Philosophy (Department of History), University of Zagreb's Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (Department of History), and University of Zagreb's Faculty of Science (Department of Geography).

3. Our region initiated work on the Springer's international monograph *Environmental Histories of the Dinaric Karst*. Based on positive abstract reviews and positively evaluated book proposal form Springer confirmed that the book will be published in its series *Environmental History*. Authors have been working on their contributions planned to be submitted this autumn.

4. In the autumn 2019 and in early 2020, our regional exchange of university lectures continued. University of Zagreb's Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences organized a workshop for doctoral students titled *Environmental Historical Topics in Pre-modern Context*, three out of four presenters were ESEH members (Borna Fürst Bjeliš, Matija Zorn, Žiga Zwitter). Moreover, Žiga Zwitter from the University of Ljubljana held a lecture for master's students at the Department of Geography at the University of Zagreb's Faculty of Science and a lecture for master's students at the Department of History at the University of Zagreb's Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 epidemic we were too busy with our own zoom lectures but plan to continue with guest lectures in the next academic year – as *Regional ESEH environmental history lectures*.

5. In 2021, the region was represented by one lecture (presentation of the preliminary book manuscript *Species-Rich Grasslands in the Alps: Environmental History and Historical Ecology* – Ž. Zwitter & L. Rasran) in the ESEH seminar series *Environmental History Today*.

6. ESEH member Jelena Mrgić, Department of History, University of Belgrade's Faculty of Philosophy, moderated the public discussion *Air – Water – Land – Fire: Struggle of Serbia's Citizens for a Healthy Life* in the series *It's not Philosophical to be Quiet* – November 21, 2019. Participants: Iva Marković (political ecology organization Right to Water), Aleksandar Jovanović Ćuta (Defend the Riverstreams of Stara Mt), Oliver Ilić (Sava River Embankment – citizen action), Predrag Momčilović (PhD student, NGO Commongood), and Nenad Živković (journalist of independent media from Pančevo).

COVID-19 forced us to postpone the international summer school *Environmental History and Historical Ecology of the Dinaric Karst* planned to be held in Slovenia in July 2020.

Ljubljana, July 1, 2021

Žiga Zwitter, PhD

Regional Representative University of Ljubljana

Faculty of Arts, Department of History

Czech Republic and Slovakia, reported by Doubravka Olšáková

Doubravka Olšáková was elected a regional representative of the Czech Republic and Slovakia at the ESEH Biannual Conference in Tallin in 2019. Due to the Covid pandemic, most activities planned for 2020 and 2021 had to be postponed or cancelled. Despite this difficult situation, the group established new communication channels which allowed us to stay in touch even during the various lockdowns and restrictions.

The aim of FB group [Environmental History in Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe](#) is to facilitate exchange of information between EH scholars not only in Central, Eastern, and South-eastern Europe but also beyond. We want to keep you updated about conferences, (online) lectures, events, new books, journals, and academic positions in our field. You are welcome to join our editorial team and more than welcome if you want to share news from your region or field of specialisation. The group has currently almost 200 members and offers an overview of activities in Eastern Europe. I am particularly happy about initiatives undertaken by my colleagues who regularly post various contributions from different countries: that is what keeps the circulation of information alive and strengthens information exchange within Eastern Europe.

A second recently established communication channel is a joint CZ-SK ESEH membership mailing list used for circulation of ESEH news and ESEH initiatives.

As far as EH activities and initiatives are concerned, most EH projects run on local or national level and although ESEH is not formally involved, EH historians stay in touch thanks to this kind of project networking. We hope to start new initiatives when the pandemic is over.

Most important EH conferences and workshops:

- *Umweltgeschichte als Herausforderung zur Interdisziplinarität* – Jahreskonferenz der Deutsch-Tschechischen und Deutsch-Slowakischen Historikerkommission, 17.-18.3.2021
- *Človek a krajina v minulosti VI. (Environmentálne dejiny krajiny)*, 19.–20.11.2019

Overview of EH monographs published in 2019/2020:

- *Adaptace Opavy na zmenu klimatu: jak celit stoupajícím teplotám v ulicích a vysychání krajiny za městem* / autori: Ekotoxa s.r.o. a Raddit Consulting s.r.o.. Opava: Statutární město Opava, 2019.
- *Adaptation to climate changes from the perspective of law* / Milan Damohorsky, Alexander ProelSS, Vojtech Stejskal (eds.). Prague: Faculty of Law, Charles University, Prague, Center of Edition in Eva Rozkotova Publishing House, 2019
- *Alternativní přístupy k využití obnovitelných zdrojů energie v architektuře 2019: sborník příspěvků konference*. V Praze: České vysoké učení technické, 2019
- *Auta, auta, auta... a životní prostředí* / Ilona Jancarova, Jakub Hanak a kol.. Brno: Masarykova univerzita, 2019.
- *Bioekonomika a jiné vybrané socioekonomické a environmentální problémy Evropy* / Jiri Dusek a kol.. České Budějovice: Vysoká škola evropských a regionálních studií, z.ú., 2019.
- *Ekologická spiritualita a etika* / Karel Sládek. Praha: Stanislav Juhanak - Triton, 2019.
- *Kyber a eko: digitální technologie v environmentálních souvislostech* / Zdenka Sokolickova (ed.) ; Manfred Spitzer, Václav Belohradský, Martin Leskovjan, Jeremias Havranu, Jana Karlova, Martin Soukup, Jan D. Blaha. Brno: Host, 2019.
- *Očista československého pohraničí: migrace, životní prostředí a zdraví v bývalých Sudetech* / Eagle Glassheim ; z anglického originálu Cleansing the Czechoslovak borderlands. Praha: Academia, 2019.
- *Prostorové informace o krajině v běhu času i vývoje technologií: ekologická banka dat ISU – koncepce, historie a aplikace* / Veronika Vlčková, Antonín Bucek. Praha: Lesnická práce, 2019.
- *Svepomoc v bydlení: minulost! - budoucnost...?* / autori: Tomáš Horeni Samec, Ivana Balgova, Jan Blázek, Jan Lid Rísky, Romana Marková Volejnicková a Barbora Vacková. Praha: Sociologický ústav Akademie věd ČR, [2019], 2019.
- *Věk nerovnovahy: klimatická změna, bezpečnost a cesty k národní resilienci* / Václav Cílek, Alexander Ac a kolektiv. Praha: Academia, 2019.
- *Voda & civilizace = Water & civilization* / autor: Miroslav Barta a kol. ; anglický překlad Jan Stary, Antonín Mikes. [Praha]: Medialogue, s.r.o., 2019.
- *16th Conference of Environmental Archaeology (CEA2020): topic: environmental archaeology of farmers and pastoralists - what to eat in the case of crop failure?* / Vladimíra Jurasová, Petr Karlík, Michal Hejcman (eds.). Prague: Czech University of Life Sciences, 2020.
- *Architektura reciprocity* / Pavla Melková, Miroslav Cíkan. V Praze: KANT, 2020.

- *Doctoral thesis of environmental law: "my Ph.D. research"* / Milan Damohorsky, Jiri Pokorny (eds.). Prague: Univerzita Karlova, 2020.
- *ENVIRA 2019: proceedings*. Prague: Czech Technical University, [2020].
- *Environmental Economics, Policy and International Environmental Relations: 22nd annual conference: book of extended abstracts*: Prague University of Economics and Business, 19-20 November 2020. Litomysl: H.R.G. spol. s r.o., 2020.
- *Evropska integrace a environmentalni ekonomika* / Karel Tomsik. V Praze: Ceska zemedelska univerzita, Provozne ekonomicka fakulta, 2020.
- *Geodiverzita a hydrodiverzita: zaklady prirodnich a kulturnich hodnot nasi krajiny, její současna proměna a možný budoucí vývoj v antropocenu* / Vojen Lozek, Václav Čilek, Lenka Lisa a Ales Bajer. Praha: Dokoran, 2020.
- *Krkonoše a lidé* / text: Jan Stursa. Vrchlabí: Správa Krkonošského národního parku, 2020.
- *Musí být ekologie alarmistická?: hledání realistických odpovědí* / Alexandr Vondra, ed.. Brno: Books & Pipes, 2020.
- *Podoby udržitelnosti: rozhovory: Chybík, Pokorný, Krpelán, WOVEN, Poláková, Mrva, Tícha, Stempel, Panák* / Branický Filip ; [Brno]: Akademické nakladatelství CERM, s.r.o., 2020.
- *Právo na informace o životním prostředí ve středoevropském kontextu* / Jan Hak, Ondřej Vích. Praha: Wolters Kluwer, 2020.
- *Rímskoprávní vlivy na současnou právní úpravu vod: vědecká monografie* / Michal Maslen. Praha: Leges, 2020.
- *Umsetzung der SDGS im europäischen, tschechischen und österreichischen Umweltrecht* / Milan Damohorsky, Ferdinand Kerschner, Vojtěch Stejskal, Erika M. Wagner (Hrsg). Beroun: Eva Rozkotová Publishing, 2020.
- *Životní prostředí v globální perspektivě* / Bedřich Moldan. Praha: Univerzita Karlova, nakladatelství Karolinum, 2020.
- *The cult of unity: the Stalin plan for the transformation of nature in Czechoslovakia, 1948-1964* / Doubravka Olsáková, Jiri Janac ; translated from the Czech original Kult jednoty ... by Nicholas Orsillo. Praha: Academia, 2021.

Prague, 1 July 2021

Doubravka Olšáková

ESEH Regional representative Czechia and Slovakia

France, reported by Charles-François Mathis

In France, environmental history is mainly organised by the RUCHE (French Network of Environmental Historians, <https://leruche.hypotheses.org/>) that was created in 2008 and counts currently about 80 members. Since 2019 it has organised:

- a conference in June 2021 at the EHESS organised by Thomas Le Roux and Raphaël Morera on “Nature under contract. Concessions, history and environment»
- two online workshops in the Winter 2020 and Spring 2021 on recent publications on the history of energy and on the history of the seas and coasts;
- an informal online gathering in May 2021 where colleagues presented very briefly their research or recent books and articles; it worked very well, as we lacked this year moments to discuss between us our research, and it will be renewed in the future
- the RUCHE attends every year, via a roundtable, a huge event called “les rendez-vous de l'histoire” that takes place every October in Blois and gathers thousands of history teachers and amateurs interested in history. The RUCHE roundtables have attracted, in 2019 and 2020, about 150 people each and are a good way to popularise the recent developments of environmental history.
- the RUCHE has also awarded its first grant for a Master's student in 2020.
- it also circulates a biannual newsletter

28th June, 2021

German speaking countries, reported by Martin Knoll

Austria, Germany and Switzerland are hosting a considerable share of ESEH-members. Several institutions like the Rachel Carson Centre (Munich), the Centre for Environmental History (Vienna) or the Department for Economic-, Social- and Environmental History (Berne) have played a crucial role for the development of the international and interdisciplinary field. Current appointments of professorships with denominations or research foci in the field, such as the chair for Economic-, Social- and Environmental History at University of Freiburg i. Br., where Melanie Arndt followed Franz-Joseph Brüggemeier, or the chair for Modern History at TU Darmstadt, where for many years Dieter Schott has strengthened the links between Urban and Environmental History, now followed by Nicolai Hannig, or the advertisement of a professorship for the History of the Anthropocene at the University of Zurich are encouraging news. They underline the awareness among university and science policy makers that today's debates on pressing sustainability issues require a solid foundation of historical evidence. Not only am I optimistic that recently retired colleagues of importance for the field, such as Reinhold Reith or

Dieter Schott, will continue to contribute to the scholarly debate, I also see the interdisciplinary co-operation within the broader field of Environmental Humanities gaining new momentum.

This is not the place to give a comprehensive overview of all activities carried out by various institutions and individuals. The program announcements and conference archives of RCC (https://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/events_conf_seminars/event_history/index.html), ZUG (<https://boku.ac.at/zentrum-fuer-umweltgeschichte/minisymposien>), or Berlin-Brandenburg Colloquium on Environmental History (<https://networks.h-net.org/node/73374/announcements/7537914/berlin-brandenburg-colloquium-environmental-history-summer-2021>), to name but a few examples, give impressive evidence. For Austria I would like to highlight the activities of Environmental History Cluster Austria, a network operating on national level, founded in 2017 (www.ehca.at), who in co-operation with Austrian Economic and Social Historians (AESH) organized workshops for PhD-students in Vienna (2019, <http://www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-8216>), Innsbruck (2020, <http://www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-8719>), and Salzburg (online, 2021, <http://www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-8964>).

Like in other regions of our society, academia has all of a sudden been hit by the pandemic crisis. Restrictions in scholarly mobility, the efforts to switch academic teaching into distance mode, but also the lessons learned in this time, and the new possibilities opened up, such as being able to participate distant scholarly events without great time and effort, have considerably altered our work and will continue to do so. Epidemics are – well known to environmental historians – parts and drivers of our history. I hope that the pandemic has trained our capability as environmental historians to engage in the political and societal debates on the global ecological crisis.

Greece, reported by George L Vlachos

Environmental History is a field that had remained almost unknown in Greece. Despite the global pandemic however, the field is starting to flourish, as a number of the highest institutions in the country are noticing Environmental History for the first time.

1) "Conflict and the Environment in Modern Greece" Webinar Workshop, September 21, 2020

http://www.eie.gr/nhrf/institutes/ihr/news/2020/2020_09_21_workshop_Conflict_and_the_Environment_in_Modern_Greece.pdf

For the first time in Greece, one of the highest research institutions of the country, the National Hellenic Research Foundation, endorsed and hosted a purely Environmental History workshop with the participation of most of the few environmental historians in the country. Despite the Zoom fatigue, the workshop was attended by approximately 50 persons.

The webinar was supposed to be a live workshop funded by the "Small Workshop Funding 2020" which was earned by the RR for Greece, but the cost of the workshop was severely minimized due to its digital nature.

2) Special issue of *The Historical Review/La Revue Historique*: "Conflict and the Environment, an Environmental History of Modern Greece, 1821-1967"

<https://networks.h-net.org/node/73374/announcements/6689320/cfp-special-issue-historical-reviewla-revue-historique->

The remaining "Small Workshop Funding 2020" will be spent to the crucial special edition that will be published by the National Hellenic Research Foundation which will include five papers on the modern Environmental History of Greece. More specifically, the remaining fund will cover for the cost of proof-reader as the special edition will be published in English. The publication date is estimated around early 2022.

3) "Circular Economy in the natural, agricultural and residential environment" Web Workshop, June 3-4, 2021

https://www.piop.gr/el/anakoinoseis/~/_media/Files/PIOP/Misc/%CE%A0%CF%81%CF%8C%CE%B3%CF%81%CE%B1%CE%BC%CE%BC%CE%B1%20%CE%94%CE%B9%CE%B7%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%20%CE%99%CF%83%CF%84%CE%BF%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%82%20%CE%A0%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%B9%CE%B2%CE%AC%CE%BB%CE%BB%CE%BF%CE%BD%CF%84%CE%BF%CF%82-2021.pdf

The RR of Greece participated in the organizing committee of the "Circular Economy in the natural, agricultural and residential environment" that was hosted digitally by the Piraeus Bank Group Cultural Foundation, on the occasion of celebrating the World Environment Day.

4) “Recent History of Technology, Mediterranean Studies, Environmental Humanities: An Encounter”, International Digital Workshop, June 28 2021

<https://shtwebinars.nl/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Recent-History-of-Technology-Mediterranean-Studies-Environmental-Humanities-Final-2.pdf>

The RR of Greece participated in the organizing committee of the “Recent History of Technology, Mediterranean Studies, Environmental Humanities: An Encounter” that was hosted digitally in the “Tensions of Europe” Digital Festival in collaboration with the Philosophy and History of Science Department of the National Kapodistrian University of Athens.

5) Facebook page of the Greek chapter of ESEH

<https://www.facebook.com/ESEHGreece>

Since September 2019, the RR for Greece founded and currently manages the Facebook page for the Greek Environmental History community that reposts most of ESEH’s original posts as well as other posts that are deemed interesting for a Environmental History readership. Even though, the start was slow we have now 180 followers.

6) Research Centre for the Environmental History of Greece

This is still in a preliminary stage, but the RR of Greece along with a considerable of other historians that come mainly from the fields of history of science or agricultural history are moving towards the establishment of an official Research Centre for the Environmental History of Greece, possibly entitled “Cybele”. Moving along the lines of ESEH’s contributions in environmental history, our Research Centre will promote the study of Greek Environmental History, host and hold conferences, publish original research, participate in proposals for funding etc.

Right now the organizing task force of the research center is concluding the institution’s official statute. Once founded, the research center will hijack the Facebook page of the Greek chapter of ESEH, described above.

7) “Environment and History” course in the History and Philosophy of Science Department of the National Kapodistrian University of Athens

Starting from October, Greece’s RR will teach a graduate course on “Environment and History” in the department of History and Philosophy of Science in Athens.

8) Popularization of the fields of Environmental History

Greece’s RR published a few articles in very well-known sites (indicatively <http://skrapunk.com/2020/07/23/prooikonomontas-tin-klimatiki-katastrofi-se-ti-na-chrisimeyei-arage->

[i-perivallontiki-istoria/](#)) as a means of popularizing the field of environmental history in the country.

In overall the report above shows that any task of Environmental History in Greece has been undertaken by the RR of the country. While this is now mainly true, the RR is surrounded by scholars who will very shortly start taking their own initiatives regarding Environmental History in the country.

Hungary, reported by András Vadas

This is a short report by the ESEH Regional Representative for Hungary on the activities of the group following the last international meeting at Tallinn (2019). The members of the Hungarian ESEH group were active in scientific communication despite the obvious hardships caused by COVID-19. Although in the past one year and a half it was not possible for the members of the group to meet in person, there was an important forum held before the pandemic broke out in late October 2019, where many of those working on environmental history met, and which gave basis to a good number of works published.

Activities

- Seven Hungarian scholars attended and gave paper at the 2019 ESEH conference, five of whom are members of the ESEH.
- Dr. Noémi Újházy, a member of the Hungarian ESEH team takes part in the work of the recently initiated ESEH Next Generation Action Team (NEXTGATe)

Conference

Most important event was the 3rd conference in Environmental History in Budapest on 31 October 2019. It was held at the Eötvös Loránd University, for the first time at the Faculty of Humanities. More than 50 scholars from Hungary attended the full day event. The conference was partially sponsored by the ESEH. Péter Szabó, at that time president of the ESEH gave a plenary talk at the event. (The program, including the book of abstracts is available here: https://ktf.elte.hu/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Kornyezettortenet2019_Konferencia.pdf)

Publications

A good number of new volumes have been published in Hungary or by Hungarian authors in the past years.

- Kiss, Andrea: *Floods and Long-Term Water-Level Changes in Medieval Hungary*. (Springer Water). Cham, 2019.

- Hungarian Historical Review 9, no. 2 (2020). Special Issue: Natural Resources and Society. Editors: Gábor Demeter and Beatrix F. Romhányi. Open access: <https://hunghist.org/archive/79-hhr-issue/621-volume-9-issue-2> (Partly based on the aforementioned conference)
- *Környezettörténet: Tanulmányok Sümegi Pál professzor 60 éves születésnapjára köszöntésére.* (Environmental History. Studies in honor of the 60th birthday of Pál Sümegi). Szeged, 2020.
- *Környezettörténet 3. Környezeti folyamatok a honfoglalástól napjainkig történeti és természettudományos források tükrében = Environmental History 3: Environmental Processes from the Hungarian Conquest to the Present in the Light of Historical Sources and Scientific Evidence.* Eds. Gábor Demeter et al. Budapest, 2021. Open access: <http://real.mtak.hu/121875/> (Based on the aforementioned conference)
- *A Kárpát-medence környezettörténete a középkorban és a kora újkorban: Environmental history of the medieval and early modern Carpathian Basin.* Eds. Elek Benkő and Csilla Zatykó. Budapest, 2021.
- *Táj, ember, tudás – Zöldtörténelem: Bevezetés a környezettörténet irodalmába.* (Landscape, mankind, knowledge – Green History. Introduction to the Scientific Literature of Environmental History). Eds. Róbert Balogh et al. Budapest, 2021.
- Vadas, András: *Egy határfolyó környezettörténete. Háború és vízgazdálkodás a kora újkori Rába-völgyben.* (Environmental History of a Frontier River. War and Water Management in the Early Modern Rába River Valley. Budapest, 2021.

Vadas, András

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Israel, reported by Yaron J. Balslev

Unfortunately, this time I can only report that during the COVID-19 time, there was nearly no activity in the Israel region. Our region was based on personal meetings and tours, which were not possible most of the time. In fact, we barely kept our network active, informing on zoom conferences, publications etc. Short time ago we started to plan our next year's activities, hoping it will be a normal one.

28th June, 2021

Dr. Yaron J. Balslev

Teaching Fellow · Geography · History · Environment

Tel Aviv University | University of Haifa

Italy, reported by Giacomo Bonan

This is a report from the ESEH Regional Representative for Italy following the last meeting in Tallinn (summer 2019). For this summary, in describing the activities of the two-year period, I am summing up the information contained in the bimonthly newsletter, with further details available online at: <http://eseh.org/about-us/regions/italy/>

Much of the last two years has been characterised by the somewhat complicated context of the pandemic. As elsewhere, this has created many problems for environmental historians (in particular young scholars such as MA students, doctoral students and post-docs), in terms of both research activities (access to archives and libraries) and opportunities to discuss common research interests in person. On the other hand, the shift to an online mode has facilitated the organisation of conferences and workshops, and has also enlarged the audience for these events. It seems to me important to underline that some of the more recent initiatives are aimed at a wide audience (not restricted to the academic community), such as three forthcoming summer schools, aimed at high school teachers, activists and others interested in environmental issues. I hope these initiatives will help disseminate the topics of environmental history within the public domain.

Over the last two years, the number of environmental history courses within Italian universities has also increased. Indeed, before the end of my mandate it is my intention to carry out a survey of these courses and their respective programmes. In addition, two master's degrees in environmental humanities have been set up, both characterised by a strong environmental history component. The first has already been active for a year at the Ca' Foscari University of Venice, while the second will start at the beginning of the next academic year at the University of Roma Tre.

My hope over the next two years is to be able to consolidate the network of environmental historians active in Italy. To realise this goal, I believe there are two important starting points: (1) the creation of an online platform that allows all scholars to highlight their research and to develop mutually advantageous links; (2) the organisation of seminar cycles on a regular basis, which will enable the discussion of ongoing research and offer educational opportunities for young scholars. In both cases, I believe we could learn a lot from the example and advice of colleagues from other ESEH member countries where environmental history is more rooted and where these initiatives have already been successfully implemented.

Giacomo Bonan
Ca' Foscari University of Venice

Nordic Countries, reported by Paula Schönach

This is a report of the activities of the ESEH Regional Representative for the Nordic Countries since the 2019 ESEH meeting in Tallinn. Paula Schönach of the University of Helsinki was elected to the regional representative in 2017 so this marks the second half of the 2+2 term in this position.

Environmental history and more generally environmental humanities have continued to flourish with strong momentum in the Nordic countries during the two last years. This has evolved via the strong initiatives at various Universities in the region, and have delightfully included funding for environmental humanities and the establishment of new academic posts in the field. These initiatives have emerged independently of ESEH, but the ESEH Nordic network has been important in distributing information about these initiatives and thus providing opportunities for closer collaboration and new connections.

As of networking within the community, during the Tallinn 2019 conference a Nordic networking event was organized with some 40 participants. The session was used apart from getting to know each other and our research, for informal exchange about recent projects. The higher than expected number of participants clearly shows the importance of in-person opportunities for informal get-together events and networking. The event was sponsored by the Environmental Humanities initiative of the University of Helsinki.

The main part of the two-year term was overshadowed by the Covid-19 pandemic forcing academia in large to change in many ways. During informal discussion within the environmental history community it was evident that the shift to online mode of operation and difficulties related to research due to e.g. archival closures fatigued scholars, thus leaving less time, energy and enthusiasm for other kinds of inspirational activities, e.g. within academic societies.

On the other hand, the shift to online mode enabled also new ways of reaching out, and for some, eased collaborative initiatives. E.g. as a joint initiative of several RRs a ESEH led online seminar series was launched in spring 2021. The Nordic RR was actively involved in the planning and scheduling of the series. With the series a new way of dissemination of environmental history research was tested. While more a thorough analysis of the seminar is still ahead, it is already now evident that it enabled reaching new and wider audiences for topical research in the field. While multi-channel communication about these online opportunities to the network need to be enhanced, I'm inclined to think these inclusive, low-effort and low-cost initiatives will remain a positive outcome of the pandemic induced shifts in the ways of working within the field. I highly recommend the society to investigate further opportunities for online-based activities.

Between 2019–2021 the regional representative has also been updating the contact information of the Nordic EH group and disseminating relevant information (conferences, workshops, grants, job openings) to environmental historians in the Nordic Countries via the Nordic environmental

history mailing list. The list has currently 206 members, during the two-year period some 24 new colleagues have joined the email-list.

As a summary, the state of environmental history in the Nordic countries seems to continue flourishing with very much potential for even increasing importance within academia and beyond. I would like to thank the ESEH community and the group of RRs for inspiring and fun four years. While I will miss the supportive atmosphere and sense of community, I will leave the position in the capable hands of a new regional representative for Nordic Countries, and wish them all the best.

North Macedonia, reported by Aleksandar Sopov

Due to the pandemic we were not able to undertake the activities that we initial planed for our region. As a region we did however participate in the activities in the regions of Greece and Slovenia/Croatia/Serbia.

Poland, reported by Malgorzata Praczyk

Environmental history in Poland in the last few years has developed and became a recognizable field of research. It is respected for its interdisciplinary approach, and not only as the subdiscipline of history, but also as the part of the thriving research field of environmental humanities. In the given period of 2019-2021 the following publications were published or are going to be released in months, and the following activities has been undertaken.

Books

- Tomasz Samojlik, Anastasia Fedotova, Piotr Daszkiewicz, Ian D. Rotherham, *Bialowieza primeval Forest: Nature and Culture in the Nineteenth Century*. Springer 2020.
- *Interpretacje przyrody w przeszłości [Interpretation of Nature in the Past]*, eds. Piotr Olinski, Wojciech Piasek, Radostaw Pietka, Torun 2020.
- *Oblicza wojny. Armia kontra natura [Manifestations of War: Army versus Nature]*, eds. Witold Jarno, Jarostawa Kity, Lodz 2020.
- *Perspectives in public policy in societal-environmental crises. What the future needs from history*, eds. Adam Izdebski, Piotr Filipkowski, John Landon, Springer 2021.
- *Krakow: An Ecobiography of Krakow*, eds. Adam Izdebski, Rafat Szmytka, Pittsburgh University Press 2021.

Journal volumes

- The volume of in interdisciplinary and recognized Polish journal "Porównania" devoted to the environmental humanities, with the special bias to the environmental history, ed. Matgorzata Praczyk, vol.29(2), 2021.
- The second volume of "Porownania", ed. Matgorzata Praczyk, on environmental humanities with the special bias to the environmental history will be published as the vol. 30(1), 2022.

Articles (selection)

- Piotr Guzowski, Sambor Czerwinski, Mariusz Lamentowicz, Monika KarpinskaKotaczek, Piotr Kotaczek, Radostaw Poniak et al., *Environmental implications of past socioeconomic events in Greater Poland during the last 1200 years. Synthesis of paleoecological and historical data*, "Quaternary Science Reviews", vol. 259 (2021).
- Piotr Guzowski, Martin Bauch, *Towards a rigorous understanding of societal responses to climate change*, "Nature", 591(7851), 2021, pp. 539-550.

- Adam Izdebski, Tymon Stoczynski, Anton Bonnier, Grzegorz Koloch, Kouli Kouli, *Landscape Change and Trade in Ancient Greece: Evidence from Pollen Data*, "Economic Journal" (2020): 10.1093/ej/ueaa026.
- Piotr Glinski, Rajmund Przybylak, Marcin Koprowski et al., *Droughts in the area of Poland in recent centuries*, „Climate of the Past Discussions" 2019, <https://doi.org/10.5194/cp-2019-64>
- Tomasz Zwiqzek, 2019, *The Will, the Mill and the Town: Prolegomena to the Functioning of the Miller Family in the Late Medieval Town* (in:) Usus aquarum. Interdisziplinare Studien zur Nutzung und Bedeutung von Gewässern im Mittelalter, Forschungen zur Geschichte und Kultur des ostlichen Mitteleuropa, 54, eds. Ch. Zschieschang, Ch. Mielzarek, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht Verlage, Kain-Weimar-Wien, pp. 71-86.
- Jacek Makzynski, Ewa Domanska Ewa, Michat Smykowski, Agnieszka Klos, *The Environemtnal History of the Holocaust*, „Journal of Genocide Research", vol. 22(2), 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14623528.2020.1715533>
- Praczyk Matgorzata, *Historia srodowiskowa jako praktyka badawcza [Environmental History as the Research Practice]*, „Historyka. Studia Metodologiczne", vol. 50, 2020, pp. 351-376.
- Tomasz Zwiqzek, *Spatial development of the 1507- 1510 plague in Poland and its consequences. Kalisz district case study*, "Journal of Environmental Geography", 13, 1-2, 2020, pp. 1-12.
- Anastasia Fedotova, Tomasz Samojlik, Piotr Daszkiewicz, Killing for museums: European bison as a museum exhibit. "Centaurus" 60(4) 2019, doi.org/10.1111/1600-0498.12194
- Daszkiewicz P., Samojlik T., Fedotova A., Rickiene A., *Reintrodukcja i ochrona bobrów w II Rzeczypospolitej w swietle artykułów z prasy przyrodniczej i lowieckiej [Reintroduction and protection of beavers in the Second Polish Republic in the light of articles on nature protection and hunting]*. „Parki Narodowe i Rezerваты Przyrody" 40(1) 2021, pp. 79-89.

Popularization of environmental history - interviews and short press and popular articles (selection)

- Piotr Guzowski, *Ekonomia moru. Historyczne doswiadczenia epidemii, [The Economy of Murrain. Historical Experiences of Epidemic]*, "Kultura Liberalna", vol. 592(21), 2020, <https://kulturaliberalna.pl/2020/05/12/ekonomia-moru-historyczne-doswiadczeniaepidemii/>
- Adam Izdebski, Interview with Jarostaw Kopec, *Diuma i swi~ci kierujący biegiem rzek. Jak ludzie dawali sobie rad~ z wahaniami klimatu [Plague and the Saints who run the rivers. How humans coped with climate fluctuations]*, „Gazeta Wyborcza", 4.04.2021.
- Adam Izdebski, *Poiytki z katastrofy, czyli co wynika z historycznych kryzysów {Benefits of a catastrophe, or what results from historical crises}*, „Kultura Libera Ina", vol. 593 (22), 2020,

<https://kulturalibera.lna.pl/2020/05/20/izdebski-pozytki-z-katastrofyczyli-co-wynika-z-historycznych-kryzysow/>

• Matgorzata Praczyk, Interview with Adam Robinski, *Co widziafa krowa? {What did a cow see?}*, „Tygodnik Powszechny”, 20.04.2020.

Meetings

• June 15th, 2021. The book presentation: *Krakow. An Ecobiograph* organized by Zentrum fur Historische Forschung Berlin (with Adam Izdebski, Rafat Szmytka, Matgorzata Praczyk, Julia Obertreis, Piotr Filipokowski). <http://www.cbh.pan.pl/de/bookpresentation-krakow-ecobiography>

• *What sort of the past does the future need?* Online seminar: Zentrum fur Historische Forschung Berlin and Max Planck Institute, <http://www.cbh.pan.pl/de/what-sort-pastdoes-future-need>

2nd of July, 2021

Malgorzata Pracyk
Prof. UAM, dr hab., Department of History
Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland

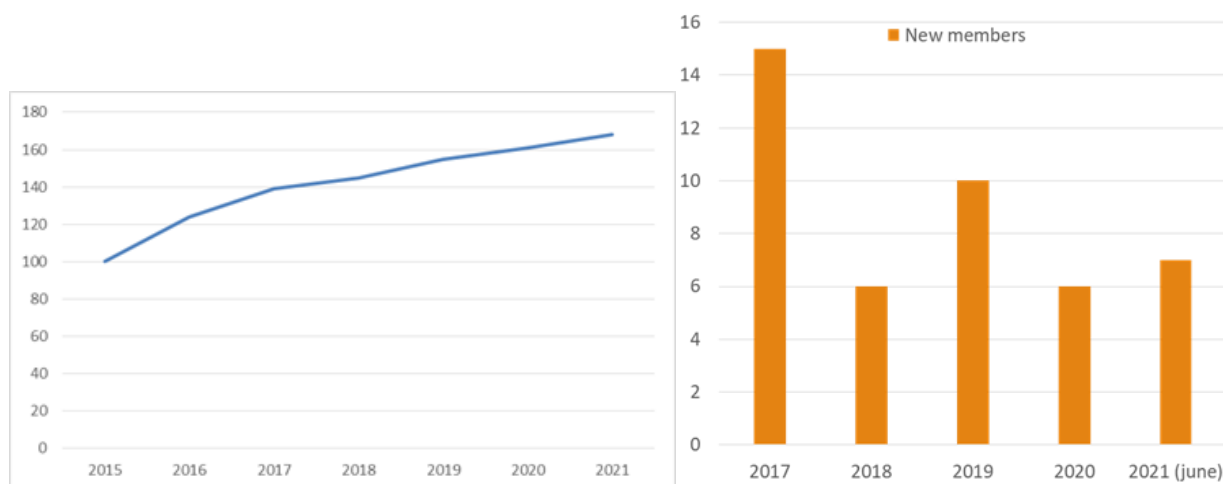
Portugal, reported by Inês Amorim

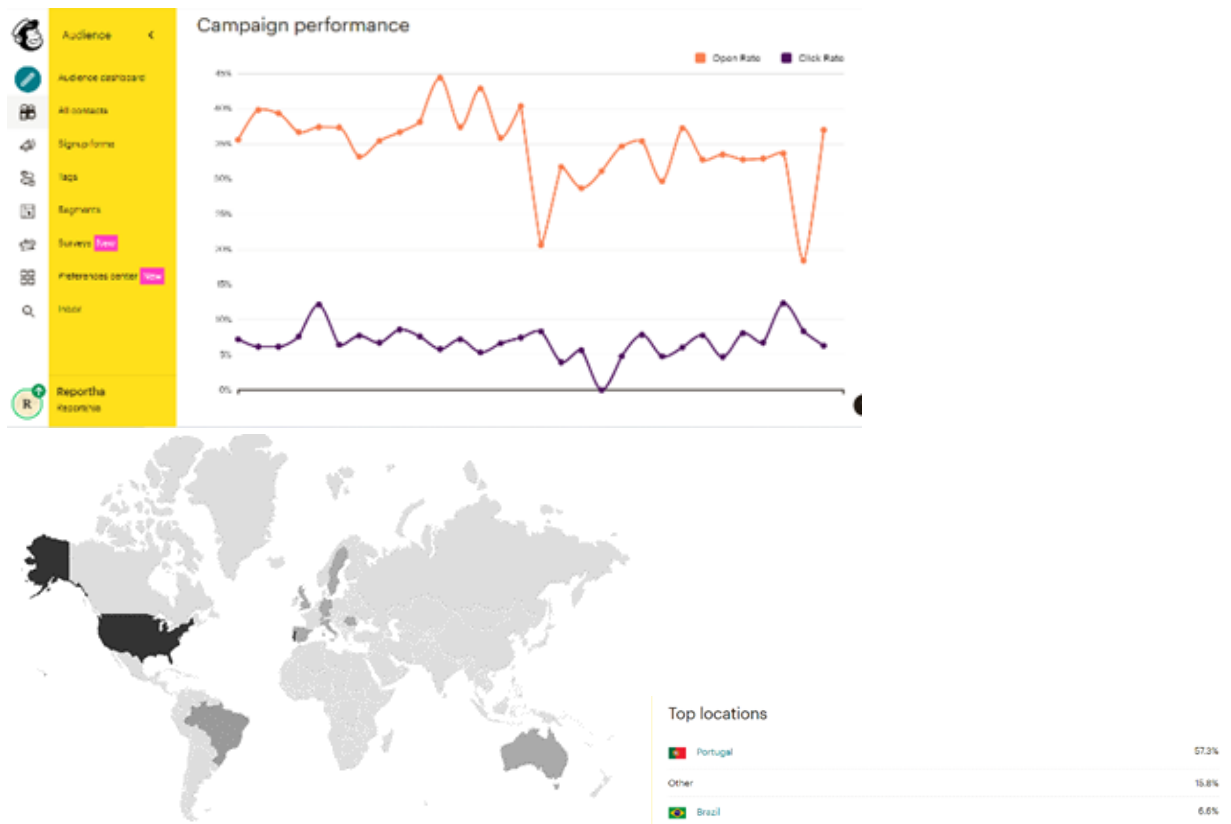
1- Website of Report(h)a (recent memberships, new section, newsletter)

2- The next 4th Report(h)a meeting (Coimbra, 2021)

Overview of the Report(h)a website <https://www.reportha.org/en/> and newsletter impact over the last two years. The Report(h)a website is the platform of information that aggregates the activities and intensify the interface between their members. For this reason, we have a special care with the upload of news, resources and titles that feed the monthly newsletter.

- a. A glance on the most recent memberships (7 till Jun), as well as on the newsletter traffic (with a growth of 5,7 % in the last year), has shown the growth and the internationalization of the Portuguese Network of Environmental History. It is important to maintain the appeal for new affiliations.
Total of 168 members in 2021





REPORT(H)A Newsletter: 241 subscribers (with a growth of 5,70% in the last year)

- b. A new section called [stories] was included in the website. In this section, we disclose short scripts concerning major Environmental History topics in which Reportha members share ideas and experiences and reinforce collaboration. They have the opportunity to submit their own reflections or comments on books/films/music/photos, fieldwork reports, projects' presentations or academic works (about 600 words and one image). <https://www.reportha.org/en/stories>
- c. The section "publications" gathers researchers writings (mainly Portuguese, Spanish and Brasilien) which could be accessed by "search publications" (a simple search by keyword, titles, authors, and so on).

The 4th Report(h)a meeting 14th to 16th October (Coimbra, 2021) – Sapiens, Health and the Environment – Natural and Artificial Frontiers
<https://www.reporthameeting2021.com/en/homepage>

The Centre for History of Society and Culture (CHSC), in partnership with the Institute of Interdisciplinary Research of the University of Coimbra (iii-UC) and the Centre for Functional Ecology (CFE) hosted the IV Meeting of REPORT(H)A – the Portuguese Network of Environmental History, between 14th to 16th October 2021.

Under the title of *Sapiens, Health and the Environment - Natural and Artificial Frontiers*, the meeting brings a particular focus to the role of Health in Environmental History contributing to the debate under the following general questions:

- How has the health of humans been affected by their use of nature?
- How have the perceptions of health and disease and their relationship with the environment changed over time?
- How have food systems determined the social allocation of health and disease?
- How do/did inequalities shape health asymmetries in the past and present colonialisms, and how these asymmetries further reproduce inequality?
- How did the civilisational quest against disease precipitate species' extinction and other ecological and environmental dynamics, and how did this loss of biodiversity and climate change, in turn, affect our present and future resilience to disease?

Porto, Portugal, 29 Jun 2021.

Russia, reported by Anastasia Fedotova

This is a report on the activities of the ESEH Regional Representative for Russia for the period from the 2019 ESEH meeting in Tallinn. Anastasia Fedotova (the Institute for the History of Science and Technology, the Russian Academy of Sciences, St Petersburg) was elected as the regional representative in 2019.

During the pandemic, a few projects in environmental history (or in environmental humanities in general) in Russia have slowed down or have even been almost frozen, but in general we can say that environmental history in Russia has continued to develop. We are especially pleased with the successes of the two new centers recently created in Siberia – the Humans, Nature and Technology Center at the Tyumen State University and the Laboratory of Historical Research at the Surgut State Pedagogical University.

Conferences, seminars and some other long term projects for the two last years:

- In St. Petersburg environmental history is mainly developing by scholars working at the Institute of History and Technology, the Russian Academy of Sciences and at the Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History, the National Research University – Higher School of Economics, often in cooperation with each other. In the fall of 2019 and 2020 these two institutions organized two round tables on environmental history (as part of a larger annual St. Petersburg conference on the history of science) and are planning to meet again in October 2021.
- The Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History at the National Research University – Higher School of Economics has its regular seminar, although a significant part of the meetings, of course, has been transferred online: for more information see their web-site: <https://spb.hse.ru/en/humart/chr/eth/>
- The Center for Historical Research at the National Research University – Higher School of Economics in St. Petersburg and the Laboratory for Historical Geography and Regional Studies in Tyumen have organized an online conference “Global history of the Arctic: trans-border networks, alternative spatialities and scale shifting”, which took place on May 20–21, 2021.
- In Moscow, the most interesting events were the conference “People and nature: the history of their interaction (Environmental History)”, which took place on November 20–21, 2020, at the Russian State University for the Humanities (for more details see: <https://www.rsuh.ru/upload/press/photos/2020-chelovek-i-priroda-istoriya-vzaimodejstviya.pdf>), and the series of seminars organized by the Center for Franco-Russian Studies “Anthropocène à la Russe?” in cooperation with Siberian scholars (for more information see: <https://cefr-moscou.cnrs.fr/fr/evenement/seminaire/seminaire-anthropocene-la-russe-les-copeaux-de-bois-de-l-histoire-contemporaine>)
- The recently created “Humans, Nature, Technology” Center at the Tyumen State University has been especially active. They are taking full advantage of online conferencing and have organized a series of online seminars “Plastic World” (most of the

meetings have been recorded and can be viewed on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0FXig7REE9RZCHninPwIQQ>), as well as several conferences on environmental history in Russia, including, for example “Smoke of the Fatherland: industry, environment and society in Russia (the 19th – 21st centuries)” (for more details see <http://history.tsu.ru/node/6214>). The next conference “The Space of Great Experiments” will be held on October 14-16, 2021 at the Tyumen State University (the deadline for applications is September 1).

- As for the Laboratory of Historical Research at the Surgut State Pedagogical University, it annually publishes a thematic issue of the “Bulletin of the Surgut State Pedagogical University”, focused on environmental history of Russia and Siberia (<http://www.surgpu.ru/nauchnaya-deyatelnost/vestnik-surgpu/vse-nomera/>). In the early November 2021, the Laboratory is holding a conference “A land of water: a resource, a threat, an image”.

To sum up, the state of environmental history is in a good shape; it has a great potential to increase its presence within the field of history in Russia and the humanities in general.

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Southern Africa, reported by Muchaparara Musemwa

The field of environmental history in and on Southern Africa continues to grow and expand as more and more graduate students are taking up research topics in related to this discipline. Though the field was initially dominated by a few South African and foreign-based scholars, this is changing rapidly as is evident in the increasing number of publications cited below. Given the still small numbers of environmental historians, we have not deemed it prudent to form a discipline-specific association but have continued to piggy-back on activities of the history societies in the region such as the Southern African Historical Society (SAHS), the Historical Association of South Africa (HASA), and the Zimbabwe Historical Association. Environmental historians have continued to mark their presence at the conferences of these societies when they have their annual or biennial conferences. SAHS last held its 27th biennial conference at Rhodes University in South Africa from 24th to 26th June, 2019 and the discipline of Environmental History was well presented. As the global pandemic set in all the societies have had to postpone their future conferences. A planned International Water History Conference that was scheduled to be held at Stellenbosch University in Cape Town in 2020 was postponed to this year but has been postponed yet again. However, not much has been done to hold the same conferences online. This is not to say that environmental historians have not been at work. A number have presented their papers online at various seminar programmes at different universities which include the institution-specific, "Wild Pasts -Stellenbosch University Environmental group of historians." Many still got busy and used the lockdown time to write up their research and this has resulted in a number of published works in esteemed journals and book chapters published by reputable presses.

Below I provide a select number of publications that have appeared between 2019-2021, graduate dissertations and forthcoming works:

"Wild Pasts" –the Stellenbosch University Environmental group of historians under Sandra Swart –have been very busy indeed in the last couple of years!

Covid needed a pressing intervention with: "Love in The Time of Corona: An Historian Lives Through A Plague." Amanda Gouws and Olivia Ezeobi (eds), Covid Diaries (Imbali Academic, 2021).

Of her recent doctoral students in environmental history, Elijah Dorohas graduated and has a book coming out with Cambridge University Press, on the history of tobacco in Zimbabwe, articles too: see, for example:

Elijah Doro and Sandra Swart, "Rachel Carson in Africa? Pesticides and Tobacco Production in Southern Rhodesia, 1945-1980." *International Review of Environmental History*, 5, 2, 2019, pp.5-39.

Bryan Umaru Kauma just successfully navigated his doctoral viva and has a paper 'Small Grains, Small Gains': African Peasant Small Grains Production and Marketing in Zimbabwe during the Colonial Period, c.1890–1970s', *South African Historical Journal*,

Tinashe Takuva, while still a PhD student, already has an article published 'Rains Come from the Gods!': Anthropocene and the History of Rainmaking Rituals in Zimbabwe with Reference to Mberengwa district, c. 1890–2000, *South African Historical Journal*

Lyle Lennox and Mia Uys just both passed their Mas on the histories of animal performers in circuses and aquaria, respectively. Mia has already an article in press with Sandra: "Big cat acts and big men: Performing power and gender in South Africa's circus industry, c.1888–1916." *Early Popular Visual Culture*.

Sandra Swart has been working on the intersection of conservation and history (Sandra Swart, "Resurrection Conservation: The Return of the Extinct?" in Wels, Gewald and Spierenburg (eds), *Nature conservation in Southern Africa. Morality and Marginality: Towards Sentient Conservation?* (Brill, 2018) pp.130–164.

Sandra has been thinking about the bigger picture of animals in African history (Sandra Swart, "Animals in African History", *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of AfricanHistory*, 2019; Sandra Swart, "The Other Citizens: Nationalism and Animals". In: Kean H, Howell P (eds.) *The Routledge Companion to Animal-human History*, Routledge and Francis Group, London, United Kingdom, 2019: 31–46.)

With her recent PhD graduate Innocent Dande, Sandra wrote, 'History, politics and dogs in Zimbabwean literature, c.1975–2015'. *Tydskrif vir Letterkunde* 2018; 55(3):152–173, and Innocent Dande & Sandra Swart, "A City Gone to the Dogs? Power, Modernity and Canine Citizens in Post-Colonial Harare, c.1980–2017", *Journal of Southern African Studies*, 2021.

Sandra has also reflected on the broader historiography of South Africa's environmental past: "African Studies", in Brett Mizelle, MiekeRoscher, and André Krebber (eds), *Handbook of Historical Animal Studies* (De Gruyter, 2021) and there was also a Roundtable: 'Animal History in a Time of Crisis'-by Albert G. Way, William Thomas Okie, Reinaldo Funes-Monzote, Susan Nance, Gabriel N. Rosenberg, Joshua Specht and Sandra Swart, *Agricultural History*, 94, 3 (Summer 2020), pp. 444–484.

Of course, Sandra has not neglected her horsetorical herd ("How to Invent a Horse: Notes for a Feminist History.", in Lynda Birke and Harry Wels (eds), *Dreaming of Pegasus: Equine Imaginings*, London: Victorina Press, 2021; Sandra Swart, "Race Politics: Horse Racing, Identity and Power in South Africa". In: Adelman M, Thompson K (eds.) *Equestrian Cultures in Global and Local Contexts*, Springer, London, United Kingdom, 2018: 241–266.

More publications are as follows:

Clement Masakure and Noel Ndumeya (2021), "The Trees Do Not Belong to Chief Maranke but to the Native Reserves Trust: The Politics of Timber Resource Exploitation in African Reserves, Colonial Zimbabwe, 1924-1948," *Historia*, 66, 1: 61-87.

Muchaparara Musemwa (2019), 'Zimbabwe's drift towards authoritarianism and its environmental consequences, 2000-2017', in Stephen Brain and Viktor Pál (eds.)

Environmentalism under Authoritarian Regimes: Myth, Propaganda and Reality, Routledge Environmental Humanities Series (Routledge: Taylor & Francis Group), pp. 191-213.

Muchaparara Musemwa (2019), 'Flows of water/Flows of power/ Flows of history: Current trends and transdisciplinary insights and future directions', *South African Historical Journal*, 71:2, pp. 139-149. e-Link: <https://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/YDDFGUPJFQJ9ZX4VBDNN/full?target=10.1080/02582473.2019.1650100>

Muchaparara Musemwa (2019), 'Climate and Societal Interaction in Southwestern Matabeleland, Colonial Zimbabwe: The Drought of 1964-66 and its Antecedents', *Human Geography: A New Radical Journal*, Special Issue: Hydro-Social Intersections, Vol. 12, No. 1, 5-18. e-Link: <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F19427786190120011>

Forthcoming:

Graeme Wynn, Jane Carruthers, Nancy J. Jacobs, *Environment, Power, and Justice: Southern African Histories* (Athens: Ohio University Press, forthcoming 2022).

Allen Isaacman, Muchaparara Musemwa and Harry Verhoeven have just edited a Special Issue on 'Water Security in Africa in the Age of Global Climate Change,' to be published in *Daedalus: The Journal of the American Academy of the Arts and Sciences*, (Expected date of Publication, December 2021).

Sandra Swart has just edited a special issue of 'At the Edge of the Anthropocene: Crossing Borders in Southern African Environmental History', *South African Historical Journal*, 2021.

Muchaparara Musemwa, "From 'Nature Study' to 'Nature's Archives': Reflections on a Journey into Environmental History". John Wright and Cynthia Kros (eds). *Ezakudala/Tsa Kgale: Exploring the Archive of Times Past* (Johannesburg: Wits University Press, 2021). (NB: Expected date of Publication, Feb. 2022).

This list is obviously not exhaustive but it gives one a glimpse of the kinds of themes being explored in this part of the world.

Thank you.

2021.07.02

Muchaparara Musemwa

University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Spain, reported by Santiago Gorostiza

Santiago Gorostiza, Spanish delegate at the European Society of Environmental History
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- Creation of the mailing list of the Red Española de Historia Ambiental (REHA), rehambiental@googlegroups.com (currently 39 members)
- Report on the state of environmental history in Spain (2016-2019), including community of researchers, publications, conferences, teaching and defended PhDs.
- 2020 meeting of the Red Universitaria Española de Historia Ambiental (RUEDHA) cancelled; new edition planned for late 2021.

Courses and online activities:

- 18.05-10.06.2021 Curso Agua y sistemas sociales (Grupo de Investigación HUM 952 STAND (Universidad de Granada) <https://standugr.com/2021/04/16/curso-agua/>
- 5-20 Mayo 2021 Curso Un balance del metabolismo social <https://standugr.com/2021/03/08/curso-metabolismo-social/>
- 22.04.2021 Panel 6 – Sures, Migr-acciones y Decolonialidad – “Estudios Internacionales, Estudios de Área y Globalización” (Grupo de Investigación HUM 952 STAND (Universidad de Granada) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SHm59NrNxKI>
- 13.04-21.05.2021 Curso Colonialismo energético extractivismo y transiciones socioecológicas (Grupo de Investigación HUM 952 STAND (Universidad de Granada) <https://standugr.com/2021/03/19/curso-colonialismo-energetico/>
- 13-21.04.2021 Curso MESMIS. Evaluación de sustentabilidad de sistemas de manejo de recursos naturales (Grupo de Investigación HUM 952 STAND (Universidad de Granada). <https://standugr.com/2021/03/10/curso-mesmis/>
- 26.11-11.12.2020 Semilleros de Investig-Acción Sures Decoloniales (Grupo de Investigación HUM 952 STAND (Universidad de Granada). <https://standugr.com/semilleros-de-investig-accion-sures-decoloniales/>
- 02-05.2020 Curso La agroecología frente al colapso (Grupo de Investigación HUM 952 STAND (Universidad de Granada) <https://standugr.com/curso-la-agroecologia-frente-al-colapso-feb-may-2020/>
- 9-10.05.2019 Minería y Extractivismo. Diálogo entre la Academia y los Movimientos Sociales (Grupo de Investigación HUM 952 STAND (Universidad de Granada) <https://standugr.com/seminario-mineria-y-extractivismo-granada-9-10-may-2019/>
- 30-6-2020 – 2-7-2021, ¿Cómo hemos llegado hasta aquí? Transiciones ecológicas en perspectiva histórica (siglos XIX y XX) (Cursos extraordinarios, Universidad de Zaragoza), <https://cursosextraordinarios.unizar.es/curso/2021/como-hemos-llegado-hasta-aqui-transiciones-ecologicas-en-perspectiva-historica-siglos-xix>

Turkey, reported by Onur Inal

Turkey was instituted as an ESEH region and Onur Inal was elected as the regional representative for Turkey at the ESEH conference in Zagreb on June 30, 2017. Inal has since served as RR and stands for re-election in 2021.

Here is the summary of what has been done in the period from August 2019 to July 2021:

- Turkey was well represented at ESEH 2019 in Tallinn. There were 10 participants, 2 panels and 4 individual papers on Ottoman, post-Ottoman, and Turkish environmental history.
- Onur Inal became a member of the new ESEH board that was elected in Tallinn in 2019.
- The Network for the Study of Environmental History of Turkey (NEHT) is the initiative that brings together researchers studying the environmental history of the Ottoman Empire and Turkey. NEHT has a website (www.envhistryturkey.com) and social media accounts and publishes a quarterly newsletter. It has 150 newsletter subscribers, 473 Facebook followers and 908 Twitter followers (as of 30.06.2021)
- The 2nd NEHT workshop took place in Ankara on September 6-8, 2019. 33 papers were presented in 8 sessions.
- The 3rd NEHT workshop was due to take place in Vienna on September 16-18, 2021. Unfortunately, it has been postponed to 2022.
- Istanbul Unbound: Environmental Approaches to the City, an international, virtual conference took place on April 8-11, 2021. The conference was organized by Istanbul Research Institute and Pera Museum and endorsed by, among others, the ESEH and the NEHT.
- The NEHT was one of the international partners of Environmental History Week, an international celebration of environmental history, organized on April 19-26, 2021.

30.06.2021

Onur Inal

Ukraine, reported by Tatiana Perga

Ukraine was instituted as an ESEH region at the ESEH conference in Tallinn on August, 2019. Tetiana Perga was elected as the regional representative for Ukraine.

Here is the summary of what has been done in the period from August 2019 to July 2021.

International events:

- International Scientific Conference "Rivers of Steppe Ukraine", supported by ESEH, September 11, 2020, Zaporizhia, 20 participants (biennale event).
- Roundtable "Modern global environmental agenda: problems, challenges, prospects, experience of Ukraine" in the framework of Environmental History Week – 2021 (April, 20, 2021, organizers: Department of Modern and Contemporary History of Foreign Countries American and European studies Faculty of History, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, European Society of Environmental History (Ukrainian Representative Office)), 23 participants. The organizers decided to hold this workshop annual.

Other activities:

- 4 Newsletters were prepared and distributed as well as environmental news and information about different environmental events.
- Lecture "History of environmental security" for PhD students of State Institution "Institute of World History of NAS of Ukraine" was given.
- An agreement was reached with Boris Grinchenko Pedagogical University to hold a lecture on environmental history for students in autumn 2021.



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