

CEGESOMA - State Archives

NEWSLETTER

No 98 - October 2024

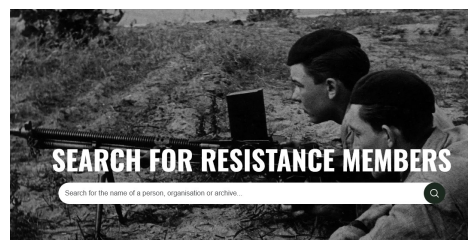


NEWS

RESISTANCE IN BELGIUM

An indispensable database for anyone interested in the history of the Resistance in Belgium during World War II. Discover it now.

► [Read more](#)



THE RESISTANCE 1940-1945 DATABASE

Resistance in Belgium is the result of a pilot project run by CegeSoma/State Archives of Belgium. This platform enables research on thousands of people involved in resistance activities during the Second World War in Belgium or, in some cases, in neighbouring countries, notably France. It currently contains information on more than 42,000 individuals for whom a file related to the Intelligence and Action Services was produced by the State Security. This corresponds to about one fifth of all individuals who applied to be recognised as resistance members. [New data](#) will be added regularly.

ON THE AGENDA

YOUNG HISTORIANS HAVE THEIR SAY

On Thursday 28 and Friday 29 November, 35 recent graduates from universities across the country will present the results of their master's theses in history.

► [Read more](#)



INTERNATIONAL CHAIR OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Join us at ULB on 9 December at 18:30 for Raz Segal's inaugural lecture (in English): 'Holocaust Bystanders: a History of the Modern State at War'. Three additional classes have already been scheduled.

► [Read more](#)



International Chair of the History
of the Second World War

Opening Lecture

Monday 9th December | 6:30pm
ULB, Solbosch, R42.5.503

Holocaust Bystanders: A History of the Modern State at War

by Raz Segal

PUBLICATIONS

COLLECTION OF DIARIES AND MANUSCRIPTS

CegeSoma's collection of diaries and manuscripts (24 linear metres acquired between 1969 and 2018) has been inventoried !

► [Read more](#)



JOURNAL OF BELGIAN HISTORY

Publication of a thematic double issue (2024-3/4) on the Cold War in Belgium, a research area in full development at CegeSoma.

► [Read more](#)



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Resistance in Belgium: national database on the Resistance in Belgium.

Since 21 October 2024, the **Resistance in Belgium** platform allows anyone to research the Resistance in Belgium, thanks to a pilot project developed by **CegeSoma/ State Archives**. Given the growing interest in the history of the Resistance, it is essential today to make this information accessible to as many people as possible, and to enable everyone to carry out research on the subject. This project fits in with the missions and societal role of CegeSoma, the Belgian center of expertise in the history of 20th century conflicts, which is involved in research, public history projects, conservation and public access to archival documents.

-> **Access to the platform** : <https://resistanceinbelgium.be>

Why this project now?

As we commemorate the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Belgium, numerous initiatives on the history of the Resistance are emerging, both in academia and in civil society: Réseau Histoire de la Résistance, new Chair in the History of the Resistance (VUB), colloquia and publications.... For the first time, Resistance in Belgium will offer online access to data on the thousands of people involved in resistance activities during World War II, both in Belgium and, in some cases, in neighboring countries such as France.

What is in the database?

The platform **currently** contains information on over **42,000 individuals**. These are people for whom a file linked to the Belgian Intelligence and Action services has been produced by the State Security Service. New data, in particular those concerning the statuses of resistance fighter through the underground press, armed resistance and civilian resistance, will be added regularly. Ultimately, the database should contain information on over **200,000 people**, drawn from more than **350,000 individual files**.

ResidenceLabel	LastName	FirstName	PersonID	BirthDate	ArchiveCollectionLabel	InventoryNumber
Anderlecht	Adam	Robert	Q42454	1898-06-24	Dossiers Services de Renseignements et d'Action SRA de la Sûreté de l'Etat (BE-A0547_2674_AA1333)	143
Anderlecht	Adant	Gustave	Q42469	1885-01-22	Dossiers Services de Renseignements et d'Action SRA de la Sûreté de l'Etat (BE-A0547_2674_AA1333)	167
Anderlecht	Aghten	Gérard	Q42546	1880-11-25	Dossiers Services de Renseignements et d'Action SRA de la Sûreté de l'Etat (BE-A0547_2674_AA1333)	269

The data is structured, multilingual and readable by humans and machines alike. The platform can be used for simple searches, as well as more advanced cross-disciplinary searches, by cross-referencing hundreds of thousands of items of information according to various criteria: name, date of birth, place of residence, resistance network, or date of arrest, for example.

A project in an international context

This project is part of a worldwide trend towards open data, notably through the adoption of international standards such as **Records in Contexts** in the archive sector. These standards encourage the interconnection of data and its availability in machine-readable formats. By moving from a compartmentalized approach to open data, **CegeSoma** is playing a full part in **the digital transition in archives**.



A collaborative database

Officially launched in spring 2021, under the coordination of [Anne Chardonens](#) and [Fabrice Maerten](#) (CegeSoma), this long-term collaborative project has been nurtured by the efforts of a multi-disciplinary team (volunteers, interns, jobbers and CegeSoma staff members) supervised by a steering committee.

Our aim is to ensure the future development of the platform, despite a difficult budgetary context.

A platform accessible to all

The platform is intended for a wide audience, but it also meets the needs of research for more complex analyses. It complements the thematic portal on the Second World War in Belgium developed by CegeSoma, **Belgium WWII** (www.belgiumwwii.be). The well-documented platform features a 'Frequently Asked Questions' (FAQ) section, which guides users step-by-step through the research process and answers questions about the nature of the files and data available.

In short, Resistance in Belgium is an essential tool for anyone interested in the history of resistance fighters and the Resistance in Belgium during WWII.

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Young historians have their say!

Study day 'Young Historians' - promotion 2024

[World War I](#) [World War II](#) [Cold War](#) [Study day](#)



On Thursday November 28 and Friday November 29, CegeSoma/State Archives is pleased to invite you to its two annual study days reserved for talented young historians who recently graduated.

This year, 35 of them will be presenting the results of their research. In addition to the usual themes relating to the two great world conflicts, the Cold War and (de)colonization, these days will also open up to other issues linked to the history of Belgium and to more international dimensions.

As in previous years, the history of World War II will be widely covered, with topics as diverse as the perception of intimate relations between German soldiers and young Belgian women, Belgian soccer during the occupation, and the encounter between Canadian soldiers and the Belgian population at the Liberation in 1944, to name but a few.

Various aspects of the Cold War will also be discussed, such as atomic shelters in Belgium, Belgian socialists and the Prague Spring, and Eurocommunist discourse in Flanders from the late 1960s to the late 1980s.

On the theme of (de)colonization, we'll look at contacts between the universities of Leuven and Kinshasa, the repression of Lubumbashi students in May 1990, and the construction and deconstruction of the colonial past...

The history of migration, sexuality and cultural life will also be in the spotlight this year, with a wide variety of subjects including Spanish Republican refugees, the control of prostitution in Antwerp and, more unexpectedly, the history of the 32nd Eurovision Song Contest in Brussels...

In short, a rich program that will once again enable you to discover the very latest fields of research at our country's universities. As always, this event is open to all ... so welcome!

[-> Discover the two-day program.](#)



28/11/2024 - 09:00 to 29/11/2024 - 16:30

PRACTICAL INFORMATION :

Venue: Conference room of CegeSoma, Square de l'Aviation 29 – 1070 Brussels

Date and time: Thursday 28 November and Friday 29 November 2024 (9.00 am – 5.00 pm)

Registration mandatory until 25 November 2024 at the latest: isabelle.ponteville@arch.be or **+32 (0)2.556.92.11** – please indicate if you would like to have a small snack (sandwich, drink) at noon.

- ▶ Participation is free for students attending the presentations of the papers (! registration is mandatory).
- ▶ Fee per day: € 7.00
- ▶ Fee per day including lunch: € 15.00

Please transfer the right amount beforehand to the account of CegeSoma: IBAN: BE12 6792 0045 0092 - BIC: PCHQBEBB + communication: 28.11.2024 and/or 29.11.2024 + Last name and first name. Upon payment, you are automatically registered for the colloquium.

Feel free to bring someone with you!

Main language

Dutch

French

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[Home](#) » [Event](#) » International Chair for the History of the Second World War 2024-2025

International Chair for the History of the Second World War 2024-2025

"Holocaust Bystanders: a History of the Modern State at War" by Raz Segal

[World War II](#) [Conference](#)

International Chair for the History
of the Second World War

Opening Lecture

Monday 9th December | 6:30pm
ULB, Solbosch, R42.5.503

**Holocaust Bystanders:
A History of the
Modern State at War**

by Raz Segal

*Associate Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies and
Endowed Professor in the Study of Modern Genocide at Stockton University*

The inaugural lesson will be followed by three other lessons and a photo exhibition.
For more information, visit phisoc.ulb.be

For its twelfth edition, the International Chair for the History of the Second World War at the Université Libre de Bruxelles, in partnership with CegeSoma, will welcome **Raz Segal** in December 2024. Raz Segal is an Associate Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies and the Endowed Professor in the Study of Modern Genocide at Stockton University.

The title of his opening lecture, scheduled for **December 9, 2024, at 6:30 pm** in Auditorium R42.5.503 (DRION), is: **"Holocaust Bystanders: A History of the Modern State at War."**

The opening lecture will be followed by the presentation of the Baron Velge Award, a reception, and a photo exhibition in the Coin Culture (Av. Paul Héger, Building U, ULB, Faculty of Philosophy & Social Sciences).



Raz Segal teaches Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Stockton University,



New Jersey. He studied at Tel Aviv University and earned his PhD at Clark University. His major monograph, « « Genocide in the Carpathians: War, Social Breakdown, and Mass Violence, 1914-1945 », was published by Stanford University Press in 2016 and reissued in paperback in 2020.

In this groundbreaking study, Segal examines the fate of the Jewish population in Subcarpathian Rus within the broader context of minority policies in the region from 1914 to 1945, under Habsburg, Czechoslovak, and Hungarian rule. The region was annexed by the Soviet Union in 1945 and is now part of Ukraine. His research demonstrates that the genocide of the Jews was part of a larger European history, thereby shifting existing interpretive paradigms.

Raz Segal is currently researching other regions in Southeast Europe, particularly western Thrace under Bulgarian rule during World War II. This work is part of a book project on the distortion, weaponization, and mobilization of Holocaust history in the perpetuation of white supremacy and state violence, with a focus on Israel's actions against Palestinians from the 1948 Nakba to the ongoing genocidal assaults on Gaza.

(*) This Chair is being organized for the twelfth time by ULB's Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences, thanks to the generosity of the late Baron Jean-Charles Velge, who passed away on May 29, 2010, and wished to honor the memory of Jean Vanwelkenhuyzen, historian of the Second World War and former director of the Centre de Recherches et d'Etudes historiques de la Seconde Guerre mondiale, now CegeSoma.



09/12/2024 - 18:30

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Where : Auditorium R42.5.503 (DRION) - ULB - Solbosch

When : Monday 9 December 2024 at 6:30PM

Free admission - Registration requested : [Online Form](#)

ULB Map - Access : [Campus du SOLBOSCH](#)

INFORMATIONS : phisoc.ulb.be

CONTACT : com.phisoc@ulb.be

The inaugural lesson will be followed by three other lessons :

-> Tuesday 10 December, 6PM – R42.5.503 : Genocide in the Carpathians: Rethinking Holocaust Studies through a Regional History.

-> Wednesday 11 December, 6PM - R42.5.503 : Stuck in the Twentieth Century: State Violence in the Era of Global Holocaust Memory.

-> Thursday 12 December, 6PM - R42.5.503 : Israel's Attack on Gaza: The Question of Genocide, and the Future of Holocaust and Genocide Studies in Question.

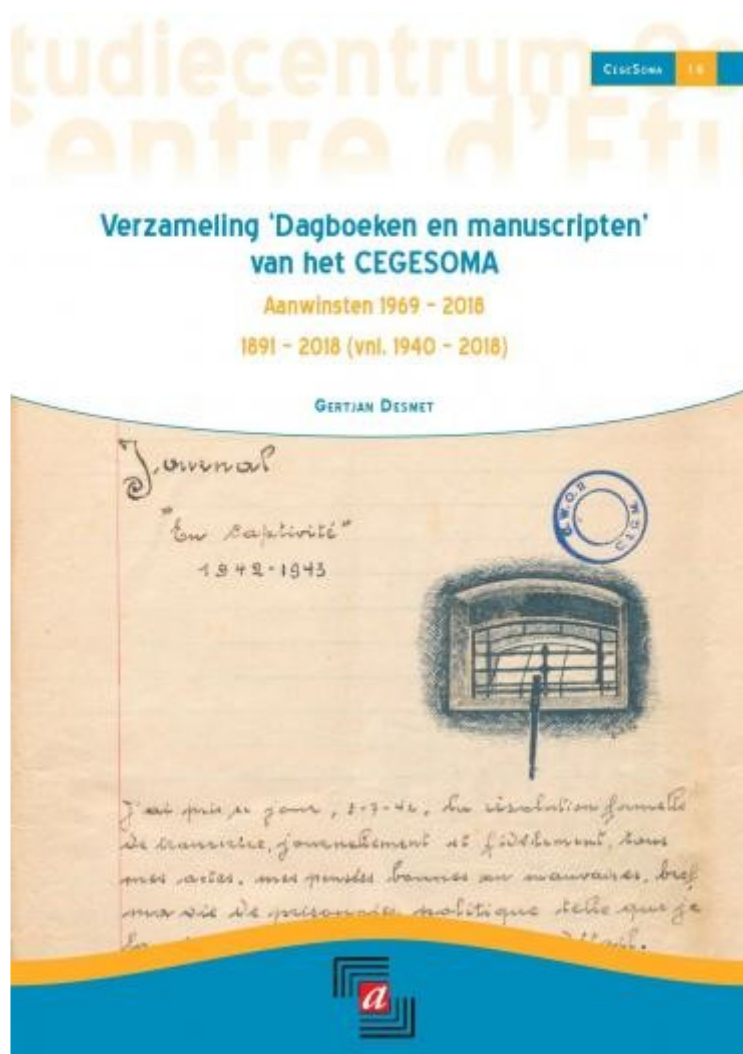
Main language

English

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[Home](#) » [News](#) » New inventory! CegeSoma's 'Diaries and Manuscripts' Collection.

New inventory! CegeSoma's 'Diaries and Manuscripts' Collection.



The history of the 'Diaries and Manuscripts' Collection dates back to the early days of CegeSoma. The very first Communications of the then NSGWO/CREHSGM mention the creation of "a special fund" for diaries, under the responsibility of then researcher José Gotovitch. The collected items were until recently known as the JPs (for journaux personnels) or, after 1999, the Abs.

However, the collection of "diaries" has always functioned as a particularly heterogeneous residual series: indeed, it also included memoirs, accounts and other individual records, as well as publications, ephemera, printed websites and documentation folders. Moreover, from the beginning it was the practice to take items from other archives managed by CegeSoma (including that of the service itself) and classify them in the collection, because of their form or content.

The collection, which contains the pieces acquired between 1969 and 2018, is now described completely and in a full-fledged inventory for the first time. It has been completely rearranged. The 2233 inventory numbers (24 linear meters in total) fall into four major sections:

1. Among the records formed by private individuals and organizations we find the actual diaries (300 nos.). This category is broadly defined and includes, for example, transcripts, transcriptions and edited versions. This

section also contains memoirs and accounts (500 nos.), all kinds of historiographical, journalistic or artistic writings (200 nos.) as well as the most diverse loose records (300 nos.).

2. The second section contains documents from the institutional archives of the Center itself (150 nos.). These are mostly incoming letters, often with attachments, in which someone narrates specific self-experienced facts.
3. The documentation section (100 nos.) is, as expected, very heterogeneous. It contains, among other things, excerpts from books and periodicals, folders of clippings and documents once put together because the author wished to inform himself on a certain topic.
4. The last section contains exclusively published works (600 nos.): besides a few brochures, pamphlets or exhibition leaflets, these are mainly memoirs (self-published or otherwise), genealogies, special editions and historical works.

The collection is closed today. Since 2018, diaries or manuscripts of memoirs have been classified like other loose records in a new "Collection of records of private individuals". Self-published works are, of course, in the library collection, and institutional archives remain intact.

The inventory, which replaces previous descriptions in the Pallas catalog, [can be found through our search engine Search](#) and is [also available as a download](#). Most of the items in the collection can be freely accessed.

P.S. Do you also own archival documents (photos, letters, diaries, documents of your association, ...) that have a link with the conflicts of the 20th century? Would you like them to be preserved for future generations? [Please contact us!](#)

Other news

["Archive Inventories" search engine now available in AGATHA](#)

[EHRI Becomes an ERIC to Secure the Future of Holocaust Research](#)

[Belgium WWII: local resistance, the Battle of the Bulge and the administration of occupied Belgium](#)

[Wanted: Dutch-speaking Metis witnesses](#)

[The SADO Photographic Archive: A Magnificent Addition to CegeSoma's Collections!](#)

[Closure of the CegeSoma reading room](#)

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[Young Historians' Days - Class of 2024](#)

[Forced farewell to a colleague](#)

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[JBH : new publication \(2024/3-4\)](#)

[A new inventory! The archives of journalist Alain de Prelle de la Nieppe.](#)



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JBH : new publication (2024/3-4)

Cold War theme issue



The new double issue (No. 3-4) of the Journal of Belgian History is a thematic publication on the Cold War in Belgium, with guest editors Michael Auwers (CegeSoma/State Archives) and Widukind De Ridder (KU Leuven; CegeSoma/State Archives), a further step in the development of Cold War research at CegeSoma.

Next to a historiographical introduction, the issue includes eight articles.

Giles Scott-Smith (University of Leiden, Netherlands) places the Belgian case in an international framework, **Thomas Briamont** (University of Liège) presents his research on the role of the Communist Party of Belgium in commercial relations between East and West, doctoral researcher **Manuel Herrera Crespo** (KADOC-KU Leuven) writes an article on Belgian-Romanian relations from 1984 to 1990, **Anse De Weerdt** (UAntwerpen) looks at Belgian poet and journalist Yvonne Sterk and her role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and **Jan van der Fraenen** (War Heritage Institute) explores Belgian-German relations in the Belgian zone of occupation in West Germany from 1945 to 1955. Guest editor **Michael Auwers** also authors an article on the reaction of the local press in the Kempen region to the arrival of British military bases, then **Idesbald Goddeeris** (KU Leuven) presents his new research, based on the archives of Polish communist intelligence. The final article by guest editors **Widukind De Ridder**, **Dirk**

Luyten (CegeSoma/State Archives) and **Bart Kerremans** (KU Leuven) is part of the FED-tWIN project BELCOWAR and examines the impact of export restrictions by the USA on Belgium's trade with Eastern Europe. Finally, this issue also contains a detailed review section with discussions of the latest publications on contemporary Belgian history.

This issue is for sale at €25.00 (excluding postage) and can be ordered from Hilde Keppens, CegeSoma, Aviation Square 29, 1070 Brussels, +32 2/556 92 11 - hilde.keppens@arch.be.

Other news

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