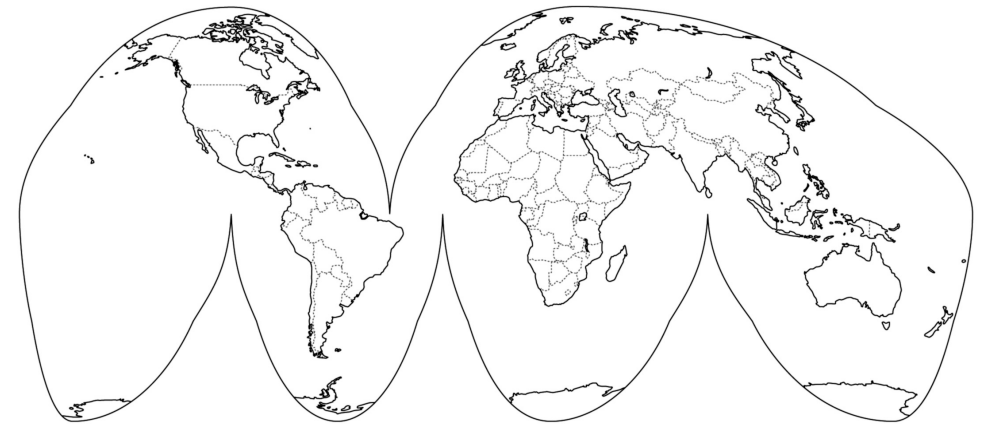


Comparative history as a genre arose in the twentieth century within the interdisciplinary communication of history with the social sciences. It particularly developed in the subfields of economic and demographic history while it also contributed to the evolutions of historical sociology. Important works on given phenomena, including feudalism, slavery, trade, processes of modernization, the history of revolutions, have been produced in comparative historical perspective. Moreover, the historians' interest in enlarging their field of studies as well as their scope is neither new nor unfamiliar. Studies which cross boundaries, either regional or national or imperial, and detach from particular contexts in order to relate to others, have their own distinct evolution within history, ever since the antiquity. Hence, the paradigm of history which is framed within a particular spatio-temporal setting, traditionally that of one national state, is still dominant. Even now, historical research is widely conducted within specific national boundaries which impose their limits upon its themes and perspectives.

Scholarly interest in forms of historical research which move beyond one specific setting has recently re-emerged within a different intellectual and socio-political context. This interest relates to the wider phenomena that the processes of globalization have endorsed. In this context, skepticism about the nation as a focal point of history is complemented with a critique of static perceptions of comparisons which are exhausted in a study of "similarities" and "differences" of given phenomena. Critical and self-reflexive interrogations of traditional forms of comparison encourage different approaches. Alternatively, cross-national and trans-national history has emerged with a particular interest in topics and questions which are placed through national boundaries and which become transformed in the very process of scrutiny. "Shared histories", "entangled histories" and "connected histories" have become central in this perspective.

This conference aims at reassessing the evolutions of comparative history and at exploring its redefinitions and reworkings along with the emergence of cross-national and trans-national history and of *histoire croisée*. The formulation of concepts, topics and themes, the issues of sources, the ways historians craft questions, change scales and meet the challenges of working beyond specific borders, the assessment of older approaches and of new projects are its main themes.

Around The Globe Old Questions, New Topics in Comparative and Transnational History



Volos, Greece. 04–06 June 2010

<http://extras.ha.uth.gr/aroundtheglobe/>

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

Henriette-Rika Benveniste

Effi Gazi

Ioanna Laliotou

FRIDAY, JUNE 04

17.45 WELCOME

18.00 **IN THE LABORATORY
OF HISTORICAL METHODS**

chair: DIMITRIS KYRTATAS

SABINA LORIGA

*The Extraterritorial Biographies of
Rahel Varnhagen and Jacques Offenbach*

EFFI GAZI

Marxist Historiographies

SATURDAY, JUNE 05

10.00 **MIGRATIONS**

chair: ANNA MATTHAIIOU

LENA KORMA

*Étudier l'i-émigration d'une minorité:
approches parallèles, approches croisées*

RIKA BENVENISTE

Comparing medieval expulsions

12.00 **CRITICIZING MODERN HISTORY**

chair: POLYMERIS VOGLIS

HENRIETTE ASSEO

*Une critique radicale
du multiculturalisme en europe:
L'exemple des Roms*

ANTONIS LIAKOS

*The implied canon of European history:
framework of comparative activities*

18.00 **SCIENCE'S TRAVELS**

chair: MITSOS BILALIS

ANTONELLA ROMANO

*Ordering the globe at the dawn of the early modern period:
José de Acosta and Antonio Possevino,
two worldviews in comparison*

KOSTAS GAVROGLU, MANOLIS PATINIOTIS

*Can there be (trans)national histories of science:
A case study from the history of Newtonianism*

20.00 **AROUND THE GLOBE: REGIONALISM CONSIDERED**

chair: CHRISTINA AGRIANTONI

NICK DOUMANIS

*The Eastern Mediterranean in world history
and "la longue durée"*

IOANNA LALIOU

*Rethinking globality:
from transnationalism to critical regionalism*

SUNDAY, JUNE 06

10.00 **REFLECTIONS ON 20TH CENTURY'S TRAUMAS**

chair: ANNA MATTHAIIOU – POLYMERIS VOGLIS

ANNETTE WIEVIORKA

*Camps de concentration, crimes contre l'humanité,
génocide: comparer ou brouiller?*

RIKI VAN BOESCHOTEN

*Nation, memory and the politics of suffering in
a transnational space: chosen traumas of the Greek Civil War*

11.30 DISCUSSION

12.30 CONCLUSION