

CEGESOMA NEWSLETTER

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LES "JOURNAUX DE GUERRE" - PROMOTIONS & NEW SERIES ON THE COLD WAR

Les Journaux de Guerre are a unique collection of 305 issues in French and Dutch. The series reprints in its entirety the newspapers as they were published during the two World Wars and the Interwar period. Each edition is accompanied by articles written by historians. From January 2017, a new series (in French) will immerse you in the Cold War period. To obtain the complete series, or single issues of the First World War or the Interwar period at a reduced price, place on order via CegeSoma. [\[MORE INFO\]](#)

http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3326&pag0nbr=28&pagofs=0

PROMOTIONS - SEASON'S READINGS

Looking for season's readings? Year-end promotions at CegeSoma! Until 31 December 2016: -10% on our 3 new publications : 'La Wallonie dans la Grande Guerre 1914-1918' - 'Bruxelles, Ville occupée 1914-1918' - 'Oorlog in korte broek'.

Orders and info : 00 32 2 556 92 11 - lut.vandaele@cegesoma.be (<mailto:lut.vandaele@cegesoma.be>)

[\[MORE INFO\]](#) (http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3297)

COLLOQUIUM - INSIDE THE USER'S MIND

On 22 February 2017, CegeSoma will organize, in cooperation with the partners of the MADDLAIN project, a colloquium on the digital practices and needs of the users of archive centres and libraries. Whether you are an amateur or a professional researcher responsible for digitization in a heritage institution, an archivist or a collections curator, this study day entirely dedicated to the needs of the public may interest you!

[\[MORE INFO\]](#) (http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3332&pag0nbr=28&pagofs=0)

PUBLICATION & CONGRESS – THE ROLE OF THE MAYORS DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR

In his new book "Mayoral Collaboration under Nazi Occupation in Belgium, the Netherlands and France, 1938-46", our colleague Nico Wouters compares the role of mayors during the occupation of the Second World War in Belgium, the Netherlands and France (Nord and Pas-de-Calais). The publication will be presented officially in June 2017 in Canterbury during an international congress on occupations during both World Wars.

[\[MORE INFO\]](#) (http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/activ_scientif_en.php?article=3320&pag0nbr=5&pagofs=0)

CONFERENCE-DEBATE – VILLES EN GUERRE 1914-1918. WALLONIA AND BRUSSELS

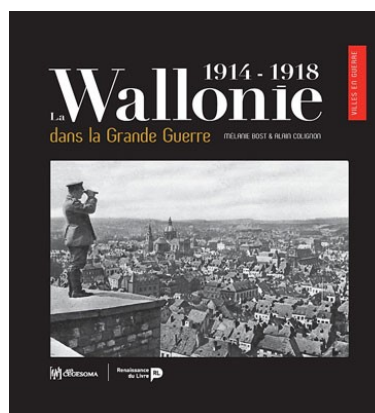
On Friday 20 January 2017 in our conference room, Anne Roekens (UNamur) will invite the four authors of the volumes « Bruxelles, ville occupée 1914-1918 » and « La Wallonie dans la Grande Guerre », to talk about their work and to reflect on the challenge of writing such a « visual history ». [\[MORE INFO\]](#)

http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3329

Cities at war, 1914-1918 - Wallonia and Brussels

The authors of *La Wallonie dans la Grande Guerre* and *Bruxelles ville occupée* relate the experiences of Walloons and inhabitants of Brussels during the First World War through the medium of the image. They examine how the major challenges of this turbulent period are reflected by means of photographs, postcards or the illustrated press.

The books are for sale at CegeSoma at the price of 20 €.



A Double Challenge

Six years after the publication of the series "*Villes en guerre*", dedicated to the Second World War, the same approach was used in two new volumes with regard to the First World War. The challenge was twofold: to present an overview of a period less researched than the Second World War, on the basis of less and more dispersed photographic material.

The Image as Vehicle

At the outbreak of the First World War, photography was already a long-established medium. To have one's photograph taken at important moments in life had become a custom. Not everyone possessed a camera yet, but the object had increasingly become a popular possession. The image had become an important vehicle and the occupier was determined to maintain control of it. Several restrictive measures explain the rarity of photographs by amateur photographers. The work of professional photographers has been better kept. Even in times of occupation, press photography became an essential medium during the First World War. Yet it would seem that some subjects were widely treated while others left few traces in visual history. The four authors have nevertheless succeeded to present many original photographs that present a varied image of day to day life in the cities at war.

Wallonia and Brussels, Singularities and Convergences

In these two volumes, singularities and convergences between the "cities at war" are widely discussed. The capital may have escaped the worst of the massacres and destructions of the rest of the country, but like the Walloon cities it soon fell victim to famine, shortages and misery. By its status as capital and because of the presence of a Germanic community there was more than one cultural life in Brussels, which was not the case in Wallonia. The thousands of refugees who required food, shelter and care were an urgent problem both in Brussels and Wallonia.

These two richly illustrated volumes present an intimate image of Wallonia and Brussels during the First World War. This particular approach of the war via photography offers a whole new perspective of daily life in this troubled period.

- *La Wallonie dans la Grande Guerre 1914-1918* [Alain Colignon & Mélanie Bost], La Renaissance du Livre, 2016, 176 p.

- *Bruxelles ville occupée 1914-1918* [Chantal Kesteloot & Bruno Benvindo], La Renaissance du Livre, 2016, 176 p.

The books can be ordered at CegeSoma via email ([Lut Van Daele](mailto:Lut.Van.Daele@cegesoma.be)) or telephone (00 32 2 556 92 11) at the price of 20 € per book (postage not included) in stead of 22,90 € (bookseller's price)

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Colloquium - Inside the User's Mind

On **22 February 2017**, CegeSoma will organize, in cooperation with the partners of the **MADDLAIN project**, a colloquium on the digital practices and needs of the users of archive centres and libraries.

Whether you are an amateur or a professional researcher responsible for digitization in a heritage institution, an archivist or a collections curator, this study day entirely dedicated to the needs of the public may interest you !

Digital Access to the Collections

For many years, the development of new technologies has profoundly changed the behaviour of users in archive centres and libraries. Hoping to develop a coherent and realistic policy concerning the development of digitization, the Royal Library, the State Archives and CegeSoma have launched a research project in March 2015 in order to better define the practices and needs of the different audiences (MADDLAIN).

Inside the Users' Mind

The partners of this project organise a colloquium on **22 February 2017** concerning **the study of the behaviour and needs of the users in archives and libraries**.

The objective is to present the results of the conducted research but also to compare them with those acquired in other environments and to exchange ideas with practitioners of other heritage institutions. The partners will discuss the different initiatives that were taken over the course of the last few years and the discussion will focus on **three principal key areas**:

- The scientific approach and the analysis methods used in the context of this type of project (web analytics, log files, interviews, online surveys, focus groups, usability testing). The purpose is to discuss the problems related to their implementation as well as their efficiency.
- The results. Which audiences have been identified? What are their expectations? Which similarities have been observed between the different institutions?
- The concrete responses of libraries and archives to the social changes and new expectations.

Practical details

When ? Wednesday 22 February 2017, **from 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.**

Where ? Royal Library of Belgium

Free **registration** on [this website](#)

You will find the complete **programme** [here](#)

More info [here](#)



War Mayors During the Second World War

New Publication and an International Congress

In November 2016, the new book of CegeSoma collaborator [Nico Wouters](#) *Mayoral Collaboration under Nazi Occupation in Belgium, the Netherlands and France, 1938-46* was published by Palgrave. The English-language book compares the role of the mayors during the occupation of the Second World War in Belgium, the Netherlands and France (Nord and Pas-de-Calais).

The book deepens our knowledge on the so-called accommodation and the politics of collaboration with the German occupier by (local) authorities. The universities of Kent and Ghent will organize a book launch in Canterbury in June 2017, in cooperation with CegeSoma and NIOD. This book launch will take place during an international congress entitled *Occupations in the Age of Total War: Micro-Perspectives and Transnational Research*. Pieter Lagrou, Sophie De Schaepdrijver and Martin Conway will engage in a debate with the author about his book.

More information on the book *Mayoral Collaboration under Nazi Occupation in Belgium, the Netherlands and France, 1938-46* ? You will find the flyer of the book [here](#).

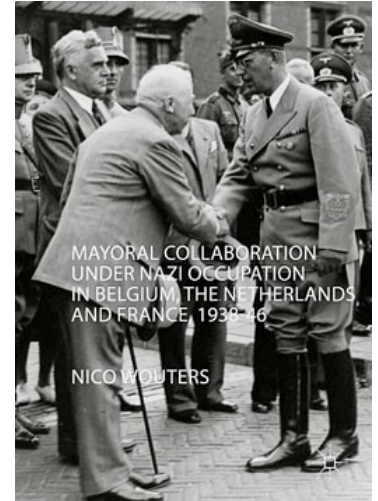
For the programme of the conference click [here](#).

For all up-to-date information concerning the conference please visit: <https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/munitions-of-the-mind/conference/>.

In order to participate, it is mandatory to register via: <https://kenthospitality.kent.ac.uk/Register/Registration/Welcome.aspx?e=178FD42DF40032309E42F4F73168115D>.

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Conference-debate – Villes en guerre 1914-1918. Wallonia and Brussels

With **B. Benvindo, M. Bost, A. Colignon and C. Kesteloot**

Chaired by Anne Roekens

On **Friday 20 January 2017** in our conference room, Anne Roekens (*U Namur*) will invite the four authors of the volumes "*Bruxelles, ville occupée 1914-1918*" and "*La Wallonie dans la Grande Guerre*", to talk about their work and to reflect on the challenge of writing such a "visual history". A selection of photographs from both publications will be presented and analyzed in greater detail, in order to discuss what such pictures may reveal or obscure about the past.

The Image as Vehicle

Today, everyone produces images. Everyone can convey their own vision of reality. Information, a rare commodity at the time, and monopolized by the media, became available to much more people and was used in private circles at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. At the outbreak of the First World War, photography was already a long-established medium. To have one's photograph taken at important moments in life had become a custom. Not everyone possessed a camera yet, but the object had increasingly become a popular possession. Photography became available to more people and the image had become an important vehicle. And the occupier was determined to take control of it.

A Double Challenge

Several restrictive measures during the First World War explain the rarity of photographs by amateur photographers. The work of professional photographers has been better kept. Even in times of occupation, press photography became an essential medium. Yet it would seem that some subjects were widely treated while others left few traces in visual history.

The authors therefore had to tackle a double challenge: to present an overview of a relatively unexplored theme but also to find sparse and dispersed photographic material.

A Visual History

This approach of the war through photography – now considered a historical source in its own right – is original in that it proposes a totally different way of understanding daily life during this troubled period. Indeed, beyond obvious limitations, photography highlights aspects of experiences of the occupation that have often remained unexplored. These photographic trajectories transform and enrich our perception of Brussels and the Walloon cities during the war.



At the end of the summer of 1914, Brussels has been invaded by the Germans. Alerted by the noise of the guns, the population of Schaerbeek tries to see the fights that continue outside the town centre. (© In Flanders Fields Museum)

The Authors

Bruno Benvindo is a historian at CegeSoma. His research concerns the two World Wars and the public policies of memory.

Mélanie Bost is a historian. Her study concerns the sociopolitical history of justice in Belgium and the German occupation of Belgium in 1914-1918.

Alain Colignon, historian, has worked at CegeSoma since 1989 and specialises in the analysis of global conflicts.

Chantal Kesteloot is a historian and in charge of the Public History department at CegeSoma. Her research concerns the history of Brussels and the legacies of the two World Wars.

Anne Roekens (who chairs the debate) is lecturer in contemporary history at the University of Namur and member of the research group "*Histoire, sons et images*" that wants to use audiovisual documents as sources for the writing of the long 20th century.

Practical details

This conference-debate will be held in the conference room of CegeSoma, square de l'Aviation 29, 1070 Brussels at 2.30 p.m.

Participation is free, but registration required (02/556.92.57 – [Isabelle Delvaux](#))

The Publications

The two publications are for sale at the price of 20 € each (+ postage) at CegeSoma, at the depots of the State Archives in Brussels and Wallonia or via [Lut Van Daele](#).

- Bruno Benvindo & Chantal Kesteloot, *Bruxelles, ville occupée 1914-1918*, Waterloo, La Renaissance du Livre, 2016, 176 p.

- Mélanie Bost & Alain Colignon, *La Wallonie dans la Grande Guerre 1914-1918*, Waterloo, La Renaissance du Livre, 2016, 176 p.