

Nr.	Title	The session in detail
1	<p><i>Nature vs. commerce in times of crisis, 1200-1800</i></p> <p>Arnoud Jensen-University of Antwerp; Sander Berghmans-University of Ghent</p>	<p>One of the greatest challenges our economy today faces is how to manage our natural resources in a sustainable, yet still profitable way. This question on the precarious balance between nature and profit – or rather: commerce – is central to many discussions within both the debates on economic development and those on the current ecological and climatological crisis. Aggravating the situation, are the occurrences of many (unexpected) crises, which seemingly push a need for higher (economic) productivity and thus drive a higher degree of commercialisation, above nature. For example, the current Ukrainian-Russian war, the inflation, the post-Brexit-economy etc. all have heavily distorted the West-European grain market, resulting in renewed pressure on the rural sector.</p> <p>Within research on the past, the balance between commercial interests and good management of natural resources is often heavily debated, especially within rural history. From a socio-economic perspective, the focus has for a long time been on the classic 'rise of capitalism'-narrative throughout the preindustrial period, wherein commercialisation and the pursuit of profit take central stage. As historians such as Bas van Bavel argue, the (socio-economic) incentives are what matter most; within a context where actors' incentives are primed on either survival or profit, there is little to no incentive for the actors to produce less for nature's sake. Additionally, historians have often pointed out how in times of crises, a more outspoken disregard of nature and even overexploitation could take place. Furthermore, from an ecological history-viewpoint, commercialisation and profit-seeking are often hailed as the 'nemesis' of sustainable management.</p> <p>In recent years, this narrative has come increasingly under pressure, with many socio-economic historians pointing out the fallacy of projecting modern capitalistic 'rational' economic thought on the preindustrial period – especially as other economical ideals are being uncovered within the sources, such as a moral economy (Faith 2020). Recent research has also revealed a more nuanced view on medieval attitudes toward nature, showing how even within this period practices aimed at keeping resources at sustainable levels had a place (Hoffmann 2015). As a result of these paradigm-shifts, more attention is nowadays given to how preindustrial rural societies balanced sustainable management of nature and commercial interests and how and why this changed throughout time, and the role different kinds of crises played herein.</p> <p>In this session, a wide scope of research is presented wherein this balance between keeping nature and commercial interests takes central stage. With a focus on West-Europe in the preindustrial period, from the fourteenth century until the eighteenth-nineteenth century, the management of a wide range of 'natural resources' – from soil to forests, dunes, animal populations etc. – and how it interacts with commercial interests is examined. We want to question: A) the different ways in which preindustrial societies interacted with natural resources; B) how the increasing commercialization in the preindustrial period affected this interaction; C) the role different kind of crises played in changing the priorities of these societies regarding either nature and/or their commercial interests.</p>
2	<p><i>Spatial pattern of inequalities in rural areas 1300-1910</i></p> <p>Demeter Gábor, Research Centre for the Humanities, Budapest</p>	<p>This panel seeks answers to questions how to process and integrate bulk data and how to analyse and visualize them in order to illustrate differences within and between historical rural regions. The session focuses both on methodological problems and achieved results. How can we measure development levels, thus identify rural peripheries using the official conscriptions and how can we trace the temporal shift of cores and peripheries to different regions? In order to achieve <i>longue durée</i> comparative approach hGIS methods and multivariate statistics are tested</p> <p>The key speakers of the panel demonstrate their research efforts on the example of Hungary and Transylvania, but other regions, methods are also welcomed. Data from conscriptions of the 1330s, 1500s, 1720s, 1750s, 1786s and 1910 are compiled in databases at settlement level and the main indicators and features of the population are visualized on maps. This is followed by the selection of variables referring to welfare, land use, land quality, taxes, services etc. according to the then valid concepts on development. Different concepts on development (economic, cultural spheres, explaining latent variables, etc.) as well as different methods (PCA, all available indicators, common indicators of different time-horizons, etc.) are also compared. Finally, composite maps based on these unique variables are created and then the result of the different time-horizons are compared using gridding method. The database created also gives possibilities to sort out data based on language, religion, legal status of settlements, settlement size, physical geographical features of rural habitats, taxation practices of landlords, market availability, etc. The socio-demographic and economic indicators of the created groups are compared to illustrate if there is difference between the selected categories. The question of „rural regions” (whether there existed group of neighbouring settlements with similar indicator values) is also investigated with the aid of cluster analysis.</p> <p>The panel is open to case studies from other regions, methodological comparisons and any papers explaining a certain historical phenomenon by using GIS or multivariate statistics.</p>
3	<p><i>Materiality of Landscapes. Settlement and Household Archaeology in Central Europe.</i></p> <p>Molnár Kovács Zsolt-UBB Cluj</p>	<p>The overall meanings, understanding and values given to historic cultural landscape, rural settlements, households or material culture changed over time as a result of a range of sociocultural and economic transformations of human society. All cultures adapt, the shifts of native natural environment and the anthropogenic impact and pressure upon the landscape show the richness of cultural changes in all Europe. The level of change is dependent on the embeddedness of the material culture and social and economic practices in question, and how those practices can adapt to more general cultural change. In Central Europe through time there is much variability in landscape, settlement patterns, size and continuity, internal organisation and architecture as well as with regard to the integration of the sites into wider settlement systems.</p> <p>Heterogeneity is a general characteristic of self-organizing socio-cultural systems. There are no universal explanatory models because the territorial, group structural and organizational levels of different historic societies are defined by a number of specific ordering principles. We must refer, therefore, to the internal logic of these groups for an understanding of their settlement, their use of material culture or their construction of social space. In this instance our modern perception that such sites were dominating the landscape is partly misleading.</p> <p>The past tendencies focusing to the archaeological and historical evolution of central sites, the research of the countryside and rural settlements, has been overlooked or ignored, although these spaces can generate particular features that can help to explain developments occurring on a larger scale. In this way, irrespective of area or time span, aspects of local and global continuity have been stressed and overemphasized, leaving obscured more detailed analysis, applied to more restricted spaces, which, probably offer an image of discontinuous evolution, yet offer significant</p>

		<p>information for shaping the big picture.</p> <p>The aim of the present conference panel is twofold: we intend to analyse diachronic change of the historical landscape at both, macro and micro level through archaeological methods; we will focus as well on the topic of the use and functional changes of settlements, domestic and symbolic space.</p> <p><i>Key words:</i> Landscape Archaeology, Social- and Household Archaeology, Material Culture, interdisciplinarity.</p>
4	<p><i>Epidemics and Famine-related Mortality Crises in the Medieval Rural World: Diffusion, Impact, Responses and Written Memory</i></p> <p>Pere Benito Monclús-Universitat de Lleida</p>	<p>Historiography on the impact of epidemics in medieval Europe has mainly been focused on the initial outbreak of the Black Death from 1346 onwards, by far the best known episode of all pre-modern epidemics (Benedictow, 2004). Another feature of the historiography on epidemics and famine related mortality crises in medieval society is its urban-centric nature: most studies on the spread, impact and management of epidemics, as well as on famine-related mortality crises, have been focused on large urban centres, ports and trade nodes (Biraben 1975). We know relatively well the hygienic and sanitary measures that urban authorities took to prevent or deal with epidemics, especially from the mid-15th century, as well as the promotion and foundation of general public hospitals managed by the municipalities. On the contrary, there is great ignorance about how the plague as well as other epidemic diseases both before and after the outbreak of the Second Plague Pandemic, spread in the rural world. What was the relationship between the spread of epidemics and the integration in commercial networks? What was the differential demographic impact of epidemics in areas of high or low population densities, and of dispersed or nucleated settlement? How different was the impact of plague in small and medium-sized towns? And how did local rulers, village communities and the Church manage mortality crises in rural parishes? Certainly, the abandonment of scattered and concentrated rural settlements before and after the Black Death has attracted the attention of English and continental historiography since the works of Michael Postan, but the depopulation has been related more to rural-urban mobility, that is, the attraction that cities offered to peasant families, than with the actual impact of epidemics in the rural world. The role of the parish, rural notaries and testamentary production is fundamental both to understand the behaviour of the rural population in front of the arrival of the epidemic, and to indirectly measure the demographic effects of mortality crises in the absence of records of burials and deaths. However, the role of rural institutions in the face of epidemics remains poorly studied.</p> <p>The session that we propose explores the impact of epidemics on rural society in medieval Europe, questioning 1/ the spread of epidemic mortality on the medieval countryside and the factors (trade networks, forms of settlement...) that favoured or hindered diffusion; 2/ the demographic and economic impact of mortality crises in the rural world; 3/ the interaction of mortality crises due to epidemic diseases and food crises (death and famine); 4/ the coping strategies deployed by men and women in the countryside and in small and medium-sized towns during and after mortality crises; 5/ the management of the mortality crisis by local authorities and the Church; 6/ differences in impact and reactions between the first wave of the Black Death and earlier and later episodes of pronounced crisis mortality; and finally, 7/ the types of records and written memory related to (epidemic) mortality generated by rural parishes and notaries.</p>
5	<p><i>Farm to Spoon? Urban Landownership and Short Food Supply Chains in Medieval Europe</i></p> <p>Tim Soens- University of Antwerp</p>	<p>In medieval Europe the importance of urban landownership on the countryside varied significantly in time and space. It is generally assumed to have increased over time, in parallel to capital accumulation in towns. Seen primarily as capital investment – coined La trahison de la Bourgeoisie by Fernand Braudel (1949) – it has been mostly studied in terms of its monetary return on investment, and its impact on both wealth inequality, and agrarian development. At the same time urban landownership always entailed the possibility of direct food deliveries to urban bourgeois or institutional households, especially in contexts of demesne farming or shareholding.</p> <p>However, even when demesne farming or shareholding were replaced by short-term leasehold, urban-owned land and farms continued to send food to towns, from an occasional fattened pig in autumn to substantial deliveries of cereals throughout the year. Moreover, the dichotomy between non-monetary 'in-kind' deliveries and 'cash' rent payments might be a misleading one. As Mathieu Arnoux (2021) recently argued for late medieval Normandy, the persistence of rents and annuities in kind, was not an archaic relic of a cash-poor 'natural' economy, but could foster the commercialization and even the monetization of the countryside, as the value of the rents was established at the grain market, the grain itself was traded on the market (or replaced market purchases), the counterpart of the rent was a cash loan and/or the rents-in-kind were traded as 'grain market derivatives'. At the same time, food security still played an important role, even for those elite households with pockets deep enough to secure enough food on the market. Even after the retreat from demesne farming, many institutions continued to rely at least partly on direct food supplies by farmers, perhaps, as Slavin (2012) suggested for Norwich Cathedral Priory, as the most efficient insurance against 'the unpredictable behaviour of Nature'.</p> <p>So, while the persistence of rent-in-kinds and all kind of direct food deliveries from farmers to urban-based households is well documented, their qualitative and quantitative contribution to the food supply of either the city as a whole or specific urban households remains unclear. This session presents a comparative analysis of 'short food supply chains' from (rural and suburban) producers to urban households in different parts of medieval Europe, with particular emphasis in the interaction of such non-monetary food supplies with the monetized food market. Comparing cities in the Low Countries, England, Italy, Spain and Czechia we aim to question: A) The different forms of direct, land-based, food supplies to urban households; B) The degree of monetisation of these 'alternative' food flows, taking into account the implicit or explicit relationship with market prices and the potential commercialization of these food stocks; C) The role of crises – famines, wars, plague - in accelerating direct food supplies, or sometimes making them impossible or redundant; D) The relationship between (tenant-) farmers and urban based land-owners. To what extent were food deliveries instrumental in maintaining a more personal, reciprocal, relationship between farmer and landlord, hence counteracting a purely contractual relationship?</p>
6	<p><i>Administering medieval rurality. Fiscal, wealth and population in the rural world (13th-15th centuries)</i></p> <p>Marco Conti (chair)-</p>	<p>In a current situation of increasing interest in the rural world, its relationship with the urban world, and the processes of depopulation and connections, this session proposal aims to investigate the tax system of rurality in medieval Europe (XIII-XV century).</p> <p>While most studies on medieval taxation have mainly focused on the urban taxation system, this panel aims to shift the discussion to the tax documentation that has interested a few historians: the tax sources concerning the rural world. The contributions of this panel focus on the study of three main research axes. The first is the study of fiscal sources as a practical tool and a means of governance. Therefore, to achieve this purpose, the studied documents will allow us to understand the different administrative and fiscal practices used in governing rural areas between continuity and innovation. They will also permit us to measure the overall amount of the tax burden.</p>

	<p>Université de Bordeaux Montaigne; Armand Jamme- CNRS Lyon</p>	<p>Secondly, starting from the data acquired from the sources, the countryside landscape will be analysed, proposing a hierarchy of settlements and providing information about their demographic weight and economic basis.</p> <p>Finally, the third axis focuses on assessing the wealth of these populations, how it is distributed over the different territories studied and how authorities perceive and tax it. Where possible, profiles of contributors will be reconstructed for a complete understanding of the socio-economic context, and the most significant comparisons between the rural and urban world from a fiscal and economic point of view will be shown. These three axes of research will be brought to light by very different territorial and political contexts, ranging from a rural territory administered by an urban entity, a religious institution or a more extensive monarchical/seigniorage power. Nevertheless, these different economic, social and political contexts will allow us to shed more light on common and substantially different practices in governing and taxing rural territories.</p>
7	<p><i>From the bottom up. Day labourers, well-off peasants and social mobility in late medieval Europe</i></p> <p>Antoni Furió- University of Valencia</p>	<p>In recent years, social mobility in pre-industrial times has increasingly attracted the attention of economic and social historians. Partly because of the importance of the subject for today's society and because in a situation where, in most of Europe, social elevators seem to move slowly or to have been blocked altogether, reflecting on social mobility has become essential. And partly also because interest in social mobility represents the natural development of research carried out in the last years on economic inequality.</p> <p>On the other hand, while until recently the peasantry was seen as a compact and homogenous bloc, more fresh work has highlighted the stratification and hierarchisation within peasant communities. However, the focus has been more on the different strata -- the rural elites and the day labourers -- than on the relationship between the two, including also the middle strata, and the bottom-up processes of social mobility.</p> <p>This is precisely the main purpose of this session: to analyse the processes of social mobility among the peasantry in late medieval Europe. The session will deal with the sources - fiscal, notarial, judicial and others - that can be used to study social mobility, the tools and methodological problems posed by this type of study, the relationship between economic inequality and social mobility - upward or downward - and the comparison between the situations and experiences in different European regions.</p>
8	<p><i>Economic efficiency in agricultural economy in Late Medieval and Early Modern Central and Eastern Europe</i></p> <p>Piotr Guzowski- University of Białystok</p>	<p>Central and Eastern Europe adapted elements of the rent economy in the late Middle Ages with the development of German colonization (13-15th c.). The change that occurred in the early modern period to manorial economy is seen in more recent studies as the result of rational economic decisions, which, however, had some negative long-term consequences such as the development of the serfdom system.</p> <p>The aim of this session is to look at the efficiency of the agricultural economy from the perspective of peasants as well as landlords during the period of both the prevalence of tenant farming and the later dominance of manorial economy. The papers will focus on regions that over time entered the full serfdom system, albeit with significant differences in their characteristics, level of economic development, commercialization and political systems.</p>
9	<p><i>Demographic crises in rural areas - old questions and new perspectives</i></p> <p>Piotr Guzowski- University of Białystok</p>	<p>The study of demographic crises is one of the classic issues of historical demography and economic history. The aim of the session is to look at the issue of cyclical crises in the pre-industrial period from the perspective of both new sources and areas overlooked in previous research. Thus, on the one hand, it will be an opportunity to present the results of current research, on the other hand, a chance to reflect on whether we are able to go beyond the methodological proposals of the second half of the 20th century (Goubert, Dupâquier). Chronologically, the papers will cover the period from the late Middle Ages to the 19th century, and territorially the areas on the periphery of the world system (Macedonia, Poland, Hungary, Bohemia). The authors are invited to use classical methods of historical demography and economic history as well as the more recent approaches of environmental history in their presentations.</p>
10	<p><i>Mills, milling and millers in early modern northern Europe</i></p> <p>Richard W Hoyle- University of Reading</p>	<p>The staple diet of northern Europe was grain. Grain is useless as a food until it has been milled into flour, or, in the case of rice, has had its husk removed, and so milling is an essential process that grain has to pass through before it can become a foodstuff.</p> <p>Proposals are invited to join in a session on the broad subject of early modern milling.</p> <p>There is the possibility of a pre-session beforehand. Papers on England and Scotland have already been offered and whilst other papers from Great Britain and Ireland are most welcome, we wish to enlarge the session to include papers on other parts of Europe, especially northern Europe. The focus will be on milling before the advent of steam milling.</p> <p>Possible areas in which we would welcome papers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number and capacity of mills - Investment in mills, their running costs and their profitability, including civic investment in urban mills

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The reputation of millers and antagonisms between mill owners and people using their services - The defence of mill rights including the suppression of household milling - The technology of mills including windmills and tide mills - The seasonality of milling - The place of mill ponds in the landscape, and their use as fisheries <p>The format of the Rural History conference is that papers are generally in the order of 20 minutes so what will be presented will probably be a summary of a longer paper. If enough proposals are received then we will look for publication in the form of a book or special journal part.</p>
11	<p><i>Maize diffusion between the Adriatic Sea and the Danube basin (16th-18th c.)</i></p> <p>Luca Mocrelli- University of Milano-Bicocca; Aleksander Panjek- University of Primorska; Gordana Garić Petrović- Institute of History Belgrade</p>	<p>This panel aims addresses one of the most important and yet little studied aspects of the Colombian exchange: the introduction and diffusion of maize in Southern Europe. While the potato and its impact on European history have been examined in quite some detail, thanks to a large number of articles and monographs (McNeill 1948; Langer 1975; Salaman, 1985; Komlos 1998; McNeill 1999; Ó Gráda, Paping, Vanhaute 2007; Gentilcore 2012), the same cannot be said for maize – despite the incontrovertible importance achieved by this crop as a foodstuff in many rural areas of the Mediterranean area, as it is probably best known for Italy (Alfani, Mocarrelli, Strangio 2017, 46-47). But even in the case of Italy, we can mostly find only short contributions or some agile syntheses (Mantelli 1998; Doria 2002; Finzi 2009; Gasparini 2015).</p> <p>Much the same may be said with regard to south-eastern Europe, since the historiographical 'state of the art' regarding maize is quite similar if not even more scarce (Garić Petrović 2019). On the other hand, maize has become the basis for traditional food in this area, as well (for example mamaliga). Apart from the generally unsatisfying number of specific regional studies on maize in the earlier stages of its diffusion, one thing is even more true: we miss a comprehensive vision and a comparative perspective on this process that would embrace the whole of southern Europe including its eastern part in particular. Recently we have carried a first comparative study on maize diffusion, trade and consumption in the north-eastern Adriatic (mainly northern Italy and Slovenia), which was presented at the Rural History conference in Uppsala 2022 (Mocarrelli and Panjek, <i>Maize to the people!</i> 2021). One of its results is the hypothesis, that maize entered south-eastern Europe from two main directions: from the West (northern Italy and the eastern Adriatic coast) and from the South (along the Danube and its tributaries Sava and Drava Rivers).</p> <p>With this panel we intend exploring this hypothesis by uncovering the mechanisms and timing of maize diffusion precisely in this area, that is between the Adriatic Sea and the Danube basin, in its earlier stages until the 18th century. The final goal is to collect evidence that would allow a truly comparative perspective. For this reason, the contributors to this panel tackle the same issues, that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the chronology and geography of the diffusion of maize; • the reasons of greater or lesser success of maize; • the supposed dichotomy self-consumption versus market; • nutrition and demographic impact. <p>The panel organisers will issue a call for papers to include contributions in particular from Romania, Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey.</p>
12	<p><i>The technical and intellectual challenges of the acclimatisation of plant and animal species during the Colombian exchange (16–20th centuries)</i></p> <p>Laurent Brassart- CNRS Paris; Laurent Brassart- University of Lille</p>	<p>The Colombian exchange is not as simple as it has long been thought. It can no longer be reduced to a mechanical and easily transfer of animal and plant species from the colonies to the European metropolises. It can no longer be reduced to a mechanical transfer of animal and plant species from the colonies to the European metropolises: it required constant resources at the crossroads between administration, trade and agricultural knowledge (Regourd; Mac Clellan).</p> <p>On the one hand, this exchange was multidirectional since species also circulated from the metropolises to the colonies (starting with wheat) but also from the colonies to other colonies (as was the case with the Asian coconut tree to Africa and America). On the other hand, exchanging species did not necessarily mean that their acclimatisation was successful in the long term. To succeed an acclimatisation, it was necessary to use a whole range of knowledge both from the natives and from their recipients (Samir Boumedienne, Marine Bellego). It was also necessary to improve new agricultural knowledge and innovative techniques among agronomists, veterinarians, hydraulic engineers and many other intermediaries as we generally called them the middle-level colonial agents. Thus, certain plant species were hybridised, seeds were created (Bonneuil), animal breeds were crossed and new uses were affirmed.</p> <p>This session does not intend to highlight the transfer of species. It will focus on the circulation of knowledge and the technical and intellectual processes of reception of species: from their distribution to their improvement and possible transformation to overcome the challenges posed by acclimatisation. It is therefore obvious that agronomists, agricultural technicians, veterinarians, etc., all those who have worked locally for the success of acclimatisation processes will be at the core of our interests.</p>

13	<p><i>Customs of Two Shores. Institutional Bricolage, Property Rights and Practices Between Europe and Overseas</i></p> <p>José-Miguel Lana-Berasain- Public University of Navarre</p>	<p>The objective of this session is to continue a conversation initiated at the Rural History 2021 Conference (Uppsala, August 2022) on the emergence and evolution of new institutional realities in Latin America between the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries (Session entitled Grafted institutions. European transfers, institutional bricolage and the evolution of property rights in Latin America). José Vicente Serrao aptly referred to this process as the "tropicalization" of European institutions in the colonies. At the same time, however, indigenous conceptions of property survived and were transformed in contact with new social realities and within new institutional frameworks.</p> <p>The concept of "institutional bricolage" fits well with an approach that focuses on the centrality of social interactions in understanding the historical performance of property rights. Beyond the literalism of the legal codes, we are interested in analysing the everyday practices of the social groups that contributed to erecting both endogenous and exogenous property systems. This "relational" approach serves to highlight the agency of the people affected by change and their ability to adapt to new circumstances through practices of hybridity in specific contexts with specific power balances.</p> <p>We would like to examine not only institutional exchange between Europe and overseas, but also how indigenous conceptions of property (as a bundle of socially legitimate actions regarding the land, its access, uses and control) were incorporated by the colonial powers. We hope to attract papers not only from Europe and America, but also from Africa and Asia.</p>
14	<p><i>Disputing property rights: the multiplicity of cases and agents in land conflicts in 18th century Iberian America</i></p> <p>Carmen Alveal-UFRN/Brown University</p>	<p>Iberian America comprises an enormous geographic diversity, as well as distinct populations that have led to very different historical constructions. Although the session focuses on the 18th and early 19th centuries, the studies presented here show different historicities that explain land conflicts in three distinct regions of Iberian America, such as Southeast Brazil, the Spanish Northern Andes and the border of the State of Brazil with the State of Grão Pará. In addition to comparing these three geographically distinct areas, it is intended to show the different motivations that led to specific agrarian conflicts, which could be areas of border expansion or even of capital consolidation in certain regions. Likewise, it intends to discuss which agents were involved in such land disputes, such as large landowners, squatters, indigenous people, in short, a myriad of people. The objective behind this debate is to understand how the different land property rights were built in the historical process itself and to show the complexity of existing situations, bringing innovations in the historiographical field.</p>
15	<p><i>Organization of agrarian production and labour relations in the Ottoman large landed estates (çiftlik).</i></p> <p>Socrates Petmezas- University of Crete/ Foundation of Research and Technology Hellas</p>	<p>The debate on the large landed estates (çiftlik) in the Ottoman heartlands (Balkans and Anatolia) has focused primarily on some particular aspects such as the 'formation of the çiftliks', their legal status and their relation to market-oriented agricultural production (especially in relation to grain exports to Europe). At the same time, previous research on the çiftliks has not yet sufficiently established the place of landed estates in the regional agrarian economies; in particular, there is little research on such questions as the land use and labour regimes, the social-property relations, their spatial distribution and geographical differences and variation. In fact, the historical evolution of the large landed estates (çiftliks) was not uniform across the different Ottoman regions as these landed estates reflected local agrarian practices and regional historical development.</p> <p>In particular, the organization of agricultural and livestock production, the use of land and commons and the different forms of land tenure and labour organization (sharecropping, wage and dependent labour) had only rarely been the subject of detailed local studies and regional comparisons. The practical management of the estates by the landlord or (in his usual absence) its representatives (stewards, communal elders or intermediaries who farmed the charge of steward) in relation to the actual mode of land use and animal husbandry had been either a neglected subject of research in local studies or treated from a very general and 'distant' point of view. Did the peasant commune held collective rights and obligations in the management of the estate's arable lands and/or commons, and how their rights and obligations were effected or changed in the long historical process? The same is true in what concerns the difference between 'ownership' and 'management' or decision making. We do not know in detail and precision how extended families (or group of families) of estate-landlords took decisions on major or everyday issues. We would like to learn more about the ways individual small-owners ended up (in the end of the 19th century) holding a 'share' (however minuscule) on a large landed estate.</p> <p>In this framework we invite contributors to address issues such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the balance between land cultivation, livestock husbandry and other activities? What was the role of transhumance? • What were the terms under which production and labour (wage labour, sharecropping, tenants, small peasant farmers, large-scale cultivation, labour contracts, labour mobility / immobility) were organised in different regions and periods? • If, how (and how often) were arable lands distributed among tenants and how collective constraints and communal 'solidarities' were imposed in the process of crop-rotation and fallow? • How are çiftliks inscribed within the wider context of Ottoman economy in different regions and eras? • What is their relationship with urban economy and society (absentee landlords, urban entrepreneurs, wage labourers, seasonal migrants)? How did this relationship change over time? • What are the implications of studying çiftliks in the context of current discussions on unfree labour, commons, property and communal rights, primitive accumulation, institutional change and economic growth?

16	<p><i>English and British landownership at the end of the eighteenth century and in the nineteenth century.</i> Richard W Hoyle- University of Reading</p>	<p>The pattern of landownership in the nineteenth century is one of those issues in rural history about which historians are surprisingly sanguine. We believe that we know about it. Much work has been done since the political agitation of the 1860s to estimate the extent to which the country was dominated by aristocratic estates. The source on which much of this scholarship depends is the return of landowners in 1872-3 published as a Parliamentary Paper in 1874. The data was collected with the explicit political aim of disproving radical claims of an aristocratic plutocracy. Subsequent analyses, most notably by John Baleman, have shown that the return more than adequately proved the radical case: that a very small number of very wealthy individuals dominated landownership the landownership of England.</p> <p>The ready assumption then is that England was dominated by large estates. But this in turn raises questions which have never really been considered. Was this generally true of the whole of England and the British Isles in the 1870s or were the figures skewed by Scottish shooting estates which were enormous in terms of acres, but valueless in terms of agriculture. And were the estates longstanding or were at least a minority of them of fairly recent origin. After all, there were a good scattering of industrial capitalists in the 1872-3 report. Had the distribution of landholding actually become more concentrated in the nineteenth century because of the workings of the land market? And we might ask whether a concentration on freehold land is mistaken because many 'new men' who had made their fortunes in industry or the professions, were happy to rent rather than purchase.</p> <p>The aim of this session is to re-open an area which has received little recent attention from economic historians (as opposed to historians chiefly concerned with land as the subject of political debate).</p>
17	<p><i>The social, economical and environmental consequences of introducing the forest management on the turn of 18th and 19th centuries in Central Europe</i></p> <p>Tomasz Związek- Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Polish Academy of Sciences</p>	<p>The introduction of forest management in Central Europe in the late 18th and early 19th centuries had a significant impact on the social, economic, and environmental transformation of this area. In the proposed session, we want to focus specifically on the moment when forest management concepts were introduced, but we are also open to papers on the long-term consequences associated with this process. We believe that a session on the issue of introducing forest management is of particular importance in the context of the European Union's plans to return almost a third of Europe's land to the wilderness by 2030. Also, we would like to encourage other researchers from the Central European region to attend the meeting. We would like this session to consist of two parts (8 papers in total), which would allow us to show the phenomenon of interest from different sides.</p> <p>We particularly encourage you to look at the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - introduction of alien species in the structure of ancient forests - transition from natural to managed forests - impact of forest management on forest animals - development and decline of forest settlements - development of forest law - material culture of forestry officials - forest cartography
18	<p><i>Demeter is back: Agricultural education for children in Europe, 18th-20th centuries</i></p> <p>Martino Lorenzo Fagnani- University of Pavia; Luciano Maffi- University of Parma; Omar Mazzotti- University of Parma; Laurent Brassart- University of Lille</p>	<p>Historians are increasingly interested in the development of agricultural education on the one hand and the relationship between education and the rural community on the other. These are multifaceted topics, allowing analysis from many points of view, from social history to cultural history, from the history of science to economic history, from the history of education to the history of books. However, historiography to date has privileged the analysis of technical, secondary and higher education in the branch of agricultural science, devoting much less space to the teaching of principles of advanced agricultural techniques to European children.</p> <p>Our proposal for EURHO 2023 builds on the success of the session we organized in Uppsala for EURHO 2022: Demeter in the classrooms. It brought together studies by scholars from Italy, France and Hungary to analyse and compare the different types of agricultural education for children between the mid-eighteenth and mid-twentieth centuries, in a context of large investments in the development of the agricultural sector as the basis for the economy of the countries considered. These investments included human capital development from a young age.</p> <p>We think that the debate we started in Uppsala could be further expanded to include the history of agricultural education for children – and the relationship between education and the rural community – from European areas that we did not have the chance to explore. Already in Uppsala the discussion following our presentations was productive, engaging the audience with new evidence. Moreover, the presentations that day and the discussion that followed made it possible to propose an English-Italian thematic issue for the Italian journal <i>Storia Economica</i> in which other scholars have also been involved.</p> <p>On the one hand the aim of our session proposal for EURHO 2023 is to present the progress that scholars from the last edition have made in their studies on these topics, and on the other hand it is to involve new scholars (some of whom showed interest in Uppsala).</p>

		<p>The context which we intend to deal with and which paper proposals should focus on is the whole of Europe from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries, comparing different realities, considering points of contact and rupture.</p> <p>We want to look at primary agricultural education from three different points of view:</p> <p>a) The presence of basic agricultural knowledge in the training of primary teachers. How does the agricultural training of teachers develop over time? How does this differ between geographical areas? Is the social background of the teachers an important factor? These are some of the questions pertaining to this point of view.</p> <p>b) The material aspect of agricultural lessons for children. From this point of view, we would welcome analyses of the tools used in lessons: books, illustrations, tables and natural collections. This also includes spaces such as little botanic gardens and green areas used as tools to make teaching more effective. How does this material aspect evolve over time? How does it adapt to the natural characteristics of each geographical area?</p> <p>c) The influence of both institutional and social actors on primary agricultural education. Analysing the subject from this point of view would make it possible to delve into the role of ministries, scientific and cultural institutes, local authorities, religious orders and private benefactors in the promotion of this teaching.</p> <p>The proposals should focus on the period from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries. We will choose proposals with the most solid scientific bases. We welcome papers that discuss cases from different European regions.</p>
19	<p><i>Horses for whom. Military and agricultural interests in equine breeding during peacetime (1700-1900)</i></p> <p>Marco Marigliano & Gianpiero Fumi - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan</p>	<p>The relationship between armies and livestock has been largely neglected by both military and agricultural scholars. In most cases, this relation was confined to the requisition of livestock for slaughter, for the hauling of artillery and other transport services during conflicts. Whatever the links between farming and military institutions, from 18th to 20th century the beginning of a major transformation of husbandry in general occurred, with the specialization of breeds, the birth of animal science, the emergence of private breeders engaged in improving agricultural resources, as well as equestrian sports enthusiasts. In the 19th century even States and military authorities began to pay systematic attention to livestock. This is confirmed by national livestock censuses, initially promoted by the ministries of war. Likely, the equine sector, saw the emergence, during peacetime, of institutions to increase the stock of animals available in the event of war and to improve their quality. The same period saw the first initiatives aimed at the improvement of animals for civilian uses (i.e. national councils, purchase of selected breeders, harras, equestrian prizes and exhibitions, rules for the requisition of livestock in case of war, attention to the impact of military remount).</p> <p>The panel aims to analyse a variety of subjects including: censuses and other surveys of equine stock initially mainly for military purposes, and their evolution over time and regional specializations; the diversity of military, agricultural and sporting guidelines in horse breeding; measures carried out by the new equestrian institutions (public stallions, horse shows, incentives for private breeders) and their results; the correlations between armies and hippology experts and centres; the role of sporting events in the evolution of equine livestock and related policies; finally, the disengagement of the military world from horse breeding. Objective of the panel is to internationalize these topics, with a series of case studies that can shed light on the modalities, timing and facets of the relationship between armies and rural societies regarding the use of horses in pre-war periods.</p>
20	<p><i>Between Tradition and Modernity. Architecture and the rural space in East-Central Europe in the 18th-20th century</i></p> <p>Hunyadi Gábor Attila-Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca</p>	<p>Rural areas including village networks together with their neighbouring market-towns or craft and mining-centres were and remained constituent crossroads of rural areas having an architecture that modelled the surrounding rural landscape. Economic and commercial buildings, e.g. manors, saving and insurance banks, different type of cooperatives (consumer, agricultural and credit unions), just like the administrative buildings (town-halls, village mayor offices), as well as the ecclesiastical, cultural and educational buildings, and finally the modern infrastructural and logistical buildings (post or railway stations) fashioned the landscape of rurality, becoming public spaces where people lived, met, changed and worked. Even the village centres as markets were surrounded by buildings facilitating the exchange (hotels, restaurants, mayor or judge offices) or culture (cultural halls, multifunctional popular houses, schools).</p> <p>State administrative builders (like the Treasury Offices in case of mines or local clerk offices) and private legal persons (warehouses, manufactures), guilds, churches (parish offices) and other constituencies, regardless of their ethnic origin were not only builders but there were confluences (mutual influences) between the ethno-confessional entities living in a narrower or larger region.</p> <p>Our panel proposal gives the opportunity to an interdisciplinary investigation of this topic. Architects, ethnographers, sociologists may also be invited to this panel.</p> <p>Architectural patrimony still existing in situ or plans refund in archives can be interpreted both from social history side, or from the perspective of the architectural, economic-financial-commercial functions it fulfilled once. In this latter case, urban buildings could serve rural development too, since for instance the market halls or larger cooperatives served both the rural area producers and the urban consumer public, too. Public goods, state or private investments materialized as channels or infrastructure (e.g. transport, communication) that connected the urban space to the rural areas may also be presented in this panel regarding any state or historical period in this lapse of time: from the 18th century through the 19th century along the 20th century.</p>
21	<p><i>Climbing the ladder: access to property as an indicator for living</i></p>	<p>More or less explicitly, and independently of the different theoretical traditions, historiography has tended to see access to individual ownership of real estate - land and houses - as a clear sign of ascending the social ladder. Thus, it is assumed that in periods when economic and institutional conditions allowed for the accumulation of savings by a larger number of households, the possibilities for them to become owners of real estate also increased, either through outright purchase or by using available credit mechanisms.</p>

	<p><i>standards and social mobility (18th-20th Centuries)</i></p> <p>Llorenç Ferrer-Alòs-University of Barcelona</p>	<p>From this point of view, the first objective of this session is to discuss whether it is appropriate to use the variation of property ownership rates in a society to detect and measure social mobility, both absolute -between generations- and relative -for example, by looking at different socio-occupational categories-. Secondly, and more generally, the aim is to reflect, on as broad an empirical basis as possible, on the relationships between access to property and social dynamics.</p> <p>Papers that adopt a bottom-up perspective in the analysis of the institutional, social and economic conditions in which access to property ownership by certain social groups materialised, as well as those that address the study of the consequences of those processes (their impact on material living standards, on the reproductive practices of families, on the self-perception of social groups and their political positions, for example), are welcome.</p>
22	<p><i>New technologies for better wines in a globalized market (18th–21th Centuries)</i></p> <p>Luciano Maffi-University of Parma; Omar Mazzotti-University of Bologna; Dario dall’Ora-University of Bari</p>	<p>This panel aims to address studies concerning European wines and continue the work of the panel organised in EURHO Leuven 2017, Paris 2019 and Uppsala 2022. Researches, papers and discussions related to the latter panels were the basis for the book by Conca Messina S.A., Le Bras S., Tedeschi P., Vaquero Piñeiro M. (eds.), <i>A History of Wine in Europe, 19th to 20th Centuries</i>, 1, Winegrowing and Regional Features, 2, Markets and Trade and Regulation of Quality, London/Cham, Palgrave Macmillan, 2019 and Luciano Maffi - Manuel Vaquero Piñeiro - Paolo Tedeschi, <i>A History of Italian Wine. Culture, Economics, and Environment in the Nineteenth through Twenty First Centuries</i>, London/Cham, Palgrave Macmillan, 2022. The aims of the new proposed panel are to analyse the global development of viticulture and wine production and to correlate it with the advent of new technologies and their use, both in the vineyard and in the winery. In particular, the use of increasingly sophisticated crushers, filters, wine vats and bottling equipment in the cellar has enabled increasingly controlled production and quality. The session is meant to encourage not only the study of equipment manufacturers and oenological companies that have used the machinery, but also the investigation of the following topics:</p> <p>a) The role of public institutions (regional, national or the Common Agricultural Policy) for the transfer of knowledge of technologies to foster technological improvement in the vineyard and winery. The main focus concerns the evolution of regulations aimed at improving product quality, which has necessitated technical and technological development in the planting and management of the vineyards, in the structure of the cellars, and in oenological practices.</p> <p>b) The role of education relating to viticulture and oenology for the improvement and diffusion of innovative methods of vine-growing and winemaking as well as the conservation of the must and wine in new barrels, bottles and cellars. Furthermore, the panel also wishes to observe the evolution of oenological education in various European wine regions and the changes regarding students in the three steps of their vocational training: the elementary level (lessons for the children of peasants), secondary school (professional courses in viticulture and winemaking) and university (studies of oenology in agrarian departments and faculties).</p> <p>c) The role played by regional, national and international exhibitions and fairs in the dissemination of new technologies in viticulture and oenology. The panel intends to investigate how exhibitions - in particular international exhibitions - have favoured the globalisation of many oenological practices through the presentation and dissemination of new technologies to a wide audience.</p>
23	<p><i>The Actors of Rural Modernisation in Late Habsburg Empire and Post-Habsburg Space, 1867-1938</i></p> <p>Anton Hrubon- Matej Bel University- Banska Bystrica</p>	<p>The last half century of the existence of the Habsburg monarchy and the period between the two world wars represents a time of fundamental societal changes, which we usually refer to as the collective term of modernization. Even in the countryside, a civil society was formed based on civil rights and capitalist relations, an era of industrialization and national emancipation began. The essence of extensive and long-term political and societal modernization consisted in the integration of individuals and social groups into supra-regional and supra-class structures as a result of building a centralized, bureaucratically administered state, mostly at the expense of traditional social, local, status or confessional ties.</p> <p>Part of this process was also politicization, which we understand as the expanding participation of the population in public affairs and their identification with certain political ideas, parties, or personalities. Politicization was related to the progressive levelling of society and the democratization of the political system, and national movements took a significant part in it, mainly in the framework of nations that did not have their own state.</p> <p>The idea of the intended panel is to better understand the ways in which modernization impulses were transmitted to the rural environment and which actors played a fundamental role in the spread of modernization impulses.</p> <p>The session should respond to the following questions:</p> <p>To what extent was the societal change in the countryside the achievement of the state-bureaucratic administration and to what extent of the villagers themselves? By what means and personalities was the countryside activated in the selected period? What topics and questions were key for the countryside and how did the emerging political parties react to them? What role and in what phases did the periodical press, associational life or forming political parties play for the spread of modernization impulses in the countryside? How did the emerging modernist political ideologies and their dynamics in the course of turbulent changes affect the rural environment? And how activating was the idea of collective business (cooperative idea) in the field of economy and who disseminated it in the countryside?</p> <p>The panel will attempt to provide answers to these questions through regional case studies from the territory of the Habsburg Monarchy and its successor states after 1918. The comparative approach will indicate common features of the modernization process as well as regional specifics resulting from local and national paradigms, and, at the same time, create a wider discussion platform for historians, sociologists, ethnologists, and other experts from the field of humanities and social sciences dealing with the cultural environment of broader Central Europe.</p>

24	<p><i>The challenges of the land tenure reforms and financial inclusion of peasantry in the 19th and early 20th centuries in Southeastern Europe</i></p> <p>Nataša Henig Mišič- Institute of Contemporary History/University of Primorska, Faculty of Humanities, Ljubljana/Koper</p>	<p>Land tenure reforms, above all, the abolition of serfdom in the Habsburg Monarchy and the Timar system reforms in the Ottoman Empire significantly impacted existing social structures in Southeastern Europe in the 19th century. These transitions had positive and negative effects on the political, social, and economic status of the peasantry. Peasants became landowners, and their inclusion in the market and monetary economy became crucial. The social problems of the rural population persisted, even as agriculture progressed. In both empires, peasants were burdened with obligatory compensation repayments to former feudal lords and landowners. Our panel is interested in the consequences of land tenure reform in the abolition of the feudal system in the southern parts of the Habsburg Monarchy, the Ottoman Empire and Serbia as a former territory of the Ottoman Empire. The main aim is to highlight and compare the structure of land ownership, regulations, and tenancy in the two systems, the Orthodox-Byzantine-Ottoman in the northern part of the Ottoman Empire and the southern part of independent Serbia and the Catholic-Western in the southern part of the Habsburg Monarchy. These two systems had different political and social structures. The contributions will offer new insights and compare internal problems and external challenges faced by states and institutions from a top-down perspective and the peasantry from a bottom-up perspective.</p> <p>More specifically, the regions on which we will focus are the County of Görz and Gradisca and the Province of Carniola in the Austrian part of the Habsburg Monarchy; Macedonia, the northern part of the Ottoman Empire; and the southern part of the newly independent Serbia. All these regions can be considered peripheral in the state framework, as they were far from the centre of the empires. The social differentiation of the Macedonian peasantry intensified during and after the Tanzimat period in the Ottoman Empire. The reforms greatly influenced the general position of the rural population in Macedonia. Another example represents Leskovac's territory, which became part of Serbia after the Treaty of Berlin (1878). The Muslim population left the area along with the Ottoman authorities, thus leaving their properties behind. The local Christians took the abandoned lands. On the other hand, we will focus on the problems of the rural population after the abolition of serfdom on Slovenian territory. The development of microfinance intermediaries, such as savings banks and credit cooperatives, was an essential prerequisite for the financial inclusion of the rural population. These institutions offered services to the peasants through mortgages and personal loans. The issue of financial inclusion can be directly linked to the abolition of serfdom and the subsequent indebtedness of the peasantry. Finally, we will look at the social consequences of the colonia system, which can be found in areas of the County of Görz and Gradisca. The colonia system was a unique form of land dependency in rural areas that continued for almost a century after the abolition of feudal relations, which the authorities tried unsuccessfully to abolish formally and legally.</p>
25	<p><i>Owners of a Common Heritage. Commons, Environment and Rights in different European case studies (19th - 21st century)</i></p> <p>Giulia Beltrametti- University of Primorska, Koper-Slovenia</p>	<p>The panel intends to present the results of a two-year Horizon2020 funded research project, opening up for discussion with other scholars from different disciplines and with comparable case studies. Hosted at The University of Primorska, Slovenia, the OCHER project investigated, with a multidisciplinary approach, the relation between specific historical forms of lands and resources collective management and the current environmental and landscape value of those areas, inquiring the issue of accessibility rights to natural resources for future generations. The research addressed different kinds of "institutions for collective action", at different scales and with a very extended time frame. In rural areas, where conservation and sustainable use of the environment were largely centred on "people working with nature", the minimal structures of organisation were mainly households.</p> <p>A combined historical, anthropological and juridical approach was thus needed for a better understanding of the long-term effects of resource use in the environment, for a deeper reflection on the specificity of (collective) subjects and on the mechanisms of (collective) legal actions and institutions, analysed in particular in the light of important political and institutional changes (the end of socialist regimes, for example). Following the promising paths of juridical anthropology and environmental history scholars and focusing on methodological issues, the session is intended to offer a contribution to the reflection on a new environmental right, going beyond the dichotomy man/nature and trying to understand the historical forms of a non-destructive, nor extractive, relation of interdependence in social and ecological systems.</p>
26	<p><i>Commodity frontiers in Latin America and the Caribbean, 19th-20th centuries: agrarian, economic and environmental histories of local capitalisms- Double session</i></p> <p>Santiago Colmenares- Universidad del Norte, Colombia</p>	<p>From the first formulations of the Centre-Periphery system by Latin American Structuralism, passing through the World-Systems theory, and reaching the encompassing concept of Commodity Frontiers, social scientists have been critically investigating the expansion of the world capitalist system over the rural areas and the virgin lands of a vast periphery. Despite the theoretical, conceptual, and empirical advances of recent decades, many processes of incorporation of regions into the capitalist global economy continue to be the subject of research by historians, sociologists, geographers, anthropologists, and economists. The recent publication of volumes such as Joseph (2019)¹ and Vanhaute (2021)², or the appearance of Journals such as Commodity Frontiers or Capitalism: A Journal of History and Economics, show that the debate on peripheral capitalism is still alive. Due to its early incorporation into the World Capitalist System, at the beginning of the 16th century, and the great variety of labour exploitation systems that have emerged since then, the Greater Caribbean Basin (i.e. the insular Caribbean and the continental territories surrounding the sea) has been one of the richest places for the analysis of the agrarian transformations arising from the export of cotton, cocoa, indigo, coffee, tobacco, bananas, among many others.</p> <p>The proposed session seeks to bring together scholars researching the agrarian transformations of exporting regions of the Caribbean or Latin America during the 19th and 20th centuries. We are interested in discussing historical processes triggered by export specialization in aspects such as changes in the rural landscape, the use of natural resources, control over hydric resources, labour coercion systems, the living standards of the working classes, mechanisms of socio-economic differentiation, institutions shaping political and social control, the use of violence or market mechanisms for the dispossession or accumulation of land, the influence of the export model over State building, or any other aspect of the peripheral agrarian capitalism that the contributors want to disentangle. Contributions to specific subnational regions or countries are welcomed if they enquire about the historical connections between those places and the global/external economic and political forces. Although we prefer contributions related to the history of regions in the Greater Caribbean, contributions to other regions of Latin America are also welcomed.</p>
27	<p><i>Agricultural Competitions in Europe, 19th and 20th centuries: an international perspective</i></p>	<p>An increasing number of research projects deals with rural education and agricultural training; this is a major issue. And recent publications show its importance. How did the knowledge spread throughout European countryside? Yves Segers and Leen Van Molle gave an overview of the different means in the volume Agricultural Knowledge Networks in Rural Europe since 1700 (Boydell, 2022).</p>

	<p>Nadine Vivier- Le Mans University</p>	<p>The issue of vocational training for farmers has been a major concern. For example, in France, in the 1950s-80s when the issue was being discussed, historical overviews were produced. However good they were, they still lacked a European vision. Lessons in the primary schools were one of the basic measures. A new research project was launched in Rural History 2022: Demeter in the class rooms: agricultural Education for children (L. Brassart, L. Maffi and M.L. Fagnani)</p> <p>Agricultural competitions were another means of knowledge dissemination. During those meetings, often festive meetings, were exhibited the best techniques, the best plant productions and the most beautiful animals. Awards were given to the best farms.</p> <p>Praised by some and more often mocked by urban critics, they have been a controversial subject, deemed unworthy of historians. It is time to reconsider them.</p> <p>The aim of this session is to offer a European view of the agricultural competitions. The main questions to be raised are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who organize and fund the competition: associations, State administration...? Who were the evaluators? - What was the geographical distribution? Were the livestock regions and the arable regions equally dense in terms of competitions? - The declared aims were always to highlight the best farming methods and to disseminate them. But weren't there political aims? - What were the results: how to evaluate their successes?
28	<p><i>Re-Forming the Rural. Institutions, Professions and Property in Central and East European post-WWI agrarian reforms</i></p> <p>Dietmar Müller, University of Leipzig</p>	<p>Reforms in agriculture require agronomic knowledge and professional skills, both on the peasant and state level. As the rural world was a relative latecomer in the Eastern European state elites' ambition to govern society in a more capillary way (M. Foucault), we focus in this panel on agrarian reforms after WWI. They represent a policy in which the state elites invested in hitherto unknown degree efforts to regulating, governing and even planning of property relations and economic processes in agriculture.</p> <p>We investigate how and to which degree the mushrooming state agencies and institutions for the agrarian reforms were re-forming the rural. In Romania, we focus on the local elites' ability to adapt the administrative institutions to the needs of the "new order" that played out quite differently according to the regions. In Transylvania, the state demanded amongst others from the administration to deliver reliable data for international cases as well. As the agrarian reforms went along with state border re-drawings they caused the Optants Question between Hungary and Romania, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia as a case in question that required considerable juridical, administrative, economic and financial knowledge. In a case study of a noble family of large estate owners in Transylvania, the social and economic repercussions of the agrarian reform are analysed both in connection with the Romanian administration and with the Optants Question.</p> <p>In Yugoslavia, considerable efforts were made for raising the level of relevant agronomic knowledge amongst the peasants. As the property structure was dominated by small and medium-sized units after the agrarian reform, "educating the peasants" was one of the most important policies for advancing agricultural productivity. Even in the absence of a large scale agrarian reform, in Hungary as well WW I brought considerable change to the rural world. Due to the influx of refugees from the lost territories in Romania, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia there was considerable pressure on the large estates to intensify production and raise the output.</p> <p>The increased efforts for raising the levels of peasants' agronomic knowledge and the efficiency of institutions governing property began changing the rural world. On the other hand, as these processes considerably extended the reach of state activities, the state itself began to change. However, there is no clear path towards a democratic welfare state, as lingering patriarchal and paternalistic patterns limited the social relevance of professionalism in institutions.</p>
29	<p><i>Changes in the value chain of agri-food products: an approach from the consumption, production and trade (20th century)</i></p> <p>Pablo Delgado-University of Zaragoza</p>	<p>There has been a huge growth in trade, production and consumption of agri-food products during the 20th century, especially since the Second World War. In this way, several changes took place from a technological (mechanization, biological innovations, etc.), trade (globalization) and nutritional (nutritional transitions) point of view. Moreover, those changes are highly connected and interrelated. In other words, the 20th century has witnessed deep changes in the value chain of agri-food products, which have had a direct impact in our well-being. Some of them have been positive (such as a better nutrition) and others negative (increased pollution). In this process, both quantitative supply factors (agri-food productivity and production) and demand factors (population and income growth) have been important determinants.</p> <p>However, there have also been important qualitative determinants that are not usually analysed. For instance, changes in the consumer preferences or marketing spending of firms also have a direct impact on the production, trade and consumption of agri-food products. In addition, the study of specific agri-food products is interesting since in this way their role within the value chain can be understood in depth. Thus, the objective of this session is to study the changes in the value chain of agri-food products during the 20th century. To do so, we focus both on a global point of view, that is, the study of different countries or regions with a different income level, and a product-analysis point of view (meat, feed, wheat, etc.).</p>
30	<p><i>Irrigation plans and water policies in Southern Europe (20th century)</i></p>	<p>Throughout 20th century, the presence of the State in rural areas has often been sprawl out through irrigation policies. The governments took up the so-called "hydraulic mission" to improve the agrarian economies and modernize the rural society. The State bureaucracies preferred projects that were always more daring and magniloquent, to fix the scarcity or dangerous excesses. The need to apply the global knowledge to national projects left us a scientific and propaganda literature showing the proposals, ideas and view of politicians, economists, agronomists, and civil engineers. We must also bear in mind that all hydraulic policy in the 20th century has been conditioned by energy policy and one cannot be understood without the other. In countries where water has long been</p>

	<p>Sergio Riesco-Universidad Autónoma de Madrid</p>	<p>considered an energy resource, the construction of dams in order to generate hydraulic energy and at the same time supply different irrigation canals, have generated conflicts between users and consumers. Planning and funding large-scale hydraulic works involved many actors interested in water policies and agriculture, such as us banks, agrarian associations, industrialists, or local administrations. State and State technicians and private companies had to deal with the different groups affected by the change of the landscape and of the production model. This also meant convincing them of the comparative advantages that medium-term investments could bring.</p> <p>The analysis of the scientific literature and the negotiation with these actors, their participation in the planning phase or their resistance to change, is part of the goals of this panel. It is necessary to reflect on how the reception of these measures by the farmers involved was experienced, the changes in mentality that they implied and the social and economic consequences that the large-scale state intervention entailed. But also, looking around the resistance to change of certain groups, the achievement of the implementation of all these policies went through very different phases and affected in very different ways those who doubted possible benefits.</p> <p>More specifically, in the countries of Southern Europe, where dictatorships and democracies competed as a political system throughout the 20th century, the modernization of rural areas brought with it profound changes that not only affected the demographic model but also the way of relating to the environment. In this regions, the studies about irrigation help us to understand the dynamics of conflict and consensus. That is why we tried to incorporate a field, that of groundwater, which in general had not been tackled in depth until recent times. We consider that it plays an important role in "water policies": an alternative to the State intervention with a bottom-up approach and peculiar productive and environmental implications. It is necessary to complement an overall view of our water culture. In short, we propose, from the perspective of environmental, economic and also socio political history, to create a forum for debate on how all these processes were experienced in Portugal, Spain, Italy, and Greece.</p>
31	<p><i>Rethinking innovation, technological changes, and global agricultural knowledge circulations in 20th century.</i></p> <p>Bruno Esperante-University of Barcelona</p>	<p>The SDGs of the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations, the EU Farm to Fork strategy within the Green Deal, the new CAP after 2020, or the programs of the rural Renaissance that seek more sustainable futures invite humanities and social science scholars to rethink categories behind the innovation, technological changes and knowledge circulation and the agricultural technologies transfers in 20th century.</p> <p>The industrial agricultural development model implemented post-1945 has generated a series of environmental and economic problems that link social inequality with agro-ecological degradation and the loss of cultural heritage, among others. The culture of innovation "innovate or die", knowledge circulation and agricultural technologies transfers from global north to global south have been at the centre of these changes. However, many people are beginning to believe that indefinite economic growth, and the old recipes of innovation and technological change no longer work. The new "green capitalism" after the 1980s seems not to have substantially changed either. For every problem, a technological solution is presupposed. However, low farm incomes, deepening gender gaps, and new waves of out-migration and rural depopulation have affected, and profoundly affect, the economic, social, and cultural well-being of rural communities. Moreover, many attempts to address the environmental impacts of these technological changes with public policies addressed from a sectoral rather than a systemic approach, such as those aimed at controlling land and water pollution with nitrates, or GHG emissions, ended up aggravating the socioeconomic difficulties of small farmers and rural communities.</p> <p>We propose a session with a systemic approach to agricultural innovation in the 20th century, involving research across history and the social sciences. The main aim of this session is that of building a dialogue between the historians and social scientist in agrarian/rural studies, reflecting on the future possibilities of agricultural innovation based on a historical assessment of the past trajectories. We welcome proposal from several research areas such as: Rural History; Environmental History; Economic History; Business History; Social History; History of Technology; Science, Technology and Society Studies (STS studies); Degrowth studies; (Feminist) Political Ecology; Anthropology, Sociology or Economics.</p> <p>We welcome proposals that invite to debate on the plural past and the plural future of agriculture, the resistance of alternative knowledge, resistant technologies in the face of the paradigm of modernization, and the circulation of knowledge that breaks the classic transfer paradigm from the global north to the south in 20th century.</p> <p>Keywords: Innovation, technological change, agricultural knowledge, industrial farming, 20th century.</p>
32	<p><i>The impact of the world wars on public supply conditions in Europe (1914–1953)</i></p> <p>Tóth Judit- Magyar Nemzeti Levéltár; Arkadiusz Indraszczyk-Institute of Political and Administration Sciences, Siedlce University</p>	<p>Most countries in Europe suffered a great destruction in World War I or/and II, hence the most compelling tasks were to begin the reconstruction of the economy and to organize the sustenance of the population.</p> <p>During the world wars, the supply of the army took on a prominent role. However, governments transitioning to wartime management also had to provide care for those who stayed at home. This double challenge demanded special solutions.</p> <p>In our section, we are interested in what measures have been taken in each country to solve the dual task? How was war management built? How was the food supply of the population? How common was the famine? In order to avoid this, what survival strategies have developed among the population? Are we thinking here, for example, of what kinds of foods and eating habits, different from before, emerged from the available raw materials? What strange, new recipes have become popular among the population?</p> <p>After the end of the wars, Europe found itself facing a serious economic situation. In many countries, the most important task was the reconstruction, but the organization of public supply was also a big challenge. How did this affect the development of the governmental institutional system? Have special institutions been created to ensure the task? What role did the various aid organizations play in the care?</p> <p>After World War II, the western and eastern halves of Europe continued on different paths. Several countries of Eastern and Easter-Central Europe became part of the socialist bloc. In accordance with the Soviet will, the construction of socialism became the most important task in these countries. For this reason, many features of war management survived in these countries, such as</p>

		<p>compulsory delivery of produce. What specific features of the emerging deficit economy developed as a result? How were those accused of endangering public supply punished?</p> <p>What other factors influenced public supply in different countries? Paying war reparations? Supplying a foreign (Soviet) army?</p> <p>Where and how long did the ticket system last? What foods and raw materials has it been extended to?</p> <p>We chose 1953, the year of Stalin's death, as the end date of the examined period. We would also like to know to what extent the increase in the standard of living was felt as a result of the political easing that began as a result of this?</p> <p>By answering these and similar questions, we believe that it will be possible to compare the similarities and differences between European countries with different political systems regarding the question of public supply.</p>
33	<p><i>Agriculture in European Socialist Countries: Patterns, ideology and pragmatism</i></p> <p>Zarko Lazarevic- Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana</p>	<p>Until the early 1960s, many East European socialist countries started an uncertain path of economic reforms. Changes were introduced either in the name of improving the existing economic system (Soviet Union), or in search of something apparently fundamentally new (Yugoslavia). Results were mainly visible in substantial or partial decentralisation of state economic agencies, sometimes also in more autonomy for enterprises and cooperatives/collective farms, and in considerably greater emphasis on consumerism. In any case, the socialist East started to compete with the capitalist West not only in the field of armaments, performance of heavy industry and the production of raw materials, but also in the field of people's welfare.</p> <p>The aim of proposed panel is a comparative investigation of impacts of these reforms in the agriculture in East European countries. A. Nove by investigating investments, procurement and retail prices of agricultural products, outlined a turning point at the middle of 1960s, since the countryside in the Soviet Union had ceased to be a source of accumulation of capital for investment in industry. Agriculture now apparently became a net burden on the rest of economy. Was the same true also for other East European countries who only recently finished or abandoned collectivisation? And even if that was not the case, how were East European peasant households affected by experiments with centrally – planned economies which considerably varied locally? Did peasant households benefit from reforms? Well known fact, that Khrushchev reforms did by no means simply remove obstacles for private peasant trade in the Soviet Union, raises the question of the peasant market activities in other socialist countries, and the varying share of their agriculture income in comparison to other sources of income.</p> <p>It might be argued that the peasantry in socialist Eastern Europe, either independent or collective farm members, regarding their economic activities posed clear limits to socialist projects. Resilience of peasant households had been already well elaborated in studies regarding collectivisations through 1930s – early 1960s. The proposed panel will investigate how this resilience manifested in time when direct political coercion of the regimes declined, and when even the communist leaders slowly began to doubt on effectiveness of their developmental models.</p>
34	<p><i>Changes and continuities of the peasant work culture after the collectivization in East Central Europe</i></p> <p>Varga Zsuzsanna- ELTE Budapest</p>	<p>The socialist block countries – except Yugoslavia and Poland – completed the collectivization by the early 1960s. The collective farms became the dominant players in the socialist agriculture. In the historical literature the new cooperative membership has still been depicted as a homogenous group of mostly reluctant peasants.</p> <p>In reality, the heterogeneity of peasant societies before 1945 made its impact felt for a very long time. Our double panel tries to use a long-term perspective in order to examine how men and women from different groups of peasant society adapted to the new structure. It is important to emphasize that for millions of women, the collective farm was the first workplace with independent incomes and independent social benefits.</p> <p>Studying the changes and continuities of different work and workplace practices and forms (including different wage-systems), provides a rich context for comparative research on the socialist agriculture in East-Central Europe.</p>
35	<p><i>*Observing the Land and the Peasants: Communist Secret Services and the Collectivization Process</i></p> <p>Virgil Tarau- UBB Cluj</p>	<p>After the Second World War, the sovietisation process of the Eastern and Central European countries began to reshape completely these spaces in a very aggressive manner. The new reality developed in stages, affecting the most profound and depth structures, in order to break through the old values, beliefs and traditions of these states and nations. One of the main processes of transformation was the collectivization of the agriculture. Inspired from the USSR, and initially developed under Stalin's orders, the socialist transformation of the agriculture was a very important task that was put in front of the communist decision-makers at the end of the forties and beginning of the fifties. After an energetic opening the process slowed down since the communist apparatus was confronted with the resistance of the peasants, but also with their own inability to deal with the procedures and norms that were borrowed from the Soviet Union.</p> <p>In consequence, the communist nomenclature asked for support, and to keep under control the rural world, the secret police in many cases became involved in the daily activities that were developed to increase the collectivization process' rhythm. One of the main aims of our intervention is to have a look – based on research in the archives of the former secret services in these countries and on the recent literature dedicated to the subject – upon the way in which these agencies acted during the fifties in order to improve the function of the collectivist structures, but also to destroy the resistance of the peasants to this process. We will discuss the repressive policies, and we will have in our attention also the adaptive, the conformist policies, that result from the pressures that were imposed by the political police against the pillars of the rural societies (priests, teachers, and kulaks). It will be a perspective developed from a particular angle, the one that came from the surveillance and informative files of the former communist secret services.</p>
36	<p><i>Knowledge Networks: The Role of Experts and</i></p>	<p>Since the early 20th century public institutions fostered and promoted technical change and agricultural modernization through various initiatives, taking the place that large landowners and elite associations had carried out in the 19th century. Governments (at regional, national and later European level) supported the modernization of the agricultural sector by promoting scientific and</p>

	<p><i>Technicians in Agricultural Modernization (1900-1980)</i></p> <p>Jordi Planas- University of Barcelona</p>	<p>practice-oriented research and knowledge transfer to the agricultural community. After all, the small size of the agricultural companies (with so little human and financial capital available) meant that it was mainly the state that provided the main impulses for agricultural research and innovation, although the role of the growing agribusiness should not be forgotten either. In this panel we would like to focus on the role of agricultural experts and technicians in promoting agricultural change and modernization. We would like to identify their features as a social group and discuss questions as the following: How did the exchange of knowledge and practices between experts and farmers proceed? What means and media were used to transfer new and old knowledge? To what extent was there cooperation between technicians and farmers' organizations? What was the role of technicians in the design and implementation of agricultural policies? Did they promote productivism disregarding environmental problems? To what extent food policies were taken into account?</p>
37	<p><i>Changes in the world/society of work in rural areas of 20th century Hungary and Central Europe.</i></p> <p>Valuch Tibor- Eszterhazy Károly Catholic University</p>	<p>The presentations in this section will examine how the world and society of work changed in the 20th century in Hungary and Central Europe, during the period of delayed industrialisation.</p> <p>The presentations will seek answers to the following questions:</p> <p>How did the structure of occupation change for people living in villages?</p> <p>What impact did industrialisation have on village society?</p> <p>How have life strategies changed among people living in villages?</p> <p>What impact did multiple income-earning practices have on the world of rural work?</p> <p>What similarities and differences can be observed in the transformation of rural society in different countries?</p>
38	<p><i>Soy and Agro-Food Change</i></p> <p>Ernst Langthaler- JKU Linz</p>	<p>The session investigates agro-food regimes and their transitions in the last 150 years through the lens of soy as a versatile cultigen. It will cast different spotlights on questions regarding the emergence of agro-food regimes, their ability to cope with trends, shocks and crises, and their capacity for developmental and transitional change. Soy's journey around the world was a paradoxical development: the cultigen simultaneously acted as a protagonist of the 'Western diet', rich in meat and dairy products, and its antagonist, endorsing alternative vegetarian and low-meat diets. Yet, the emergence of the 'soy paradox' was neither deterministic nor linear; on the contrary, soy's emergence as a global commodity was a rocky road. Before soy became a global commodity, it emerged in several niches as a novel solution to specific problems in different branches of the economy.</p> <p>The session highlights Central Europe in general and Austria in particular as nodes of the global soy web. In the last 150 years, Austria has emerged as both a trader and producer of soybeans. Before soy trade and production gained momentum, Austria was a venue for early scientific experiments outside Asia from the 1870s onwards. In the following decades, soy was considered a highly nutritious cultigen and thus a solution to agricultural and nutritional problems, but it remained a niche innovation. From the 1950s onwards, imports of soybean cake as animal feed from North and South America increased. Domestic soy production of soybeans for human nutrition and animal feeding took off from the 1980s onwards and elevated Austria to the fifth biggest producer in the EU.</p> <p>The emergence of soy and its implementation in agriculture and nutrition involved changing configurations of knowledge and technology, commodity chains, and regulatory institutions. These configurations were closely tied to agro-food regimes and their internal and external pressures, which fostered or hindered the diffusion of technological and social innovations. Austria is treated equally as a national case study in international comparison and as a node of the transnational soy web, which allows for diverse angles on the transformative capabilities of soy.</p> <p>Methodologically, the panel contributors address soy-related developments on multiple levels (from local to global) by combining approaches from transition theory, food regime analysis, assemblage theory, commodity studies, and discourse analysis. The talks address different aspects of soy change: Ernst Langthaler discusses an integrative approach to agro-food change in the age of globalization through the lens of soy. Maximilian Martsch examines the brand "Edelsoja" which became the first commercially successful soy flour in interwar Austria and further flourished under the Nazi regime in the Second World War. Gabriel Tober deals with the formation of innovative networks around soy pioneers (scientists, farmers, processors etc.) since the late 1960s. Based on the example of the organization "Donau Soja", Dana Bentia fleshes out contemporary public-private actions to upscale soy's uses in agriculture and the industries as well as to re-imagine its agri-environmental roles for Europe.</p> <p>In order to strengthen international comparisons and transnational connections with the Austrian case, colleagues who are dealing with soy in other countries and world-regions are invited to propose additional contributions during the Call for Papers.</p>
39	<p><i>Harvest failures – Impacts and consequences</i></p> <p>Henrik Forsberg- Umeå university</p>	<p>Famines are not and have never been the direct consequence of harvest failures. Famine scholars agree that famines and the increase in mortality is a multicausal problem involving not only natural factors such as disruptive weather events that destroy food production and facilitates the spread of lethal diseases, but also human factors such as political decision-making, political conflict, social institutions, socioeconomic status, inequality, market dynamics, population movements and chosen relief schemes play viable roles (Dijkman & van Leeuwen 2019). Indeed, famines undoubtedly are complex emergencies (Keen 2008). On the other hand, for pre-industrial rural societies with a high degree of self-sufficient households combined with weak ties to their economic and political core regions a sudden drop in harvest output could be detrimental. What remains unclear is how crop failure transforms into a demographic response and to what extent the regional "backwardness", ie. lack of market integration or political influence to attract extensive famine relief, influences the demographic outcome. Therefore, we ask what were the exact mechanisms for preindustrial rural societies that determined the level of resilience or helped to shape the demographic impacts and consequences after one or several serious harvest failures?</p>

		<p>To study this, we need to shift focus from the nation-state as a unit of analysis to regions and localities where social resilience against diminishing food supplies is put to the test. Historical famines have mostly been studied through the lenses of methodological nationalism and for understandable reasons. The primary sources and official reports are for the most part kept in national archives and libraries, and they have been collected by the state's administrators to influence the state's policy. However, what this has meant is that regional harvest failures, regional mortality crises or regional path dependency may have been overlooked. Much has depended upon the state officials and policy makers, and later historians, overall (dis)interest of regional peripheries. Regions that have suffered famines, or near famines, have had difficulties in integrating their regional experience in their national histories and thus have often been overlooked in national history and famine histories alike.</p> <p>We want to remedy this. Here we are interested in the impacts and consequences that harvest failures have had upon preindustrial societies. More specifically we are interested in comparisons between regions and peripheries that do not necessarily conform to the cultural or economic norms set by the nation-states' cores. Moreover, we believe that by overlooking a variety of regional economic and cultural differences within a state something crucial is left out from the explanation of how the preindustrial states succeeded or failed in their responses when the harvest failures struck. This panel explores various European regional comparative case studies and discusses the demographic impacts and consequences of serious harvest failures.</p>
40	<p><i>Continental Drift: The American Gravitational Pull over European Agricultural Development in the Twentieth Century</i></p> <p>Mícheál Ó Fathartaigh-SSRC, University of Galway/Archives of Rural History, Bern/Dublin Business School</p>	<p>During the twentieth century, the power and influence of the United States over Europe grew exponentially and incrementally (as, indeed, did European recognition of the United States and, in a more nuanced fashion, European influence over the United States). American power and influence was felt in an economic sense as well as in more conspicuous political and societal ways. Moreover, it was felt in rural, agricultural, Europe as much as it was felt in urban, industrialised, Europe. The United States made its most singular impact on rural Europe in the immediate post-Second World War period, when it participated centrally in the multifaceted reconstruction of Europe through the Marshall Plan. In return for financial aid from the US under the Marshall Plan, western European countries acquiesced in the modification or even complete remodelling of traditional agricultural structures along lines that were more consistent with those of the US. This left an enduring legacy.</p> <p>From the 1950s, western Europe retook the initiative in its agricultural development with the foundation of the European Economic Community and, specifically, with the endowment of the Common Agricultural Policy. However, the US continued to exercise power and influence over western Europe through, for instance, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) organisation/World Trade Organization (WTO), which was headquartered in Switzerland.</p> <p>Furthermore, even in the earlier decades of the twentieth century, before the Marshall Plan, the US had exerted power and influence over rural Europe. For example, European agricultural innovators had travelled to the US in the early twentieth century (and, indeed, from the late nineteenth century) to learn from its evolving agricultural sector and, also, to learn how best to secure European agriculture from its potential competition.</p> <p>Aim: this session will reflect on the American gravitational pull over European agricultural development in the twentieth century by taking one western European country, Ireland, and a small, complementary, range of western European countries as its case study. It will profile these countries to show exactly when and how European agricultural development was impacted by American intervention. In the course of this, it will highlight the long-term legacies of this, and it will, ultimately, draw tentative conclusions as to the benefit or otherwise of American intervention. In addition, the panel presentations and subsequent discussion will identify those particularly pivotal individuals and policies that determined the dynamics of the American effect. Finally, it will juxtapose the more American-impacted western European experience with that of eastern Europe, which was not, obviously, exposed to American power and influence (in the same way) in the second half of the twentieth century. This latter consideration will also ensure that the panel presentations and discussion are inclusively instructive about European rural history generally in the twentieth century.</p>
41	<p><i>Land Ownership and Land Tenancy as Driving Forces of Landscape Change in Rural Spaces</i></p> <p>Hessam Khorasani Zadeh- Iuav (Venice) & CRH (EHESS, Paris); Viviana Ferrario- Iuav (Venice); Luigi Lorenzetti- LabiSAIp (USI, Mendrisio)</p>	<p>Historical surveys that examine land ownership or land tenancy regimes and their changes tend to focus on socioeconomic rather than spatial aspects. This means that issues related to agricultural productivity, distribution of wealth, social differentiation or peasant's social reproduction are considered more closely than agrarian landscape or—more generally—the built environment. This session invites scholars who have had the opportunity to examine spatial issues in their investigations on land ownership or land tenancy to discuss the sources, methods and results of their research. We encourage participants to consider periods characterized by transformations in property or leaseholding regimes under different circumstances, such as socioeconomic or ecological changes, land or juridical reforms, revolutions, colonization processes, etc. Papers about all geographical contexts (mountains or plains) and continents are welcome. The session seeks to establish links between Rural History and Landscape Studies and will mainly deal with the contemporary period (19th to 21st centuries). However, relevant papers focusing on other periods will also be considered. We particularly welcome comparative, multiscale and long term analysis, as well as papers that rely on visual sources (e.g. cadastral maps), draw from cartographic tools (e.g. GIS techniques) and/or give an important place to scales close to the "parcel" (micro scale). By considering issues not necessarily linked to land ownership and tenancy (e.g. land use), authors may also discuss whether changes in property and leaseholding represent a major factor in the evolution of the landscape.</p>
42	<p><i>Agrarian change, socio-ecological transition</i></p>	<p>In recent years there has been considerable research on the biophysical evolution of agriculture and the environmental impacts of the industrialization of agriculture in the twentieth century. But the mainstream historiographical narrative about agricultural growth has not yet incorporated these results into a new interpretation of agrarian change. Agrarian growth is analysed independently of the</p>

	<p><i>and social and environmental impacts in twentieth century agriculture</i></p> <p>David Soto Fernández-Universidad de Santiago de Compostela</p>	<p>environmental and social consequences associated with a model of change progressively disarticulated from the territory and rural communities. But there are a lot of relevant impacts that are related with agricultural industrialization, both from environmental and social perspectives: crop homogenization and land uses simplification, over-fertilization, dependence of industrial inputs and loss of energy efficiency, land abandonment and increase of forest fires could be a non-exhaustive list of these environmental impacts. But we need to take into account also process of farm abandonment and structural adjustment, decline in rural workers or destruction of family farms are social processes related with depopulation and degradation of the rural landscapes. These socio-economic and biophysical transformations cannot be analysed separately, but are part of this process of agrarian change. In this sense agrarian politics, both in dictatorial contexts and in European democratic context (as CAP) have played a relevant role in these changes. In short, this session aims to provide a different view of the process of agricultural industrialization, offering a more diverse picture that is better adjusted to the complex and multidimensional reality seen from our current societal and environmental challenges.</p>
43	<p><i>Contemporary landgrabbing and colonial land history</i></p> <p>Pablo F Luna- Centre de Recherches Historiques, Paris; Claude Lutzelschwab-University of Neuchâtel</p>	<p>Landgrabbing, the financial rush for land and natural resources, with all the diversity of names that this process has received, designates a current global fact that has accelerated since the 2007-2008 crisis. But some specialists believe that it was already at work in 2000 or even before. In its strength and speed, in the variety of its protagonists in the five continents, it exceeds what we have known until now. In a more powerful way than in the past, it subverts rights, customs and tradition, subjugates populations and puts states (and even some supranational bodies) at its service.</p> <p>On several occasions, it has been identified with the English 'enclosures' or the American usurpation of lands and territories by European colonial monarchies (or later). But it has also been linked to the agrarian counter-reform of the late 20th century, that is, to the reaction of landowners expropriated by the land redistribution measures that had been mainly implemented since the 1950s. It is not by chance, indeed, since there is in fact the whole of the colonial historical processes that can be associated with its irruption and expansion, now on a global scale.</p> <p>The objective of this session of Eurho 2023 will be to encourage analyses that, while examining the current facts, in a precise manner, starting from sources and concrete cases, will also call upon the colonial land history of the territories and spaces concerned, in order to better understand them, to point out the specificities and/or the elements shared with previous colonial experiences, and to better update the material, sociological and mental relays that facilitated the breakthrough of such a movement. This includes an analysis of the traditions, practices, frameworks and legal tools that enable such land appropriation, questioning in particular the possible links between quasi-eminent domain of land and public-private articulation. Finally, it is a call for a multidisciplinary approach to a phenomenon that covers many dimensions, in time and space, including within the territories of the former colonial powers themselves.</p> <p>For this reason, although we are historians of the countryside in the Early modern and modern periods, we have chosen to extend the perspective to the 21st century, in order to offer a comparative and diachronic view of this global trend which clearly puts the land, natural resources and rural worlds back in the foreground, in time and space.</p>
44	<p><i>Land ownership and inequality</i></p> <p>Adrián Palacios-Mateo-University of Zaragoza; Miguel Artola Blanco-Universidad Carlos III Madrid</p>	<p>This session tries to bring different scholars that are exploring how land ownership affects economic or population growth. The four papers proposed will explore this topic in different perspectives, both in space and time. Firstly, Pablo Martinelli and Dario Pellegrino will show how land inequality influenced economic growth in Italy after WWII, by exploring an extraordinarily detailed survey taken in 1945-1946. They show that land inequality had a robust negative influence on employment in secondary and tertiary sectors during the second half of the 20th century, showing also that land inequality could be linked with the lower growth rates in Southern Italy.</p> <p>Secondly, Jordi Caum-Julio will explore how the different colonial missions in colonial Philippines affected land inequality. He explores how land was more unequally distributed in municipalities under the control of certain catholic missions such as Augustinians or Jesuits, while towns under secular priest or the Franciscans had less land inequality.</p> <p>Thirdly, Miguel Artola analyses the access to rural, urban and industrial property in Spain between 1850 and 1930. By exploring two known sources, but hardly treated in sufficient detail sources (electoral registers and personal tax certificates), he shows the long-term evolution of land inequality in Spain.</p> <p>Finally, I explore together with Francisco J. Marco-Gracia how land and urban ownership was affecting fertility and human capital formation. Although we also analyse Spain, our time period only covers the mid-19th century and contains 10 Aragonese municipalities as we use micro-data (cadasters, population censuses, and baptisms, marriage and death records). Nevertheless, the micro-data analysis allows a deeper understanding of households' dynamics that could shed some light on how land ownership influenced individual decisions.</p> <p>Thus, the discussion among the participants and the assistants will be enriching, as different perspectives could shed light on our investigations. Furthermore, all the participants are going to use new methodologies and databases, enhancing the understanding of land ownership in the rural history field. Additionally, it will be of highly importance the participation in the conference, as scholars with expertise in this topic, or in other, could significantly enhance our papers and therefore improve our contribution to the field.</p>
45	<p><i>The History of Horticulture</i></p> <p>Magnus Bohman- Umeå University</p>	<p>The history of horticulture is a rather new research field, which reaches wide. This session aims to illustrate that by welcoming proposals from many academic disciplines. However, in order to bridge gaps and find common denominators in terms of theory, methods, objects of study and sources, we especially welcome contributions that consider long-term, comparative and/or inter-disciplinary perspectives. Thus, a paramount aim of the session is to further define, expand and develop this dynamic research field.</p> <p>The history of horticulture is distinguished from the field of garden history, which emerges more out of art history and landscape architecture. It is also distinguished from agrarian history through its typical objects of investigation, i.e. garden produce such as vegetables, fruits and ornamentals – all of which are distinguished from agricultural production in terms of scale, crop species, and intensity of cultivation. Often, research on food supply focuses primarily on agricultural production, but recent research within garden archaeology, agrarian history and economic history has revealed</p>

		<p>a significant importance of garden produce throughout history – in towns, in the countryside, and in all social strata.</p> <p>Due to the session's interdisciplinary character, there is no definite chronological delimitation for periods concerned by paper proposals. In terms of topics, papers may concern for instance garden produce with different end-uses, for commercial or self-sufficiency purposes, in both rural and urban environments. This includes for instance aspects of labour and organization (such as professional gardeners, employees, and family enterprises), aspects of cultivation and horticultural techniques (such as soil management, plant protection, tools, machinery, and buildings), and adaptation, breeding and preservation of plant materials.</p>
46	<p><i>Romanian Rural History: Old and New Paradigms</i></p> <p>Constantin Barbulescu-UBB Cluj</p>	<p>The birth of modern Romanian historiography in the 19th century is the work of the romantic generation. It is the years after 1830 when the Moldavian Mihail Kogălniceanu and the Valachian Nicolae Bălcescu write their main historical works. Perhaps it is not a coincidence that all this romantic historiography does not ignore the social problem that was intertwined with the national one. The decades between 1830 and 1864, as well as those that follow until late 1907, but also after, are haunted by the property problem. And this could not but be reflected in the historiography of the era. Now, a first version of the autochthonous rural history is actually born from the ideological battle between the supporters of the big property and their opponents - the supporters of the peasants. This first rural history is therefore a strongly partisan and extremely combative one, commensurate with the social forces at war. In the interwar period when, after the agrarian reform of 1921, the stake of property lost its relevance, the gaze of historians looking at the 19th century became more serene and, in fact, more disinterested. But in the absence of a major ideological stake, rural history is relegated to the minor register. It will be updated a few decades later during the communist regime, when its interpretation from the perspective of class struggle will become dominant. Thus, rural history becomes an important direction of study in Romanian historiography strictly for ideological reasons. It becomes important when under the impulse of liberal reforms the peasants receive the land of the boyars and later when the same peasants lose the land they received to the state after a century. Every time rural history justifies a more or less radical reform of property. Today, the history of the rural world is still claimed for the most part from works of considerable antiquity, which, despite their merits, remain marked by the methodological and historiographical shortcomings of their era: M. Kogălniceanu, N. Bălcescu, R. Rosetti, I. Corfu. Unlike other countries, Romania still lacks a social and economic history, both of the peasantry and of other important actors in the agrarian economy: landlords, tenants, workers. If historians have been too often concerned with the relationship between these actors, methods of in-depth analysis of each actor have not been used. In addition, the rural history of the Romanian 19th century is not only a history of property and agrarian economy, but also a cultural history of the peasantry. The authentic liberal elites did not only fight for the ownership of the peasants, but also tried to build a Herderian image of the peasant, the treasure and genius of Romanianism. Historical writings, social journalism and literature shape the new face of the peasant. In the grouping offered by the works of this panel, we want to capture new directions of study of the rural world in Romania.</p>
47	<p><i>Animal Health in the Industrialized Stable</i></p> <p>Beat Bächi- Universität Zürich</p>	<p>The industrialization of agriculture during the 20th century led to drastic changes in livestock farming. New technologies and scientific knowledge aiming at increasing productivity fundamentally changed the human-made living space of farm animals like cattle, pigs, or chickens. These developments increased the productivity of both the animals and the livestock industry itself. Yet, at the same time, they introduced new (production) diseases like stress or cannibalism to livestock farming while intensifying the threat of already known microbes and parasites. The diseases caused by the aim of ever-increasing efficiency infringed on that very same goal. Thus, animal health no longer just meant the absence of illness, but became the main prerequisite for performance. New solutions were sought out in further technological and scientific advancements. Antibiotic usage in livestock farming from the 1950s onwards fundamentally changed animal nutrition but had unforeseen consequences for human health and medicine. More animals in less space with shorter reproduction cycles significantly increased and sometimes overloaded the toll on the environment.</p> <p>The proposed panel aims to open a dialogue between historians of agriculture and historians of medicine around the intensification of animal husbandry during the 20th century. What changed in and around the stable and how did it impact the health of animals, humans, and the environment? How did technological change and animal health influence each other? Changes in the livestock stable were relevant not just for the animals and the people in direct contact with them, as for example farmers, veterinarians, or slaughterhouse workers. Considering the immense number of individuals in the livestock industry it becomes clear that its impact goes far beyond the rural area. The contemporary debates about environmental pollution, zoonosis, and antimicrobial resistances call for a discussion about the implications of industrialized agriculture on the health of humans, animals and the environment. This panel aims to apply a One Health perspective to the history of industrialized agriculture and study the unprecedented developments in livestock farming during the 20th century.</p>
48	<p><i>Socio-Economic Impacts of Animal Pests in History</i></p> <p>Nicolas Maughan-Aix-Marseille University</p>	<p>Pests, defined as an insects and other organisms that threaten crops, livestock, pets and people, have threatened civilization throughout history. Since the beginning of agrarian societies, coping with animal pests has been an important part of the interaction between humans and their environment. The objective of this session is to reconstruct the temporal dynamics and spatial patterns of major animal pest events in various countries - using records extracted from historical documents - to explore the damage caused by in agriculture and forestry as well as the socio-economic impact.</p>
49	<p><i>Representing Property and the Uses of the Land. The Use of Imagery in Analyzing Land Relations and their Changes</i></p> <p>Eric Leonard- Institut de Recherche pour le Développement,</p>	<p>This session aims to examine how, throughout modern and contemporary history (17th to 21st centuries), different sources and types of images (cartographies of territories and communities, cadastral and parcel plans, documents produced by land use planning projects, aerial photographs and satellite images) have been mobilized to represent, describe and analyse the property and productive relations regarding the land, at a given moment or in a diachronic perspective.</p> <p>On the one hand, we want to explore the way in which institutional changes (legal reforms or endogenous transformations of local norms and practices regarding the access to and the possession of land), productive dynamics (changes in the modes of exploitation of the environment) and those of the agrarian structures (ownership and exploitation structures) can be identified and interpreted through the information provided by the images of land forms and types of land use.</p> <p>On the other hand, the session will focus on the strategic uses of the image, insofar as it represents and gives a particular meaning to the forms of use and appropriation of the land through its figuration in space; the aim here will be to analyse how the evolution of power relations and the strategies for altering power, at different levels, are expressed in the ways of figuring the possession</p>

	Montpellier	<p>of the land and its uses, as well as the legitimate authorities in their regulation.</p> <p>The session will seek to cross historiographical studies related to the representations of property and uses of the land, and their evolution, with contemporary studies that mobilize aerial or satellite imagery, or resort to participatory cartography, in order to analyse the dynamics and strategies of change in the relations of ownership and exploitation.</p>
50	<p><i>Distribution and the mechanisms behind land transfer in rural societies</i></p> <p>Daniel R. Curtis- Erasmus University Rotterdam</p>	<p>Inequality is now a booming topic in the field of history, although rural historians have long been concerned with topics such as access to land and social distribution of resources. What we have found more difficult is reconstructing and understanding changes in rural inequality over time. An essential challenge is that we have often lacked serial evidence for distribution of wealth or land. And whilst we have rural historians who have worked on issues such as land transfer, either looking at inheritance practices or the workings of the land market, rarely have these mechanisms been used to advance a more systematic understanding of redistribution, and in turn, why some rural societies become more unequal and others remain more egalitarian.</p> <p>In this session, we zoom in on the mechanisms behind land transfer. What causes more land to shift at different points of time in different societies, and in what conditions do these shifts become permanent structural changes – i.e., shifts that lead to long-lasting or more persistent forms of redistribution of land? In this session, our contributions consider the impact of a number of different conditions on land transfer. How is land transfer mediated by institutions that guide the land market, and more specifically, what is the role of interaction between ownership and use, and the interaction between "private" and communal forms of property. What is the role of urban-rural relationships, and does a closer economic or jurisdictional relationship with the city necessarily always mean urban investment in rural land markets? Is land transfer driven more by death or more through marriage – and in turn, how does this shape the redistributive impact of epidemics or famines that inevitably lead to sharply raised mortality? How did women acquire land, and to what extent did women with resources serve as facilitators of fluidity in the land market? How do people finance land transfers in ages and societies where credit markets were thin? We also focus on the incentives behind land transfer – are they generally economic, or can we discern wider socio-political motivations for acquiring pieces of property?</p> <p>This session has no geographical limitation, and has some preference for pre-20th century material.</p>
51	<p><i>Microcredit as an economic rural resource. Comparing Models in the Historical Perspective</i></p> <p>Paola Avallone- Institute of Studies on the Mediterranean - ISMED; Martin Wassermann (Conicet – University of Buenos Aires)</p>	<p>Credit is the lifeblood for economies. A wide range of financial institutions and intermediaries, from relational networks to modern banking, has historically offered mechanisms to feed the economies by means of credit. However, financial services are not accessible to everyone. "Financial exclusion" (Leyshon and Thrift, 1995) allowed to understand the broader difficulty of an increasingly growing segment of the population to access the main financial services and products (Kempson and Whyley, 1999). Today, financial exclusion is widely recognized as one of the parts that make up a wider social exclusion.</p> <p>Case studies showed that, in situations of structural poverty, when financial institutions that provide consumer credit intervened on the horizontal networks of cooperation, the result was not always a reversal of poverty, but rather an appropriation of community surpluses through the financial channel (Feldman, 2013; Gago, 2015). In this sense, it is still necessary to rethink the ways of "financial inclusion" to stimulate the economy of the excluded social sectors.</p> <p>Financial exclusion and microfinance, however, are not products of the contemporary world: history shows that over time there have been parts of the active population in certain geographical areas falling in the so-called group of conjunctural poor, who were momentarily expelled from the economic system. If not adequately supported by welfare state policies, the risk of falling into the category of structural poor was very high. In the past, however, in the absence of a "welfare state" as we understand it today, there was a plethora of "charitable" institutions that assisted both the structural poor and the economic ones. And, in the absence of a specialized credit system and faced with the ecclesiastical prohibition of lending money as it was considered a sin, in central Italy, starting from the fifteenth century, the Monti di Pietà (pawnshops) spread among the various charitable institutions. These institutions offered their service to the people who were temporarily in financial difficulty and could not turn to private bankers, who practiced high interest rates. Most of the monti di pietà were born and expanded in urban areas, and were aimed at those who had the opportunity to present a real collateral; while the monti frumentari were the expression of rural areas where there were small farmers, often tenants of farming land, who did not have seeds to sow, and had no collateral to offer.</p> <p>The objective of this session is to highlight the origins of the European culture of "credit assistance" with the search for the roots of the economic resources of microfinance and microcredit, and the analysis of their transmission to the present. By investigating the forms of social protection and solidarity credit that were developed within urban and rural societies in Italy, starting from the late Middle Ages and then spreading throughout Europe and into the contemporary world, we want to evaluate and trace a demarcation between various microfinance models following the current economic crisis.</p>
52	<p><i>Women, Family, Economy and Property in Rural Society</i></p> <p>Beatrice Moring- University of Helsinki/Cambridge</p>	<p>Some studies of women have claimed that while the loss of a partner had little impact on the lives of men, it radically changed the life of a woman. While it is indeed the case that widowhood could mean a need to re-structure and re-organize life, many widows were able to continue life as before. Where the woman lived on a farm the question arose if she should continue running it with her children, or if it was time to retire.</p> <p>Property was, however not only found in the hands of widows but also single and married women could be the holders of property. The aim of this session is to study succession patterns and property transfer by women and to women in rural society of the European past. To what extent were women affected by notions of male primogeniture and to what extent did they function as holders and transmitters of property. Is it possible to detect national or regional differences in the effects of law and custom on land and property transfer. Did family strategies exist?</p>

53	<p><i>Property rights and social groups in context: overcoming the individual-commons dichotomy</i></p> <p>Rosa Congost-University of Girona; Gérard Béaur- Centre de Recherches Historiques, Paris; Manuel Bastias Saavedra- Leibniz University Hannover</p>	<p>European social and economic historians have tended to accept as valid the conventional compartmentalization of historical studies into large chronological blocks, which gives justification to topics being studied differently depending on which period they relate to. In land ownership studies, the conventional view has tended to consider the concept of property as being different under the Ancien Régime than in liberal societies. It should be borne in mind that the adjectives used to differentiate the new type of property - perfect, absolute, full, secure - betray a unilinear view of historical progress that is now being questioned. Moreover, this unilinear and simple view of property helped consolidate the division of land ownership studies into two further main blocks, leading to two forums of academic debate that, although interrelated when they emerged, have evolved separately. In one, the idea of perfect, absolute property contrasted with the historical evidence of divided, shared, and therefore "imperfect" forms of property in earlier societies. However, over time, continuous discoveries of new historical and contemporary evidence have made this paradigm of property increasingly unrealistic, both in the past and the present. It is, then, legitimate to ask: why have historians insisted so much on the use of the term "absolute", or similar terms, such as "full" or "complete"? These are adjectives that reinforce the idea of the superiority of certain forms of property over others. If we had assumed relativity as an intrinsic characteristic of property instead, then it would probably not have taken us so long to accept the need to distinguish between different types of resource exploitation, interrelated with one another, beyond the legal definition of property. This also affects the second thematic block, which is defined by the contrast between individual, private property, and collective property. Research carried out in recent years has not only confirmed the continued existence of collective rights in many past and contemporary societies, but has also shown and demonstrated the efficiency of collective management systems that for many years were demonized by the dominant discourse. Here we want to focus on the fact that different forms of collective uses and rights have tended to come together under the word "commons", a word that might seem to be little affected by the weight of the unilinear view of history referred to earlier. In our opinion, it is precisely its apparent neutrality that we wish to warn against. The assimilation of all that is collective with the "commons" underpins the individual-collective dichotomy, and hides social conflicts, thus contributing to the entrenching of that unilinear view of progress that might seem to be being questioned. Convinced of the convenience of going further in this direction, in this session we hope to bring together some historical examples that can help us to reflect on the problems that dichotomous and unilinear views of property can entail in our studies in order to understand historical realities in their complexity.</p>
54	<p><i>Always at the bare minimum? The standard of living of rural households</i></p> <p>Florian Probst-University of Münster</p>	<p>While urban labour markets are sufficiently researched nowadays, we know only little about pre-modern rural labour markets. While we cannot fill this gap completely in this session, we can at least shed some light on it. This panel will therefore focus on the living standards of those households with no or only very little land in pre-modern rural Europe.</p> <p>The question of living standards will be approached primarily from the perspective of labour. There are four key aspects: First, the number of annual working days and possible influencing factors such as crises or a possible industrious revolution. Here we will also look at the role of unemployment, which had more than just seasonal reasons. Secondly, we want to take a closer look at wage labour itself. In the countryside there were not only day labourers and servants, but a variety of other forms of employment. Day labourers and other short-term workers were also often given food and drink. This raises the question of how far the extent and value of this board can be quantified and what role it played in the everyday diet of households. Thirdly, in addition to wage labour, there was also production within the household – also in those households without or with only little land. For example, the yields from kitchen gardens found their way into the daily diet or, in the winter when there was little work, wooden shoes were produced for the next season. Here, too, we need to consider how the extent of this subsistence production can be measured and what influence it had on securing the household's living standard. Fourth and finally, we want to examine how women participated in the labour market. In doing so, we are not only interested in the above-mentioned questions about the length of the working year and forms of wage labour. We want to take a more precise look and find out which (paid and unpaid) activities were usually carried out by women and what their working life was like: We aim to find out in which phases of life women were more likely to do paid work – for example, as maids in adolescence – and when unpaid care work such as raising children and running the household came to the fore.</p> <p>So far, papers from Sweden, Finland and Germany covering the period from the 17th to the 19th century are planned. All papers are invited to join the panel if they have some contribution to make to one or more of the guiding themes mentioned. Moreover, labour is not an exclusive topic of economic history: Labour dominated all areas of life, and so contributions from agricultural history, social history, legal history, history of everyday life and other fields are also expressly welcome. It does not matter whether the studies pursue a micro or a macro perspective or whether the approach is qualitative or quantitative. Through a geographically and thematically wide-ranging exchange, the panel aims to give new impetus to research on rural labour markets.</p>
55	<p><i>A long-run approach to village communities: family, elite and social mobility</i></p> <p>Aleksander Panjek-University of Primorska; Aleksej Kalc (Slovenian Migration Institute ZRC SAZU)</p>	<p>The panel addresses some key questions that emerged in rural history in the last decades, such as the family, the village elites and social mobility. All of them are central in the interpretations of peasant societies and economies across Europe, not least in identifying differences in the timing, paths and patterns of modern development between the west and the east as well as the north and the south of the continent. This is true of many concepts we have been using through the decades: proto-industry, pluri-activity, industriousness, mobility, and agency, to mention some of the most relevant. Among rural historians a wide consensus has emerged, that a deepened and systematic comparative approach across rural Europe is of paramount importance for verifying, confirming or refuting existing interpretations, since it brings new and richer empirical evidence from "the field".</p> <p>Our aim is to explore dynamism in rural societies in different parts of Europe. To do so, we combine two traditional methods rather rarely used together other than in local histories: the micro-historical and the long-term approach. With micro-historical approach we intend the original methodology as it was developed in Italian historiography, concentrating on individuals, family groups and small communities as a way to challenge existing interpretations at a macro level. The long-term approach is often used in economic history, mostly when dealing with quantitative evidence, although not limited to that. By bringing together the micro reality and the long time-span, a clearer picture of social and economic dynamics should emerge.</p> <p>For this reason, the panel concentrates on reconstructing histories at the level of individuals, families and village communities, with an emphasis on their agency, networking, alliance building, ability in seizing opportunities and in responding to challenges represented by social, economic and political changes in the long run. To effectively tackle our topic and aims, we present selected case-studies that are located along the European north-south and east-west divide, running from the Pyrenees along the Alps to central-eastern Europe.</p>
56	<p><i>The rules of the Common</i></p>	<p>This panel covers the Common Agricultural Policy and the impact gained by its regulations over time in terms of wastage. Since its early decades the CAP has pursued a number of goals:</p>

	<p><i>Agricultural Policy and the waste of natural and economic resources</i></p> <p>Andrea Maria Locatelli-Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore</p>	<p>guaranteeing adequate income to producers; driving farms towards new efficient farming methods in order to guarantee abundance of food supplies for EEC citizens; turning the EEC permanently self-sufficient even in case of import blockages linked to an escalation of the US-USSR cold war. The CAP aimed therefore at the double (and yet contradictory) goal of allowing low prices goods to European consumers and granting decent income to European producers. This difficult balance explains the complexity of CAP rules and the establishment of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF). By setting up the threshold price and intervention price, the CAP could provide good incomes for farmers storing up supplies in case of dearth and selling out excess stocks to third countries with below-cost exports financed by the EEC. However, CAP incentives were being introduced at the same time with the agricultural breakthrough gained by chemical fertilizers, hybrid seeds and the refinement of the "cold chain." This innovation fuelled strong growth in production, which, thanks to the intervention price, was no longer tied to market dynamics. Farmer increased their earnings by raising production, and that swiftly led to EU market saturation. In addition, the EEC was dumping redundant agricultural products onto the extra-EU market engraining a crowding out effect on local production in importing countries</p> <p>This panel aims at analysing and discussing the following topics:</p> <p>a) The regional, national, sectoral impact of the CAP regulations during the 1960s and 1970s engrained a three-folded wastage: resources were consumed to produce surplus foodstuffs; surplus production used to be dumped abroad, damaging local agricultures in importing countries, along with a misemploying of all their resources employed as input production; unsold goods with limited shelf-life which had to be destroyed.</p> <p>b) The regional, national and sectoral impact of the new policies since the 1980s, which introduced maximum production quotas (cutting subsidies for any amount overproduced) and decreased the intervention price when the threshold was exceeded. As a matter of fact, also this amended regulation did not reduce the excessive water consumption associated with crops such as corn and rice, nor the food losses throughout the supply chain. This waste of resources remained even after the McSherry reform, still occurring in the new millennium although CAP's care to environmental issues has meaningful increased.</p>
57	<p><i>The patrimonialisation of rural areas: cultural and environmental processes in European landscape</i></p> <p>Vittorio Tigrino-Università del Piemonte Orientale</p>	<p>Over the last two centuries, rural areas have often experienced deep transformation processes linked to more or less successful attempts to promote their 'cultural' value.</p> <p>These processes have been different, and variously promoted; very often they have been accompanied by conspicuous economic investments aimed at promoting the 'heritisation' of rural areas with a touristic perspective.</p> <p>The process of patrimonialisation (or heritagisation) has taken on different aspects.</p> <p>While in the past it was often linked to the promotion of mass tourism, in recent decades it has also promoted different ways of fruition, either in the ways and in the publics imagined to be involved in such processes.</p> <p>In any case, these paths have been at the basis of profound transformations, both in the materiality of rural spaces – in their environmental and "natural" characters – and in the way they have been understood and perceived.</p> <p>This panel, through the presentation of several case studies focusing on different geographical areas, intends to investigate the many different vicissitudes of patrimonialisation/heritagisation of rural spaces, the chronologies that characterised them, the social groups and subjects involved, and in particular it intends to relate the way in which these processes materially transformed the rural landscape, imposing new modes of management and, over time, also new needs for the more or less authentic 'conservation' of these spaces.</p>
58	<p><i>Meadows in Europe: historical perspectives on sustainable agricultural land use</i></p> <p>Oscar Jacobsson-Stockholm University</p>	<p>Meadowland covered large parts of the European agrarian landscape prior to the agrarian revolution during the 19th and early 20th century. The purpose of the meadows, wet as well as dry, was to provide winter fodder for stalled animals, a function that can be studied in areas with transhumance as well as in parts of Europe where livestock were kept in the vicinities of the farm or village. Nutrients from the meadow passed through the livestock's digestive system and gave manure in return for the arable fields. This transferring of nutrients from meadow to arable demanded large areas for fodder-producing land.</p> <p>Systematic use of meadows as fodder-producing land, goes back to the bronze age in parts of Europe, or medieval times in other areas. There are also regional and national differences when it comes to the history of the abandonment of meadow land use. The introduction of fertilizers and sowing of grass for forage and pasture, made the meadows superfluous, and today maybe less than one percent of the meadows that once covered the rural landscape of Europe still prevails. Even fewer are maintained with traditional implements. Hence the biological diversity that was the signature of meadow land use, which also facilitated green infrastructure, is gone. Parts of Central and Eastern Europe are exceptions to the rule and can still display living meadow-based agriculture.</p> <p>The aim of the session is to present studies, investigations and work in progress on historical meadows in Europe, or the historical dimensions of present meadow land use. We strive to attract participants from a wide geographical area and various disciplines.</p> <p>The use of meadows and meadows as an example of a sustainable agricultural landscape can be exemplified from different angles, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meadows as a biological cultural heritage,

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different traditions of ownership and tenure over meadows • Meadows as an economic resource • Meadows and historical hay-markets • The geography of European meadows, history, use, growth and decline • Climate, meadows and adaptation strategies • Strategies to handle continual nutrient loss on dry meadows • Wet meadows on floodplains, the regulations of flooding water and reclamations • Different traditions of harvesting hay and storing it in prehistoric, historic times and today • Meadows as sustainable landscapes. What can the historical dimension tell us about the future of meadows in European agriculture? <p>Today there is an intensive discussion concerning landscape and how to keep them sustainable. Is it time to bring sustainable solutions from the past into present and future agriculture practices? This can, however, only be done if we know how grasslands like meadows functioned in earlier practices, in different parts of Europa and on different levels. We welcome any aspect on meadows, past, present or future to partake in the session.</p>
59	<p><i>Social groups, living standards and property rights in rural areas. The lessons of inventories.</i></p> <p>G�rard B�aur- Centre de Recherches Historiques, Paris; Rosa Congost and Enric Saguer- University of Girona</p>	<p>The question of property rights in rural areas has given rise to and continues to give rise to debate, and not only among historians. The mode of access to land can indeed take extremely varied forms and the concept of 'property' is infinitely variable due to the multiplicity of rights that peasants may hold over their land. Even if it is no longer accepted that one can assign an intrinsic superiority to one or another way of 'holding' land, it remains that they draw boundaries through rural society that historians have endeavoured to discover through a plethora of sources.</p> <p>On the other hand, the measurement of the standard of living and its evolution have been the subject of numerous studies based on post-death inventories. It has been assumed that the proliferation of objects constituted a marker of a consumer revolution which occurred all along the 18th century even if it became clear that this deep change in consumption habits concealed unbridgeable social gaps and profound offsets among the regions.</p> <p>Both approaches were multiplied without any presumption that there was any link between with the legal status of the land owned and/or cultivated and the standard of living of the owners. It is rare, in fact, that such works has resulted in a link between the two research axes. The aim of this session is precisely to attempt a new approach that will make it possible to clarify this hypothetical relationship. In this respect, it is in line with the work undertaken concurrently on these two lines of research with the ambition of combining them in a new project.</p> <p>Based on a corpus of inventories of deceased individuals, belonging to different strata of the rural world, we will endeavour to define an indicator of standard of living and to relate it to the mode of exploitation of the land and to the position occupied by the individuals concerned with regard to the rights they hold over the land. The richness of inventories for studies on social environments is well known. They provide information on the property of the deceased, i.e. movable property, generally with a high degree of precision, but also immovable property, although less regularly, which can reveal the relationship of the deceased to the land.</p> <p>With the help of this documentation, a hierarchy will be drawn up in a preferential but not exclusive manner, starting with data on the consumption and possession of objects by the deceased, which will give us information on his or her standard of living. It will then be cross-referenced with the size of the holding cultivated either as owners, or by a contract of tenancy or sharecropping, or by any other means intended to confer a right over the land. In the end, the question will be whether or not the standard of living depends on the quantity of land exploited and on the legal mode of holding the land.</p>
60	<p><i>Preserving Resources in Rural Areas. Strategies of "non-use" in historical perspective</i></p> <p>Simona Boscani Leoni- Universit� de Lausanne</p>	<p>For a long time, human communities have perceived nature as a reservoir of resources. This awareness implied the construction of tools and techniques aimed at extracting resources from the environment.</p> <p>In recent decades, the effects of the environmental crisis have led to resetting the relationship with nature based on the principles of sustainability. In addition to its polysemous dimension (declining in its environmental, economic and social dimensions), this concept is also inscribed in time. However, what does it mean to think about sustainability over time considering that it is a contemporary conceptual perspective that is difficult to attribute as such to ancient communities?</p> <p>In certain socio-economic and political contexts, refraining from resource use responded to a strategy of land governance, in the knowledge that the resources themselves might be too fragile or renewable only over long periods to withstand intensive forms of exploitation. These were strategic conservation agreements and measures aimed at preventing excessive or reckless use of the natural environment but could be determined by other reasons. Factors such as financial costs, social conventions, technological knowledge, economic production methods, or the relationship</p>

		<p>between supply and demand were decisive in determining what could be extracted from an ecosystem and to what extent and what should be preserved. Moreover, even in the past, strategies for regulating the use of natural resources could sometimes be based on the fact that an oversupply by a production system was unable to increase demand by itself. Therefore, conservation of the resource could be a form of projection of the local economy over a long-term time horizon. One can speak in this case of strategies based on market fluctuations, and which took advantage of changes in the value of the resource to wait for the most convenient time to make it an object of exchange. In other cases, it was a matter of building up reserves out of prudence against uncertain political scenarios. In still other cases, some resources had multiple benefits (e.g., forests), so their use, which would be convenient with respect to certain objectives, was not convenient with respect to others.</p> <p>In short, these various situations hypothesize that voluntary limitation of natural resource use was not part of a logic of environmental sustainability, but of primarily economic-strategic and social logics.</p> <p>The panel analyses the logics and processes that, in the past, favoured the preservation of natural resources in certain periods and regions. Below are some of the possible research questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When, where and why was the extraction of certain raw materials strategically interrupted or suspended (due to topographical, climatic, economic, technological, social or finally ecological factors)? - What have been the consequences for the economies of communities with respect to such protection, preservation, and non-use measures? - Have alternative resources been used, have conventional energy sources been extracted elsewhere, or have insufficient stocks been replenished? - To what extent has "nature" been perceived as a resource reserve in different eras, and what conservation concepts and legal norms have been used to regulate its use?
61	<p><i>Rural societies and climate change: Knowledge and perceptions, problems and opportunities</i></p> <p>Matteo Di Tullio & Martino Lorenzo Fagnani- University of Pavia</p>	<p>The session focuses on rural societies' knowledge and perception of climate change in the past. It deals with both the difficulties and the opportunities that climate change constituted for economic activities, for the management of natural resources, for settlements and, more generally, for the living conditions in the rural world. The studies gathered in this session analyse the facing of these challenges considering forms of resilience and vulnerability in the rural world, as well as their demographic, economic and social consequences.</p> <p>Geographically and chronologically speaking, this session does not set strict limits. Indeed, it intends to promote dialogue between scholars interested in different areas and historical periods. Regarding the concept of rural society, the session favours studies based on primary sources 'from below', in the broad sense of the term, meaning from social actors such as peasants, farmers, land agents and parish priests.</p> <p>The goal of this session is the analysis of an 'alternative' and lesser-known perception of climate change: precisely that of the actors directly involved in the activities of the agricultural sector as opposed to the meteorological knowledge and scientific investigation by the scholarly community.</p> <p>Of course: culture 'from below' and culture 'from above' – if we are allowed to use this schematic and reductive distinction – have always constituted two complementary and equally important components in dealing with climate change. Just think of the Little Ice Age that affected the entire early modern period, of which there are testimonies in scientific treatises and letters between scholars who reasoned about the causes of that phenomenon, as well as records from worried landowners, merchants and priests who in the remotest European countryside witnessed extremely cold years or very violent rains that ruined crops.</p> <p>The perception of climate change by rural societies brings with it greater challenges than scholarly community studies. One of these challenges is constituted by sources, which are much more difficult to locate than published treatises or accounts of scientific observations held in important institutions such as academies and universities. Furthermore, by identifying useful sources, the perception and reaction of rural societies to climate change makes it possible to analyse strategies – successful or not – concretely implemented by the social actors considered.</p>
62	<p><i>Margins of rurality: The changing meanings of the rural between nature and culture, the global and the local</i></p> <p>Pavla Šimková, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München; Dietlind Hüchtler-University of Vienna</p>	<p>What does rurality mean? What are the imaginations of the rural? The word may evoke a village, agricultural work with combine harvesters, grazing animals, or farm buildings. These more or less romantic pictures can then be replaced by other images of the rural: the smell of dung, endless fields of corn or rice, laying batteries, social control, poverty and migration, agrarian politics and peasants' protest.</p> <p>The images that the term "rurality" evokes differ depending on topics and perspectives. The starting point of the panel is the hypothesis that not only the ways in which rurality is formed have changed over time and space, but also rural itself. Rurality is not a given, existing on its own: it is a practice. To discuss the implications of this concept we want to analyse rurality from its margins: rural migrants coming to a city, the rural and the climate crisis, environmental politics and peasants' economies, nature conservation, landscape and tourism, development aids, trade and global commodity chains, industrialization. We want to search for rurality between urbanity and nature, romanticism and economy, agriculture and trade, environment and wilderness, tourism and landscape.</p> <p>The presentations will discuss the concept of rurality, its margins and/or empirical examples from different places and epochs.</p>
63	<p><i>Artists and their affective</i></p>	<p>There is a long tradition of artists engaging with historical events and material, ranging in magnitude from subjects such as ethnic persecution to individual family histories. Some have questioned,</p>

	<p><i>responses to archives and oral histories: what do these contribute to our understanding of the histories of rural spaces?</i> Judith Stewart (Chair) & Patrick Wichert – Sheffield Hallam University</p>	<p>and critiqued, notions of authenticity, authority, and narrative; some have played with the idea of time, and others have focussed on the inconsistency and fragmentary nature of memory. As artists investigate rural farmlands and villages, engaging with oral histories, archives, and maps with a different purpose to historians or museum curators,</p> <p>they are arguably embodying Raymond Williams' call to find another way of experiencing the past. For Blackman & Venn such 'affective' methodologies provide an alternative way of 'noticing', one that moves away from the reliance on language and sight, towards a more embodied experience. This, and affect's 'link with temporality and the relations between past, present and future', accords with the tacit acknowledgement that artists bring ways of working that go beyond interpretation, creating conversations with the world, and thereby generating affective responses that resonate with the public.</p> <p>In this session we consider these affective approaches to interpreting and presenting historical material and the value these bring to historians and heritage professionals.</p> <p>Using case studies from artists whose research is embedded in rural history and place, we aim to identify how and where artists' use of historical sources can contribute to historians' understanding of events impacting upon rural spaces and of the ways that museums can work more collaboratively with artists to enhance their collections and displays.</p> <p>The need to engage wider audiences has brought more artists into the orbit of the museum. Can museums draw on the communication expertise and affective research of artists, beyond a role of 'interpreter' or 'facilitator' for visitors, to create a more meaningful engagement? The aim of this session is to explore the relationship with historical sources from the artist's perspective while highlighting the essential role of rural space in their contemporary discourse.</p> <p>Themes include (but are not exclusive):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual understanding of rural landscapes through time • Artistic approaches to using archive film/photography • Participatory/collaborative experiences • Creating a sense of place through shared memories • Landscape and trauma • Working with archives • Non-linear narratives of place • Oral histories
64	<p><i>Portraits of the Rural Past</i> Jeannie M Whyne-University of Arkansas</p>	<p>The purpose of this panel is to uncover the material conditions of farmers and their families by employing the use of photographs of the rural past together with diaries, letters, and other documents. Images alone can be powerful conveyors of information, but they can also conceal the struggles that rural people endured. Those who write about the history of photography, like Arnold Newman, argue that the medium "is an illusion of reality" but it is possible to look beyond the obvious in photographs. From the origins of photography to the present, people tend to pose for the photographer. They dress in their best clothes and situate themselves in front of their carefully preserved homes or within pleasing natural settings to present a prosperous image. The background might include a picture of an abundant harvest, a herd of cattle, a new barn, or some other signal of good fortune. For many rural people, however, their best gesture of prosperity could be bleak. Worn "Sunday best" clothes, an unpainted house, or an old mule might be the best they can do. Some photographers during the Great Depression took candid photographs for the express purpose of revealing the extent of suffering in the countryside to secure funds or to justify the existence of programs designed to aid those in need. Whether an attempt to show prosperity or to demonstrate poverty, images have the power to inspire or outrage. Historians, however, deal in words, and the letters and diaries of the rural people depicted in images provide another window on their world.</p>
65	<p><i>Destroying Wild Lands/Feeding People</i> Claire Strom- Rollins Collage Winter Park</p>	<p>Before they became farmland, the world's open spaces were once wild areas, filled with native plants and animals. The conversion of such lands to agriculture and its long-term results is the focus of this panel, offering insight into human motivations and interaction with landscapes across the globe. The panel will also explore different types of land adaptation and the effect on landscapes and eco-systems. Historically, has crop choice made a difference in the impact of farming on wild lands? What about human motivation? Were, for example, plough-ups in wartime more destructive than peacetime farmland expansions? How far could such creations of new farmlands ever be reversible? What role did capitalism and advances in mechanization play in intensifying and accelerating the process of transforming land use? Did indigenous peoples convert land for farming with more understanding and ecological preservation than large corporations or colonizers? How did states contribute to these developments, and what influenced their approach to the expansion of land devoted to different types of agriculture? What space was there in these processes for debate and dissent about the various ways of valuing landscapes, whether economic, social, ecological, or aesthetic? This panel will explore these questions through examples from across the Atlantic during the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries.</p>

66	<p><i>Crossing micro with macro: data to observe and transform agriculture</i></p> <p>Margot Lyautey-Helmut-Schmidt-Universität/Universität der Bundeswehr Hamburg</p>	<p>Observers of agriculture in the 19th and 20th century greatly insisted on variety and locality as defining traits of rural life. They frequently questioned the appropriateness of generalization and statistical averages to capture the peculiarities of activities that were by necessity rooted in highly differentiated geographical, geological and socio-cultural landscapes. The aim of this session is to discuss the challenges posed by local varieties and scale to the observation of agriculture. Agricultural statistics, farm accounting, farm surveys, and inquiries made available a huge amount of information on land use, farm structure, the management of inputs, crop and animal output. Most of these data were collected at farm level and/or in cooperation with farmers. Agricultural experts made data homogeneous and comparable, creating horizontal datasets, and (more or less) regular time-series. They thus created specific taxonomy and/or built up typologies. The countryside was made legible for scientific debates and policy interventions.</p> <p>However, this narrative leaves under-explored the relation between the micro level of data collection and the macro level of generalizations. How did the variety of situations at the micro level transform into the simplified synthesis at the macro level? How does the global picture scale up observations beyond the local and give them broader significance? How did specific analytical frameworks (i.e. spatial proximity, social differentiation, crop specialization) enable micro data to underpin arguments about the macro level, or vice versa?</p> <p>Depending on the final goal of their assessment and the characteristics of the regions and societies they observed, historical actors have designed various strategies for generalization. Hence, some approaches were more objectifying than others and relied more on quantification, other approaches aimed more at describing farms and creating taxonomies. General economic trends in agriculture were often inferred by looking at individual farms, characterized as typical, or from a small and non-random sample. Conversely, economists and statisticians deducted particularity from general data, with the aim of adapting policies to particular territories, crops or types of farms. Some of the observation and inference methods derived from economics, sociology, and other human and natural sciences, but they all had to be adapted to the peculiarities of agricultural life.</p> <p>Therefore, for this panel session, we invite prospective contributors to investigate the changing-scales effect in the production and the utilization of data to observe and transform the variety of agriculture. They will be asked to focus on the interactions between micro situations and general narratives or, vice versa, on the ability of macro frameworks to design local diversity. Papers will thus bring to the fore the practices of generalization, deduction, classification, and measurement in the creation of knowledge that - over the last two centuries and still today and in different geographical contexts - shaped and nourished the development of state plans, unions' agendas, local and regional programs.</p>
67	<p><i>The New Longue Durée and the Human-Nature Dilemma</i></p> <p>Mark Raat- Fryske Akademy, Leeuwarden</p>	<p>Nearly ten years ago, David Armitage and Jo Guldi published their History Manifesto (2014), which would prove itself influential in modern-day scholarly thinking. Their main statement literary flaunted the book cover: long-term history is essential to understand the "multiple pasts which gave rise to our conflicted present." Although this point of view was not new for any practitioner in the field of Environmental History, the success of the pamphlet did give rise to a certain self-awareness. A realization that historical research in the early twenty-first century had definitely said farewell to the micro-history tradition, which dominated from the 1970s onwards.</p> <p>Armitage and Guldi identified the present historical tradition as the new longue durée, referring to Fernand's Braudel's late 1950's longue durée. A central element in the French Annales historian's grand analytical model was the proposition that geographical conditions shape the structural pattern of history. (Burrow 2007: 484). A statement once more proven topical, since the Western world has yet begun to debate the sustainability of traditional ideologies and economic models. In search for answers to current socio-political and ecological challenges, a long-term view, grafted onto the recognition and understanding of patterns, is considered to provide desired context.</p> <p>However, with the revaluation of Braudel's theory, critical comments on it are relevant again. Such as the apparent deterministic attitude of the longue durée's structuralism, wherein there is little human leeway to change the trail of history (Petric 2019: 440). Braudel founded his vision on the Mediterranean world, with its rocky soils in the north and deserts in the south. But how does his model relate to much more ductile grounds, such as wetlands, peatland or clay soils? This issue matches meta-level discussions concerning the malleability of the physical environment. Modern societies, even more than in the age of Braudel, have adapted and shaped their environment to such a high extent, that the we should discuss the problem if nature is actually nature (Tvedt 2010: 152).</p> <p>This proposed session for the Rural History Conference 2023 addresses the latter, more or less, chicken-or-egg dilemma. Answers will be found with a better insight in how various geographical conditions affect the way humans modified 'nature'. With local and regional examples of the long-term human influence in the design of cultural landscapes, the participants aim to distinguish general and specific characteristics of the human-nature relationship. This comparison will help the new longue durée historians to dust off the somewhat dated, but still current, deficiencies of the longue durée model.</p>
69	<p><i>The becoming of landscapes. Transformations, crises, hopes and their impact on rural areas in a more-than-human perspective</i></p> <p>Ira Spieker- Institute of Saxon History and Cultural Anthropology,</p>	<p>Ecological crises such as the anthropogenic climate change or the loss of biodiversity have increased attention on the interdependencies of humans with other living beings. These crises also result in an increasing scholarly interest established, among others, in the fields of environmental humanities and multispecies studies. Accordingly, this panel focusses on the entanglements and the processes of "becoming with" (Haraway) of human and other entities in rural landscapes. Landscapes – despite their partly perception as "untouched" nature – can be described as "naturecultures" (Latour/Haraway) or as the outcome of "making and growing" (Ingold/Hallam) of human and more-than-human actors including plants, animals, and microbes but also technical devices and minerals, metals, and rocks. Contributors are invited to foreground the historical becoming of landscapes in relation to changes and transformations of these respective entanglements. Notions of temporality and spatiality thus play a central role, and the meanings assigned to these human and more-than-human interactions and collaborations should also be examined. Topics may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • forms of agriculture, forestry, and mining and their creation of particular multispecies landscapes. This might also include attempts to encounter the repercussions of extractive economies and industrialized agriculture through diverse forms of care and/or landscape restoration. • the impact of current economic and political strategies addressing energy transition on the creation, perception, and (re-)evaluation of landscapes and their more-than-human configurations. This might include biogas plants, agro-photovoltaic installations, and the re-opening of mines for rare-earth elements extraction as part of a green economy.

	Dresden & Arnika Peselmann-Julius-Maximilians Universität-Würzburg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the transformation of agricultural or post-mining areas into rural heritage sites engendered by national or regional heritage politics and their overlap with tourist economy – including the possible promotion or marginalization/exclusion of particular more-than-human entanglements. ontologies of nature and culture becoming visible in both perception and emergence of landscapes. This might include different dimensions of experience and knowledge (implicit, incorporated, indigenous, Western scientific, etc.) and “translations” between different life forms and entities.
70	<p><i>Non-Human Actants on Screen: Documenting and Narrating Human-Non-Human-Interactions in 20th Century Rural Films</i></p> <p>Andreas Wigger-Archives of Rural History, Bern</p>	<p>Non-human actors can influence the environment and thus human behaviour just as much as humans themselves. No other activity demonstrates this more clearly than agriculture. Agricultural practices remain inescapably dependent on technical implements and biochemical flows in which non-human organisms play a decisive role, they are, to use Bruno Latour’s concept, actants in a complex web of interactions. Films are particularly well suited to illustrate and analyse this fundamental insight of Latour. For films often make actants and their actions visible which left few traces in written and oral sources. While activities of non-human actants such as animals, plants or machines are depicted in films – sometimes intentionally, sometimes unintentionally – others were less tangible and required other modes of visual representation. Bacteria, for example, were portrayed in animated cartoons that inform us about the human imagination and conceptualization of non-human actants.</p> <p>This panel intends to tackle two main questions associated with using audiovisual sources in rural history. Firstly, it discusses the potentials of films in documenting the multiple functions and representations of non-human actants in agriculture and rural life. How were non-human actants depicted on films and what can we learn from analysing and interpreting these audiovisual sources? Secondly, the panel would like to raise the issue of how audiovisual sources could be used in communicating new historical insights on human-non-human-interactions to a broader public. Narrating with films usually implicates to edit the original film sources and this raises several technical and methodological questions: How can films be cut, shortened, mixed with each other and enhanced with image or text sources? How can spoken commentaries, sounds or subtitles be added? How does montage and commentary influence the process of narrating historical insights?</p> <p>This panel invites contributions reflecting on human-non-human-interactions in films as well as contributions that focus on the use and the making of films intended to communicate insights on these interactions.</p>
71	<p><i>When Rural Historians and Film Makers meet</i></p> <p>Peter Veer- Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision, Hilversum</p>	<p>As the practice of the European Rural History Film Association (ERHFA) represents: In the last decades in the domain of rural history, films came into the lens as serious sources of information to study times gone by. Often the assumption is that cameras in the past registered the historic worlds technically in an objective manner without intermission of human convictions. Is this a proper starting point? The research of moving images and sounds asks for special tools that are often not in the box of standard research methods of the rural historian. On the other hand, film historians are quite familiar with research topics in urban settings but the rural is often out of their frame. So, to study historical films about agriculture and the countryside properly, the paradigms of Rural History and Film Studies meet. Researchers connected to the ERHFA have practical experience in working on these edges of academic domains. Through a series of case studies in this session we can investigate and discuss what is needed for a fruitful co-operation of Rural History and Film Studies as different domains in academia. The first aim of this session is to get a tentative insight in where the paradigms overlap, are there any frictions and what is needed to bridge the gaps?</p> <p>In academics the communication about research projects is mostly presented in written or spoken words. Papers, articles, books, lectures, orations and debates are dominant. These texts address the rational parts of human brains and are vital parts of the scientific working methods to unveil the truth. In present times audio-visual presentations are emerging in all fields of the society. Also in Rural History a tendency can be seen to present the results of research projects not in texts but in films. By doing so, the (rural) historian steps into the domain of the film maker.</p> <p>Film making is an art or craft with its own aims, rules and regulations. It uses the ‘languages’ of moving images and sounds in artistic compositions. Films are very well equipped to address the emotional part of the brain. The aim of most audio-visuals is to present a pleasing story to the audience. Feature film makers in ‘Hollywood’ very well master the toolbox to communicate information on a plausible way. Most scientists in the domains of language- and film studies are convinced that images are not suited ‘to analyse and conclude’ as written or spoken scientific text are. Even documentaries, film essays, news reels and information films are made in this paradigm of film making where ‘the plausible’ dominates ‘the truth’. The second aim of this session is to discuss if, what and how audio-visual products can play a role in the domain of the academic humanities. Where do the paradigms of science and film making overlap, are there any frictions, and what is needed to bridge the gaps?</p>
The following special panels were also accepted by the scientific committee, but are not open for public registration		
72	<p><i>Meet the Author: Jeremy Burchardt, Lifescapes: the experience of landscape in Britain 1870-1960</i></p> <p>Clare Griffiths- Cardiff University</p>	<p>This session provides an opportunity to discuss Jeremy Burchardt’s new book, Lifescapes: The Experience of Landscape in Britain, 1870-1960 (Cambridge University Press, 2023), which proposes a new, experiential approach to landscape history, founded in in-depth comparative biography. Based on an exploration of eight remarkable unpublished diaries, written by individuals who lived in England in the modern period, the book aims to understand landscape democratically, as a phenomenon of everyday life. Burchardt argues that a highly contextualised microhistorical approach can make it possible to access the ways in which people have experienced landscape and responded to it, opening up the elusive subject of landscape experience in new ways. His book is a demonstration of this approach in action, drawing on deep immersion in rich primary source material.</p> <p>The book’s emphasis on the personal, lived experience of landscape presents a counterpoint to much of the focus in scholarly studies, on landscape as ‘cultural construction’ and representation, and Burchardt’s work calls for us to ask different questions about what landscape meant and the place it occupied in people’s lives, emotions and imaginations. Amongst the conclusions of his research,</p>

		<p>he suggests that national identity – so often considered to play a key role in representations of landscape - was in practice quite peripheral to the day-to-day experience of landscape. By placing his diarists in detailed family, social, educational, workplace, religious and political contexts, Burchardt demonstrates and seeks to understand the varieties of responses to landscape by individuals and the values which were attached to different landscapes, even across the course of a person's lifetime. At the same time he also hypothesises ways of identifying certain patterns within these highly-individualised experiences of landscape, allowing for various categorisations: 'Adherers', who valued landscape for its continuity; 'Withdrawers', who saw it as a refuge from perceived threats; 'Restorers', who looked to landscape as a means of sustaining core value systems; and 'Explorers', for whom it denoted self-discovery and development.</p> <p>The session provides an opportunity to explore and debate these ideas. Clare Griffiths (Cardiff University) and Peter Moser (Archiv für Agrargeschichte, Bern), will offer their responses to the book, opening up a discussion with the author about the project, the potential offered by such microhistorical and biographical research, and the feasibility and implications of the new approach to landscape history that he advocates.</p>
73	<p><i>Meet-the-author: Agriculture and the Great Depression. The rural crisis of the 1930s in Europe and the Americas</i></p> <p>Francesco Chiapparino-Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona; Gérard Béaur (CNRS & EHESS, Paris)</p>	<p>The proposal is the presentation of the volume edited by Gérard Béaur (CNRS & EHESS, Paris) and Francesco Chiapparino (Polytechnic University of Marche, Ancona), <i>Agriculture and the Great Depression. The rural crisis of the 1930s in Europe and the Americas</i>, Routledge 2023, resorting Gesine Gerhard and Cormac O'Grada as discussants. The volume deals with the impact of the recession on agriculture in many countries around the world, with the role of the primary sector in the crisis, and with the profound transformations that this sector has undergone as a result of the depression of the interwar period.</p>
74	<p><i>Meet the author: "The political economy of the Common Agricultural Policy: coordinated capitalism or bureaucratic monster?", by Fernando Collantes</i></p> <p>Fernando Collantes (University of Oviedo, Spain)</p>	<p>Fernando Collantes</p> <p>THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY: COORDINATED CAPITALISM OR BUREAUCRATIC MONSTER? (Routledge, 2020)</p> <p>What is the balance of the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy more than half a century after its birth? Does it illustrate the virtues of the European model of coordinated capitalism, as opposed to US-style liberal capitalism? Or is it an incoherent set of instruments that exerts diverse negative impacts and, like Frankenstein's monster, seems to have escaped the control of its designer?</p> <p>In this book, Fernando Collantes does not criticize the CAP from the liberal standpoint that views most public interventions in the economic as bad for efficiency and welfare. The CAP has been costly to Europeans, both as consumers and as taxpayers, and has also generated a number of negative impacts upon third countries, but these costs and impacts have been more moderate than is suggested. This book proposes that the issue with the CAP is not a generic problem of coordinating capitalism but, instead, a more specific problem of low-quality coordination.</p> <p>Using an approach of historical political economy covering the whole period from the birth of the CAP in 1962 to the present day, the text argues that a profound reform of EU institutions and policies is required to counter the rapid rise of a more Eurosceptical state of mind but -in the case of agricultural policy- history casts serious doubts on the capacity of the European network of agriculture-related politicians to lead such a reform.</p> <p>In this panel, recognized experts in the history of agricultural policies and European integration discuss Collantes' book with the author.</p> <p>(1) This book was published in 2020, but the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the pandemic prevented it from being discussed in a meet-the-author panel at the Uppsala conference.</p>
75	<p><i>Roundtable: New directions in the history of food systems</i></p> <p>Fernando Collantes (University of Oviedo, Spain)</p>	<p>The aim of this session is to discuss the state of the art in the history of food systems, assess recent developments, and identify new directions that may be fruitful for the future. The notion of food system alludes to a set of interrelated actors and processes that go from farm to fork, comprising everything from processing plants and supermarket chains to science laboratories, policymakers' offices, and consumers' waste bins. In this session, we want to focus on the food systems of the modern and contemporary periods, that is, from the nineteenth century to the present day.</p> <p>One of the major trends in the evolution of the history of food systems is the incorporation of conceptual and theoretical frameworks in a more explicit way than in the past. How is that trend to be assessed? What have been its pros and cons? Which are the most promising theoretical avenues for further historical research in food systems? A focal point of the session may be "food regime theory", a framework that originated in sociology in the 1980s and has become increasingly influential among historians of the food system over the last couple of decades. However, we are more than willing to bring in other perspectives, ranging from the economics of agribusiness to the "commodity frontiers" approach, the French traditions of convention theory and "models of food</p>

	<p>production/consumption", or any other approaches that may illuminate our understanding of food system dynamics. Of course, we are also open to contributions that are sceptical about these theoretical directions and instead stress the need for the historian to remain considerably autonomous from other social sciences. It also seems worth it to position developments in the history of food systems within broader trends in the so-called "new history of capitalism", which uses a loosely defined approach of political economy to re-embed the social, the political and the cultural in the economic. What can the history of food systems learn from the contributions and controversies surrounding the new history of capitalism?</p> <p>Reflections of a purely theoretical or historiographical nature are welcome, but we would be equally happy to receive more empirical contributions that address one or more theoretical concept(s) through the lens of a particular food system.</p> <p>Even though we do not rule out the possibility of a conventional session format, our initial position is to favour a roundtable format in which diverse panellists present their reflections and arguments in an informal way, as a starting point for a general discussion. To that end, the organizers would prepare a short paper that would be circulated in advance to fuel collective discussion at the conference. We would like this roundtable to highlight spaces of convergence and debate among historians of food systems, making it a productive experience for both panellists, specialists and the general conference audience.</p>
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