

CEGESOMA NEWSLETTER

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[nl](#) [fr](#) [en](#)

HISTORY FROM THE GRAVE? MEMORIAL POLITICS AND CIVIL WAR MASS GRAVE OPENINGS IN SPAIN

Lore Colaert has been observing how Spain literally and figuratively uncovers its war past. She inquired about the impact of this process on collective memory, and will be at CegeSoma on 13 January 2016 to talk about it. [\[MORE INFO\]](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3037)

FROM 1 JANUARY 2016, CEGESOMA WILL BE PART OF THE STATE ARCHIVES

From 1 January 2016, CegeSoma will be integrated in the State Archives under its new name "Study Centre War and Society". From that date, CegeSoma will be the fourth Operational Directorate (OD4) of the State Archives. The tasks of OD4 / CegeSoma remain unchanged. [\[MORE INFO\]](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php)

NEW IN THE SHOPS: THE WAR PAPERS OF 1940-1945

Starting Monday 21 December 2015, you can collect a new series of 'Les Journaux de Guerre 1940-1945' / 'De Oorlogskranten 1940-1945'. After the succesfull series about the First World War last year, this time the Second World War is covered. [\[MORE INFO\]](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3085)

UNIQUE ARCHIVES ON THE DEFENSE OF RESISTANCE FIGHTERS BEFORE THE GERMAN MILITARY COURTS AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION

Frédéric (or Freddy) Eickhoff was the counsel of some 2.500 resistance fighters who had to appear before the German military courts in occupied Belgium during the Second World War. [\[MORE INFO\]](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3079)

THE DOUBLE ISSUE 2015 OF THE JOURNAL OF BELGIAN HISTORY HAS BEEN PUBLISHED

This issue contains seven articles about different aspects of Belgian history, from the 19th century to the last years of the 20th century. They tackle immigration policy, the Congo, Trotskyism, resistance in WWII, the royal question, the development of retirement pensions and Flamenpolitik. [\[MORE INFO\]](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3055&pag0nbr=32&pagofs=0)

History from the Grave? Memorial Politics and Civil War Mass Grave Openings in Spain

Lore Colaert has been observing how Spain literally and figuratively uncovers its war past. She inquired about the impact of this process on collective memory, and will be at CegeSoma on **13 January 2016** to talk about it.

A Civil Movement to Uncover History

After the death of general and dictator Francisco Franco in 1975, the Spanish Civil War (1936-39) was silenced for many years. Since 2000, groups of civilians have been active in reawakening this painful past. They uncover mass graves, searching for the disappeared of the Civil War, allegedly around 130.000 persons. They claim to be unearthing a forgotten history, and to be giving the Spanish people back their past.

To Close the Chapter or to Awaken Old Grudges ?

Lore Colaert describes the grave uncovering as an arena gathering scientific methods, volunteer commitment, emotions, fascination for bodies and old and current political struggles. How does this influence the shaping of collective memory in Spain? Do they intend to close the past, to overcome franquismo once and for all, or to reawaken the struggles of the Civil War ?



Still from Sara Vanagt and Katrien Vermeire's The Wave (2012).

Who is Lore Colaert ?

Lore Colaert wrote a PhD thesis at Ghent University, where she worked on meta-history and public history. She is also a member of research networks such as the International Network for Theory of History, Thinking about the Past, and Memorias en Red. During her research in Spain, she co-worked on documentaries such as *La Cuchara* (Jorge Moreno) and *The Wave* (Sara Vanagt and Katrien Vermeire). She is currently working as a researcher at the *Vlaams Vredesinstituut* (Flemish Peace Institute) on approaches to radicalization.

Practical Details

- Wednesday 13 January 2016
- Beginning: 14:30; end around 16:30
- Language: Dutch
- Conference Room CegeSoma, Square de l'Aviation 29, 1070 Brussels
- Free entrance, please register previously via email to chantal.kesteloot@cegesoma.be

5 / 11 / 2015

◀ Back ▶

Welcome to CEGESOMA/State Archives of Belgium

CEGESOMA, Centre for Historical Research and Documentation on War and Society, is the Belgian centre of excellence for the history of 20th century conflicts. It carries out research, organises public events and holds document collections. It is since 1 January 2016 the fourth Operational Directory of the State Archives. It is a platform for academic and public activities in Belgium and abroad, in particular with regard to the two World Wars.

"Wallonia liberated", "Brussels, liberated city": photos wanted !



In view of the 75 anniversary of the Liberation and the end of the Second World War, two works will be published in the series "*Villes en guerre*" of *Renaissance du Livre*.

As for previous editions, these works rely heavily on photographs.

Which representation of the events is given through this medium? What do we learn from it? How to use it? Is it possible to write the history of cities at war by relying heavily on photographs? [Read more...](#)

PUBLIC HISTORY MEETINGS @ CEGESOMA



A new offer of CegeSoma/State Archives. The history of the 20th century and current events addressed through conferences, debates, interviews, film screenings, etc.

Events organised at or by CegeSoma. Our goal: exchanging ideas with the public! [Read more...](#)

Inventorying days at CegeSoma!



From 8 to 18 January all CegeSoma staff will be busy carrying out a general and thorough inventorying of our collections held at the Square de l'Aviation/Luchtvaartsquare site. [Read more...](#)

EHRI Conference in July in Amsterdam: Call for proposals



[Call for Proposals: EHRI Conference: Holocaust Studies in the Digital Age. What's New?](#)

Date: Tuesday, 2 July 2019
Location: Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The deadline to submit proposals is 2 February 2019.

Notification will be sent via email in March 2019.

Important notice

New EHRI-fellow at CegeSoma

Dr. Steffen Werther (Södertörn University Sweden) will work from 4-15 February as EHRI-fellow at CegeSoma. More information on Steffen Werther can be found [here](#).

Conference about oral history in Liège



On 27 February 2019, the Institut d'Histoire Ouvrière, Économique et Sociale (IHOES) organises a conference about oral history at Cité Miroir in Liège.

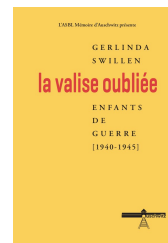
The main topic will be the relationship between methodology and sources on the one hand and historiography on the other. [Read more...](#)

New publication of associated researcher Frank Seberechts



After several recent book publications authored by some of our associated researchers - 'Grenzeloos verzet' from Paul de Jongh, 'De gebroken arm der wet' from Marc Verschooris and 'La valise oubliée' van Gerlinda Swillen - Frank Seberechts now also publishes his new book : 'Drang naar het Oosten'. [Read more...](#)

'La valise oubliée. Enfants de guerre (1940-1945)'. Interview of the author of the book, Gerlinda Swillen by Alain Colignon.



Touchy, sometimes difficult and often unknown, such is the history of children born from romances between Belgian women and Wehrmacht soldiers.

The CegeSoma (State Archives) and the Auschwitz Foundation – Remembrance of Auschwitz are pleased to invite you to the presentation of the latest book by Dr Gerlinda Swillen titled '*La valise oubliée. Enfants de guerre (1940-1945)*' * on the occasion of which the author will be interviewed by Alain Colignon. [Read more...](#)

New in the shops: the war papers of 1940-1945

Starting Monday 21 December 2015, you can collect a new series of **Les Journaux de Guerre 1940-1945 / De Oorlogskranten 1940-1945**. After the succesful series about the First World War last year, this time the Second World War is covered.

As before, the press of the era occupies the central place: each week, for a year (52 numbers), you will get a selection of newspapers, completely reproduced. They are accompanied by articles from historians, to help you read this interesting source in the right context.

The first number is about the German invasion of Belgium of 10 May 1940. Step by step the whole war is covered, from the capitulation of King Leopold III until the liberation. In between you get collaboration and resistance, all the major international battles, the persecution of the Jews, and more. The press is also a perfect source to study the daily life of the Belgian population under the German occupation.

Les Journaux de Guerre 1940-1945 / De Oorlogskranten 1940-1945 is an independant publication. CEGESOMA provides the scholarly and editorial expertise for this project.

For more information, go to <http://www.lesjournauxdeguerre.be/> or <http://www.deoorlogskranten.be/>.

Sophie Soukias

18 / 12 / 2015

◀ [Back](#) ▶



Unique Archives on the Defense of Resistance Fighters Before the German Military courts available for consultation

Frédéric (or Freddy) Eickhoff was the counsel of some 2.500 resistance fighters who had to appear before the German military courts in occupied Belgium during the Second World War. Barrister Eickhoff and his collaborators Delhaize and Van Hecke kept the documents related to the trials of their cases. After important conservation measures, they are finally open for academic research via a digital name list.

The consultation of these files is however subject to certain conditions. The agreement which permits consultation stipulates that the confidentiality must be respected and that no names must be made public. The digital name list which makes the collection accessible for research purposes can only be consulted via the intranet of CegeSoma.

This conditions fulfilled, consultation of the files (albeit anonymized) is perfectly possible. The files show that Frédéric Eickhoff, who was not exactly held in high regard by many of the German departments, was more than once able to mitigate the conviction of resistance members prosecuted for espionage, possession of firearms, assistance to the Allied forces, listening to Radio London, etc. More in general, these files are particularly interesting for the study of the Resistance, of the German repression and military justice, but also for studying lawyer's practices during the occupation period.

Dirk Martin

17 / 12 / 2015



Frédéric Eickhoff during the occupation. (Collection Jacques Eickhoff)

◀ [Back](#) ▶

Journal of Belgian History - 2015, nos. 2-3

This issue contains seven articles about different aspects of Belgian history, from the 19th century to the last years of the 20th century. They tackle immigration policy, the Congo, Trotskyism, resistance in WWII, the royal question, the development of retirement pensions and *Flamenpolitik*.

This issue also contains a 'Debate' section about the bicentenary commemorations of Waterloo, a broad overview of recent doctoral theses and many reviews.



◀ [Back](#) ▶