

## **CegeSoma is looking for families who want to participate in a new research project on family memories of resistance and collaboration**

In the context of the latest project on family memories of resistance and collaboration in Belgium, which CegeSoma has started in cooperation with Ghent University and the UCL, we are looking for families who are willing to share their family history and their war memories.

TRANSMEMO is an interdisciplinary federal project in which historians and researchers in social and cognitive sciences are participating. The project is supported by the Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO).

Sint-Niklaas, July 1940, Hildegard with her dad, after his return from internment, Fund war children, daily life in Flanders (1940-1945), CegeSoma/AGR, reserved rights, photo N° 258.494.

Although during the past two decades, certain historical myths on the national history of the Second World War have been deconstructed by researchers, the historical legacy remains a source of division between political groups and linguistic communities. The absence of a common national or patriotic war memory is striking, and contrasting with the still dominant, but historically incorrect perception of a collaborationist Flanders and a Wallonia that resisted. Studies on the origin and development of these memories focus in particular on the way in which these memories have been promoted and admitted in the public space.

The grandfather, Fund war children : family photo (1942- ...), CegeSoma/AGR, reserved rights, photo N° 566.104.

To better understand the mechanisms and the continuing effects of this divergent memory, the TRANSMEMO project studies an area as yet largely unexplored in Belgium: the intergenerational transmission of these memories within the Belgian families. Which stories are being told in Belgian families after the Second World War? How are these stories transmitted to the next generations? How do these stories evolve in the context of the family and how are they appropriated by each individual, in function of his or her trajectory and social context? These are the key questions of the TRANSMEMO project.

In the context of this project we are actively looking for Francophone families to help us: CegeSoma and the UCL are undertaking the French-language part of the project, Ghent University the Dutch-language part. We would like to get in touch with families who meet the following criteria:

- Families where three generations (one person per generation) are willing to take part in the project
- The oldest member of the family must be born before 1936 and be the son or daughter of a person whose resistance activities are recognized (by the family, a particular community or the Belgian state) or of whom a parent has been found guilty of collaboration after the war (by the family, a community or the Belgian justice).

The TRANSMEMO project guarantees full anonymity of all participants.

If you are interested to participate in the project, please contact :

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- Florence Rasmont (CEGES) : [florence.rasmont@arch.be](mailto:florence.rasmont@arch.be), 02 556 92 07

We thank you in advance for your testimony and your interest in our project.

The members of the Transmemo team : Bruno De Wever (UGent), Koen Aerts (Ugent), Nico Wouters (CegeSoma), Olivier Luminet (UCL), Valérie Rosoux (UCL), Florence Rasmont (CegeSoma), Aline Cordonnier (UCL) and Pierre Bouchat (UCL).

Florence Rasmont  
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