

Conference

Occupations in the Age of Total War: Micro Perspectives and Transnational Research

University of Kent at Canterbury

Keynes College, KLT 5

22 and 23 June 2017

This conference showcases new and ongoing research on military occupations, their socio-cultural contexts and post-war reverberations. Focusing on European societies in the age of the two world wars, the conference will cover a wide range of topics and approaches. We will explore how case studies that foreground individual agency and everyday experiences can enhance transnational research and vice versa. Thus the aim is to bridge the gap between micro and macro perspectives, and between local/regional and global/transnational approaches to the history of both World Wars.

The conference is divided in **four thematic sessions**: 1/ Elites and Governance, 2/ Spaces, 3/ Social Groups and Dynamics and 4/ Experiences and Memories. A keynote speech by Professor Sophie De Schaepdrijver (Penn State University; currently University of Kent) will open the proceedings. In the evening of 22 June, Dr Nico Wouters (CegeSoma and Ghent University) will launch his new book, *Mayoral Collaboration under Nazi Occupation: Belgium, the Netherlands and the North of France, 1938-46*, followed by a panel discussion.

The conference is organised jointly by the Centre for the Study of War, Propaganda and Society (University of Kent) and the Department of History (Ghent University), in cooperation with CegeSoma (Brussels) and NIOD (Amsterdam). For more information, please contact Dr Stefan Goebel (S.P.Goebel@kent.ac.uk) or Dr Nico Wouters (nico.wouters@cegesoma.be).

Conference website:

<https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/munitions-of-the-mind/conference/>

Registration is mandatory at:

<https://kenthospitality.kent.ac.uk/Register/Registration/Welcome.aspx?e=178FD42DF40032309E42F4F73168115D>

PROGRAMME

22 June 2017

11.00 – Registration

12.00 – Welcome and Keynote

Sophie De Schaepdrijver (Penn State/Kent) – *Military Occupations, ‘Sacrifice’, and the Social Contract in Two World Wars*

13.00 – Lunch

14.00-16.45 – Session One: Elites and Governance – (Chair: **Nico Wouters**, CegeSoma & Ghent)

- **Philip Boobbyer** (Kent) – *Pragmatism and Indirect Rule: Lord Rennell and Military Government in Africa and Italy, 1940-1943*
- **Jan Naert** (Ghent) – *Governing under Occupation: Belgian and French Mayors during and after World War One, 1914-1921?*
- **Jan Julia Zurné** (CegeSoma) – *Maintaining Order in Occupied Belgium? The Brussels Public Prosecutor’s Office and Wartime Political Violence, 1940-1950*

15.30-16.00 – Tea

- **Markus Wahl** (IGM, Stuttgart) – *Dictated or Guided? Shaping the ‘New’ Socialist Healthcare System in the Soviet Occupied Zone of Germany, 1945-1949*
- **Peter Romijn** (NIOD, University of Amsterdam) – *Dutch Functional Elites in the ‘Long Second World War’, 1940-1949*

17.15-17.45 – Break

17.45-18.45 – Book Launch and Panel Discussion

Nico Wouters will briefly present his new book *Mayoral Collaboration under Nazi Occupation Belgium, the Netherlands and the North of France (1938-46)*, followed by a panel discussion between the author and **Pieter Lagrou** (Université Libre de Bruxelles), **Martin Conway** (Oxford University) and **Sophie De Schaepdrijver** (Penn State/Kent), moderated by **Stefan Goebel** (Kent).

Followed by Wine Reception

20.00 – Conference Dinner, Café du Soleil, Canterbury

23 June 2017

MORNING SESSION

9.00-10.45 – Session 2: Spaces (chair: Stefan Goebel)

- **Ismee Tames** (NIOD) – *Moving through Liminal Spaces in Occupation*
- **Nigel Perrin** (Kent) – *Spaces of Resistance in Occupied Paris, 1940-1944*
- **Christoph Mick** (Warwick) – *Two Occupations: Lviv 1914/15 and 1939/41*

10.45-11.15 – Coffee

11.15 -13.00 - Session 3: Social Groups and Dynamics (chair: Bruno De Wever)

- **Gertjan Leenders** (Ghent) – *Denunciation to the Enemy in Belgium during the First and Second World War*
- **Helen Grevers** (Ghent) – *The People and the Purge: Grassroots Dynamics of the Punishment of Collaborators in Leuven, 1944-1947*
- **Jovana Knezevic** (Stanford) – *The Transformation of the Serbian National Capital during the First World War*

13.00-14.00 – Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

14.00-15.45 – Session 4: Experiences and Memories (chair: Juliette Pattinson)

- **Ludivine Broch** (Westminster) – *The Merci Train: Remembering the World Wars in 52,000 Objects*
- **Cécile Vast** (Franche-Comté) – *The Experience of Resistance and the Issue of Collective Behaviour under Occupation in France: Memories and History*
- **Barbara Deruytter** (Ghent) – *Popular Sentiments, Ideas and Experiences Expressed in Songs during and Shortly after the Occupation of Belgium, 1914-1918*

15.45-16.15 – Closing Comments

16.15-17.00 – Coffee

