



11th Biennial Report 2021–2023

prepared by Marco Armiero
(President of ESEH 2021-2023)
August 2023



OGM in Bern, 24 August 2023. Source: Ελληνική Εταιρεία Περιβαλλοντικής Ιστορίας facebook page

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Introduction

My second term as president of the European Society for Environmental History has ended. It has been a privilege and honor to lead our Society in these last four years. Now, at the end of such an amazing journey, I would like to share with you some thoughts on this experience.

I think that no one would object if I say that these past four years have been extremely challenging not just for the ESEH but for the world we live in. Against a background of proliferating unnatural disasters, first the pandemic, then the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the consequent war have tragically marked our times. In the face of the devastating loss of human lives and the even more horrific reality of the war I feel uncomfortable to speak of the problems the ESEH had to address. I can only hope that the society was able to show support, solidarity, and humanity in the midst of such ferocious times. I can testify that it was for me; the ESEH was there when the pandemic hit my family and me harshly. If I should deeply contemplate these four years, my dream would be to say that the ESEH was there as a caring community, gardening peace and solidarity against all the odds.

Nonetheless, I should confess I am quite allergic to self-assessment. This is not because I do not feel the obligation to report back to those who have trusted me. And we will do so in a moment. Rather, I am afraid that in these times of neoliberal academia, the risk might be to transform any kind of report into the usual bragging about our individual successes, forgetting that they are never individual. I would like to thank here all the members of the board, the two vice presidents Andrea Gaynor and Marianna Dudley, our secretary Roberta Biasillo, who has worked, as always, with an extraordinary generosity, Martin Knoll, chair of the council of RRs, all the chairs of the committees, so many members who have engaged with our activities, have helped somehow, and have supported the ESEH. A special thanks to the Local Organizing Committees of Bristol 2021/2 and Bern 2023 -- in particular Andy Flack, Marianna Dudley and Christian Rohr -- who have worked hard to host us. My, I should say our, special gratitude to Ulrich Koppitz, our treasurer; Ulrich has been the ESEH treasurer since the beginning. But he has been much more than just the treasurer. Personally, I am grateful for Ulrich's patient guidance and caring attention; an almost invisible generosity that we should all nurture. In this election, Ulrich will not run as treasurer; but I am sure we will always be able to count on his advice.

Going back to my reflection on these four years, I believe that it is not easy to talk about success without talking about our failures. I have a great consideration of failures; as we know, they are part of the very production of scientific knowledge (the trial and error process). But even more than that, they are an important part of our lives. I argue that we should question the very idea of success and failure, challenging the norms that decide what makes something one or the other. Plus, I believe it is liberating to speak also of the so-called failures. A few years ago, I got a quite large grant and everyone was congratulating me for my success but I felt the need to confess that that year I had submitted 12 grant applications. Then, was I still a successful scholar? What does it mean to be a successful scholar? I am proud that some of my former Ph.D. students organized an experimental session in Tallinn on failures in academia. I am always happy when we fight back against a system that tries to make us competitors in a never-ending self-promotion carnival. This openness to speak of failures, even better, to challenge the idea of success while nurturing humility and collective work, I hope might be part of the legacy of these four years we have worked together.

When I became president of the ESEH I wanted to increase participation in the life of the society. I had the impression that many of the activities were occurring within the board, leaving quite limited space for the involvement of other members. This was one of the reasons why during my leadership there was a proliferation of committees. Speaking of failures and successes, it is clear that not all the committees have worked in the same way and with the same intensity. In some cases, the task was difficult -- I am thinking, for instance, of the committee on the history of the society --, in other cases, we hit some technical issues that were not easy to overcome -- this occurred with our podcast and the Atlas. Nonetheless, I am extremely grateful to all our members who engaged with our projects and made our society a space for experimentation and knowledge production. A success, indeed, if you agree with me that success lies in the process of working together, experimenting, and hopefully having fun. I guess that the main legacy I would like to see from this effort is not so much some specific outputs but the idea to mobilize our community beyond the institutional tasks we are committed to delivering. Actually, I would like to take responsibility for a failure which hopefully could bring new and more exciting failures -- pardon me, I meant successes. Mine has still been a quite top-down approach; I decided to coagulate common efforts on themes I wanted to place at the core of our agenda. Probably, a better approach could have been to launch a call for new committees -- even changing this label to something less

institutional such as labs or workshops-- so they could have emerged from the actual interests of our constituency. Sometimes a mistake could also be a fantastic legacy.

Since this is my last report as the president of the ESEH, let me end by handing you the two things that are especially dear to me. The creation of the diversity committee and the installation of the new Bristol-Bern Prize (2Bs Prize) in Public Environmental History are two small efforts that I hope can be a legacy the ESEH will nurture. And I say “nurture” because I do believe that a good seed does not reproduce the same, identical fruit. Nurturing does not mean continuing what has been already done but caring for a collective work that hopefully will give new, unexpected, and much-needed fruits.

Because the times we have lived in are, undoubtedly, ferocious, but there are also several signs of hope. We have seen the rising of a new global and plural movement for climate justice. In many of our universities, students have started mobilizing around climate change. The streets of many of our cities have been crossed by the marches of youth asking to change the system, not the climate. In my new university, in Barcelona, the students have mobilized to obtain a mandatory course on the climate crisis for all the students enrolled in the university. And they included my name among the teachers who can help design such a course. Black Lives Matter has placed the issue of structural racism at the center of the public discourse, although more in the US than in Europe. Movements such as Decolonize This Place have challenged our neutral and majoritarian understanding of public memories. *Ni una menos* has given new life to the feminist movement at the intersection of diverse forms of oppression.

The ESEH is, of course, a scholarly society promoting our field of study. It is and should remain an open arena for debating diverse opinions with respect and an attitude for learning from each other rather than fighting with each other to impose a specific point of view. But this does not make us, I believe, an apolitical society, where apolitical would mean a community disinterested in what happens out there. No matter what we say, our work will be political anyway, so better to be conscious about it and find the best ways to be socially engaged in the most humble and respectful way possible.

I am not sure whether this is a legacy or rather a project. Perhaps, the truth is that every legacy is always a project and vice versa.

Members of committees, board, and regional representatives (2019-2021)

Board

President

Marco Armiero, ICREA & Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain and Institute for Studies on the Mediterranean (Italy)

Vice-Presidents

Andrea Gaynor, The University of Western Australia (Australia)

Marianna Dudley, University of Bristol (United Kingdom)

Secretary

Roberta Biasillo, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands

Treasurer

Ulrich Koppitz, Medical History Library, Duesseldorf (Germany)

CRR Chair and Regional Representative and German speaking countries

Martin Knoll, University of Salzburg (Austria)

Regional Representative: South Africa

Muchaparara Musemwa, University of the Witwatersrand

Regional Representative: Russia

Anastasia Fedotova, Russian Academy of Science

Regional Representative: Poland

Malgorzata Praczyk, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań

Regional Representative: Portugal

Nina Vieira, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa

Chairs of the LOCs

Andrew Flack, University of Bristol (United Kingdom) - until July 2022

Christian Rohr, University of Bern (Switzerland) - from July 2022

Representative of the NEXTGATe

Noémi Ujházy, Eötvös Loránd University (Hungary)

Committees

Nomination Committee

David Moon (chair), University of York, UK
Žiga Zwitter, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
Stéphanie Denève, University of Toulouse, France

Programme Committee

Wilko Graf von Hardenberg (chair), Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany
Martin Knoll, University of Salzburg, Austria
Nina Toudal Jessen, University of Copenhagen
Solène Rivoal, Université fédérale de Toulouse, Université Champollion d'Albi, France
Kate Stevens, The University of Waikato, New Zealand
Heli Huhtamaa, Bern University, Switzerland

Financial Control Committee

Agnes Limmer, Technische Universität München, Germany
Chantal Camenisch, Universität Bern, Switzerland

Travel Grant Committee

Onur Inal (chair), University of Vienna, Austria
Stefania Gallini, National University of Colombia (for Bristol 2022)
Sara Pinto, University of Porto, Portugal (for Bern 2023)
Ulrich Koppitz, University of Düsseldorf, Germany

Research Grant Committee

Paulo Guimarães (chair), University of Évora, Portugal
Margaret Cook, University of Sunshine Coast, Australia
Ulrich Koppitz, University of Düsseldorf, Germany

Summer School Committee for Bristol 2022

Adrian Howkins (chair), University of Bristol, UK
Aditya Ramesh, The University of Manchester, UK
Nina Vieira, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal

Andrea Kiss, Vienna University of Technology, Austria
Melina Antonia Buns, University of Stavanger, Norway

Summer School Committee for Bern 2023

Ben Anderson, Keele University, UK
Alex Hibberts, Durham University, UK
David Schorr, Tel Aviv University, Israel
Martin Stuber (chair), University of Bern, Switzerland
Monica Vasile, Maastricht University, The Netherlands

Editorial Committee (Berghahn/ESEH/RCC book series)

Christof Mauch, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich, Germany
Helmuth Trischler, Deutsches Museum, Munich, Germany
Kiko Matteson, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Stefania Barca, The University of Santiago de Compostela – USC, Spain

St. Andrews Article Prize Committee

Debjani Bhattacharyya (chair), University of Zürich, Switzerland
Malgorzata Praczyk, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland
Poul Holm, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Turku Book Prize Committee

Ulrike Plath (chair), Tallinn University, Estonia
Katie Ritson, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich, Germany
Marcus Hall, University of Zurich, Switzerland
Nicolai Hannig, Darmstadt Technical University, Germany
Violette Pouillard, Ghent University, Belgium

Tallinn Dissertation Prize Committee

Stefan Dorondel (chair), Romanian Academy, Bucharest
Daniele Valisena, University of Liège, Belgium
Susan Broomhall, Australian Catholic University, Melbourne
Renato Sansa, University of Calabria, Italy
Leda Papastefanaki, University of Ioannina, Greece

Communication Committee

Roberta Biasillo (chair), Utrecht University, The Netherlands

Elena Kochetkova, HSE – St.Petersburg, Russia

Gilberto Mazzoli, European University Institute, Florence, Italy

Pablo DeSoto, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Jonatan Palmblad, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich, Germany

NEXTGATe (ESEH Next Generation Action Team)

Noémi Ujházy (chair), Geographical Institute, Budapest, Hungary

Elizabeth Hameeteman, Boston University, USA

Monique Palma, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal

Goran Đurđević, Beijing Foreign Studies University, China

Sevgi Mutuli Sirakova, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich, Germany

Tanja Riekkinen, University of Oulu, Finland

Monica Vasile, Maastricht University, The Netherlands

Teaching Committee

Milica Prokic (chair), European University Institute, Florence, Italy

Andrea Gaynor, The University of Western Australia, Crawley, Australia

Sustainability Committee

Simone Müller (chair), Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Germany

Dan Tamir, University of Zürich, Switzerland

Markéta Šantrůčková, Silva Tarouca Research Institut for Landscape and Ornamental Gardening, Průhonice, Czech Republic

Diversity Committee

Katie Holmes (chair), La Trobe University, Australia

Andy Flack, University of Bristol, UK

Malcom Ferdinand, CNRS, France

Lisa FitzGerald, CRBC Rennes, France

Mucha Musemwa, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Livia Regina Battista, University of São Paulo, Brazil

Conference Venue Committee

Julia Lajus (chair), Columbia University in the City of New York, USA/ University of Helsinki, Finland

Marianna Dudley, University of Bristol, UK

Inês Amorim, University of Porto, Portugal

Podcast Committee

James L. Smith (chair), University College Cork, Ireland

Eric Paglia, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden

James Rice, White Horse Press, UK

Rebecca Tyson, University of Bristol, UK

Dissemination Committee

Sandra Swart (chair), Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Nathalia Capellini, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), Geneva, Switzerland

Tara Rider, Stony Brook University – Southampton, USA

Environmental History Today

Dmitry Arzyutov (co-chair), University of Oulu, Finland and University of Aberdeen, UK

Anna Olenenko (co-chair), Khortytsia National Academy, Ukraine

Paula Schönach, Aalto University, Finland

Tim Soens, University of Antwerp, Belgium

Ekaterina Zharova, St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute for the History of Science and Technology, Russian Academy of Science

Council of Regional Representatives

- Ruth Morgan, ANU College of Arts & Social Sciences, Australia – Australasia
- Tim Soens, University of Antwerp, Belgium – Benelux countries
- Kati Lindström, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden and University of Tartu, Estonia – Baltic states
- Chris Pearson, Department of History, University of Liverpool, UK – Britain and Ireland

- Žiga Zwitter, Department of History, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia – Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia
- Doubravka Olšáková, Institute of Contemporary History, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Prague, Czechia – Czechia and Slovakia
- Charles-François Mathis, Université Bordeaux Montaigne, France – France
- Martin Knoll (chair), University of Salzburg, Austria – German speaking countries
- George L. Vlachos, National Hellenic Research Foundation / National Kapodistrian University of Athens – Greece
- András Vadas, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary – Hungary
- Yaron J. Balslev, Tel Aviv University – Israel
- Viktor Pál, University of Helsinki, Finland & Tuomas Rasanen, University of Turku, Finland – Nordic countries
- Malgorzata Praczyk, Department of History, University of Poznań, Poland – Poland
- Nina Vieira, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal – Portugal
- Calin Cotoi, University of Bucharest, Romania – Romania
- Anastasia Fedotova, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia – Russia
- Muchaparara Musemwa, South Africa – South Africa
- Santiago Gorostiza, Sciences Po, France – Spain
- Onur Inal, University of Vienna, Austria – Turkey
- Giacomo Bonan, Dipartimento di Storia Culture Civiltà, Università di Bologna, Italy – Italy
- Aleksandar Shopov, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany – North Macedonia
- Tatiana Perga, Institute of World History, National Academy of Science of Ukraine, Kiev – Ukraine

Treasurer's report (by Ulrich Koppitz)

Account for 2021

Start of the year, 1.1.2021: € 18825,47
Income: € + 8865,04
Expenditures: € - 6140,54
Balance: <u>surplus</u> € 2724,50
End of the year, 31.12.2021: € 21549,97

Income	Total (€) 8865,04
Membership fees	8670,-
Donations	195,-
Interests	0,04

Expenses EH	Total (€) – 5070,05
St. Andrews and Tallinn Prize	1000,--
Workshop Grant	477,--
online roundtable honorarium and interpreter	888,05
umbrella organization fees	125,--
new website: design, contents, migration	2580,--

Expenses administration & infrastructure	Total (€) – 1070,53
website fees, PayPal acceptance	803,69
PayPal- and Postbank fees	149,84
online ballot system SurveyMonkey	117,--

In 2021, the biennial conference was postponed and thus a surplus was reached despite the cost for a new website which was necessary for technical reasons (suitability for smartphones, videos etc).

Account for 2022

Start of the year, 1.1.2022: € 21549,93
Income: € + 9727,04
Expenditures: € - 11457,81
Balance: <u>minus</u> € - 1730,77
End of the year, 31.12.2022: € 19.819,16

Income	Total (€) 9727,04
Membership fees	9350,--
Donations	377,--
Interests	0,04

Expenses EH	Total (€) - 10125,40
21 travel grants / conf. fee waivers Bristol ESEH	6813,07
2 small workshop & 1 archival grants	1270,33
3 travel subsidies NextGATe & 1 RR	1437,--
summer school 2022, virtual roundtable 2021	605,--

Expenses administration & infrastructure	Total (€) - 1332,41
website fees, PayPal acceptance	840,55
PayPal- and Postbank fees	491,86

In the conference year, some 9T€ were reserved for travel grants, however due to cancellations in still difficult times € 2200 could not be spent and are spared for the same purpose in 2023. ESEH officials covered their cost themselves widely, 2 NextGATe members were supported with 500,- and 1 without paper with 250 €. Accommodation for 1 summer school expert was reimbursed and finally payment achieved for 1 discussant of the virtual event around the OGM 2021. As results of open calls for applications archival copies have been reimbursed and 2 external small workshops in Berlin and Vienna, summer 2022 were co-sponsored.

Budget 2023

capital_2023	from 2022 altogether	9.819,16 €
Bristol return	for academic offspring	2.252,97 €
membership fees	Jan-Jun	7.175,00 €
donations		115,-- €
	total min. at conf.	29.247,13 €

Expenses_2023	Beneficiary	SummEX
Bank Fees	Postbank Dortmund	320
Website Hosting & payfacility	HostEurope & Digitalpay	800
Website maintenance	2022 paid Jan 23	500
<i>Website maintenance</i>	<i>for 2023</i>	500
EASSH basic fee	Europ. All. Sci. Soc. Hum.	100
ICE-HO basic fee	Intl.Cons.Env.Hist.Org.	100
1 summer school grant 2023 June	Coastal & island environments, Univ. Ljubljana	550
1 workshop summer 2023	Making nature, Univ. Siegen	500
Publication cost subsidy	Collected volume in France 2022 not yet	800
<i>2 workshop grants fall 2023</i>	<i>NN t.b.a. after conf.</i>	<i>1.000</i>
<i>archival grant (or 3rd workshop tbd)</i>	<i>NN t.b.a. after conf.</i>	<i>500</i>
<i>Expenses Berne conference 2023</i>	<i>SUB-total conference 17.640 ca.</i>	
Tallinn Diss. + St Andrews Article Awards	travel etc Tallinn 100, Andrews ca.	400
Tallinn Diss. + St Andrews Article Awards	prize money	1.000
2Bs Award	prize money	500
2Bs Award	fee+travel reimbursement 1st awardee ca.	1.000

Turku Book prize	for prize winner fee, travel etc. max.	1.000
Poster Prize	sponsored by WHP	0
<i>Berne climate summerschool</i>	<i>2 Swiss delegates</i>	<i>1.320</i>
<i>Conf aids for 6 external Ukrainians & Russians</i>	<i>incl. donations collected 2022 in Bristol</i>	<i>4.000</i>
<i>Travel reimbursements for eseh officials in need</i>	<i>BM, RRs RUS, TR, UKR: 4 persons</i>	<i>4.170</i>
<i>NextGATe travel aids</i>	<i>2 +1 junior members</i>	<i>2.050</i>
<i>Travel grants = fee waivers</i>	<i>left over from Bristol</i>	<i>2.200</i>
	<i>Total Expenditures planned, ca.</i>	<i>23.310</i>

Support for early career researchers

Summer schools

The ESEH summer school is a pillar in our collective effort to support early career researchers. In 2022, attached to the Bristol conference, the ESEH organized the summer school on [\(An-\)Hydrous Environments: Rethinking Water in Environmental History](#). The school aimed at exploring the interrelationship between water and human society. It included 15 participants and four keynote speakers from Norway, Portugal and the UK. The ESEH summer schools are always an opportunity to build and/or strengthen collaborations among institutions and scholarly communities. In that case, the school was co-organized with The University of Bristol Alumni Association, the South, West and Wales Doctoral Training Partnership, the KTH Sustainability, Stockholm, Sweden, The Water History Journal and the School of Humanities at the University of Bristol.



In 2023, we are holding two summer schools attached to the Bern Conference, one on [Climate in History and the other on Common pool resources in the «visual turn»](#) (Photo by Roberta Biasillo). In total, we have received more than 90 applications; the selected 40 participants and involved lecturers were

fully funded mainly through the Swiss National Science Foundation. In this case, as in Bristol, the summer school brought collaborations with other partners: the University of Bern, the Kulturen der Alpen, Past Global Changes, and the already mentioned Swiss National Science Foundation.

Travel grant scheme

The wide number of applicants demonstrates the relevance of this ESEH framework for scholarly development. In fact, in 2023 we received 81 applications for the ESEH Travel Grant, a large majority from Europe (60), 10 from North America, and the rest distributed among Asia, Africa, South America, and Oceania. Thanks to the support of the Swedish National Science Foundation and the ESEH special fund for Ukraine, we were able to fund 43 applicants, taking into consideration gender, geographical provenience, and career stages.

NextGATe

NextGate has been the heart of the society's activities on this front. We have continued to promote the [Writing Support Programme](#), initiated in 2021 by Roberta Biasillo in collaboration with the ESEH vice-president Andrea Gaynor. The programme aims to support ECRs in their academic writing providing a safe and nurturing environment where to share their work-in-progress papers. The papers were pre-circulated and discussants were invited to give feedback. In 2022-2023 the Writing Support Programme was organized by Monica Vasile, Sevgi Mutlu Sirakova, and Noémi Ujházy in collaboration with vice president Andrea Gaynor and Anna Pilz, involving in total 32 ECRs. Building upon the success of this initiative, NEXGATe promoted the **Co-Writing Days**, two intensive co-writing workshops (30 May-1 June 2022, 9-11 January 2023), held online and organized by the Nextgate coordinator Noémi Ujházy.

The [Dissertation Database](#) is another crucial tool for the promotion of ECRs. Managed by the NextGate team, and in particular by Monique Palma and Sevgi Mutlu Sirakova, it gathers 85 PhD dissertations. This means that in the last 4 years, we collected 62 new dissertations. In the future, the team plans to work on two fronts: broadening the number of dissertations included in the database and make them more visible via a research tool. Perhaps, the Notepad could be used for this purpose or social media might help to promote it.

NextGATe promoted other initiatives aiming to support ECRs' work, as for instance the [Twitter campaign on Environmental History Week](#) (April 2023) and the blog series **Sustainable Academia blog in collaboration with** [Historians for Future](#) (more on this in the section on communication). Equally important the activities

of **networking** NextGATe has promoted at our biannual conferences. In Bristol, the Nextgate sponsored event, organized by Noémi Ujházy, Tanja Riekkinen, Sevgi Mutlu Sirakova, and Monica Vasile, on July 5th gathered cc. 40 participants. A panel dedicated to Sustainable Academia, with a focus on the challenges encountered by ECRs, was held in Bristol and is held here in Bern (both organized by Elizabeth Hameeteman).

Support for scholarly development

Some of the activities described in the above section are also relevant for the support of scholarly development, for instance the **Writing Support Programme**.

Small Workshops in Environmental History

As always, the ESEH nurtured scientific exchange supporting diverse formats of workshops. During the term 2021-2023, the society supported five workshops: (1) Neoliberal Environmental Thought Workshop (held in Oxford); (2) The Third NEHT Workshop 2022 Environmental Histories of the Ottoman and post-Ottoman (Wien); (3) Natur machen: Wissen, Praktiken und Technologien der Umweltgestaltung in der zweiten Hälfte des 20. Jahrhunderts (Making Nature: Knowledge, Practices and Technologies of Environmental Design in the Second Half of the 20th Century) (Siegen); (4) Eastern Mediterranean coastal and island environments: natural resources, their uses and perceptions (15th-18th centuries) (Ljubljana); (5) La Storia ambientale in Italia: metodi e percorsi di ricerca (Environmental History in Italy: methods and research) (Catania). These workshops well represent our society in terms of disciplinary fields, geographies, and languages, proving the ESEH ramification across Europe. In the future, it would be useful to have data about how many people were involved in each workshop.

Environmental History Today!

The society has continued to organize the **series of webinars** [Environmental history Today!](#). The series was coordinated by Dmitry Arzyutov and Anna Olenenko; Dima has been publicly vocal against the Russian invasion of Ukraine and Anna is a dear member of the society from that country. Geographically, the series in 2022 had a special focus on Eurasia. 11 papers were selected through an open call and they were organized in thematic roundtables and workshops. This arrangement was a deliberate decision aiming to foster mutual collaborations and increase the exchange among scholars and institutions. The entire series has been recorded and videos will be available through our website.



The 2022 ESEH Environmental History Today Seminar Series

Coordinated by **Dmitry Arzyutov** (Oulun yliopisto)
and **Anna Olenenko** (Хортицька національна академія)

Supported by the Biodiverse Anthropocene Program and
the Eudaimonia Institute (Oulun yliopisto, Finland)

**19
September
2022**
at 17:00
(EEST)

Book roundtable I: Marco Armiero's *Wasteocene* (Cambridge UP, 2021)
| <https://oulu.zoom.us/j/8445555555>
Participants: Marco Armiero (Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan), Stefania Gallini
(Universidad Nacional de Colombia in Bogotá), Mehmet Kentel (İstanbul
Araştırmaları Enstitüsü), Rob Nixon (Princeton University)
Chairs: Dmitry Arzyutov and Anna Olenenko



**30
September
2022**
at 11:30-
14:00
(EEST)

Workshop I: Eurasian Environmental History
| <https://oulu.zoom.us/j/9222222222>
Papers:
Erika Monahan (The University of New Mexico) | *By Ski, Boat, Horse, Dog, Sled, Foot,
or Camel: Mapping Travel, Revealing Environment*
Alan Roe (Loyola University of Maryland) | *Into Russian Nature: Tourism, Environmental
Protection, and National Parks in the Twentieth Century* (book presentation)
Olga Belichenko (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia) | *A green treasury:
Procurement of Non-timber Forest Resources in the Late Soviet Times*
Anna Sokolova (Universität Zürich) | *Resource Development on the Edge of Socialism:
Everyday Life on the Late Soviet Karelia*
Chair: Dmitry Arzyutov



**13
October
2022**
at 12:00-
14:00
(EEST)

Workshop II: War Environment
| <https://oulu.zoom.us/j/3333333333>
Papers:
Gerard J. Fitzgerald | *Harvest for War: Fruits, Nuts, Materiality, and Gas Mask
Filter Manufacture in the United States During World War I*
Inna Sukhenko (Helsingin yliopisto) | *Chornobyl, Nuclear Literacy and Intermedial
Ecocriticism: On Translating Nuclear Knowledge in U.S. Nuclear Fiction*
Kateryna Shymkevich (Запорізький інститут економіки та інформаційних технологій) |
The mine problem in the Western Balkans as a Consequence the Yugoslav Wars
Chair: Anna Olenenko



**21
October
2022**
at 16:00-
17:30
(EEST)

Workshop III: Agricultural history
| <https://oulu.zoom.us/j/4444444444>
Papers:
Jen Yu-Chien (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid) | *The Comparative Research of
Agricultural Production between the United Kingdom and Taiwan from 1809 to 1818:
The Influence of the Eruption of Mount Tambora in 1815*
Irina Aguiari (Scuola Normale Superiore, Firenze) | *A Processual Approach to Community
Agriculture: Challenging Systemic Determinism and Post-structuralist Explanations*
Chair: Tim Soens (Universiteit Antwerpen)



**28
October
2022**
at 16:00-
17:00
(EEST)

Book roundtable II: Davide Orsini's *The Atomic Archipelago: US Nuclear Submarines and Technopolitics of Risk in Cold War Italy* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2022)
| <https://oulu.zoom.us/j/5555555555>
Discussant: Dario Fazzi (Universiteit Leiden)
Chairs: Dmitry Arzyutov and Anna Olenenko



**12
December
2022**
at 18:00-
19:30
(EEST)

Discussion: Energy Humanities
| <https://oulu.zoom.us/j/6666666666>
Robert Groß (Universität für Bodenkultur Wien) | *Natural Gas Dependence in the
Making: How Austrian Energy Operators Contributed to the Status Quo*
Discussant: Per Högselius (Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan)
Chairs: Dmitry Arzyutov and Anna Olenenko



Workshop on Grant Writing (autumn-winter 2019)

The ESEH hosted a four-session workshop on grant writing led by colleagues with a strong expertise in the area.

The program consisted of the following meetings:

1. Poul Holm (Trinity College Dublin)
2. Daniela de Gregorio (ISMed - CNR, Naples)
3. Sverker Sörlin (KTH, Stockholm)
4. Flavia Cumoli (ERC Executive Agency)

It targeted mainly early career scholars (but not exclusively). Registered participants: 60 (both members and non-members).

Recognition of outstanding scholarship

St. Andrews Article Prize

The **St Andrews Article Prize** received 45 submissions (against the 2021 31 submissions). The awardees will be announced later today. We received articles in 3 different languages and from three different continents (most application from Europe and North America).

Most present subdisciplines: Climate History, Disaster History, Energy History, and Forest History. Worth to note are the interest in global dynamics and a significant number of papers focusing on Animal History.

Tallinn Dissertation Prize

The **Tallinn Prize** received 23 submissions (against the 29 of the last edition of the prize). More than 60% of the applicants were women. Almost half of the dissertations were written in English, but we also received dissertations in other languages. In their report, the committee stressed that this year the dissertations covered themes and areas quite new for our field, such as Southeast Europe and the former Yugoslavia. All dissertations are now included in the ESEH Dissertation online database (<https://www.zotero.org/eseh-nextgate/library>), thanks to the work of Sevgi Mutlu Sirakova and Monique Palma.

5.3 The Turku Prize

26 submissions (vs. 50 in 2021)

22 in English.

Communication

Over the last two years, the communication channels have been used in complementary ways.

Online presence

The **website** have been regularly updated: ESEH calls, series of seminars, ESEH activities and statements have always been advertised. The website has also featured a Blog (under the NextGATe section) on Sustainable Academia to which board members have contributed (see also section on NextGATe). This last month the website has been an important tool to promote and facilitate the election process.

Facebook and Twitter (and more recently Mastodon) have advertised societal activities, activities organised by ESEH members, events in Environmental History and Humanities. Those two social media have become an important advertisement tool and members often suggest to post news and calls. The Facebook page counts 3100 followers; Twitter has overcome 3600 followers (in July 2021: more than 2500 people, our Twitter account has 1700 followers). They have been updated on a daily basis. On an innovative and interactive way to use Twitter: see the Twitter campaign on Environmental History Week (April 2023) in the NextGATe section.

On the Instagram account use: see the Outreach and social engagement section.

We encourage members to feel the communication tools of the society a common platform.

What is going on: Notepad & Newsletter

We have continued to publish our **Notepad**, under the coordination of the ESEH vice-president Andrea Gaynor. We have devised the Notepad as a flexible tool, a venue for sharing information about the internal life of the society and foster conversation on themes that are relevant -- or perhaps might be relevant -- for our community. Looking at what we have published, it appears clear that the Notepad has reflected the main trajectories fostered during these four years: the attempt to look beyond academia, the nurturing of communities less represented in the field, the showcase of the vibrant life of our society with flourishing events and initiatives.

In the last two years, we have published the following notepads:

- [Marco Armiero, Looking back and forward, Volume 27, Number 4, November 2021, pp- 701–704](#)
- [K. Mehmet Kentel, Istanbul Unbound: Environmental Approaches to the City;](#)

[Nina Vieira, Inês Amorim and Margarida Sobral Neto, The IV Meeting of REPORT\(H\)A, the Portuguese Network of Environmental History;](#)

[Kadri Tüür, BALTEHUMS II, all in Volume 28, Number 1, February 2022, pp. 190–194.](#)

- [Archives and the environment: Daniele Valisena, The environment in medical archives; Iris Borowy, Environment in the OECD archive, Volume 28, Number 2, May 2022, pp. 352–354.](#)
- [Museums and the environment: Massimo Bernardi, Anthropocenes and museums; Luke Keogh, Maybe your next project is an exhibition?; Ådek V. Franzén, Starting an environmental humanities collaboration, Volume 28, Number 3, August 2022, pp. 524–528.](#)
- [The 11th Biennial European Society For Environmental History: Andy Flack and Marianna Dudley, Conference Report; Sandra Swart, ‘Same planet, different worlds: environmental histories imagining anew’. Bristol, United Kingdom, 5–9 July 2022, Volume 28, Number 4, November 2022, pp. 679–684.](#)
- [Renaud Bécot, Steve Hagimont, Fabien Bartolotti, Corinne Beck, Camille Bésombes, Perrine Camus-Joyet, Marin Coudreau, Laetitia Deudon, Juliette Dumasy, Stéphane Frioux, Romain Grancher, Adeline Grand-Clément, Nicolas Jacob-Rousseau, Francois Jarrige, Claire Milon, Marc Pave, Emilie-Anne Pépy, Solène Rivoal, Marguerite Ronin, Alexis Vrignon, Nessim Znaïen, The Springtime of Environmental History \(France, June 2022\): A Concluding Experiment, Volume 29, Number 1, February 2023, pp. 163–166.](#)
- [George L. Vlachos, Vaso Seirinidou, George Gassias, Dimitris Aggelis-Dimakis and Giorgos Velegrakis, The Hellenic Society for Environmental History: A Report from the Board; Salvo Adorno, The Società Italiana di Storia Ambientale \(Italian Society of Environmental History\) Is Born, Volume 29, Number 2, May 2023, pp. 317–320.](#)
- [Marco Armiero, Reflections on Legacies, Failures, and Successes, Volume 29, Number 3, August 2023, pp. 461–463.](#)

Newsletters were sent regularly (around 4 per years). Besides information about the ESEH calls, conferences activities, they also featured public environmental history projects or projects with an outreaching component in which members are involved. Issues of the journal *Environment and History* have been introduced. The current number of recipients is about 1300.

Conferences

Bristol

The **Bristol** conference marked an important moment in the history of our society. When we met in Bristol we were coming from the long pandemic period, marked, for the large majority of us, by a quite strict lockdown. Clearly, meeting again in Bristol was a special occasion. Over 370 people attended in person, and 220 more participated digitally to the conference, making Bristol the first truly hybrid ESEH conference. It was also the first conference that deliberately implemented the ‘Guidelines for Inclusive Conferencing’ drafted by the newly appointed diversity committee.

Bern

The next president will report more extensively on the 2023 conference in **Bern**: For now, it is relevant to notice that 550 people have registered to be present at the conference, while 60 more are participating online. The Programme Committee has evaluated 379 submissions (including individual papers, roundtables, panels, posters, and experimental sessions) producing an extremely exciting programme with 139 parallel sessions and plenty of special events.



Keynote lecture by Jon Mathieu on "Sacred Mountains. Environmental History and Religion". Bern, 22 August 2023. Source: ESEH Facebook page.

2025 Conference

Regarding the 2025 ESEH conference, we have received four amazing proposals. This is the result of both the vitality of our community and a deliberate choice made by the Search Committee and the board to shift to a two-step application process (in this way, it was easier to arrive to a shortlist, asking for more detailed information only to the selected teams). The presence of four strong applications proves the richness of our society, ramified with mature branches in all Europe and beyond. On behalf of the entire society, I would like to thank the colleagues who have worked hard to put together a proposal to host the ESEH in their institutions. It is not rhetorical to say that those applications were all impressive and generous, especially in an academic time when this kind of collective tasks are dramatically under-evaluated. At the moment, the Venue Committee has selected one proposal and the selected proposal has to be evaluated by the Board and the Council of regional representatives. Venue to be announced in the autumn.

Membership and regions

As of August 2023, our society has 600 members who have regularly paid the membership fee. This means that we have almost doubled the number of members (315 in 2019). Although it is usual to increase our membership in connection with the biannual conference, nonetheless, this year growth is quite exceptional. The comparison with the data available from the 2013-15 report shows an impressive increase in our membership in these last two years.

Years	Number of members who have paid the fee
2013-2015	347
2015-2017	359
2017-2019	-
2019-2021	315
2021-2023	600

The society also has a wider community of people including everyone who has been member at least once. This wider list includes around 1300 people (about 50 people more considering the 1250 of the 2019 list).

Internal organization

As I have already mentioned in the introduction to this report, during my four years as the ESEH president, I have tried to multiply the opportunities for members to engage with the society. The explosion of the digital platforms for communication has helped to build this wide and ramified network within the society. Actually, the potentials of such tools should be better explored and exploited. This has brought to the creation of new committees: the Diversity Committee; the Teaching Committee; the ESEH History Committee, the Sustainability Committee; and a series of committees working on specific projects (the Podcast, the Atlas, the Environmental History Today webinar series). As my term is expiring, it might be time to reflect on this project and its legacy. I believe that the ambition to mobilize our members by offering a variety of venues and platforms for engagement is a fertile and much needed project. The forms and methods are open -- should be open -- to the creativeness of the leadership of the society and all of us. As well as they might also be generated by the challenges coming from academic and public debates. Rather than leaving an ossified structure with a series of committees to fill, I hope that the new president and board, that all of us, will find the ways and venues for engaging with each others and with the world out there, making the ESEH the vibrant, visible, committed community that it should be. I would like to see a Diversity Committee always active in the society, as well as I see the need to be more attentive to teaching. Dissemination, communication, outreach are also key points of action and I hope we will continue investing our creativity, time, and resources on them. As I wrote in my Farewell Notepad, more grassroots, self-organized groups would be a better solution than top down committees. Equally, it might well be that some of our activities could be organized around specific projects -- for instance, a group working for 6 months on a report on PhD education and environmental history in Europe or on a white paper on the EU grant schemes.

A task I believe needs to be continued is to take care of our common history. In the last four years, we have started to collect reports from each committees -- at least those which have delivered a report -- and archive them in a dedicated [online folder](#). In the meanwhile, an *ad-hoc* committee has worked to reconstruct and preserve the history of the society. While they have not been very lucky in retrieving materials about the history of the society, they did started an oral history project that has involved so far xxx colleagues who have agreed to share their knowledge about the ESEH history. In

the future, I hope the society will work on both organizing the current archive -- that still misses an inventory -- and continuing gathering oral, visual, and written materials.

Finally, the last couple of years have seen the rise of several national associations/networks dedicated to environmental history. While for a long time, there was only an UK association, we have now associations and networks in [Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand](#), [Ireland](#), [Italy](#), [France](#), Greece, [Portugal](#), and [Spain](#). Most of them host a regular conference and organize diverse kinds of events. This is a remarkable success that we should celebrate; it shows the vitality of our field and the interest it is gaining everywhere. This development also answers the demand for linguistic diversity/inclusivity that has always been present within the ESEH (indeed, English is not the first language for the majority of our members). On the other hand, we also wish to preserve the aim -- we might say the dream -- that moved the creation of the ESEH: the ambition to have a common home, a platform to build a truly transnational and multicultural community. Combining these new nationally-based ways of organizing our field and our transnational society will be an exciting challenge for the years to come. How could we combine the RRs structure with these new articulations? How could the ESEH nurture relationships among those national experiences (perhaps a permanent forum)? It is so rewarding to have such an exciting challenge in front of us.

Outreach and social engagement

The outgoing board has deeply invested on these issues. The current socioecological crisis, the growing eco-anxiety, the deep environmental inequalities, and the recurrent disasters demand our engagement as a scholarly community researching the past while attempting to interpret the present and envision the future. The most relevant sign of our commitment to outreach and social engagement has been the creation of the **Bristol-Bern Prize on Public Environmental History** (best known as the 2B Prize). Reflecting upon the double challenge of an increasing demand for environmental knowledge and the equal spread of fake news and anti-scientific discourses, the 2B Prize “seeks to encourage researchers to build public engagement into their projects from the outset.” For this first edition of the prize, we received 8 applications. Although not extremely numerous -- something normal considering it was the first edition of the prize -- these applications covered at least 11 countries involving 64 researchers, with a large prevalence of female scholars (about the 70%). The committee included an environmental activist and the director of a museum because as we wish to go beyond dissemination in academia, we need to listen to other voices. The 2B Prize has the ambition to create a database gathering all the submissions we receive, that is, having a platform showcasing the diverse work our community does in bridging scientific research and the public.

We have also continued our project [Postcards for Unstable Times](#), which now gathers 18 postcards from diverse times and locations. As explained in the ESEH website, the “postcards are intended to be windows of opportunity that may provide alternative readings of the world in times of crisis and radical change”, in an attempt to challenge our comfort zone and experiment with diverse ways of communicating our research.

CLIMATE CHANGE GOES POP

A ROUNTABLE ON
NARRATIVES FOR
TRANSFORMATIONS

SROUTING FROM THE MOVIE
DON'T LOOK UP

20 APRIL 2023
16:00-17:30 CEST

MARCO ARMIERO – Ircra Professor & President of the European Society for Environmental History

JIM CASON – journalist

ELEONORA DE MAJO – climate justice activist

SANDRA SWART – Stellenbosch University

CARLOS TABERNERO – Autonomous University of Barcelona

Register at:
<https://kth-se.zoom.us/j/zoom-us/meeting/register/u5wqce-yqTgoG9DXZIR17O93I?wy1xqIUU3BI>



This event is part of the Environmental History Week, promoted by the American Society for Environmental History
<https://aseh.org/ehw-2023>

Image: Iceland, Wikimedia Commons

The ESEH has participated in the Environmental History Week, organized by the ASEH with an event entitled [Climate Change goes pop. A roundtable discussion around and beyond the 2021 movie Don't Look Up by Adam McKay](#). The event was co-organized with the Institute for the History of Science of the Autonomous University in Barcelona. Around 60 people participated in the event.

se.zoom.us/join/zoom-join/170931jwyixquu3b1



This event is part of the Environmental History Week, promoted by the American Society for Environmental History
<https://aseh.org/ehw-2023>

Image: Iceland. Wikimedia Commons

ESEH

Report of the Council of Regional Representatives

July 2021- July 2023

Prepared by Martin Knoll (Chair of the CRR)

Not claiming to be comprehensive, this Report gives an impressive overview over the development of Environmental History in different regions represented in the ESEH. In order to better structure the information, the RRs have based their contributions on a new common form. It is the last report, that I present as Chair of the Council of Regional Representatives. I would like to thank all colleagues for their good and friendly cooperation over the past eight years.

Berne, 24rd of August 2023

Martin Knoll

Baltic states

RR: Kati Lindström

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

Most research in environmental history is carried out in centres or units that are not specialised in environmental history. The largest research centre dedicated to environmental history is *KAJAK – Estonian Centre for Environmental History* (Tallinn University, Estonia). The centre is a structural unit of Tallinn University but includes members from all academic centres of Estonia.

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

BA courses:

- History of Environment and Technology (in English), Tallinn University
- Globaalne ajalugu (Global History, in Estonian), Tallinn University

MA courses:

- Environmental Humanities , Tallinn University (in English)

Project based teaching:

- 2022-2023: Pruulitud ELU (Brewing LIFE), ELU project. Practice based course including brewing historical beers.
- Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme, Tallinn University in collaboration with University of Stavanger, Universität Freiburg, Rachel Carson Center

Doctoral Schools:

- Winter school “Integrative Humanities: Intersecting Art, Science, Nature and Technology”; 23–27 January 2023; Tallinn University
- Summer School “Care of Earth, Care of People”, 4-11 Aug. 2023, Latvian Centre for Contemporary Art (LCCA)

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

- **November 1-2, 2021**, the second Baltic Conference on the Environmental Humanities and Social Sciences (BALTEHUMS II), online from Tallinn University, Estonia.
- Keskkond ja humanitaaria: suunad, meetodid, allikad. (Environment and Humanities: directions, methods, sources) Online seminar on Environment and the humanities in Estonia. 28.01.2023
- KAJAK Book seminars – monthly online seminar series in Estonian, with occasional English episodes directed to the entire region.

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

Projects:

Estonian Environmentalism in the 20th century: ideology, discourses, practices; PI: Ulrike Plath, Tallinn University; Funded by Estonian Science Foundation

Adaptation and mitigation of environmental change; PI: Jaanus Teramaa, Tallinn University; Funded by Tallinn University

Raising climate awareness; PI: Jaanus Teramaa, Tallinn University; Funded by Norway Grants

Developing KAJAK's (TLU's Centre for Environmental History) competences in Applied Environmental Humanities (AEH); PI: Kadri Tüür, Tallinn University; Financer: Tallinn University

Foreign vs local in Medieval and Modern Age foodways in the eastern Baltic: tracing the changing food consumption through provenance analyses; PI: Lembi Lõugas, Tallinn University; Funder: Estonian Research Council

Competing Discourses of Nature in Latvia and Ecological Solidarity as a Consensus Building Strategy, Artis Svece, Anita Zarina; University of Latvia, Funder: Latvian Council of Science.

Collaborative projects:

Citizen Science for Environmental Citizenship: Backyard Birding and the Potential for Cultivating Green Engagement, Estonian PI: Elle-Mari Talivee; In collaboration with Stavanger University; Funder: European Commission

Cold War Coasts, collaborative project with KTH Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden); Financers: Swedish Research Council Formas, Tallinn University.

Most important publications:

Linda Kaljundi, Anu Mänd, Ulrike Plath, Kadri Tüür (in press), *Baltic Human-Animal Histories: Relations, Trading and Representations*. Studies in Literature, Culture, and the Environment Frankfurt a.M. et al.: Peter Lang

Ulrike Plath and Priit Raudkivi (eds.), 2023, Special issue on climate history, *Acta Historica Tallinnensia*.

Plath, Ulrike; Elle-Mari Talivee; Kadri Tüür (Eds) (2022). Special Issue on Estonian Environmentalism, *Methis* 5. Tartu. DOI: 10.7592/methis.v24i30.

Kreem, Juhan; Leimus, Ivar; Mänd, Anu; Põltsam-Jürjo, Inna, 2022. Loomad keskaegse Läävima ühiskonnas ja kunstis. (Animals in Medieval Livonian Society and Art) Tallinn: Tallinna Ülikooli Kirjastus.

5. Outreach (environmental history)

2023, Art in the Age of Anthropocene exhibition, KUMU Art Museum (Estonia). Curators: Linda Kaljundi, Ulrike Plath, Eha Komissarov, Bart Pushaw and Tiiu Saadoja.

Right Body, Wrong Body? An exhibition about the cultural meanings of the body in Estonia, 2023, Estonian National Museum. Authors: Rattus, Kristel; Kannike, Anu; Järs, Anu; Värvi, Ellen; Jürjo, Inna; Ruudi, Ingrid; Leivategija, Karin; Alekand, Katrin; Ehrminger, Liis; Kõnsa, Marge; Selgmäe, Maido; Poll, Oskar; Piiri, Reet; Teidearu, Tenno; Gross, Toomas; Anepaio, Terje

Online seminar series by Latvian Centre for Contemporary Art (<https://lcca.lv/lv/>)

21. Sept 2021 – Teadlaste öö: soolast ja baltisaksa toidukultuurist (Scientists' Night: On Salt and the Baltic German Food Culture), Estonian Academy of Sciences – a night with historical Baltic German food recipes and lectures, open for school children as well as academicians.

24 Sept 2021. Brewing historical beer with cannon balls at Padise Monastery with a public lecture on the gardening culture of the Baltic Germans and the impact of climate change to their livelihoods, Ulrike Plath

6. Other

The number of new BA and MA students who engage with environmental history is constantly increasing in Estonia. In Tallinn University we can even see a rise in interest for a PhD in environmental history, as exemplified by two current PhD students at Tallinn University.

7. General Conclusions

The ESEH region of Baltic States consists of three countries – Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania – that speak very different languages and do not form an integrated academic community. Thus, we have so far not collected administrative or publication data from the three countries systematically. Since environmental history is not equally institutionalized across the region, much of research in environmental history is outside of history departments, or under different disciplinary labels, making any statistics very difficult. This means that KAJAK as the biggest institutionalized centre of the region is overrepresented in this report and other works written in Latvian or Lithuanian may have remained unnoticed. Biannual BALTEHUMS conferences unite scholars of all humanities and social sciences that work with the environment in the larger Baltic region.

BENELUX countries

RR: Tim Soens

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

Following the take-off of Environmental history in the Benelux in the 1990s, its institutionalization in academia – in terms of university curricula or designated chairs – remained long times limited. Over the past decade however, several centres have emerged with a clear focus on Environmental History. A few of the major centres are mentioned below:

The Netherlands:

- At VU Amsterdam, Petra van Dam, chair for Environmental and Water History has cofounded the Environmental Humanities Centre
- At UUtrecht, Liesbeth van de Grift has recently been appointed Professor of International History and the Environment.
- At UMaastricht, Raf De Bont holds the chair History of Science and the Environment
- At the University of Amsterdam, Peter van dam is coordinating the research group Environment & Society contestation & governance

Belgium:

- At UAAntwerpen, prof. Tim Soens is leading the ENVIRHUS research group: Environmental and Rural History of Urbanised Societies.
- UGhent, the tradition of Environmental history initiated by Erik Thoen is currently elaborated by prof. Thijs Lambrecht and prof. Christophe Verbruggen.
- At KULeuven, Maïka De Keyzer is associate professor of economic and environmental history
- At ULB Brussels, prof. Chloé Deligne has specialized in urban environmental history
- At UNamur, prof. Isabelle Parmentier is leading the PolleN-group (Pôle d'histoire et de sociologie environnementales de l'université de Namur).

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

- Several of the Belgian and Dutch environmental historians are currently joining forces to write a textbook in Dutch on Environmental History (the first one). The preliminary title is 'Mens en Natuur: een geschiedenis', published by Lannoo in February 2024.
- The VU Amsterdam is currently launching a [Research Master in Environmental Humanities](#):

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

- In 2021-22, Tim Soens organized the ESEH Environmental History Today! On-line seminars, offering a platform for new research when regular meetings were postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19

- Many of the research centres mentioned above have dedicated research seminars, see for instance the [Envirhus seminars](#) in Antwerp

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

- The Environmental History community of the Low Countries is publishing the annual, peer-reviewed and fully-open access Journal for the History of Environment and Society, for recent issues check the
- The Environmental History community of the Low Countries is publishing the annual, peer-reviewed and fully-open access Journal for the History of Environment and Society, for recent issues check the [JHES-website](#)
- Among the major EH projects unfolding at different universities, I can point at:
 - o [Coping with Drought](#)
 - o [Moving Animals](#)
 - o [Food From Somewhere](#)
 - o [Designing Deserts](#)
 - o ...

5. Outreach (environmental history)

6. Other

- A group of young Environmental Historians from the Low Countries have recently taken the initiative of elaborating a network for PhD students in Environmental History. Coordinators are Caroline Kreysel (VU Amsterdam) and Lena Walshap (KU Leuven and UAntwerpen).

7. General Conclusions

Concluding my term as ESEH representative, I can observe that the field is rapidly expanding. As everywhere Environmental Historians are increasingly working in interdisciplinary environments, to the extent that the specific historical methodology is sometimes evaporating. For me, environmental History shows that interactions between humans and nature are never self-evident or inevitable: there are always different alternatives available. Exploring these alternatives – and the reasons why societies embarked on different trajectories – remains the strength of the discipline, and also brings a message of hope in the present-day environmental crisis: climate change is not self-evident, nor inevitable. Good luck to my successor(s)!

Croatia-Serbia-Slovenia

RR Žiga Zwitter

Research Centres / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

Research programme team *Economic, Social and Environmental History of Slovenia* (Institute of contemporary history, Slovenia)

Research programme team *Slovene history*, University of Ljubljana's Faculty of Arts (i.e. the humanities), Department of History

Research project team *Subglacial carbonate deposits – a new source for studying the presence of glaciers in a glaciokarstic environment* (ZRC SAZU Anton Melik Geographical Institute, Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts)

Research project team: *University of Zagreb's Grant for research on the Influence of palaeo and recent climate changes on processes in marine and continental environments, 2020–2023* (No. 20285705; 2028205; 20286474; 20286585)

Društvo za hrvatsku ekonomsku povijest i ekohistoriju (Society for Croatian Economic and Environmental History)

University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Centar za komparativnohistorijske i interkulturene studije, *Ekohistorijski laboratorij* (Centre for Comparative Historical and Intercultural Studies, *Environmental History Laboratory*)

A couple of other scientific institutions also deal with environmental history as one of the topics, involving ESEH members (e.g., the University of Belgrade's Department of History (at the Faculty of Philosophy) or the Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar, Croatia) and non-ESEH members (e.g., environmental archaeologists at the ZRC SAZU Institute of Archaeology, Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts).

University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

University of Belgrade

Faculty of Philosophy, Department of History: *Introduction to Environmental History* (since 2021, BA and MA level, 6 ECTS), Assoc. Prof. Jelena Mrgić, https://www.f.bg.ac.rs/sr-lat/istorija/zaposleni_od?IDZ=101; due to a huge decrease in number of students, teaching and mentoring is individual and 'tailor made' according to student's personal interests.

University of Zagreb

- Faculty of Science, Department of Geography:

- *Environmental history* (Master's course; compulsory; ca. 25 students), Prof. Borna Fuerst-Bjeliš,
- *GIS analysis of the cultural landscape* (elective; up to 15 students accepted due to the limitations posed by the technical equipment), Prof. Borna Fuerst-Bjeliš.

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of History:

- *Environmental history* (early modern) (MA level), Prof. Hrvoje Petrić.

University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Department of History:

- The ESEH-supported international doctoral workshop *Eastern Mediterranean Coastal and Island Environments: Natural Resources, Their Uses and Perceptions (15th– 18th Century)*, Slovenia, 29 June–1 July 2023, participants from Croatia, France, and Slovenia, professors from France and Slovenia: <http://eseh.org/call-for-papers-doctoral-school-on-eastern-mediterranean-coastal-and-island-environments/>,
- *Historical Geography* (MA level, 5 ECTS): this course will start in summer semester 2024, Asst. Prof. Žiga Zwitter.

Beijing Foreign Studies University:

- course *Environmental Humanities* (since spring 2022, ca. 30% of the class is dedicated to environmental history, Asst. Prof. Goran Đurđević,
- tour *Welcome to Anthropocene I and II* (by Asst. Prof. Goran Đurđević).

Summer School *Environmental History and Historical Ecology of the Dinaric Karst* will be held in Slovenia in September 2023, professors from Croatia and Slovenia.

Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

Multi- and interdisciplinary conference *Gozd in človek* (*Forest and people*; <https://www.inz.si/f/docs/Dogodki/vabilo-gozd-in-clovek.pdf>), organised by the Institute of Contemporary History in Ljubljana (Dr Meta Remec), 16–17 March 2022, presenters from Slovenia and Hungary: historians, ethnologists, forestry scientists, a palynologist.

Multi- and interdisciplinary conference *Dolgoročne spremembe okolja* (*Long-term environmental change*;

https://iza2.zrc-sazu.si/sites/default/files/PROGRAM_DSO_2023_maj.pdf), 16–17 May 2023, organised by environmental archaeologists at the ZRC SAZU Institute of Archaeology (Research centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Dr Maja Andrič and Dr Nina Caf); one of the presenters was ESEH member.

Active participation of our region in the ESEH conference *Same planet, different worlds: environmental histories imagining anew*, Bristol, 2022 (four talks, two of them by master's students).

Active participation of the region in the ESEH conference *Mountains and Plains*, Berne, 2023 (about five talks).

Panel *Okoljska zgodovina med interdisciplinarnimi izzivi in rešitvami* (*Environmental History among interdisciplinary challenges and solutions*) at the 40th conference of Slovenian historians (*Twenty-first century historiography challenges in Slovenia*), Nova Gorica, April 2023 (ESEH member Ž. Zwitter was a member of the conference organising committee).

Autumn 2023: conference *Naravne danosti in ekosistemski potenciali voda Slovenije* (*Natural conditions and ecosystem potentials of Slovenia's waters*), organised by the Institute of contemporary history in Ljubljana.

Individual environmental history conference papers by ESEH members from the region at several conferences, like the pandemic-oriented conferences in Serbia in COVID years (Jelena Mrgić), at the conference *Ecoanthropology: between Man and Environment*, Institute for folklore Marko Cepenković, „Ss. Cyril and Methodius“ University – Skopje, 30 May–1 June 2023 (Hrvoje Petrić), or the lecture at the *Minisymposium* of the Viennese *Centre for Environmental History*, January 2023 (Žiga Zwitter).

Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

Projects: see point 1.

A selection of publications:

Journal *Economic and Ecobistory*, vol. 17 (2021): <https://hrcak.srce.hr/broj/21402>.

Fuerst-Bjeliš, B. & Glamuzina, N. *The Historical Geography of Croatia - Territorial Change and Cultural Landscapes*. Cham: Springer, 2021. <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-68433-4>.

Fürst-Bjeliš, B., Mrgić, J., Petrić, H., Zorn, M., and Zwitter, Ž., eds. *Environmental Histories of the Dinaric Karst*. Cham: Springer, 2023 (submission in progress).

Lipar, M., Martín-Pérez, A., Tičar, J., Pavšek, M., Gabrovec, M., Hrvatin, M., Komac, B., Zorn, M., Zupan Hajna, N., Zhao J. et al. "Subglacial carbonate deposits as a potential proxy for a glacier's former presence." *The cryosphere* 15 (2021): 17–30. <https://doi.org/10.5194/tc-15-17-2021>.

Magaš, D., Fürst Bjeliš, B., Burić, T., Mlinarić, D., Petrić, H. & Klemenčić, M. *Great geography of Croatia: Historical-geographical determinants of the development of Croatia*. Zadar & Zagreb: Sveučilište u Zadru, Odjel za geografiju & Školska knjiga, 2021.

Mrgić, J. “Razmišljanja o pirinču u mediteranskim društvima” [“Some thoughts on rice in the Mediterranean societies”, apart from food history/cultural anthropology, wheat and rice culture in lieu of environmental conditions and the LIA]. In *Kasnovizantijski i postvizantijski*

Mediteran. Životni uslovi i svakodnevica, edited by V. Stanković & N. Samardžić, 46–56. Belgrade: Naučno društvo za istoriju zdravstvene kulture, 2020, with an English summary.

Remec, M., ed., *Gozd in ljudje – razmerja in zgodovina* (*Forest and people: relations and history*). Ljubljana: Inštitut za novejšo zgodovino, 2023 (forthcoming).

Outreach (environmental history)

Lecture at the 12th annual meeting of the *Farmhouse and Artisan Cheese & Dairy Producers European Network*: Zwitter, Ž. *From historical examples to history-inspired sustainable innovation: what can we learn from the environmental history of species-rich meadows in the Alps for sustainable meadow management and cheese making*, 3 October 2022. <https://mountaincheese.eu/>.

A couple of lectures on history of species-rich grasslands in the Alps for the general public and for Grammar School students in the frame of the *European Researchers' Night project* (*Humanities Rock! Human(e) to Animals – Science Covers Every Being*), by Žiga Zwitter and Tadej Pavković.

Lecture for general public: Zwitter, Žiga. *Kräuter aus den Alpen: Ökologie des ostalpinen Kräutersammelns vom 15. bis zur Mitte des 20. Jahrhunderts*, Austrian Academy of Sciences' lectures cycle Akademie.ALPIN.arium, initiative Akademie in den Bundesländern, Galtür (Tyrol), 13 July 2022. <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/detail/veranstaltung/historisches-kräutersammeln-in-den-alpen>.

Lecture Zwitter, Ž. *Dinje rastline kot živi pomniki vojnih grozot* (*Wild plants as mementos of war atrocities*), organized by the Triglav National Park, Bled, 15 June 2022.

Based on activities in 2022–2023, a selection of environmental history topics is included to the plan for the new permanent exhibition about the history of the territory of Slovenia; the exhibition will open in 2025.

Other

Submitted application to host the ESEH 2025 conference in Ljubljana.

Active involvement in the ESEH NEXTGATe (Goran Đurđević).

Active involvement in the ESEH Nomination Committee (Žiga Zwitter).

Exchange of environmental history lectures for MA students among the Departments of History, University of Ljubljana and University of Zagreb (a one-week professor exchange; CEEPUS funding in Croatia, CEEPUS network EcoManAqua); Hrvoje Petrić and Žiga Zwitter.

Visiting lectures in historical climatology and water history at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (2022, a one-week professor's exchange, CEEPUS network EcoManAqua); Žiga Zwitter.

General Conclusions

The region is active, it attracted new ESEH members. The number of researchers involved in environmental history activities in the region has increased significantly, the number of university courses including environmental history has risen as well.

Czech Republic and Slovakia

RR: Doubravka Olšáková

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

Czech Republic

Working Group on Environmental Contemporary History, Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences, the head: Jiří Janáč

Slovakia

Environmental History Section of the Slovak Historical Society, the head: Michal Ďurčo

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

Regular Seminars of the Institute of Botany, Czech Academy of Sciences

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

The most important meeting of our community was a special symposium organized on the occasion of the 12th Congress of Czech Historians – a traditional professional meeting of historians of the Czech Republic, on 20th September 2022. The program is below, the list of abstracts which gives a full picture of cooperation between various institutions in the Czech Republic is attached.

Environmental Discourses in Czech and Slovak Historiography: Social Actors and Movements from National Revival to Charter 77

Organizers: Mgr. Doubravka Olšáková, PhD.; Mgr. Jiří Janáč, Ph.D.
20th September 2022, Ústí nad Labem

Panel I:

1. Prof. PhDr. Petr Jemelka, Dr. (Faculty of Education, Masaryk University in Brno)
Environmental Topics in the History of Our Philosophy
2. Mgr. Petr Vidomus, Ph.D. (Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague)
When a Sociologist Researches Experts: Experiences from the Research of Czech Klimaskeptics

Panel II:

1. Dr. Jana Piňosová (Serbski institut z.t. (Sorbisches Institut e.V., Bautzen)
Perception of Nature and the Necessity of its Protection at the Turn of the 19th and 20th Century in the Czech Lands
2. Mgr. Jiří Janáč, Ph.D. (Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague)
Designing Nature in the Czech(oslovak) Republic - Continuities and Changes

3. Mgr. Júlia Čížová (Historical Institute, Slovak Academy of Sciences)

Environmental History in Slovakia in the Context of Social and Intellectual History

4. Mgr. Doubravka Olšáková, PhD. (Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences)

Charter 77: Discussions and Documents on Environmental Issues

Panel III:

1. Dr. Pavla Šimková (Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München)

Nature without Borders? The History of Transboundary Nature Conservation in Šumava and the Bavarian Forest

2. PhDr. Mgr. Kristýna Kaucká, Ph.D. (Masaryk Institute and Archives, Czech Academy of Sciences)

"The Golden Age of the Beetle" in Šumava (1868–1877)

3. PhDr. Jiří Woitsch, Ph.D. (Institute of Ethnology, Czech Academy of Sciences)

A Cultural Materialist in Denial. Jaroslav Kramář and "Western" Inspiration in Czechoslovak Ethnography of the 1960s

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

PROJECTS:

Technocratic Environmentalism in the Cold War: Czechoslovak Experts in the UNECE (1950s-1980s) (2023–2025, GA ČR, Principal Investigator: Jiří Janáč)

Science and Emotion: Rethinking the Environmental Movement under Communism in Czechoslovakia in the 1970s-1980s (2022–2024, GA ČR, Principal Investigator: Doubravka Olšáková)

PUBLICATIONS:

BENEŠ, J., POKORNÁ, Adéla, STARCOVÁ, Marcela, PTÁKOVÁ, M., DEJMAL, M., DRESLEROVÁ, Dagmar, HAJNALOVÁ, E., HAJNALOVÁ, M., CHVOJKA, O., IRMIŠOVÁ, J., KUNA, Martin, LÁTKOVÁ, Michaela, LISÁ, Lenka, MARÍK, Jan, POKORNÝ, P., STAREC, P., ŠÁLKOVÁ, T., ŠÍDA, P., VOSTROVSKÁ, I. *Archaeobotany in Czechia and beyond. The past and present of the discipline*. České Budějovice: Nakladatelství Jihočeské univerzity v Českých Budějovicích, 2022. Episteme, Archaeologia. ISBN 978-80-7394-914-3.
CÍLEK, Václav, HANEL, L., ZEMEK, V., CÁDER, R., TUREK, J., HLAVÁČEK, Petr, BOLINA, P., KLIMEK, T., SŮVOVÁ, Z., KRÍŽEK, P., MEDUNA, P., MUDRA, P., PEŠOUT, P., KEŘKA, J., NAVRÁTIL, Tomáš, ROHOVEC, Jan, PÁNKOVÁ, Hana. *O památné hoře Blaníku a jejím kraji. Příběhy posvátných hor*. Praha: Dokořán, 2022. ISBN 978-80-7675-057-9.

JAROŠOVÁ, Lenka, ed. *Krajina a lidé: kulturní krajina českého Slezska v proměnách: kritický katalog výstavy*. Vydání první. Opava: Slezské zemské muzeum, 2021. 195 stran. ISBN 978-80-87789-80-3.

LÖW, Jiří, WITTMANN, Maxmilián a DOHNAL, Tomáš. *Rural landscaping and its tools*. 1st edition. Brno: Akademické nakladatelství CERM, 2022. 347 stran. ISBN 978-80-7623-085-9.

LÖW, Jiří, WITTMANN, Maximilián a DOHNAL, Tomáš. *Tvorba rurální krajiny a její nástroje*. 1. vydání. Brno: Akademické nakladatelství CERM, 2022. 333 stran.

OLŠÁKOVÁ, Doubravka a JANÁČ, Jiří. *The cult of unity: the Stalin plan for the transformation of nature in Czechoslovakia, 1948-1964*. First edition. Praha: Academia, 2021. 298 stran. Šťastné zítřky = Bright future series; vol. 31. ISBN 978-80-200-3089-4.

ŠIMANDL, Milan. *Vývoj právní ochrany dřevin v českých zemích*. Praha: Univerzita Karlova, Právnická fakulta, 2021. 277 stran. Prameny a nové proudy právní vědy; no. 73. ISBN 978-80-7630-015-6.

PAPERS:

BUKAČOVÁ, Irena. Historie není jen muzeum. *Vlastivědný sborník: čtvrtletník pro regionální dějiny severního Plzeňska*, 2022, 32(2), s. 9-10. ISSN 1801-0032.

CIAHOTNÝ, Karel a WANNER, Jiří. Historie Fakulty technologie ochrany prostředí VŠCHT Praha = History of the Faculty of Environmental Technology, UCTPrague. *Chemické listy* [online], 2022, 116(10), s. 581-588 [cit. 2023-08-02]. ISSN 0009-2770. Dostupné z: <http://www.chemicke-listy.cz/ojs3/index.php/chemicke-listy/article/view/4131/4058>.

KULHANOVÁ, Petra. Klimatická konference COP26 - uhlí, auta, peníze a stromy. *Lesnická práce*, 2021, 100(12), s. 12-13. ISSN 0322-9254. Dostupné také z: <http://lmda.silvarium.cz/uuid/uuid:f51f07af-c114-4392-a7d7-dc98c2af4456>

PETRÁŠEK, Karel. Každodenní život jihočeských rašelinářů: (příspěvek k environmentálním dějinám první poloviny 20. století). *Historie - Otázky - Problémy*, 2021, 13(1), s. 122-145. ISSN 1804-1132. Dostupné také z: https://historieotazkyproblemy.ff.cuni.cz/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2021/10/Karel_Petrasek_122-145.pdf

SLOUP, Miroslav, LEHNEROVÁ, Lenka a LEHEČKA, Jan. Demonstrační objekty lesního hospodářství. II. *Lesnická práce*, 2021, 100(9), s. 33-35. ISSN 0322-9254. Available online: <http://lmda.silvarium.cz/uuid/uuid:87d37bce-f2fa-4404-89ae-970da12f28c6>.

SVOBODOVÁ, Jana. Lesy v harmonické krajině Křivoklátska: historie, tradice a lesnická péče. *Lesnická práce*, 2022, 101(4), s. 28. ISSN 0322-9254.

ŠÁDKOVÁ, Eva a JANSKÝ, Bohumír. Obnova krkonošských klauz - odpověď autorů článku = The restoration of splash dams in the Krkonoše Mts - the author's reply. *Opera Corcontica*, 2021, 58, s. [281]-283. ISSN 0139-925X. Available online: http://opera.krnep.cz/apex/?p=103:8::NO:8:P8_ROCNIK_ID,P8_CLANEK_ID,P8_CP:58,15,12

5. Outreach (environmental history)

Not known.

6. Other

- Environmental Discourses in Czech and Slovak Historiography: Social Actors and Movements from the National Revival to Charter 77, Organizers: Jiří Janáč, Ph.D., and Doubravka Olšáková, Ph.D.

- The Environmental Theme in the History of Our Philosophy, Prof. PhDr. Petr Jemelka, Dr. (Faculty of Education, Masaryk University in Brno)
- When a Sociologist Researches Experts: Experiences from the Research of Czech Klimaskeptics, Mgr. Petr Vidomus, Ph.D. (Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague)
- Perception of Nature and the Necessity of Its Protection at the Turn of the 19th and 20th Century in the Czech Lands, Dr. Jana Piňosová (Sorbisches Institut e.V., Bautzen)
- Designing Nature in the Czech(slovak) Republic - Continuities and Changes, Mgr. Jiří Janáč, Ph.D. (Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague)
- Environmental History in Slovakia in the Context of Social and Intellectual History, Mgr. Júlia Čížová (Historical Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, v. v. i.)
- Charter 77 Discussions and Documents on Environmental Issues, Mgr. Doubravka Olšáková, PhD. (Institute for Contemporary History of the CAS, v. v. i.)
- Nature Without Borders? The History of Transboundary Nature Conservation in Šumava and the Bavarian Forest, Dr. Pavla Šimková (Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München)
- The "Golden Age of the Beetle" in Šumava (1868-1877), PhDr. Mgr. Kristýna Kaucká, Ph.D. (Masaryk Institute and Archives of the CAS, v. v. i.)
- A Cultural Materialist in Denial. Jaroslav Kramář and "Western" Inspiration in Czechoslovak Ethnography of the 1960s, PhDr. Jiří Woitsch, PhD. (Institute of Ethnology of the CAS, v. v. i.)

Environmental Discourses in Czech and Slovak Historiography:

Social Actors and Movements from the National Revival to Charter 77

Organizers: Jiří Janáč, Ph.D., and Doubravka Olšáková, PhD.

In the context of current discussions about climate change, the Green New Deal, or the relationship between the social and natural dynamics of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, more (or less) informed references to the past are often made. With a few exceptions, the Czech historical community enters these discussions rather cautiously. The methodological and interpretative plurality of environmental history, drawing here and there on the (history of) individual (natural) science disciplines, here and there on social historical approaches or art history, does not bring interesting and completely unambiguous positions on the solution of these problems to the media. However, our panel does not intend to remedy this situation; on the contrary, we want to present attempts to historicize this environmental debate in the Czech environment and thus contribute, within the limits of the humanities, to understanding its internal dynamics, continuities and discontinuities at the level of institutions, ideas, social groups, their interests and actors. Indeed, it seems that ignoring "humanities" expertise leads to blind reproduction of historically formed opinions and barriers that sharply separate them and block the search for social consensus.

The Environmental Theme in the History of Our Philosophy

prof. PhDr. Petr Jemelka, Dr. (Faculty of Education, Masaryk University in Brno)

Exploring the history of environmental philosophical thinking in the context of the development of social conditions in this country (unlike abroad) has so far been somewhat neglected. However, this is a fundamentally philosophical issue (the relationship between man and the world), which is becoming more urgent in the context of the global environmental crisis. The retrospective seeks to complete the picture of the history of our thought (philosophy and science) with details and connections that have not yet been revealed, and it also seeks to answer the question of the originality of the thought of our authors. The elaboration of this theme is guided by an effort to synthesize a view that captures the significant characteristics of our philosophical thought. Above all, it is a concretization of the historiographical view of some not fully satisfactorily covered stages of the history of our (Czech and Slovak) philosophy (see the assessment of the post-war period and the view of the role of unofficial variants of philosophical work during the so-called normalization). It is also a defence of the view that original and authentic philosophical work was and remains a very important part of our spiritual culture. Engaging with the history of indigenous philosophical thought makes sense and, in specific forms, can offer remarkable inspirations for today.

When a Sociologist Researches Experts:
Experiences from the Research of Czech Klimaskeptics

Mgr. Petr Vidomus, Ph.D. (Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague)

In my opinion, a humanities-educated researcher in conversation with an expert in another field, especially in the sciences, will never gain the status of a colleague who has equal status and has shared norms and expectations that do not need to be explained to the counterpart. What dilemmas arise if a sociologist/historian wants to investigate the culture of such disciplines, especially the natural sciences? Is it better to pose as a layperson in such a situation, or simply as an expert in another culture of knowledge? (Bogner, Menz 2009). Students in the humanities often choose qualitative research on populations they are ideologically close to (feminism, environmentalism, cycloactivism, etc.) for their theses. However, I believe that by researching groups that are radically different in terms of values/culture (conservative, nationalist movements, etc. - in my case, Klimaskepsis), we learn much more about ourselves and the subject of our interest. In this paper, I draw on qualitative research on Czech Klimaskeptics that I conducted in 2011-2014. Drawing on my research experience, I illustrate the dilemmas that interviews with experts from "another culture of knowledge" pose: problems in establishing trust (and losing it), power/status inequalities, access to the field, and breaking down one's own preconceptions. The paper is methodological in nature, and points of contact can be found with oral history methodology and environmental history studies.

Perception of Nature and the Necessity of Its Protection at the Turn of the 19th and 20th Century in the Czech Lands

Dr. Jana Piňosová (Sorbisches Institut e.V., Bautzen)

The question of how to perceive and treat nature and the resources used by society began to be publicly discussed in the Czech lands at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. Within a few years, the circle of those who dealt with this issue not only expanded considerably but also became more interconnected. Characteristics of these early public debates on nature conservation are, on the one hand, the diversity of motivations for addressing the issue, as well as the diversity of ideas about what

nature means at all. One conviction, in particular, became the link and thus the premise of the public debates: in a world in which cultures go through qualitatively different stages, nature conservation is a sign of the maturity of a particular culture. The paper first focuses on those social spheres in which conservation ideas have developed and spread. It will highlight the diversity of motivations for appropriating the idea of nature conservation, the associated diversity of ideas about what nature conservation even means, and the implications of those ideas. Since debates in themselves do not condition the institutionalization of a particular discourse, I will discuss in the second part of the lecture the conditions that contributed to the gradual institutionalization of nature conservation in the Czech lands or, on the contrary, made it more difficult. The lecture is based on my qualifying thesis on the beginnings of nature conservation in the Czech lands at the beginning of the 20th century, "Inspiration Natur. Naturschutz in den böhmischen Ländern bis 1933", which was published in 2017 by the Herder-Institut in Marburg.

Designing Nature in the Czech(oslovak) Republic - Continuities and Changes

Mgr. Jiří Janáč, Ph.D. (Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague)

The natural sphere as a part of the human environment has long been the subject of more or less successful attempts at management in modern societies, which in the Czech context are often referred to as the "creation" of landscape/nature/environment. More or less radical transformative discourses in the sense of designing, enhancing, streamlining, or rationalizing nature, framed by nation-building narratives of civilizing mission or scientific theses on the laws of socio-economic development, have constituted a crucial part of the state-rationalist approach to nature as a primarily economic but also biological source of social well-being (Scott, Foucault). Traditional technocratic (in the sense of expert knowledge) conceptions of planning the use of "nature", thinking in terms of technical "improvement" of the capacity of the natural environment with a view to harmonizing biological (ecological), economic, and social functions, have in a sense persisted to the present day. So have the tools available for their enforcement. This is despite the fact that since the beginning of the 1970s they have faced challenges related to broader social transformation in the global and Czechoslovak context. The paper will briefly present how the concepts of planning and designing nature changed during the 20th century and who were their promoters.

Environmental History in Slovakia in the Context of Social and Intellectual History

Mgr. Júlia Čížová (Historical Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, v. v. i.)

Environmental history was initially established in Slovakia only slowly, but recently research has been developing more dynamically. In Slovak historiography they are a marginal part of economic history, history of ideas, science and technology, and historical geography. Despite the fact that not a large number of historians have dealt with the history of landscape and the environment, a number of high-quality works have been produced over the last two decades. Monographs and studies are (not only) probes into micro-regions, where the historical structures of the landscape and their transformations are examined, especially in the process of industrialization, i.e. conscious human intervention in the natural environment. One area of research in environmental history is the history of human thinking about and approaches to the environment. While within the history of Slovak philosophy the aspect of environmentalism is quite elaborated, how this approach changed and manifested itself in social movements, environmental politics, culture and art in the 20th century is still more or less unexplored. Environmental movements and the associated growing ecological awareness of the public contributed

significantly to the creation of civil society and the fall of the communist regime in the late 1980s. The shaping of nature conservation in Slovakia, transfers from abroad, Slovakia's involvement in international programmes, the influence of experts in shaping environmental policy, and the role of voluntary conservation associations and movements are an essential part of the environmental history of the 20th century. The aim of this paper is to present the possibilities and perspectives of research on environmental history in Slovakia in the context of intellectual and social history, with a focus on socialism.

Charter 77 Discussions and Documents on Environmental Issues

Mgr. Doubravka Olšáková, PhD. (Institute for Contemporary History of the CAS, v. v. i.)

The aim of this paper is to analyze the fundamental documents of Charter 77 on environmental issues and nuclear energy in Czechoslovakia before 1989, and partly (if there is enough space) we will also focus on the connection between the environment and the peace movement. Although the Charter 77 and its actors have received a great deal of attention in contemporary historiography, due to their primary interest in human rights issues, analysis of particular aspects of its intellectual agenda and its impact on practical politics, both locally, nationally, and internationally, remains somewhat sidelined from scholarly research. In this paper, we will review the main Charter 77 documents on HR issues, their themes and topics, their impact on official and unofficial movements working in the field of HR protection, and last but not least, we will look at the international response of each document in the world. The shift of the environmental agenda in Czechoslovakia away from the economic perspective or its alternatives, which undoubtedly includes the moment of sustainability, climate change, etc., in post-communist countries appears to be a consequence of its almost exclusive thinking from a human rights perspective - and thus its partial exclusion from the practical agenda and its relegation to the sphere of voluntary activism - rather than from a position of holistic grasp and understanding from the perspective of its economic and broader social impact, a feature continuously persisting from the period of technocratic thinking in late socialist societies.

Nature Without Borders? The History of Transboundary Nature Conservation in Šumava and the Bavarian Forest

Dr. Pavla Šimková (Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München)

Šumava and the Bavarian Forest are among the most famous protected areas in the Czech Republic and Germany. The privileged position of Šumava in the Czech cultural context as the "natural" border between Bohemia and Bavaria, and Germany, has been reinforced in recent decades by the establishment of the national park and the public and media perception of Šumava as a stage on which conflicts over the protection and use of nature are played out. The Bavarian Forest was Germany's first national park and as such is not only a model for other German protected areas but also a subject of debate about authentic 'German nature'. Although the Bohemian Forest and the Bavarian Forest form a single geological and ecological unit, they are also seemingly firmly anchored in their own national context and are perceived as separate, independent units that do not overlap. However, a closer look at the history of nature conservation in Šumava and the Bavarian Forest reveals the important role played by transboundary transfer in this history. This paper conceptualizes the two

national parks as an interconnected space whose history can only be fully understood if it is viewed as a shared history. Whether it is the spread of conservation ideas between the Habsburg Monarchy and the German Empire in the late 19th century, the efforts at cooperation between Czech and Bavarian conservationists during the Cold War, or the conflicts over nature care after 1989, transboundary transfer has had a major impact on the way nature in Šumava and the Bavarian Forest has been perceived, protected and used.

The "Golden Age of the Beetle" in Šumava (1868-1877)

PhDr. Mgr. Kristýna Kaucká, Ph.D. (Masaryk Institute and Archives of the CAS, v. v. i.)

The paper focuses on the period of bark beetle gradation in the 1870s in the Šumava region. The central thesis is the self-conception of the role of man as a significant actor in transforming the landscape, in contrast to the neglect of the existence of self-regulating mechanisms of nature. In this context, the paper aims to outline how a new type of human actor-hood was created in relation to natural 'calamities'. What cultural and modernizing narrative about the Šumava events, such as the windstorm and the bark beetle gradation, became established in human society and why was this the case? The decade under review (1868-1877) represents a period of elemental activity in the region, which was transformed from economic forests with forest-like remnants into purely economic forests newly formed by predominantly spruce plantations with the admixture of genetically non-native seeds and seedlings. The discussion paper will present the basic hypotheses underlying the research on the "Golden Age of the Beetle" in the geographical area of the present-day Šumava National Park. It will outline the socio-economic context of forest disturbance in the context of contemporary scientific discourse on forests. Methodologically, the research draws on economic and social history, which it combines with natural science disciplines. Disturbances are viewed through this lens not as interruptions but as a natural evolution of space, which opens up new interpretive perspectives.

A Cultural Materialist in Denial. Jaroslav Kramařík and "Western" Inspiration in Czechoslovak Ethnography of the 1960s

PhDr. Jiří Woitsch, Ph.D. (Institute of Ethnology of the CAS, v. v. i.)

In the 1950s and 1960s, the theoretical concepts of cultural ecology and cultural materialism, sometimes collectively referred to as early ecological or environmental anthropology, developed in a significant and dominant way within "Western", especially American anthropology. In an undisguised continuity with Marxist assumptions, figures such as Marvin Harris, Richard Lee, and Julian H. Steward's theses on culture as an adaptive system whose structure, function, and development can only be explained by an analysis of the surrounding (natural) environment. It is of course no coincidence that the rise of cultural ecology and materialism occurred at the time of the birth of modern environmentalism. At the same time, albeit for completely different reasons, there was a short-lived revival of theoretical debates within Czech or Czechoslovak ethnography, which were accompanied by an effort to find "new" interpretive frameworks for "old" topics. The paper will outline how one of the leading representatives of our ethnography at that time, Jaroslav Kramařík (1923-1974), was inspired by American anthropologists and how he was able to apply some of their theses - without quoting them explicitly even once - to the classical ethnographic topic of the development of agriculture in Šumava.

Francophone Countries

RR: Charles-François MATHIS

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

Environmental history in France is mainly organised by the RUCHE (French network of environmental historians), whose members have increased (80-100). The organisation of the board has been changed to be more inclusive to different categories of researchers (young, female, etc.). Environmental history is more and more included as one of the main themes of important research centers (Institut d'Histoire moderne et contemporaine (IHMC), or *Laboratoire de Recherche Historique Rhône-Alpes (LARHRA)* for instance).

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

Most senior members of the RUCHE have now found a permanent position, at university or the CNRS (National Center for Scientific Research) – therefore, teaching of environmental history is spreading, especially at Master's level (but we do not have yet a full overview of the different courses).

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

It is impossible to list all the conferences and workshops organized during the period, a good testimony of the dynamism of environmental history in France. Let me just mention a few of them:

- International conference “Silent Springs: global histories of pesticides and our toxic worlds”, organized by the Ruche and the Rachel Carson Center, October 2022
- the RUCHE biannual international conference, that took place at the University of Mulhouse (Université de Haute-Alsace): “Frontiers and Environment”, December 2022
- international conference “Encore une transition? Les territoires de montagne face aux changements socio-environnementaux” (“Another transition? Mountains and socio-environmental changes”), Grenoble, December 2022
- international conference “Governing the Tropics” (college des Bernardins (Paris), December 2022)
- international conference in Caen on “Faire la paix avec la nature” (“Making peace with nature”) in November 2023 (<https://paix-nature.sciencesconf.org/resource/page/id/1>)

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

5. Outreach (environmental history)

The RUCHE has also organized, for the second time, a “Spring of environmental history”: a series of conferences, articles, visits all over France and destined to the general public to highlight the contributions of French environmental history to the current public issues in matters of environment and ecology.

6. Other

The RUCHE has also paid tribute to Geneviève Massard-Guilbaud's career by organizing a ceremony and a roundtable on the 1st of June 2023, at which she was offered a book with contributions by many researchers from the ESEH (not only French): *Le chemin, la rive et l'usine. Faire de l'histoire environnementale avec Geneviève Massard-Guilbaud* (Editions des Mines, 2023).

7. General Conclusions

Environmental history in France is now accepted, institutionalized and recognized for its output. It is even becoming fashionable... Most activities, including a newsletter presenting major publications and events, can be found on the website of the Ruche: <https://leruche.hypotheses.org/>

German speaking Countries

RR: Martin Knoll

(Below mentioned institutions/cities in alphabetical order): Universität Augsburg, Technische Universität Berlin, University of Bern, Technische Universität Darmstadt, University of Geneva, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology - Department of History, Universität Innsbruck, University Leipzig, Johannes Kepler Universität Linz, University of Lucerne, LMU Munich/Rachel Carson Center, Paris Lodron Universität Salzburg, Tübingen University, ZUG Zentrum für Umweltgeschichte / Center for Environmental History Vienna, University of Zurich

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

In Austria the Environmental History cluster Austria www.chca.at provides a network of scholars and institutions active in the field.

Augsburg

- New at the University of Augsburg is the DFG funded Heisenberg Professorship in Global Environmental History & Environmental Humanities (Simone Müller),
- IDK Um(Welt)Denken. Rethinking Environment. The Environmental Humanities and the Ecological Transformation of Society (International Graduate School funded by the Elite Network of Bavaria, 20 PhD students, among them 2 Environmental Historians
- Sasha Gora, “Off the Menu. Appetites, Culture, and Environment” IDK Junior Research Group (2023-2029), 1 PI + 2 Doctoral Students

Berlin

- Center for Metropolitan Studies, TU Berlin (urban environmental history and urban environmental studies)
- Division of History of Technology, TU Berlin
- Verein Deutscher Ingenieure – Interdisziplinäres Gremium Technikgeschichte
- International Max Planck Research School “Knowledge and Its Resources: Historical Reciprocities” (IMPRS-KIR)
- DFG Research Network „Stoffgeschichte” (Substance History)

Bern

- Full Professorship of Environmental and Climate History, Department of Economic, Social and Environmental History (WSU), Institute of History (Christian Rohr)
https://www.hist.unibe.ch/ueber_uns/personen/rohr_christian/index_ger.html
- Assistant Professorship of Historical Climatology, Institute of History (Heli Huhtamaa)
- Associate Professorship of Environmental Anthropology, Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern (Tobias Haller)
- Full Professorship of Environmental Policy, Institute of Political Sciences (Karin Ingold)
- Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research (OCCR), University of Bern (currently 41 research groups)
Centre for Development and Environment (CDE) and Wyss Academy for Nature

(<https://www.wyssacademy.org/>, 61 staff members with partner organisations all over the world), University of Bern

Various other research initiatives on sustainability studies, mostly with a historical dimension as well

Darmstadt

- TU Darmstadt, History Department (Jens Ivo Engels, Nicolai Hannig, Gerrit Schenk)

Innsbruck

- University of Innsbruck, Department for Economic and Social History (Patrick Kupper, Ute Hasenhöhl)
- Disaster Competence Network Austria

Leipzig

- Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Department Humans and Environment
- Leipzig University, Geography Department

Linz

- Johannes Kepler University Linz, Department of Social and Economic History

Lucerne

- Institut Kulturen der Alpen, new institute with environmental humanities focus

Munich

- Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society at LMU München

Salzburg

- History Department: Chair for Economic, Social and Environmental History (Sebastian Haumann, Georg Stöger): current research and PhD projects in the field of the history of natural resources and consumption, Citizen Science; chair for Regional History (Martin Knoll): current research and PhD projects in the field of the history of tourism and mountain environments.

Tübingen

- History department

Zurich

- Marcus Hall, Full Professor (Titular Professor) of Environmental History,
- Dept of Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies
- Debjani Bhattacharyya, Associate Professor (Ausserordentliche Professorin) History of Anthropocene, Dept of History
- Environmental Humanities Switzerland (www.eh-ch.ch) involves eight to ten institutions across Switzerland, including the Swiss Academic Society for Environmental Research and Ecology (SAGUF) which funds a working group:
https://saguf.ch/en/projects/environmental_humanities

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

Augsburg

- Lecture (Vorlesung) “History in the Anthropocene. A Global Environmental History” (Summer term 2023)
- Seminar (Übung) “Introduction to Environmental History. Its Methods, Theories, and Concepts” (summer term 2023)

Berlin

Courses (selection)

SoSe 23

- Technik- und Umweltgeschichte des Mittelalters (Weber)
- Zwischen Mangel und Überfluss. Perspektiven der Energiegeschichte (Zimmer/Lettang)
- Ein „hölzernes Zeitalter“? – Ressourcengeschichte der Frühen Neuzeit (Zumbrägel)
- De-Sourcing Knowledge: Strategies of Unmaking in Science and Technology (Weber/Tkaczyk)
- „Interdisziplinäre Herausforderungen bei der Zwischen- und Endlagerung radioaktiver Abfälle“ (Weber/Zumbrägel)

WS 22/23

- Technik- und Umweltgeschichte der Antike (Weber)
- Industrialisierung im Bergischen Land und im Ruhrgebiet (Exkursion) (Weber/Achermann)
- Technik und Umwelt im frühen und hohen Mittelalter [500-1200] (Bauch)

SoSe 22

- Domestic Ecology. Zur Umwelt- und Technikgeschichte des Wohnens in der Moderne (Zimmer)
- Fischkonserven, Turbo-Kühe, Space-Food: Technik- und Umweltgeschichte der Ernährung (18.-20. Jahrhundert) (Zumbrägel)
- Toxic Berlin? – Spurensuche nach den Altlasten einer Region (Kassung/Weber)
- HistLab: Wissen – Technik – Umwelt (MINT grün) (Jähnert)

WS 21/22

- Technik- und Umweltgeschichte der Industrialisierung (Weber)
- HistLab: Wissen – Technik – Umwelt (MINT grün) (Jähnert)
- Wasser/Infrastrukturen der Vormoderne: Mensch, Umwelt und Technik im Mittelalter (Bauch)

Bern

- Regular courses on topics of environmental history and historical climatology at the Institute of History, University of Bern (6-7 courses per semester, environmental history is a compulsory part of the history curriculum)
- Regular courses of environmental anthropology at the Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern (3-4 courses per semester)
- Interdisciplinary Master in “Climate Sciences”, OCCR, University of Bern (about 20-25 students accepted every year, environmental and climate history as an essential part)
- Interdisciplinary Bachelor Minor and Master Minor in “Sustainable Development (about 100 students starting every year, environmental and climate history as an essential part)
- ESEH Summer schools on “Climate” (17-20 August 2023) and “Commons” (16-20 August 2023) preceding the 2023 ESEH Conference in Bern

Karlsruhe

- In the study program „Europäische Kultur und Ideengeschichte” (BA & MA), in each term one or two courses on issues of environmental history are offered.
- In addition, for students of mechanical engineering, a course on the history of technology and the environment is offered each semester. Lecturers for these courses are Nicole Hesse, Martin Meiske, Marcus Popplow and Ole Sparenberg.
- Rolf-Ulrich Kunze, with a team of students, in the winter term 2021/22 organized a public lecture series on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the publication “Limits to growth” which was awarded the teaching prize of the faculty of the humanities and social sciences at KIT.
- In the winter term 2022/23, Georg Stöger (University of Salzburg) was visiting professor at our department and held a series of lectures and courses on environmental history.

Innsbruck

- Summer school workshop
- 01.09.2021 – Wasser im Überfluss? Historische Karten zur Erforschung vormoderner Flusslandschaften und Hochwasserkatastrophen – 3h-Workshop – Summerschool Pro Scientia (31.08.–06.09.2021)
- 17.06.2021 – Spaziergang durch die Geschichte des Inntals. Eine virtuelle Exkursion – Konferenz: Nutzungskonflikte im Alpenraum seit 1975, Issues with Europe, Universität Innsbruck (virtuell), 17.06.2021 (gemeinsam mit Maria Buck und Wolfgang Meixner)
- University Courses:
2021/22: Proseminar: Repräsentationen der Wirklichkeit? Historische Karten als Quellen in der Geschichtswissenschaft
2021/22: Übung: Spatial Turn
2022/23: Übung: Quellen und Darstellungen. Naturgefahren
2022/23: Übung: Quellen und Darstellungen. Am Beispiel von Karten zur Umweltgeschichte von Flüssen
2023: Übung: Quellen und Darstellungen. Naturgefahren
2023: Übung: Quellen und Darstellungen. Am Beispiel von Karten zur Umweltgeschichte von Flüssen

Linz:

- Courses on environmental history topics in the Bachelor and Master programme of history for teachers

Munich

- The RCC offers courses in environmental history each semester. Lecturers include Thomas Lekan (summer 2023), Uwe Lübken, Christof Mauch and Gregg Mitman. As of the fall of 2023, Sonja Dümpelmann will also offer classes in this field.

Salzburg

- Regular courses on different aspects of environmental history within the Bachelor and Master in History
- Contribution to the newly established Transdisciplinary Master in Climate, Environment and Energy within the European University Alliance CIVIS

Vienna

- New BOKU-MA “Climate Change and Societal Transformation”, starting in autumn this year with a specialisation in Environmental History and Long-Term Socio-Ecological Research (LTSER)
- EPICUR – EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY: Gertrud Haidvogel and Martin Schmid: The Emergence of the Danube: A River’s Way to the Anthropocene. Online Keynote Conversation at the European University EPICUR EPICamp IV “Hydrosphere: Challenges of Preserving and Using Water (Eco-) Systems in the Anthropocene”, March 24, 2022
- Universität Wien: Kulturelle Grundlagen des Naturschutzes, VO, 2 SWS (G. Haidvogel, M. Schmid, M. Getzner)
- Frequent environmental courses at BOKU Vienna, see: <https://boku.ac.at/en/zentrum-fuer-umweltgeschichte/umweltgeschichte-studieren/umwelthistorische-lehrveranstaltungen>

Zurich

Annual Bachelor courses in

- “Global Environmental History,” Uww153
- “Ecohealth,” Uww152

Annual Master courses in

- “Themes in Environmental Humanities,” Geo424.1
- “Environment and History,” Geo424

Annual Doctoral courses in

- “Addressing Global Change and Biodiversity,” Eco398
- Regular Lecture: Nature Inc.: Colonial Environment in the Making of the Modern World
- MA Seminar: Climate Change in a Historical Perspective
- MA Seminar: Planetary History
- Regular Anthropocene and History of Medicine Colloquium
- Climate Lecture Series

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

Augsburg

- Sept. 6-8, 2023 “Mis-Placing Matter. Vertical (Hi)Stories of Power and Place”

Berlin

- OPEN CfP: Workshop From passive livestock to untamed beings. Reanimating animals in the history of technology (21.-22.03.2024, TU Berlin)
- Workshop Perspektiven auf Stoffgeschichte, Final Workshop of the Research Network Stoffgeschichte, in cooperation with the Technikmuseum Berlin, (06.-07.07.2023, Berlin) (together with Sebastian Haumann, Eva-Maria Roelevink u. Nora Thorade).
- Lecture Series Stoffgeschichten of the Research Network Stoffgeschichte (09/2021–02/2022, digital) (together with Sebastian Haumann, Eva-Maria Roelevink u. Nora Thorade).
- Filtering Legacies – Filtering Toxic Environments (11.11.2021 - 12.11.2021) (together with Cluster of Excellence „Matters of Activity“, Humboldt University, Berlin and University of Bodenkultur, Wien).

- Main Session: (7 papers): “The Times are Changing: Cities, Seasons and Urban Life Around the World” (together with Avi Sharma)
- 15th International Conference of the European Association for Urban History/EAUH Antwerp, September 2020 (postponed until 2022)

Bern

- Christian Rohr (University of Bern), Melanie Arndt (University of Freiburg im Breisgau) and Christof Mauch (Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, LMU Munich) have installed a shared doctorate seminar once a year, which took place in Aeschi bei Spiez (Canton of Bern) on 13-15 September 2021 (“Interdisciplinary and Mixed-Methods Approaches in Environmental History: Potentials and Challenges”), and in Schönwag (Bavaria) on 25-27 November 2022 (“Writing Environmental History: The Pleasures and Challenges of Communicating Ideas through Text”). Both were fully booked and were attended by young scholars from the three institutions as well as some more doctoral students and early postdocs). The next doctorate seminar will be held in St. Trudpert (Baden-Württemberg) in December 2023.
- InfoClio conference: “Archive der Umwelt; Naturwissenschaften und Geschichte” (2018, Bern)
- “Mosquitopia: The Place of Pests in a Healthy World,” Conference in collaboration with the Rachel Carson Center (2019, Munich). Book with same title published with Routledge, 2021.
- Climate Cultures Workshop: Mixed Methods (May 2023) organized by the Chair of the History of Anthropocene

Geneva

- The 6th “Schweizerische Geschichtstage” held at the University of Geneva has been dedicated to “Nature”. More than 500 scholars from Switzerland and abroad were attending.

Linz

- Workshop on economic, social and environmental history für PhD students (2022)

Munich

- In the summer of 2023 the RCC, together with the Amerika-Institut offered a lecture series titled Challenges in American History: Crises, Wars, Environment that brought scholars from all over Germany to Munich, including Melanie Arndt (Freiburg), Dorothee Brantz (Berlin), Bernd Greiner (Hamburg), Eleonora Rohland (Bielefeld).

Salzburg

- Workshop on economic, social and environmental history für PhD students (2021, online)

Vienna

- Series of ZUG-Minisympolia, c. 4-6/year, since 2021 with E. Draganits, M Bieling, Ž. Zwitter, C. Spitzbart, A. Vadas, G. Bonan, R. Groß, L. Sedrez, A. Serles, G. Bilen, and O. Inal.
- Christina Spitzbart-Glasl: Presentation at 48. Frühjahrskolloquium des Instituts für vergleichende Städtegeschichte “The metabolism of premodern cities - environmental history of urban areas”, March 21, 2023

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

Augsburg

- Simone Müller, *The Toxic Ship. The Voyage of the Khian Sea and the Global Waste Trade*, Weyerhaeuser Series in Environmental History, University of Washington Press, 2023.
- Simone Müller, “Waking Sleeping Beauty. On Planetary Dis:connects,” *Journal of Modern European History* 2 (2023): 21-23.
- Simone Müller, “Dirty New Natures. Infrastructures and the Global Waste Economy,” in Giacomo Bonan and Katja Occhi (eds.) *Environment and Infrastructure* 2023, 141-160.

Berlin

Projects

- Waste Studies; Histories of Waste and Recycling (Weber)
- History of technology and environment as “usable pasts” (Weber)
- Fische im Fluss: Technik- und Umweltgeschichte des fluvialen Lebens im 20. Jahrhundert (Zumbrägel)
- Die Natur des Komforts. Häusliche Umwelten und menschliche Bedürfnisse, 1830-1930 (Zimmer)
- Energy Transitions and the history of energy conservation (Zumbrägel)
- Exploring the Transformation of Political Environments through the Lens of Engineering Practices (Aybike Alkan)
- Berlin University Alliance Grand Challenges Grant “Re-Scaling Global Health. Human Health and Multispecies Cohabitation on an Urban Planet” (Dorothee Brantz co-speaker with Sandra Jasper), 2023-2025 –
Description: This is a 1,2 million € joint research project that brings together historians, geographers, ecologists, and urban designers to investigate the potential of a multispecies perspective when thinking about the transformation of urban spaces from a planetary perspective.
- DFG, “City Seasons: On the Nature of Change in Urban Space around 1900 and 2000,” 2018-2023 (ongoing, book project Dorothee Brantz)

Description: Do cities have seasons? All of us living in temperate climate zones in European and North American cities know that urban life changes throughout the year, but up to this point urban scholarship has not really paid attention to this dimension of temporality. Our project examines the empirical and conceptual impact of seasons on the planning of and daily practices in cities in the temperate zones from two distinct vintage points – the turn of the 20th and the turn of the 21st century – in order to trace the continuities and changes in urban engagements with seasonal variation. Through monographs, articles, workshops and conferences, we hope to provide new empirical and conceptual foundations for a more sustained study of seasons within urban studies.

Publications (selection)

Heike Weber

- Weber, Heike; Astrid Venn, Jörg Rüsewald u. Stiftung Deutsches Technikmuseum Berlin (Hg.), *Reparieren, Warten, Improvisieren. Technikgeschichten des Unfertigen*, Berlin 2023.

- Rethinking Waste within Business History: A Transnational Perspective on Waste Recycling in World War II (with Chad Denton). Special Issue, Business History, doi.org/10.1080/00076791.2021.1919092
- Nazi German Waste Recovery and the Vision of a Circular Economy: The Case of Waste Paper and Rags. In: Business History, doi.org/10.1080/00076791.2021.1918105
- Müll und Recycling: Der Glaube an das technische Schließen von ‚Stoffkreisläufen‘, WerkstattGeschichte 85, 2022, H. 1, S. 13-34. Online: https://werkstattgeschichte.de/alle_ausgaben/muell/
- Zusammen mit Timothy Moss: Special section: Technik- und Umweltgeschichte als Usable Pasts: Potenziale und Risiken einer angewandten Geschichtswissenschaft (Diskussionsforum). In: Technikgeschichte 88 (2021), H. 4, S. 351ff, <https://doi.org/10.5771/0040-117X-2021-4-367>
- Unter Zeitdruck: Zur Relevanz der historischen Zeit-Expertise für die Technikgestaltung und -bewertung im Anthropozän. In: Technikgeschichte 88 (2021), H. 4, S. 399-408, <https://doi.org/10.5771/0040-117X-2021-4-399>
- Krebs, Stefan; Heike Weber (Hg.): Histories of Technology's Persistence: Repair, Reuse and Disposal. Bielefeld 2021, open access: <https://www.transcript-open.de/isbn/4741>

Fabian Zimmer

- Fabian Zimmer: Hydroelektrische Projektionen. Eine Emotionsgeschichte der Wasserkraft im Industriefilm (Deutsches Museum, Abhandlungen und Berichte NF 36), Göttingen 2022, <https://www.wallstein-verlag.de/9783835352261-hydroelektrische-projektionen.html>.
- Renegotiating the public interest. EDF's alpine hydropower constructions and industrial film (1940s–1960s), in: Aschwanden, Romed / Buck, Maria / Kupper, Patrick / Schmidt, Kira J. (Hrsg.): Conflits d'usage depuis 1950 | Conflitti d'uso dal 1950 | Nutzungskonflikte seit 1950 (Geschichte der Alpen / Histoire des Alpes / Storia delle Alpi 27), Zürich 2022, S. 189–203.
- The Day of the Waterfall. Tourism, Identity, and Gender at the Trollhättan Hydropower Plant, in: Environment & Society Portal, Arcadia 33 (2021).

Christian Zumbrägel

- Perspektiven auf Stoffgeschichte. Materialität – Wissen – Praktiken (together with Sebastian Haumann, Eva-Maria Roelevink and Nora Thorade) (will be published in autumn 2023 by transcript).
- How new is energy sufficiency? Tracing the history of energy conservation // Wie neu ist Energiesuffizienz? Eine Spurensuche in der Geschichte des Energiesparens, in: TATuP – Zeitschrift für Technikfolgenabschätzung in Theorie und Praxis 31 (2022), S. 56-63 (Special Topic: Energy sufficiency: Conceptual considerations, modeling, and scenarios for less energy consumption) (together with Nicole Hesse).
- Hydropower and Dams. An Entangled History of Academic Engineers, Local Knowledge and Environmental Features (1880-1930), in: Eike-Christian Heine and Martin Meiske (Hg.): Beyond the Lab and the Field: Infrastructures as Places of Knowledge Production since the Nineteenth Century, Pittsburgh 2022, S. 63-84.
- Der Lachs auf der Leiter. Fischwege und Fischwanderungen an norddeutschen Flüssen um 1900, in: Traverse 2 (2021), S. 71-90, Themenheft "Auf den Spuren des Nutztiers".

- Vom Fischsterben zum Fischschutz: Wasserbauten als Kontaktzonen von Menschen und Fischen im 20. Jahrhundert, in: Tierstudien 20 (2021), S. 53-65.

Bern

- Amongst other projects, the new research project by Heli Huhtamaa on “Climatic impact and human consequences of past volcanic eruptions (VolCOPE)” is outstanding, gaining both an ERC Starting Grant and an SNSF Ambizione Grant (altogether more than 2 mio. Euros/Swiss Francs, 2022-2027). With this project, not only Heli Huhtamaa is financed for five years (now serving as Assistant Professor), but also one postdoc and two doctorate positions.
- Sebastian De Pretto gained an SNF Ambizione Grant (2023-2026) for his project “Stauseen und Umsiedlungspolitik im Alpenraum nach 1918 – zwischen Teilhabe und Ausgrenzung peripherer Gesellschaften” (including an additional doctorate position) comparing Switzerland, Italy and Slovenia
- Christian Rohr is the Editor/Co-Editor on the following book series dealing with environmental history topics:
 - “Historical Catastrophe Studies / Historische Katastrophenforschung” (De Gruyter, Berlin/Boston, editor together with Dominik Collet and Christopher Gerrard, 3 monographs since 2021, a fourth to be published in summer 2023)
 - “Wirtschafts-, Sozial- und Umweltgeschichte” (Schwabe, Basel/Berlin, editor together with Chantal Camenisch, 1 monograph published in 2023)
 - “Verkehrsgeschichte Schweiz” (Chronos, Zurich, editor together with Hans-Ulrich Schiedt, 2 monographs since 2021)
 - “Berner Studien zur Geschichte”, an [open access publication series](#) existing since 2017 to promote excellent master theses and further young scholar publications, 4 sub-series on environmental history (edited by Christian Rohr), so far 21 volumes.

Karlsruhe

- Tilman Wagle is preparing a PhD-thesis on the history of fish, in particular salmon, in the river Murg, a tributary to the Rhine, from the Middle Ages to the late 19th century.
- In the winter term 2022/23, Ole Sparenberg defended his Habilitation thesis on the history of the exploration of manganese nodules at the faculty of humanities and social sciences at KIT. The respective book will be published in 2023.

Publications:

Nicole Hesse

- Wind Power and Rural Modernization. Wind-powered Water Supply Systems in Northern Germany and Southern France, 1880-1950. In: History & Technology 37 (2022), [DOI: 10.1080/07341512.2022.2033388](https://doi.org/10.1080/07341512.2022.2033388)
- Visible Winds. The Production of new Visibility Regimes of Wind Energy in West Germany, 1973-1991. In: Centaurus. An International Journal of the History of Science and its Cultural Aspects 63 (3/2021). <https://doi.org/10.1111/1600-0498.12420>

Ole Sparenberg

- Umwelt und Wirtschaft, in: Marcel Boldorf/Jonas Scherner (Hrsg.), Wirtschaft im Nationalsozialismus und im Zweiten Weltkrieg (Handbücher zur Wirtschaftsgeschichte), Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter Oldenbourg 2023, S. 419-444.

- Was sind eigentlich Ressourcen? Oder: die wechselvolle Geschichte der Manganknollen, 1873-2021, in: *Ferrum. Nachrichten aus der Eisenbibliothek* 92/2022, S. 112-123.

Leipzig

- DFG Priority Programme “On the way to the fluvial anthroposphere” (Coordinator: Professor Dr. Christoph Zielhofer, University of Leipzig)

Linz

- PhD project “Austria’s Pulp and Paper Complex in the European Recovery Program” (PhD candidate: Sofie Mittas, supervision: Ernst Langthaler & Verena Winiwarter, since 2017)
- FWF project “Soy and Agro-Food Change (SoyChange)” (PI: Ernst Langthaler, 2022-2025)
- Special Issue of the journal *Zeitgeschichte* 2/2023: “Ages of Extremes or Great Acceleration? Environmental History of Twentieth Century Austria (editors: Robert Groß & Ernst Langthaler)

Munich

- The RCC publishes two book series *Umwelt und Gesellschaft* (Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht) and *Environmental History: International Perspectives* (Berghahn Books).
- The RCC publishes an electronic journal *SPRINGS: The Rachel Carson Center Review* (biannually) as well as one special issue of *Global Environment*.
- More than a dozen major research projects - in environmental history and related disciplines.

Salzburg

- Research Network “Substance History”, funded by the German Research Council. Forthcoming publication: Sebastian Haumann, Eva Roelevink, Nora Thorade and Christian Zumbrägel (eds.): *Perspektiven auf Stoffgeschichte. Materialität, Praktiken, Wissen*, Bielefeld 2023.
- Monography Georg Stöger, *Transformationen städtischer Umwelt. Das Beispiel Linz, 1700 bis 1900*, Wien et al. 2021.

Vienna

Major Publications, authored by more than one ZUG-members:

- Robert Groß, Ernst Langthaler (2023): „Zeitalter der Extreme“ oder „Große Beschleunigung“? Umwelt- und Zeitgeschichte in Österreich. Special Issue *Zeitgeschichte* 50 (2) (with contributions from Robert Groß, Ernst Langthaler, Katharina Scharf, and Martin Schmid)
- Martin Schmid, Gertrud Haidvogel, Thomas Friedrich, Andrea Funk, Lisa Schmalfuss, Astrid Schmidt-Kloiber, Thomas Hein (2023): *The Danube: On the Environmental History, Present, and Future of a Great European River*. In: Wantzen, K.M. (ed.): *River Culture - Life as a Dance to the Rhythm of the Waters*. UNESCO Publishing, Paris, 637-671. DOI: 10.54677/INTF8577. Open Access online. <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000382802>
- Gerhard Egger, Gertrud Haidvogel, Severin Hohensinner, Bernhard Kohler, Natalia Razumovsky, Gerald Sauer, Michael Stelzhammer, Jurrien Westerhof (2022): *Die Marchauen – Eine Flusslandschaft im Wandel der Zeit*. WWF Austria. ISBN 978-3-200-08287-8

- Robert Gross, Jan Streeck, Nelo Magalhães, Fridolin Krausmann, Helmut Haberl, Dominik Wiedenhofer (2022): How the European recovery program (ERP) drove France's petroleum dependency, 1948-1975. *Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions* 42, 268-284
 - Martin Schmid, Severin Hohensinner, Gertrud Haidvogel, Christoph Sonneckner, Friedrich Hauer, Verena Winiwarter (2022): Des sources aux données et des méthodes aux pratiques: Ce que le Danube nous apprend sur l'écriture interdisciplinaire de l'histoire de l'environnement. In: Stéphane Frioux, Renaud Bécot (dir.): *Écrire l'histoire environnementale au XXIe siècle*. Presses universitaires de Rennes, 131-154. DOI: 10.4000/books.pur.164608
 - Melanie Pichler, Martin Schmid, Simone Gingrich (2022): Mechanisms to exclude local people from forests: Shifting power relations in forest transitions. *Ambio* 51 (4), 849-862
 - Simone Gingrich, Christian Lauk, Fridolin Krausmann, Karl-Heinz Erb, Julia Le Noë (2021): Changes in energy and livestock systems largely explain the forest transition in Austria (1830–1910). *Land Use Policy* 109, 105624
- Projects on common ZUG research interests:*
- Doing Energy Transition? A contribution to the History of Natural Gas Supply in Austria, 1945 to ca. 1980 (funded by: EVN AG); project leader: Georg Rigele (EVN AG) and Robert Groß. Institute of Social Ecology, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (duration: 1/2022 - 12/2022)
 - Phasing in: Understanding the emergence of Vienna's natural gas dependence, 1969-1978 (awarded by: Magistratsabteilung 7 – Kultur, Wissenschafts- und Forschungsförderung der Stadt Wien for 2023); project leader: Simone Gingrich, Institute of Social Ecology, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna
 - Hidden Emissions of Forest Transitions: GHG effects of socio-metabolic processes reducing pressures on forests (HEFT) (funded by the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (757995)); project leader: Simone Gingrich, Institute of Social Ecology, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (duration: 4/2018-3/2023)
 - Climate-adapted forests: Insights based on historical tree distributions (funded by: Waldfonds - Portal Tirol - Maßnahme 8); project leader: Severin Hohensinner, Institute of Hydrobiology and Aquatic Ecosystem Sciences, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (duration: 10/2022-09/2024)
 - Reconstruction of the Viennese landscape evolution since the Bronze/Roman Age (funded by: Museen der Stadt Wien); project leader: Severin Hohensinner, Institute of Hydrobiology and Aquatic Ecosystem Sciences, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (duration: 11/2021 - 12/2022)
 - Historical development of the March-Thaya floodplain along the Austrian state border (March 1720-2020) (funded by: Via Donau - Österreichische Wasserstraßen - Gesellschaft mbH); project leader: Severin Hohensinner, Institute of Hydrobiology and Aquatic Ecosystem Sciences, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (duration: 10/2021 - 06/2023)
 - Historical development of the river March and its floodplains in the WWF-floodplain reservat Marchegg (MarchHist) (funded by: WWF Austria); project leader: Gertrud Haidvogel, Institute of Hydrobiology and Aquatic Ecosystem Management, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna (duration: 3/2021 - 3/2022)

- 150 Jahre Erste Hochquellenleitung - Beiträge zur Planung und zum Bau (150 years of Vienna's alpin springs pipeline - contributions on planning and construction) (funded by: MA 31 - Wiener Wasser and MA 8 - Wiener Stadt- und Landesarchiv); project leader: Christina Spitzbart-Glasl (duration: 1/2023 - 10/2023)

5. Outreach (environmental history)

Global Science Film Festival; Zurich, Bern, Lugano; December, 2018-2023

Berlin

- Lecture Series *Usable Pasts - Insights from environmental history and the history of technology for today's challenges*, together with Julia Obertreis, Timothy Moss und Christoph Bernhardt (April/Mai 2021), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eFtaZ8K_bs0
- Deutschlandfunk, Kulturgeschichte der Wiederverwertung: Entsorgen, reparieren oder recyceln? (22.09.2021), zur VDI-Tagung Reparieren, <https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/reparieren-do-it-yourself-recycling-nachhaltigkeit-100.html>
- Radiointerview mit Arndt Reuning, BR radioWissen: Müll - Ein Abfall mit Geschichte. Sendedatum 20.07.2023, <https://www.br.de/mediathek/podcast/radiowissen/muell-ein-abfall-mit-geschichte/2018225>
- Live-Interview, Deutschlandfunk Kultur, Morgenprogramm, Recycling - Gute Idee mit Haken. 26. Juni 2023
- *Hydroelektrische Projektionen*. Gespräch im Podcast des Literarischen Salon Hannover, 18.1.2023, <https://www.literarischersalon.de/2022/08/25/hydroelektrische-projektionen/>
- Aale auf Reisen. Fischwanderungen an Rhein und Weser durch Zeit und Raum, Videobeitrag zur Tagung „Fließende Räume. Der Fluss als Generator räumlicher Dynamiken“, Mai 2022, https://lisa.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/fliessende_raeume6
- Blog: <https://tgtub.hypotheses.org>
- Public Outreach at the Parlament of Trees Denkort in the governmental district of Berlin (<https://www.stiftung-berliner-mauer.de/de/parlament-der-baeume>)
I am part of the Baumpatenverein who volunteers to open this place every Sunday between March and October, we give tours etc.
- I am also working with a student group to prepare new materials for public outreach to link the historical and environmental aspects of this place (this project is ongoing until at least the end of 2023).

Bern

- The activities of the researchers at the University of Bern focused on the preparation of the 12th ESEH Conference in Bern, 22-26 August 2023.

Linz

- Panels at the ESEH conference 2023 and the conferences Rural History 2021 and 2023

Munich

- Blog: Seeing the Woods; Environment and Society Portal, Green Vision Film series; Weekly Tuesday Discussions with environmental experts and weekly public symposia on Thursday (both during the semester only)

Zurich

- Zurich-Munich Postdoctoral Fellowship in Environmental Humanities, shared annually between the University of Zurich and the Rachel Carson Center; 2018-2021, continuing

6. Other

Bern

- ESEH member Simona Boscani Leoni has successfully finished her habilitation thesis and had gained the *venia docendi* at the university of Bern. In September 2022, she has become Professeure associée at the University of Lausanne for Early Modern History.
- ESEH member Dania Achermann, formerly SNSF Ambizione fellow at the Institute of History, University of Bern, and currently Junior Professor of Environmental and Technic History at the University of Wuppertal, will become a Professor of the History of Science and Technology at the University of St. Gallen, starting from February 2024.

Munich

- Many other activities including environmental history excursions for MA and PhD students

7. General Conclusions

Bern

- Environmental history is excellently established in particular at the University of Bern, but also at other universities and research institutes, and is also widely accepted and visible in the general public. The LOC of the 2023 ESEH Conference in Bern was able to rely on strong support by the University of Bern, by various research partners and by foundations.

Vienna

- Since 2018, the Centre for Environmental History (ZUG) is part of **BOKU Vienna**, a University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences that focuses on the environment, nature and sustainability, but not on history. In such an institutional environment, the genuinely interdisciplinary environmental history, combining natural and historical sciences, which has been practised in Vienna since Verena Winiwarter's beginnings in the 1990s, is more than advantageous.
- In terms of **research content**, we continue our work on rivers, the Danube and its tributaries, in Austria and beyond, combining hydromorphological with historical expertise in reconstructions of rivers as socio-natural sites. Other ecosystems, such as forests, are also subject of our long-term socio-ecological research ("LTSEH"); here we are interested in how forests and their role as energy and nutrient reservoirs have changed during industrialization ("Forest Transition") and how environmental history thereby changes our understanding of present-day climate policy with forest as carbon sinks. Recently we are more and more

concerned with “Umwelt-Zeit-Geschichte”, i.e., 20th century environmental history, where we relate societal change via energy systems and infrastructures to changes in the ‘fossil-nuclear metabolism’ of modern societies, between wars, authoritarian regimes, liberal democracies and mass consumerism.

- In **teaching**, we offer environmental history as a reflection and orientation in the training of environmental engineers, hydraulic engineers or forest managers at BOKU. From time to time, this also results in master theses. ZUG members participate in the faculties of two doctoral schools at BOKU, some also teach at other Austrian universities, in history courses (University of Innsbruck) or nature conservation (University of Vienna). A new MA-program “Climate Change and Societal Transformation” starting in autumn 2023 at our university "homebase" BOKU will offer a special module in environmental history.

Zurich

- The University of Zurich now houses two professors of environmental history, and is actively training Masters and Doctoral Students in the Faculty of Science and Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Environmental Humanities has also seen a strong start in Switzerland; established in 2012, *Environmental Humanities Switzerland* has been organizing various projects, events, and publications to include researchers from the Universities of Zurich, Bern, Basel, St. Gallen, Lausanne, Franklin University, ETH-Zurich, together with universities in Germany, Sweden, Italy, and the USA.
<https://environmentalhumanities.ch/News-Archive>

Greece

RR: George L. Vlachos

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

- National Hellenic Research Foundation/ Institute of Historical Research, George L. Vlachos and Maria Leontsini
- INSTAP/ Study Center for East Crete, Dimitra Mylona

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

- 7th Conference on Environmental History by the Piraeus Bank Group Cultural Foundation: "When the climate changes... Climate as an active factor in the evolution of historical phenomena" (June 3rd 2022)
- 8th Conference on Environmental History by the Piraeus Bank Group Cultural Foundation: "The dialectical relationship between the natural environment and the health of populations" (June 6th 2023)

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

- Vol. 19 No. 1 (2022): The Historical Review / La Revue Historique, Special section: Conflict and the Environment. It includes:
 - a) Vlachos, George L. "A Concise Introduction to Greek Environmental History: Research Hubs, Threads, Themes and Projections into the Future."
 - b) Gistras, Dimitris. "'At the mercy of a miserable ditch named the Kifisos': The Changing Perceptions of the Natural Environment and the Contest with Nature through the History of Athens' Main River."
 - c) Kostopoulos, Giorgos, and Iosif Botetzagias. "The 'War on the Goat': Forestry, Husbandry and Politics in Early Modern Greece."
 - d) Karamatsos, Christos, Spyros Tzokas, Giorgos Velegrakis, and Gelina Harlaftis. "Is There Oil in Greece? Oil Exploration and Scientific Conflict during the First Years of the Greek Geological Survey (1917–1925)."
- Perrakis Kollias, Petros. "Development and Degradation in the Lakes of Lapsista and Ioannina from the 1950s to the Present." Environment & Society Portal, Arcadia (Summer 2023), no. 14. Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society.
- Vlachos, George L. "A Lost Macedonian Ecosystem: The Land Reclamation and Politicisation of the Philippi Marshes in Interwar Greece." Environment and History (2023).

5. Outreach (environmental history)

- 1st Documentary Festival "Screenings into the History of the Greek Countryside", October to December 2022
- Radio interview on 105,5 fm (Sto Kokkino) on Environmental History (George L. Vlachos)

- Radio interview on Third Program on Environmental Humanities (George L. Vlachos and Dimitris Aggelis-Dimakis)
- Lecture on Environmental History at the Historical Society “Mnimon” by George L. Vlachos)

6. Other

- First collection of the fundamental books of Environmental History at the library of the Institute of Historical Research of the National Hellenic Research Foundation
- New PhD project has started by Petros Kollias-Perrakis on the Environmental History of the aquatic commons of mount Pelion. The supervisory committee consists of Iosif Botetzagias, Marco Armiero and George L. Vlachos.

7. General Conclusions

Environmental History in Greece is at a rapid growth. It has reached both academic and non-academic audiences and it will continue to do so with increasing intensity. The main challenge that the field faces is the very low number of individuals who are trained in Environmental History. As historical studies in general are being devalued in Greece, the still experimental field of Environmental History does not draw young people into it.

The opinion of the present RR is that ESEH could suggest the largest universities of Greece to introduce environmental history courses in order to become nursery for new scientists.

Hungary

RR: András Vadas

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

An increasing number of institutions and research centers deal with environmental history in Hungary thanks to the growing number of scholars and research projects initiated. However, there is no specific research center to this date that is fully dedicated to environmental history. A new initiative at the University of Pécs however is of major importance, the Environmental Humanities Research Group (<https://btk.pte.hu/hu/pecsineprajz/human-kornyezettudomanyi-kutatocsoport-hkk>). The other important development is the formation of the Environmental History Branch of the largest Hungarian Historical Association (Hungarian Historical Society).

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

To my knowledge, the following universities offer courses in environmental history:

- University of Szeged (Katalin Náfrádi, Lajos Rácz)
- Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest (Eleonóra Géra, Zsolt Pinke, András Vadas)
- University of Public Service (Róbert Balogh)
- Nyíregyháza University (Zita Szólláthné dr. Sebestyén)
- Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church (Beatrix F. Romhányi)
- Miskolc University (Attila Tózsá-Rigó)

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

The largest Hungarian Association of Social History (Hajnal István Kör) dedicated its 2023 conference to the environment and society. For the program, please find: <https://www.hajnalkor.com/konferenciak?lightbox=dataItem-lkuusum>

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

- Zatykó, Csilla: Folyó, táj és település a középkorban: tájrégészeti, környezettörténeti és lelőhelydinamikai kutatások a Körösvidéken (River, landscape and settlement in the Middle Ages: Research into the landscape history, environmental history and site dynamics in the Körös Water Complex). Research Centre for the Humanities

- Vadas, András: Budapest – egy várostérség környezettörténete (Budapest - Environmental History of an Urban Area). Eötvös Loránd University

Important publications include:

1. *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)

2. *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.

3. *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.

4. 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.

5. Múltunk. Special Issue: Environmental History. Online: - <http://www.multunk.hu/2021-2-szam/>

6. Dealing with Disasters. Environmental History of Early Modern Cities (Edo, Istanbul, London, Pest, and Prague). Eds. Watanabe, Koichi and Kimura, Akiko. Tokyo, 2021.

Magyar Gazdaságtörténeti Évkönyv 2021. (Hungarian Economic History Yearbook). Special issue: Environmental History – Historiography. Eds Gábor Demeter et al.

7. Tájátalakítás, járványok, vizek, birodalmak - Zöldtörténelem II: Tanulmányok a környezettörténet irodalmából (Landscape change, epidemic, waters, empires – Green History, II. Studies in the Literature of Environmental History). Eds. Róbert Balogh et al. Budapest, 2022.

8. Grynaeus, András. *Történeti ökológia / Környezettörténet* (Historical ecology / environmental history). Budapest, 2022.

9. Századok. Special issue: Nature – Landscape – History. Ed. Beatrix F. Romhányi. https://szazadok.hu/doc/szazadok_2022_05_beliv_PRINT.pdf

10. Vadas, András. *The Environmental Legacy of War on the Hungarian-Ottoman Frontier, c. 1540–1690*. Amsterdam, 2023.

5. Outreach (environmental history)

Many important popularizing websites (quibit.hu, ujkor.hu, rubicon.hu, etc.) websites published articles coming from environmental historians.

6. Other

-

7. General Conclusions

The institutionalization of environmental history is going slowly despite the growing number of scholars. COVID-19 coronavirus had a negative impact on the activity of the scholars, especially in face-to-face conferences that hopefully will come back with the new RR.

Israel

RR: Yaron J. Balslev

1. Research Group dealing with environmental history

In 2022 the Israeli Forum for Environmental History was re-established after a long break during the COVID time. A new organizing team was formed, including Dr. Naomi Yuval-Nae, Dr. Dotan Halevi, and Dr. David Schorr. During the spring term 2022 we held 3 Zoom meetings, two of Israeli scholars, and one we hosted Dr. Joana Gaspar Freitas from Lisbon/Munich.

In the last year 2022-2023, the forum had 3 meetings during the winter term 2022, and 3 meetings during the spring term 2023. Most of the meetings were via Zoom, and two were in half of the meetings we hosted international scholars.

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

There are several courses on EH, or partly on EH in Israeli universities. However, there are no academic positions for environmental historians.

3. Annual environmental history conference

Annual EH conference: for several years we held a successful annual gathering. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, we didn't succeed to set it up again. One of our goals for the next year is to re-establish the annual conference.

4. Other

The leading team of our forum for next year will be Dr. Omer Alomi, who is a candidate to be the new ESEH-RR and Dr. Anat Kidron.

5. General Conclusions

It seems the pandemic damaged significantly our community. It might be the down part in basing our forum on monthly meetings. Now, it seems that many of our members got used to virtual meetings over face-to-face.

A second point is that we found that part of our members prefer that the forum will have innovative EH lectures, while others prefer it to be more of a research group. Therefore, we plan next year to have regular meetings, in addition to forming a research group that will meet several times during the year.

Italy

RR: Giacomo Bonan

1. **Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history:**
Società Italiana di Storia Ambientale
2. **University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history:**
<https://www.storiaambientale.it/didattica/insegnamenti-di-storia-ambientale/>
3. **Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops:**
The First Italian Conference of Italian Environmental History took place in Catania between 22 and 24 September 2022. The next is planned for next year in Naples

Nordic Countries

RRs: Viktor Pál, Tuomas Räsänen

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

- University of Århus, Denmark, *Centre for Environmental Humanities*
- KTH Royal Institute of Technology Sweden, *Environmental Humanities Laboratory*
- University of Stavanger, Norway, *The Greenhouse – Center for Environmental Humanities*
- University of Oslo, Norway, *Oslo School of Environmental Humanities*
- University of Oulu, Finland, *Biodiverse Anthropocene Research Programme*
- University of Helsinki, Finland, *Helsinki Institute of Sustainability Science*
- In addition, in various universities there are numerous research groups and research networks concerning environmental history, environmental humanities and human-animal studies.

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

There are professors of environmental history at universities of Oslo, Stavanger, Aalborg and KTH. Finland and Iceland are so far lacking the chair in environmental history.

Environmental history is taught at some intensity in every large university in the Nordic countries. However, students cannot complete an undergraduate degree on environmental history in any of the Nordic universities. PhD program on environmental humanities exists at the KTH.

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

- 6th Nordic STS Conference, University of Oslo, Norway, June 7, 2023.
- Climate & conflict revisited - Perspectives from the past and the present. University of Oslo, May 11–12, 2023
- (Un)Common Worlds III – Human-Animal Studies Conference, University of Oulu, upcoming October 4–6, 2023.
- There are monthly workshops and seminars on environmental history and environmental humanities at University of Oslo, University of Stavanger and KTH and University of Helsinki.
- Environmental Humanities Months of 2021, 2022, 2023, University of Helsinki.

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

There are numerous research projects going on in each Nordic countries, most of which are supported by national academies and are conducted at individual universities or, at most, as

consortiums in domestic settings. In regard to research topics, there seems to be a strong emphasis in the Nordic countries towards animal history. What is so far mostly lacking is the research cooperation between Nordic countries.

5. Outreach (environmental history)

Except some notable figures, environmental history is not widely discussed in the Nordic countries outside academia. Environmental issues are communicated towards a wider public almost solely by natural scientists and economists. Clearly this is where environmental historians have a lot of work to do.

6. General Conclusions

As a concluding remark, environmental history has in recent years broken out of the margins of historical research and teaching. EH topics have been successful in receiving funding, and more institutions focusing on environmental history and environmental humanities has been established. A particular strength in Nordic environmental history lies in animal history. So far, the weakness – and at the same time a future possibility – has been the dearth of cross-border cooperation between Nordic EH scholars despite many similarities these countries share vis-à-vis their histories, ecologies and economies.

Portugal

RR: Nina Vieira

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

CHAM – Centre for the Humanities, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, NOVA University of Lisbon **Research group:** Environment, Interactions and Globalization

IHC – Institute of Contemporary History, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, NOVA University of Lisbon History **Research group:** History of Science, Technology and the Environment

CH – Centre for History of the University of Lisbon **Research groups:** Building and connecting empires; Uses of the past

CITCEM – Center for Transdisciplinary Research Culture, Space and Memory, Faculty of Arts of the University of Porto **Research group:** Territory and Landscape

CES – Centre for Social Studies, University of Coimbra

CHSC – Center for the History of Society and Culture, University of Coimbra

Lab2PT – Landscapes, Heritage and Territory Laboratory, University of Minho

IN2PAST – Associated Laboratory for Research and Innovation in Heritage, Arts, Sustainability and Territory

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

Although there is no formal framework for the discipline in Portuguese academia (i.e. there are no advanced training courses that award a degree in environmental history), several of the Portuguese PT's and team members in environmental history projects are also teachers at their institutions/faculties and are including related themes in their teaching activities, as also through the organization of open lectures and seminars (such as the open lecture of History of Climate, held by CH).

At the ESEH Conference 2022 in Bristol, the RR of Portugal was part of the Summer School Committee and organised the Summer School (*An-)Hydrous Environments: Rethinking Water in Environmental History* with the participation of colleagues from Portugal.

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

Several events and initiatives have been/are being organised and developed in Portugal by different research units and/or project teams, illustrating how Environmental History is growing and being strengthened in the country. Some examples are:

- [Forthcoming] International Congress Uncertain Landscapes <https://uncertainlandscapes.weebly.com/> (November 2023)
- [Forthcoming] V REPORT(H)A meeting “Energy and socio-environmental challenges” <https://reportha2023.wixsite.com/report-h-a-2023> (October 2023)
- [Forthcoming] IV International Congress “Food Sovereignty – Production and supply dynamics in the long term” <https://congresso2023.ruralreport.scha.info/en/> (September 2023)
- [Forthcoming] XIII Encontro Rede BRASPOR “A linha de costa como espaço de interface e identidade: Contributos interdisciplinares das humanidades azuis” <https://braspor2023cascais.wixsite.com/homepage> (October 2023)
- XLII APHES Conference “Labour and social norms” <http://42aphes.pt/en/> (June 2023)
- X CITCEM Meeting “Cultures of Water: Heritage, Environment and Society” <https://www.citcem.org/xencontro/en/> (November 2022)
- III International Meeting “Histories of Nature and Environments: More Than Just Biodiversity” <https://hnemeeting3.wordpress.com/> (November 2022)

In addition, Portuguese researchers in Environmental History have also been establishing contact with and working very closely to other European and pan-European networks, namely through the participation in the III Congreso de la Red Española de Historia Ambiental - RUED(H)A (May 2022), or the Oceans Past Initiative – OPI, among others.

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

CHAM

Several projects related with environmental history, environmental humanities and blue humanities are being developed namely the the ERC Synergy Grant *4-Oceans - Human History of Marine Life: Extractions, Knowledge, Drivers, and Consumption of Marine Resources, c.100 BCE to c.1860 CE* (co-PI: Cristina Brito) <https://www.tcd.ie/tceh/4-oceans/>; the MSCA-RISE *CONCHA: The construction of early modern global Cities and oceanic networks in the Atlantic: An approach via Ocean's Cultural Heritage* <https://cham.fcsh.unl.pt/CONCHA/index.html>; and two bilateral projects funded by the EEA Grants (Marine Lexicon and H-Whale).

CH

European Research Council Starting Grant *DUNES - Sea, Sand and People. An Environmental History of Coastal Dunes* (PI: Joana Gaspar Freitas) <http://dunes.letras.ulisboa.pt/en/>

5. Outreach (environmental history)

REPORT(H)A, the Portuguese Network of Environmental History, continued its work to promote the discipline in the country, through regular communication with its members – website <https://www.reportha.org/en/>, newsletter, and Instagram page <https://www.instagram.com/rede.reportha/> - as well as by organising its biannual international meeting.

The IV REPORT(H)A meeting was hosted by the Center for History of Society and Culture (CHSC) of the University of Coimbra. It was held in online format in October 2021 under the main theme "Sapiens, Health and Environment Meeting: Natural and Artificial Frontiers", counting with around 50 papers organized in 10 thematic sessions, and four keynote lectures by Marco Armiero, Manuel Gonzalez Molina, Charlotte Roberts, and Marcus Hall. The sessions were recorded as are available at <https://www.youtube.com/@centrodehistoriadasociedad8464>

The V REPORT(H)A meeting will happen in 19-21 October 2023 dedicated to “Energy and socio-environmental challenges” and is being organised by the University of Minho. More info about this meeting in <https://reportha2023.wixsite.com/report-h-a-2023>

6. Other

Following the Oceans Conference in Lisbon in July 2022 and the ongoing actions under the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030), the following document advocates for the relevance of disciplines in the field of the Humanities in addressing our current knowledge about the ocean, and future endeavors of science, conservation, and ocean literacy.

Manifesto: Humanities 4 the Ocean:

<https://cham.fcsh.unl.pt/backoffice/uploads/file/destaques/manifesto-humanities-4-the-ocean.pdf>

7. General Conclusions

In the last few years, different academic institutions and research units succeeded in attracting funding – both national and international – for the development of high merit research projects in the field of environmental history. Several events and initiatives have been organised and developed in Portugal by different research units and/or project teams, illustrating how Environmental History is growing and being strengthened in the region. This is also reflected in Portugal's recent bid to host the next ESEH conference in 2025.

Russia

RR: Anastasia Fedotova

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

The School of environmental humanities *Anthroposhkola* (Anthropo-School) is an interdisciplinary institute at the Tyumen State University see <http://anthropo.school/english>

the *Laboratory of Historical Researches* at Surgut State Pedagogical University

As for the *Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History* (Higher School of Economics, St Petersburg) by the early 2023 it's work is almost frozen, since a significant part of their researchers was forced to leave Russia

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

Russian State University for the Humanities (Moscow)

Masters' program at the Department of Archival and Documentary Studies

Environment: Sources, archives, methods and research practices.

Courses for the academic year of 2021–22:

Sources of natural heritage in the archival collections of the Russian Federation; Historical and cultural geography; Forest as a factor of Russian culture; History of water; Climate history;

Soil history and soil science; Natural resources and the history of nature management, Ecological history of Siberia.

For the academic year 2022–23 the course *Animals in environmental history* has been added.

Tyumen State University

The Bachelor's program *Society and the Environment* and the Master's program *Anthropocene Studies*.

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow

March 2022 and March 2023:

II and III Student scientific conferences of the Department of Source Studies of the Faculty of Documentation and Archival Studies of the Historical and Archival Institute, *Man and the Environment*¹.

St. Petersburg branch of the Institute for History of Science and Technology, RAS

¹ A collection of papers was published based on the materials of the conference: *Source studies and culture: Man and the environment*. Moscow: RSUH, 2022.

October, 2021 and October, 2022:

two round tables on environmental history were organized by Anastasia Fedotova and Marina Loskutova as part of the annual St. Petersburg Conferences on the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology; the next one is scheduled for the October, 2023.

Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History, Higher School of Economics, St Petersburg
November 2022 – Conference *Natural resources in the history of the USSR*

European University at St. Petersburg
April 2023 – Conference *Beast and Man: Mutual, Different, Joint.*

Tumen State University

Summer school *Space in / for environmental humanities* – Lake Turgoyak (Chelyabinsk region), August 2022

Conference *Everything changes: climate, society, landscapes*, Baku, November, 2022 (co-organized with Institute of the History of Science of the Azerbaijan Academy of Sciences)

Anastasia Fedotova, Marina Loskutova and Elena Kochetkova during the academic year of 2022-23 organized a series of on-line seminars in environmental history:

December 2022 – Alan Roe: Book presentation *Into Russian Nature: Tourism, Environmental Protection, and National Parks in the Twentieth Century*

January 2023 – Niccolò Pianciola: *The Great Famine in Kazakhstan and Soviet History*

February 2023 – Gregory Isachenko *Protected areas in a large metropolis: the experience of the City of St. Petersburg*

March 2023 – Ann H. Kelly (speaker), Anna Mazanik (commentator): *On means, matters and models of mosquito dissection: Global Health in the twilight of the Detinova Technique*

April 2023 – Monica Vasile (speaker), Drew Swanson (commentator): *A history of the Przewalski's horses in the 20th century: from the zoo back to Mongolia*

May 2023 – Anatoly Kochnev: *Conflicts between human and polar bear in Chukotka and the peculiarities of polar bears' behavior for better understanding and resolving conflict situations*

June 2023 – Katja Bruisch (speaker), Andy Bruno (commentator): *Unexpected agencies. Peatlands' responses to industrial exploitation in the 20th century*

3. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

the Laboratory of Historical Researches at Surgut State Pedagogical University once a year publishes a special issue of the journal *Bulletin of Surgut State Pedagogical University* on environmental history

4. Other

The public defense of Yevgenia Lupanova's Doctoral dissertation (analogue of German Habilitation) *Forestry in the context of modernization of Russian state 1696-1802* – Pushkin Leningrad State University, May 2023

The public defense of Anastasia Lokteva's PhD dissertation *The world of animals in the urban socio-cultural environment of Russian capitals (Moscow and St. Petersburg) in the 19th – the early 20th century* is scheduled for October 2023 (Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow)

Southern, Africa

RR: Mucha Musemwa

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history.

There is no decidedly environmental history organisation in Southern Africa. Historians who work on environmental research in are diffused in several universities and are mainly based in South Africa. For some time, we have believed it may not be sustainable to form an environmental history society as we do not believe that our numbers have reached a point where membership of such a society could sustain its longevity. We have, for the most part elected to work within or embed our discipline within historical societies such as the Southern African Historical Society, the Zimbabwe Historical Association, and the Historical Association of South Africa. At each of these biennial conferences, we ensure that there are environmental history themes and environmental historians present panel and individual papers.

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history:

Several universities such as Wits, Stellenbosch, UCT, University of Johannesburg, University of Zimbabwe, University of Mzuzu (Malawi), University of the Free State offer courses in the environmental histories of Southern Africa/Africa in one form or another.

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

NB: This conference contained themes and contributions to environmental history:

28th Biennial Conference of Southern African Historical Society (SAHS) from 28 to 30 June, themed: Expanding Margins: New and Lingering Questions, and Debates on Southern African Histories, held at the University of Fort Hare, South Africa.

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

Elijah Doro, *Plunder for profit: a socio-environmental history of tobacco farming in Southern Rhodesia and Zimbabwe* (Cambridge, 2023).

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

Allen Isaacman, Muchapara Musemwa, and Harry Verhoeven, eds. Special Issue on Water Security in Africa in the Age of Global Climate Change, *DAEDALUS: Journal of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences*, Fall 2021.

5. Outreach (environmental history)

6. Other

7. General Conclusions

We're hoping to begin the process of bringing together several emerging environmental historians in Southern Africa as their number is growing steadily in the hope of forming a platform where we begin to address environmental history themes as a collective of like-minded researchers in this exciting discipline.

Spain

RR: Santiago Gorostiza

The most important event in Spain these last two years has undoubtedly been the 3rd Congreso de la Red Española de Historia Ambiental-RUED(H)A, which took place in Granada between 11 and 13 May, 2022. Full programme here:

<https://standugr.com/2021/10/21/ruedha2022/>

Turkey

RR: Onur İnal

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

- The Network for the Study of Environmental History of Turkey (NEHT) (<http://www.envhistturkey.com>) is the main platform for environmental historians, both early career and experienced, identifying themselves or showing an interest in Turkish environmental history. It has a Facebook page (677 subscribers) and a Twitter account (1301 followers) – as of May 2023. Besides, it publishes a quarterly newsletter to 196 (as of May 2023) subscribers.
- Environmental Humanities Center at Cappadocia University (<https://ehc.kapadokya.edu.tr/>) is the only institution in Turkey with a focus on environmental history. It publishes *Environmental Humanities*, a digital, open-access, peer-reviewed, international, and transdisciplinary journal twice a year. It has organized national and international conferences related to environmental humanities and the Anthropocene.

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

N/A

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

- [Third NEHT Workshop 2022 - Environmental Histories of the Ottoman and post-Ottoman World The Anthropocene: From Empire to Nation-States](#) took place in Vienna on September 8-10, 2022
- [Second National Environmental Humanities Conference](#) took place in Ürgüp on July 25-26, 2023
- The “Labor and Ecology, from the Ottoman Empire to Present-Day Turkey” conference will take place in Istanbul on September 23-24, 2023

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

- Samuel Dolbee, *Locusts of Power: Borders, Empire, and Environment in the Modern Middle East* (Cambridge University Press, 2023)
- Elizabeth R. Williams, *States of Cultivation: Imperial Transition and Scientific Agriculture in the Eastern Mediterranean* (Stanford University Press, 2023)
- Faisal Husain, *Rivers of the Sultan: The Tigris and Euphrates in the Ottoman Empire* (Oxford University Press, 2022)
- Chris Gratien, *Unsettled Plain: An Environmental History of the Late Ottoman Frontier* (Stanford University Press, 2022).

- Onur İnal and Yavuz Köse (eds), *İktidar Tobumları. Osmanlı Çevre Tarihi Üzerine İncelemeler* (İletişim, 2022)

5. Outreach (environmental history)

- Faisal Husain has been elected to ASEH Council
- Onur İnal has been elected to the advisory board of the Environmental History Cluster Austria (EHCA)

6. Other

- Mehmet Kentel will be University Lecturer in Urban Studies and History at Leiden University from August 2023 on.
- Nurçin İleri has been granted the Gerda Henkel Research Fellowship for her project “Electrical Istanbul: Technology, the Environment, and Everyday Life”.
- Leiden University Press has launched the inaugural Middle East Environmental Histories series, edited by Alan Mikhail (Yale University)

7. General Conclusions

N/A

Ukraine

RR: Tetiana Perga

1. Research Centers / Research Groups dealing with environmental history

Perga T. - member of *Group on Jewish Environmental History* (sponsored by the *Leo Baeck* Institute, Jerusalem)

2. University Courses / Teaching Activities / Summer schools dealing with environmental history

1. Perga T. Guest lecture. «Chornobyl accident within the environmental history of Ukraine», 3.02.2022, University of Helsinki, Finland.
2. Perga T. Guest lecture. «Chornobyl accident within the environmental history of Ukraine», 4.02.2023, University of Helsinki, Finland.

3. Environmental history conferences / Seminars / Workshops

XXVI Interuniversity Student Scientific and Practical Conference "Ukraine: History, Culture, Memory". Organizer – Department of History of National Technical University of Ukraine «Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute».

The "Environmental History" section was organized.

<https://history.kpi.ua/student-conference-announcement-2022/>

4. Environmental history scientific projects and/or major publications

Research projects

1. Perga T. «Jews in Environmental History of the Early Soviet Union: Recycling in the Ukrainian SSR» (financed by DAAD, Volkswagen Foundation, The Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture – Simon Dubnow (DI), realisation: from April 2022 by May 2024).
2. Perga T. Battle for rags in the Ukrainian SSR in the 1920s – early 1930s (financed by Alexanderi Institute, University of Helsinki, June 2023)

Major publications

1. Perga T. (2023). Waste for the Soviet Economy: Recycling of Rags in Ukraine in the 1920s. *Worldwide waste journal*. 33 p. (Article has been accepted, will be published this year).
2. Perga T. (2022). Non-state Actor in Waste Disposal in the USSR: Activities of “Ukrutilzbir” in the 1920s. *The Journal of V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University. Series: History*, 61, pp. 110-131.
3. Perga T. (2022). Waste Recycling in the Early Soviet Union Period: The Success Story

of Ukrutilzbir JSC. Scientific Notes of the VDPU named after Mikhail Kotsiubinsky. Series: History, 39, pp. 26-31.

4. Perga T. (2022). Battle for rags in the early Soviet Union. Partners and competitors. Case of Ukrainian SSR (2022). Academic notes of TNU named after V.I. Vernadskyi. Series: Historical Sciences 33(72), 1(2022), pp. 70-77.

5. Perga T., Perga Yu. (2021). Economic robbery of Ukraine: waste collecting and recycling during World War II. Military-Historical Bulletin 1(43), p. 118-134.

6. Perga T. (2021). Investigation of the foreign experience and technologies of garbage utilization in the Ukrainian SSR in 1920s – early 1930s. Scientific notes of Tavriya National University named after VI Vernadsky. Series: Historical Sciences, 32 (71), № 4, pp. 90-97.

7. Perga T. (2021). Rags – trash or valuable resource? Waste disposal in the Ukrainian SSR in the 1920s – early 1920s. Bulletin of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. History, 4 (152), pp. 57-63.

8. Stefan Dorondel, Anna Olenenko. B Quest of Development: Territorialization and Transformation of the Southern Ukrainian Wetlands, 1880-1960. A New Ecological Order. Розвиток і реформування природи в Європі. University of Pittsburgh Press, 2022, pp. 65–86.

5. Outreach (environmental history)

6. Other

Agreement on cooperation with ESEH

On February 18, 2022 a **Framework Cooperative Agreement** was concluded between ESEH and National Technical University of Ukraine «Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute».

In the framework of agreement:

XXVI Interuniversity Student Scientific and Practical Conference "Ukraine: History, Culture, Memory". Organizer – Department of History of National Technical University of Ukraine «Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute».

The "Environmental History" section was organized.

<https://history.kpi.ua/student-conference-announcement-2022/>

Presentations

Perga T. Presentation of project «Battle for rags in the Ukrainian SSR in the 1920s – early 1930s» (June 14, 2023, Alexanderi Institute, University of Helsinki)

Participation in conferences

Perga Tetiana

1. Annual Conference of North East Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Association (NESEEES), April 30, 2022.

2. “Chance for Science Conference”, організатор – Університет Лейпцига (University of Leipzig), 9 вересня 2022 р. Доповідь “Not only horns and hooves: waste recycling in

Ukraine in the 1920s-1930s”.

3. EAJIS Congress. “Branching Out. Diversity of Jewish Studies”. Frankfurt/Main, Germany. 16-20 July 2023.

Olenenko Anna

4. 2nd International Conference “Space of Great Experiments” i (2-4 November 2022, Baku, Azerbaijan).

5. (International conference “Physical and imaginary landscapes of the Anthropocene” in Southern Ukraine (20 June, 2023).

6. Crossing Boundaries. Human-Animal Relations from Post-Petrine Russia to Soviet State (1725–1991) (29-30 June, 2023, Leipzig, Germany)

7. General Conclusions

In Ukraine, there are no educational programs on environmental history, no disciplines or special courses on this topic approved by the Ministry of Education and Science are taught.

As a result of the war, the popularization of environmental history faces difficulties.

In Ukraine, there is a low interest in environmental issues.

During the war, many researchers who dealt with environmental issues focused their attention on the topic of ecocide, ecological consequences of the war, and decolonization of environmental history.

In Ukraine, environmental history should be popularized not only among scientists, but also among teachers and students, as well as among the general population in order to raise interest in this discipline.

I tried to promote this field through National Technical University of Ukraine «Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute».