

Visualisez ce message dans votre navigateur

CEGESOMA - State Archives

NEWSLETTER

No 65 - April 2021



NEWS

COLLECTION TRANSFERS

A large part of the archival collections of CegeSoma will be transferred to other repositories of the State Archives in Brussels.

► [Read more](#)



VATICAN ARCHIVES

A Belgian researcher investigates the Vatican archives relating to Belgium under the pontificate of Pius XII.

► [Read more](#)

MICRO-ARCHIVES

EHRI launches a search for micro-archives to enhance our knowledge of the Holocaust.

► [Read more](#)



FOCUS ON THE COLLECTIONS



OUR LIBRARY GROWS

Donations from the former Library of Contemporary Documentation in Sint-Niklaas complete our collections of books and journals on the Cold War.

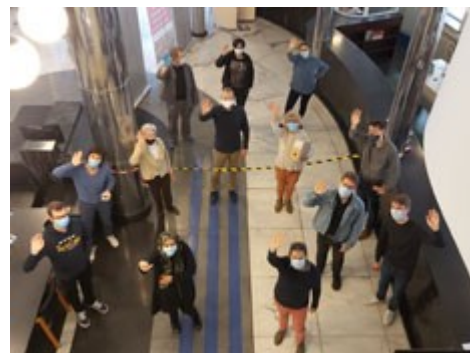
► [Read more](#)

PUBLICATIONS

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Our annual report gives an overview of our activities, publications and research projects.

► [Read more](#)



WORLD WAR II IN KORTRIJK

Heili Verstraete, associated researcher with CegeSoma, publishes her article about the war mayor of Bissegem in a thematic WWII-issue of the local journal 'De Leiegouw'.

► [Read more](#)

AGENDA

CHOSEN PORTRAITS, SUBJECTED PORTRAITS

An international conference organized by UNamur, UCL and CegeSoma on 26 and 27 May about how power relations are perpetuated through the prism of photography (1840-2000).

► [Read more](#)



DID YOU KNOW ?

That the winner of the 2006 Prix Goncourt did part of his research at CegeSoma....?

► [Watch the video!](#)



COVID-19 PANDEMIC

READING ROOM

You are still welcome to visit the reading room by appointment, subject to strict compliance with safety regulations.



► Read more



Square de l'Aviation 29 / B-1070 Brussels / Belgium
Copyright © CegeSoma / State Archives, all rights reserved

[Modifiez votre profil](#) - [Pour vous désabonner cliquez ici](#)

Flexmail



Moving of archive collections: important message for visitors

Because of the closure of our repository in the Belgrade Street (Forest), some important removal operations will gradually take place in 2021. Large parts of CegeSoma's archives collections will move to other repositories of the State Archives in Brussels. The public law archives of government administrations (including the archives of the Intelligence and Action Services) will move to the General State Archives in the Ruisbroek Street. Archives formed by the military courts (including records of convictions) as well as private archives (personal archives, archives of resistance groups) are transferred to the National Archives 2 - Joseph Cuvelier repository (ARA2) in the Hopstraat/Rue du Houlblon. The exact timing will be communicated gradually.

This will of course have consequences for consultation and accessibility. We will evolve towards a situation where eventually only the library (books, magazines, brochures, newspapers, illegal press, newspaper clippings), the photo and audiovisual collections, and the archives formed by CegeSoma will be available for consultation in our reading room at the Aviation Square. CegeSoma will continue to manage its archives collections stored in the ARA2. It is therefore very important to consult our website before your visit to see where and when which archives can be consulted.

[The list here](#) provides an overview of the archives that have been moved and where they are currently located. It will be updated after each transfer. Via their title and former call number in Pallas, you can see which collections have been transferred to the Archives générales du Royaume 1 (AGR1) or to the Archives générales du Royaume 2 - Dépôt Joseph Cuvelier (AGR2). Documents can be provisionally requested from AGR1 and AGR2 on the basis of their Pallas "call number" (number "AA").

For specific questions about accessibility : cegesoma@arch.be

Needless to say, we remain very happy to answer all your historical and archival-related questions. And, of course, you can still contact us [if you wish to donate archival materials to CegeSoma](#).

Also check Facebook, YouTube and the newsletter for updates!

© CegeSoma | Luchtvaartsquare 29, 1070 Anderlecht | 02 556 92 11

[Home](#) » [News](#) » A Belgian researcher in the archives of Pius XII, the wartime pope

A Belgian researcher in the archives of Pius XII, the wartime pope



From April 2021, Belgian researcher Elisabeth Bruyère will be investigating the Vatican archives and, more specifically, the archives related to Belgium that were produced during the pontificate of Pius XII (1939-1958). Her main task is the identification, registration and digitization of the relevant archives. These recently opened archives obviously cover a sensitive period and will hopefully shed new light on many topics, including the Shoah and the beginning of the Cold War.

The CegeSoma-State Archives is one of the partners in this project, originating from the Flemish cultural heritage and coordinated by the *KADOC*. In the coming months, you will learn more about Elisabeth Bruyère's research in Rome via the CegeSoma's information channels.

For more information : https://kadoc.kuleuven.be/8_projecten/2020/2020_03_pius_xii

Other news

[The CegeSoma photo library is back in the Square de l'Aviation](#)

[You are welcome to visit our reading rooms](#)

[CegeSoma Annual Report](#)

[EHRI is looking for Micro-Archives](#)

[Special issue of 'De Leiegouw' about resistance and collaboration](#)

[The censored and underground press of the two world wars now accessible via the Abraham online catalog](#)

[What's new on the Belgium WWII website](#)

[Les Enfants de la Collaboration or the Archives of the Collaboration?](#)

[A first workshop for the Postwarex project](#)

[Was grandpa a hero?](#)

© **CegeSoma** | **Luchtvaartsquare 29, 1070 Anderlecht** | **02 556 92 11**



EHRI is looking for Micro-Archives

In order to further expand information in its research portal, EHRI, the European Holocaust Research infrastructure, the Horizon-2020 project of which the State Archives is a partner, is looking for micro-archives; small collections kept outside the large professional archive and documentation centers, which can shed specific light on the Holocaust and its aftermath. You can learn more about what constitutes a 'microarchive' and how a microarchive can interact with EHRI [here](#).

We invite you to become part of the EHRI network by integrating your micro-archival collection into our portal. Together, we can develop and apply strategies to safeguard your collection(s) for future generations and make them accessible to researchers and the public at large.

The sources that provide information on the Holocaust are diverse and geographically dispersed. Combined, all these collections – regardless of their scope and accessibility – are necessary to form a more complete picture. Whether a diary is located in a box in the attic of a small initiative or in the vast archives of an established institution is irrelevant: all sorts of objects and documents shed light not only on the Holocaust at large, but also on single events and personal stories.

Since its inception in 2010, EHRI (European Holocaust Research Infrastructure) has been enabling and encouraging scholarly research on the Holocaust along transnational lines. EHRI's focus has been to integrate archival descriptions from institutions all over the European continent, Israel and the United States. This resulted in the establishment of the EHRI Portal (<https://portal.ehri-project.eu/>), which to date provides an integrated search across 325.474 archival descriptions from 761 institutions. EHRI has made great strides by working with large-scale institutions.

Yet, we have always been aware that to cover the material legacy of the Holocaust, we need to incorporate the abundant material in smaller archival collections. Therefore, EHRI continues to broaden its scope. Starting this year, a major focus will be to create opportunities for cooperation with micro-archival entities and the integration of their collections to the research infrastructure.

Micro-archives and EHRI

The interest in hidden archival collections outside larger institutions has grown steadily over the past years. Researchers are interested in discovering first-hand information that can shed new light on historical events. Moreover, holdings of smaller grass-roots organisations or private initiatives can complement, refine and critically scrutinize specific narratives of the past. Hence, EHRI considers it essential to join forces and cooperate closely with micro-archives.

In the context of our project, a micro-archive is:

- an association, a memorial, a grassroots initiative, a very small archival institution, a researcher, a relative or a family;
- a private initiative that is not run by local authorities or by the state, but by non-professional curators, i.e. engaged researchers or lay persons (not archivists, librarians, curators or the like);

- not a recipient of any substantial support from public means.

Of course, the holdings of the micro-archives also need to be relevant to EHRI, for instance:

- lists, cards, files, interviews, photographs, films, or letters related to the Holocaust;
- collections assembled during the Holocaust and/or after liberation, also if recently;
- collections should not have been integrated into larger archives yet.

Micro-archival collections that have found their way into other archives or memorial institutions, or have even developed into an institution are not micro-archives as we understand them.

If the information above applies to a micro-archive you are familiar with, we would be glad to be in contact with you to explore possibilities for further cooperation.

How can EHRI assist micro-archives?

Many institutions holding collections related to the Holocaust work with a similar mission: To preserve the material legacy as a testimony for current and future generations about this dark period of history, to remember the victims, and to caution about the atrocities humans are capable of committing.

To support this global endeavour, it has been EHRI's goal to assist archives throughout Europe and the world in making important records accessible. EHRI provides an easy to search digital platform to swiftly find archival collections located in different locations. We aim at increasing the scientific audience and public interest in these important archival collections, as well as at integrating additional archival data in order to make the links between the documents visible, and to enrich the stories these sources can tell.

The past decade has shown us that the archival and technical expertise among institutions varies a lot, therefore, close cooperation and learning from each other has been the foundation of EHRI's activities. We would be glad to apply our knowledge around digital collection integration to your micro-archival collection and invite you to become part of the EHRI network by integrating your micro-archival collection into our portal. Together, we can develop and apply strategies to safeguard your collection(s) for future generations and make them accessible to researchers and the public at large.

Get in touch!

If your archival collection - or someone else's collection you are aware of - applies to our definition of a micro-archive and the collection relates to the Holocaust, we would like to hear from you. Please contact us via micro-archives@ehri-project.eu with:

- a brief description of the archival initiative you are either part of or know about;
- some information on the history of the collection, profile, scope (a historical event, a family's biography, faith of a community, etc.) and scale of the collection (types and number of documents);
- if relevant: an explanation of the archival and/or technical structure that has been applied, such as the descriptive standard (e.g. IASD(G) or EAD);
- your contact information.

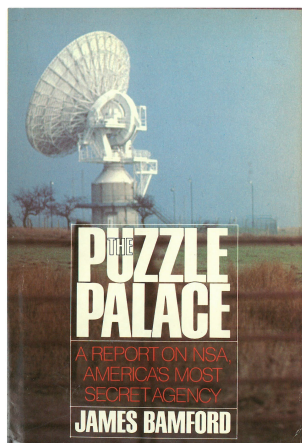
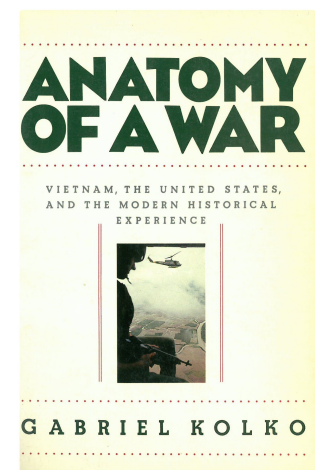
Let us know how to be in touch (email, phone, postal mail) and you can expect a message from our side soon.



The Bibliotheek voor Hedendaagse Documentatie enriches our Cold War collections

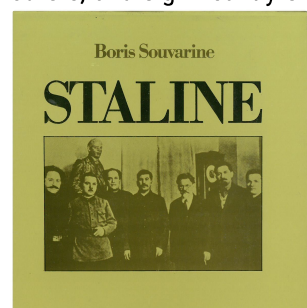
Over the past ten years, CegeSoma received several donations from the former Bibliotheek voor Hedendaagse Documentatie in Sint-Niklaas. These mainly contained international periodicals and government publications from the 1970s and 1980s that were rather indirectly related to both World Wars and the Cold War in Belgium. In recent months, however, CegeSoma was allowed to make its own selection from the entire collection. It turned out to be quite rewarding.

The St. Niklaas library was active from the early 1970s to the 2000s and reflects the very diverse interests of the custodian, who acquired library collections throughout this period and set up exchange relationships with, among others, the U.S. Library of Congress and with various East Asian cultural-diplomatic organizations. This resulted in a dozen rooms crammed with books, periodicals, and other documents on extremely diverse topics, but thus also on the international politics of the time.

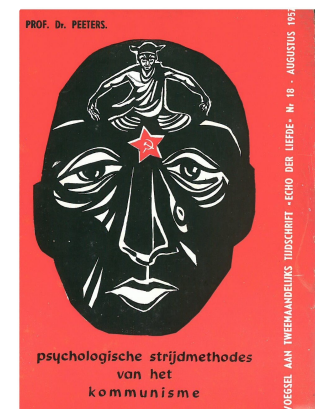


Besides a small amount of material about World War II that was relevant to us, we found mainly academic and journalistic publications about various facets of the Cold War. This included dozens of works on American intelligence, including classics such as *The Puzzle Palace*, *The Man who Kept the Secrets*, and *Dirty Work*. We also took a number of book shelves containing standard works and memoirs on American, Soviet-Russian, and Chinese foreign policy, and a similar amount of studies on the peace movement and on various forms of warfare and armament during the Cold War. Furthermore, we selected quite a lot of material on the Cold War in the Middle East, in Latin America, in Africa, and especially in Southeast Asia (Vietnam!). Finally, of course, we could not overlook the valuable works in this library on the Cold War in Europe.

The Bibliotheek voor Hedendaagse Documentatie also held a considerable amount of communist and anti-communist periodicals. Thanks to the donation, we can complete our collection of the *Cahiers Marxistes*, of *Le Déporté* and of *Europe Magazine*, among others, and significantly expand that of the anarchist *La Rue* and of the American public diplomacy publication *Dialogues*. We also acquired many years of magazines with which Asian communists and anti-communists tried to play on European public opinion.



In addition, we were able to add to our collection magazines that examine the intelligence services, including an almost complete series of the legendary American magazine *CounterSpy*. Finally, we acquired a great deal of propaganda material from communist-





inspired 'friendship associations' (Belgium-China, Belgium-Cambodia), but also from networks that opposed such rapprochement (Interdoc, Ligue Internationale de la Liberté). All of this significantly enriches our Cold War collections.

© CegeSoma | Luchtvaartsquare 29, 1070 Anderlecht | 02 556 92 11

[Home](#) » [News](#) » CegeSoma Annual Report

CegeSoma Annual Report



If you wish to have an overview of the activities, publications, projects and research conducted at CegeSoma/State Archives in 2020 as well as some figures, please consult our report clicking [here](#).

RAPPORT ANNUEL 2020



**Centre d'Études et de Documentation
Guerre et Sociétés contemporaines**



Other news

[The CegeSoma photo library is back in the Square de l'Aviation](#)

[You are welcome to visit our reading rooms](#)

[EHRI is looking for Micro-Archives](#)

[A Belgian researcher in the archives of Pius XII, the wartime pope](#)

[Special issue of 'De Leiegouw' about resistance and collaboration](#)

[The censored and underground press of the two world wars now accessible via the Abraham online catalog](#)

[What's new on the Belgium WWII website](#)

[Les Enfants de la Collaboration or the Archives of the Collaboration?](#)

[A first workshop for the Postwarex project](#)

[Was grandpa a hero?](#)

© CegeSoma | Luchtvaartsquare 29, 1070 Anderlecht | 02 556 92 11

[Home](#) » [News](#) » Special issue of 'De Leiegouw' about resistance and collaboration

Special issue of 'De Leiegouw' about resistance and collaboration



The first number for 2021 of *De Leiegouw*, the heritage journal from Kortrijk, is a theme issue on resistance and collaboration during World War II.

One article is by [Heili Verstraete](#), associate researcher of CegeSoma, who publishes her research on the war mayor of Bissegem. There are five other articles in this issue about the reception of Jewish children, the Resistance and the city administration of Kortrijk.

For more information: <https://leiegouw.be/product/de-leiegouw-jg-63-2021-nr-1/>

Other news

[The CegeSoma photo library is back in the Square de l'Aviation](#)

[You are welcome to visit our reading rooms](#)

[CegeSoma Annual Report](#)

[EHRI is looking for Micro-Archives](#)

[A Belgian researcher in the archives of Pius XII, the wartime pope](#)

[The censored and underground press of the two world wars now accessible via the Abraham online catalog](#)

[What's new on the Belgium WWII website](#)

[Les Enfants de la Collaboration or the Archives of the Collaboration?](#)

[A first workshop for the Postwarex project](#)

[Was grandpa a hero?](#)

© CegeSoma | Luchtvaartsquare 29, 1070 Anderlecht | 02 556 92 11

[Home](#) » [Event](#) » International conference: Chosen Portraits, Subjected Portraits

International conference: Chosen Portraits, Subjected Portraits

The Relations of Power and Domination in Portrait Photography (1840-2000)

CegeSoma in the spotlight [Colloquium](#)



On May 26 and 27, 2021, the international colloquium "Chosen Portraits, Subjected Portraits : The Relations of Power and Domination in Portrait Photography (1840-2000) will be held at the University of Namur. The product of a partnership between UNamur, UCL and Cegesoma/Archives de l'Etat, this colloquium, initiated by the research group "Histoire, son et images" (Hisi), aims to consider photography both in terms of the portrait technique and as a carrier and revealer of relations of domination.

Since it confronts a photographer and a photographed person in a given context, and is likely to involve "dominants" and "dominated", the photographic portrait appears as a potentially revealing source of hierarchical relations, but also of relations and/or identity (re)positioning. The image can also play the role of a troublemaker: a reflection of dominant relationships, it can also provoke subversive or complicit appropriations.

The decision to study a particular type of image in very diverse contexts has the objective of contributing to two important trends: first, to fully integrate photography into the sources of historians (of colonization, gender, medicine, occupations ...) and, second, to deepen, through the intersection of case studies, critical, epistemological and methodological issues specific to the photographic portrait that arise for those who attempt to exploit them in their entire scope.

With some fifteen contributions, the field covered resolutely opted for the long term and geographical diversity since the areas covered include Europe, Africa and the Orient. Four angles of approach to photographic portraits will be privileged: colonial space, the question of surveillance, enclosed spaces and, finally, the gender prism. The discussions will be led by researchers from different geographical and academic backgrounds.



26/05/2021 - 09:30 to 27/05/2021 - 16:15

Practical information :

Location: University of Namur.

The conference will be held online.

Main language

English

French

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

RELATED LINKS

[The full programme](#)

Partners





© CegeSoma | Luchtvaartsquare 29, 1070 Anderlecht | 02 556 92 11