

# CEGESOMA NEWSLETTER

## NO 52 - JANUARY 2020

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### ARCHIVES

Donation of the archives of Georges Holvoet, the head of the personal cabinet of the Prince Regent. A very interesting archive for the study of a tumultuous period (1944-1950). [\[MORE INFO\]](#)

<https://www.cegesoma.be/en/news/75-years-after-beginning-regency%E2%80%A6>

### INVITATION

Public showing of the documentary 'Gurs, histoire et mémoire de l'exil républicain espagnol (1939)', followed by a talk (in French) with both makers Anabel Beltran and Fernando Yarza, on 20 February at 20h at Campus Solbosch. [\[MORE INFO\]](#)

<https://www.cegesoma.be/en/event/gurs-history-and-memory-spanish-republican-exile-1939>

### RESEARCH

The launch of two new research projects in the Spring of 2020, one about the provincial administration of Limburg during the Second World War and another about the policy of the military judiciary regarding the application of the death penalty in the punishment of collaboration after the Second World War.

[\[MORE INFO\]](#) <https://www.cegesoma.be/en/new-research-projects>

### NEWSLETTER

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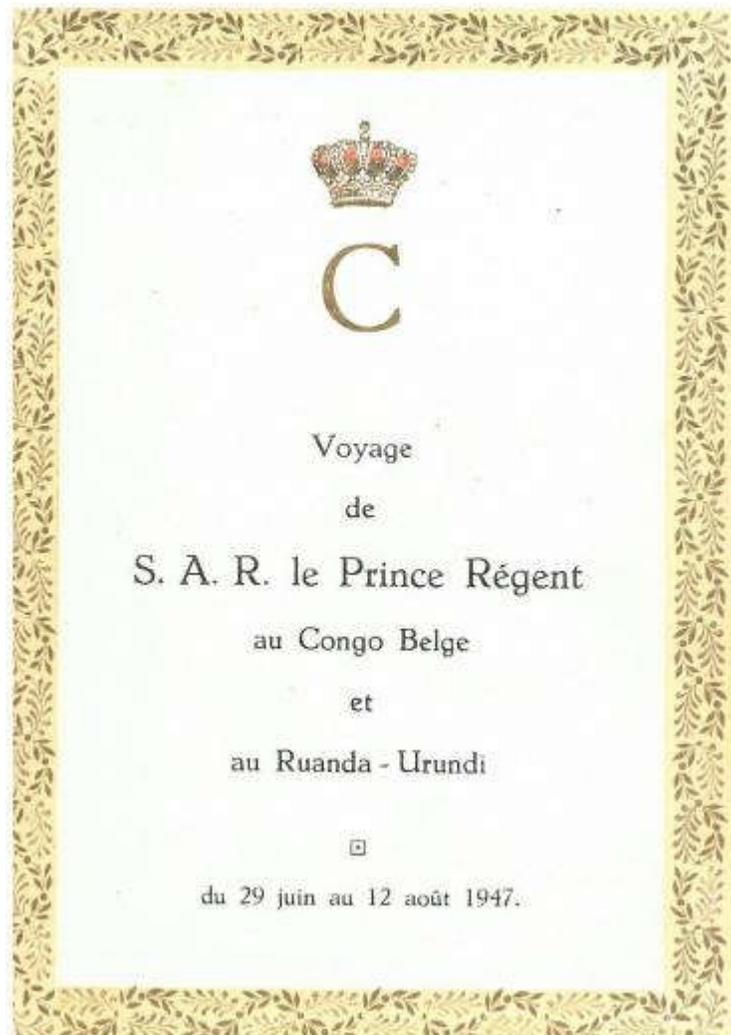
<https://www.cegesoma.be/en/publication/newsletter>

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## 75 years after the beginning of the regency...

The archives of Georges Holvoet, Chief of Staff to the Prince Regent



At the end of November 2019, the family Holvoet donated to Cegesoma the archives created by Baron Georges Holvoet in his position as Prince Charles' Chief of Staff.

After completing his studies in law, Georges Holvoet (1874-1967) joined the Brussels public prosecutor's office, first as a substitute (1899), then as a prosecutor (1911). In 1922 he became Advocate General at the Court of Cassation and in early November 1923 he was appointed Governor of the Province of Antwerp.

In September 1944, at the request of Prince Charles who had been an intimate acquaintance of the family for a long time he became head of the Regent's cabinet. He remained Head of the Cabinet until the end of the Regency in 1950. He also held positions at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Antwerp, the University Foundation, the Institute of Tropical Medicine, etc.

The donated archival documents stretch about 1.2 running meters and approximately cover the Regency period (1944-1950). They contain not only information on the day-to-day functioning of the cabinet or on its protocol and the representative position of the Prince Regent but also include relations with ministers and governments, the royal question, post-war repression, etc. This collection also includes all sorts of documents that belong to the personal archives of Georges Holvoet (among others a number of 'political notes').

The fund which is not yet available for consultation will be packaged and described as soon as possible. There is an archival list made by his granddaughter, Colette Gevers-Holvoet, in 2003.

Other news

[VACANCIES](#)

[Satisfaction survey](#)

[Kick-off EHRI-PP in Munich 11-13 February 2020](#)

[Belgium WWII: New content on our blog and our website](#)

[Focus on the Resistance](#)

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## Gurs, history and memory of the Spanish republican exile (1939)

Screening-debate

World War II [Film projection](#)

**GURS**  
Historia y Memoria

Institut  
Marcel Liebman

**L'EXIL  
RÉPUBLICAIN  
ESPAGNOL (1939)**

PROJECTION DÉBAT EN  
PRÉSENCE DES  
PRODUCTEURS ANABEL  
BELTRAN &  
FERNANDO YARZA  
Festival International de  
cinéma de Cordoba 2019 -  
Meilleur documentaire

Un documental de  
**VERÓNICA SÁENZ**

FERNANDO YARZA - PABLO CONTRERAS - PAOLA BACA - LUCIA GONZALEZ - JOSE BARRERO - SANTIAGO LUCET - ANABEL BELTRAN - CINEARTE

ARAGÓN  
GOBIERNO DE ARAGÓN

ULB  
UNIVERSITÉ LIBRE DE BRUXELLES

CEGESOMA

ULB, Campus du Solbosch, auditoire DC2.206 (via Av. Antoine Depage, 1050 Ixelles)  
Infos : [institut.liebman@ulb.ac.be](mailto:institut.liebman@ulb.ac.be) - 02/650.33.86 - <http://www.institut-liebman.be>

The Marcel Liebman Institute and CegeSoma/State Archives are pleased to invite you to the first screening in Brussels of the documentary "Gurs, historia y memoria" by Verónica Sáenz Giménez (2018, 56 min., Spain), followed by a debate with the two producers Anabel Beltran and Fernando Yarza. The film will be shown in original language with French subtitles.

Synopsis:

*A few pupils travel by bus across the border in the Pyrenees in order to get a better understanding of the meaning of the words "refugee" and "exile". Eighty years earlier, others made same journey as they fled the*

*victorious troops of Franco to face the terrifying snow-topped mountains in anxiety and misery. On the other side of the border in France, near the village of Oloron-Sainte-Marie, laid Gurs camp, a hastily set up provisional shelter that remained open until 1945. For these young pupils it is a duty to remember. The film also shows the moving testimonies of 'survivors' or their descendants facing the camera or in animated sequences. One of the survivors tells us that they were joined by 7000 Jews arrested by the Vichy regime before being deported. Another states: "It was not a 'civil war', but a war against Spain because four armies fought the Spanish Republic".*

Verónica Sáenz has worked on several films and series for the Spanish television. She presents us a first solemn documentary in which the story of these pupils who travel on a journey of remembrance are brilliantly intertwined with moving testimonies and beautiful animations drawn by one of the greatest Spanish comic-strip artist of this moment, Paco Roca.

Prize of the International Film Festival of Cerdagne 2019: Best documentary



20/02/2020 - 20:00 to 22:00

Place: Solbosch Campus, Auditorium DC2.206, Access 16 via Avenue Antoine Depage, 30 – 1050 Brussels.  
[Interactive Campus Map](#) (click on 16)

#### PRICE

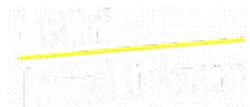
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Entrance fee: Pay What You Want (to cover for logistical expenses)

#### Main language

French

#### Partners



#### TAGS

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[Spanish Civil War](#) [Collective Memories](#)

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## New research projects

Two new research projects are set to start this spring at CegeSoma. The first one will investigate the military justice and the application of the death penalty in the context of Collaboration repression after the Second World War. The second project will focus on the provincial government of Limburg during the same period.

### **The military justice and the application of the death penalty in the context of Collaboration repression after the Second World War**

After the Liberation, 242 people sentenced to death by the military court were eventually executed.

Due to its scale and with no executions carried out afterwards, this is an exceptional event in the history of Belgian justice. The project BRAIN 2.0 POSTWAREX - a partnership between the State Archives / CegeSoma (Dirk Luyten) and the Royal Military Academy (*École Royale Militaire*) (Stanislas Horvat) – consists of an in depth study of the phenomenon of the death penalty and its execution from a military justice standpoint. This research is set to answer several key questions: how the death penalty was used to punish collaborationists; how f a death sentence was decided; what the decision making process was behind the granting of a 'pardon'; how the death penalty was carried out and how it was integrated into the penal law. With a focus on the various components of the military court, this research will examine all the stages of the imposition and application of the capital punishment: from the opening of the prosecution file to the execution and the attention it received.

The transfer of the military court archives to the State Archives will enable a thorough investigation, while the availability and the accessibility of these archival sources will allow us to get a detailed picture. Two researchers (State Archives / CegeSoma and *École Royale militaire*) will work together in this two-year project, funded by Belspo as part of the BRAIN programme.

### **The province of Limburg during the occupation**

Commissioned by the Limburg provincial government, this 10 months research project on Limburg province during the Second World War occupation will also be carried out by CegeSoma.

The provinces played an important role during the Second World War, as they organized food supply or offered protection to population during bombings. The provincial governments preserve valuable archival collections concerning various aspects of the history of the Occupation.

These archives are at the core of this project. First, they will be catalogued and then they will serve as primary sources for this historical research on the role of the provincial administration during the Occupation. Emphasis will

be placed on aspects with direct impact on population daily life. A researcher will be employed to conduct the the investigation, while members of CegeSoma scientific staff will bring in their specific knowledge.

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## Newsletter

[War and Society](#)   [World War I](#)   [World War II](#)   [Nieuwsbrief](#)



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If you wish to receive this newsletter, you can report this [here](#).

To view the most recent *Newsletter*, please follow this link: [CegeSoma Newsletter no 53 \(February 2020\)](#).

**2020** : January (no 52) -

**2019** : January ([no 43](#)) - February ([no 44](#)) - March ([no 45](#)) - April ([no 46](#)) - May ([no 47](#)) - June ([no 48](#))  
September ([no 49](#)) - October ([no 50](#)) - December ([no 51](#))

**2018** : January ([no 34](#)) - February ([no 35](#)) - March ([no 36](#)) - May ([no 37](#)) - June ([no 38](#)) - September ([no 39](#))  
October ([no 40](#)) - November ([no 41](#)) - December ([no 42](#))

**2017** : January ([no 26](#)) - February ([no 27](#)) - March ([no 28](#)) - April ([no 29](#)) - May ([no 30](#)) - September ([no 31](#))  
October ([no 32](#)) - November ([no 33](#))

**2016** : January ([no 19](#)) - March ([no 20](#)) - April ([no 21](#)) - September ([no 22](#)) - October ([no 23](#))  
November ([no 24](#)) - December ([no 25](#))

**2015** : February ([no 12](#)) - March ([no 13](#)) - April ([no 14](#)) - June ([no 15](#)) - September ([no 16](#))  
November ([no 17](#)) - December ([no 18](#))

**2014** : February ([no 4](#)) - March ([no 5](#)) - May ([no 6](#)) - July ([no 7](#)) - September ([no 8](#)) - 24 October ([no 9](#))  
October ([no 10](#)) - December ([no 11](#))

**2013** : July ([no 1](#)) - September ([no 2](#)) - December ([no 3](#))

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