

ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER

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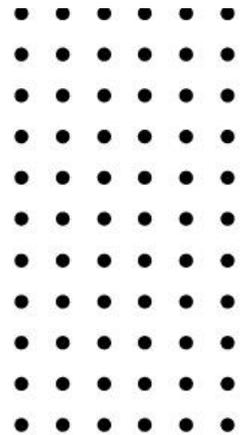
Editor: Saara Matala, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden.

If you have something to announce, please mail to newsletter@icohtec.org.

CALL FOR PAPERS:

INTERDEPENDENCIES

FROM LOCAL MICROSTORIES TO GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON THE HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY



DEADLINE FOR
SUBMISSIONS:

March 1



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1 Icohtec News

1.1 ICOHTEC 50th Conference in Estonia, August 14-18, 2023. DL Extended.

The Icohtec 50th Conference will be organized by [Tallinn University of Technology](#) and [the University of Tartu](#), August 14-18, 2023 with the theme “Interdependencies. From Local microstories to global perspectives on the history of technology”.

Please note, that the DL for paper submission is extended and is **1 March 2023**.

Kranzberg lecture will be delivered by [Mikael Hård](#)

For more information and submission system, follow [this link](#).



View of Tallinn from St. Olaf's church, by Diego Delso, [CC-BY-SA](#). *Wikimedia commons*.

Destination Estonia

Estonia is located in the Gulf of Finland by the Baltic Sea. In addition to international flights to Tallinn, it can also be reached by buses from Central Europe and ferries from Finland and Sweden. More information about Estonia, and more specifically on Tallinn and Tartu, as travelling destinations can be found in the following sites:

Visit Estonia central site, Estonia as a traveling destination: <https://www.visitestonia.com/en>

Estonia, destination for conferences <https://www.ecb.ee/destination/>

Visit Tallinn: <https://www.visittallinn.ee/eng/visitor>

Visit Tartu: <https://visittartu.com/>

1.2 Icohtec Membership

As a friendly reminder, please pay your annual fees to our account at: Commerzbank Bochum, “ICOHTEC“ at Commerzbank Bochum (Husemannplatz 3-4, D-44787 Bochum, Germany): IBAN: DE44 4304 0036 0390 2590 00; BIC: COBADEFFXXX. Thank you for your support!

Please send in the form on the last page of the Newsletter about your payment and renewed membership to the Treasurer Viktor Pál, viktor.paal(at)gmail.com and Stefan Poser, President of ICOHTEC, stefan.poser(at)kit.edu, in order to update our list of members.

2 Conferences

2.1 CFP for Icohtec Conference Session on Technology-based Appropriation of the Cityscape

DL for submission **20 February 2023**.

The session [at the 50th Symposium of ICOHTEC](#) at Tallinn and Tartu, Estonia, aims to compare different paths appropriating the built environment of cities in historical and transnational perspective. Such appropriations are more or less linked to leisure activities – having 19th century’s flaneurs or (mostly) 20th century’s tourists in mind as well as visitors of playgrounds, theaters, concert halls, cinemas, or sportive events. Sometimes these activities were supported by city planning. The recent development employing serious games as tools of participation bridges the gap between playing and shaping the built environment. The urban space motivated especially members of younger generations to meet for different activities such as playing music, dancing, or painting in the streets, switching gas lanterns on and off, or climbing and skating, enriched by urban surfaces. Freedom of life in cities enabled inhabitants conducting quite different technology-based activities. Some of them were clearly dangerous, some beyond what was tolerated by societies, others were just subversive games. Train-surfing has gained influence within the last decades as well as wild races by cars or motorbikes. The development of graffiti gives an example illustrating how much the perception of such activities has changed within the last 50 years. Whereas it was regarded as ugly and disfiguring the city by many persons in the beginning, sprayers have got some support in the 1970s already, and graffiti are exhibited in museums nowadays. In the long run, graffiti shaped cities to an increasing degree.

- How are urban leisure activities influenced by the built environment? And vice versa: to which degree is the development of cities influenced by these activities?
- Are there typical periods of urban leisure's role in shaping cities?
- Does a transnational approach open different levels of comparison?

Contributions to methodological questions are welcome as well as case studies.

Please contact me or send in a proposal to stefan.poser (at) kit.edu until **20 February 2023**.

Session organiser: Stefan Poser, President of ICOHTEC

2.2 CFP for a session on innovations in EURHO 2023 in Cluj-Napoca, Romania 11-14 Sept 2023

DL for paper proposals: **January 29 2023**

A call of paper to take part in a session about innovation, technological changes and agricultural knowledge in 20th century titled: **"Rethinking innovation, technological changes, and global agricultural knowledge circulations in 20th century"**.

The session would be held as a part of [Rural History Conference](#) in Cluj-Napoca, Romania from 11 to 14 September 2023.

The SDGs of the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations, the EU Farm to Fork strategy within the Green Deal, the new CAP after 2020, or the programs of the rural Renaissance that seek more sustainable futures invite humanities and social science scholars to rethink categories behind the innovation, technological changes and knowledge circulation and the agricultural technologies transfers in 20th century.

The industrial agricultural development model implemented post-1945 has generated a series of environmental and economic problems that link social inequality with agro-ecological degradation and the loss of cultural heritage, among others. The culture of innovation "innovate or die", knowledge circulation and agricultural technologies transfers from global north to global south have been at the centre of these changes. However, many people are beginning to believe that indefinite economic growth, and the old recipes of innovation and technological change no longer work. The new "green capitalism" after the 1980s seems not to have substantially changed either. For every problem, a technological solution is presupposed. However, low farm incomes, deepening gender gaps, and new waves of out-migration and rural depopulation have affected, and profoundly affect, the economic,

social, and cultural well-being of rural communities. Moreover, many attempts to address the environmental impacts of these technological changes with public policies addressed from a sectoral rather than a systemic approach, such as those aimed at controlling land and water pollution with nitrates, or GHG emissions, ended up aggravating the socioeconomic difficulties of small farmers and rural communities.

We propose a session with a systemic approach to agricultural innovation in the 20th century, involving research across history and the social sciences. The main aim of this session is that of building a dialogue between the historians and social scientist in agrarian/rural studies, reflecting on the future possibilities of agricultural innovation based on a historical assessment of the past trajectories. We welcome proposal from several research areas such as: Rural History; Environmental History; Economic History; Business History; Social History; History of Technology; Science, Technology and Society Studies (STS studies); Degrowth studies; (Feminist) Political Ecology; Anthropology, Sociology or Economics.

We welcome proposals that invite to debate on the plural past and the plural future of agriculture, the resistance of alternative knowledge, resistant technologies in the face of the paradigm of modernization, and the circulation of knowledge that breaks the classic transfer paradigm from the global north to the south in 20th century.

For [more information and paper submissions](http://hiphi.ubbcluj.ro/rural/call-for-papers/), follow the link: <http://hiphi.ubbcluj.ro/rural/call-for-papers/>

A paper proposal must include a title, the full name and affiliation of the author (and co-authors), an abstract (max. 2000 characters) which should include the key points of the research, its scope, and its approach.

Panel-Organizer:

Bruno Esperante, Assistant Professor

Bruno.esperante@outlook.com

Department of Applied Economics, Structure and History. Complutense University of Madrid (UCM)

2.3 BSHS Postgraduate Conference 2023, University of Oxford March 30- April 1, 2+23

DL: Monday **January 30, 2023.**

The call for papers for the 2023 [British Society for the History of Science](#) Postgraduate Conference is now open.

Given the ongoing Covid-19 situation in the UK and abroad, we have chosen to hold a hybrid conference. The in-person event will be held at the **University of Oxford**, with all sessions also being streamed virtually over Zoom. The conference will take place from **Thursday 30th March to Saturday 1st April.**

We welcome papers from postgraduate students or ECRs working in any area of the history of science, technology and medicine, in any period of history, and in any geographical area. We are committed to providing a truly international forum for scholarly discussion and exchange and encourage graduate students from any nationality to apply.

Papers will be 20 minutes long and followed by a discussion with panel speakers and audience members. Joint submissions for three-person panels are also welcome.

We invite you to submit a title and abstract of up to 250 words with your name, affiliation, and contact details. For joint submissions, we require that an additional 100-word panel abstract be submitted. Please also indicate in your application if you wish to attend in-person or virtually. The deadline for applications is Monday 30th January 2023. We will notify applicants by the week beginning 20th February 2023 regarding the status of their application.

Applications should be sent to the organising committee at: pgconference@bshs.org.uk

For the latest news about the event follow us on Twitter [@BSHSPostgrads](#)

2.4 1st International Congress on Public Works Heritage and Civil Engineering, Sep 26- 29.

DL for submissions: **March 15, 2023.**

Abstracts for the 1st [International Congress on Public Works Heritage and Civil Engineering](#) on the theme **Building landscape and encouraging tourism** can be submitted until 15 March.

The congress is organised by the Spanish Council for Civil Engineers and its section in Castile-La Mancha. It will be held from 26 to 29 September 2023 in **Cuenca, Toledo and Madrid**.

Thematic areas include:

1. Characterisation of the landscape and public works heritage.
2. Dissemination, tourism, education and demographic challenge.
3. Intervention and rehabilitation strategies.
4. Ibero-American Heritage, which will cover specifically with a more transversal approach the Civil Engineering heritage in these countries.
5. Innovation and new technologies. Digital Twins.

For more information, please visit the [conference website](#):

<https://www.congresopatrimoniodeobrapublica.es/?lang=en>

2.5 CFP: European Association for Urban History (EAUH) September 4-7 2024

Submission DL: **March 15, 2023**.

The sixteenth conference of the euro (EAUH) will take place in Ostrava, Czech Republic, from 4 to 7 September 2024.

In 2024 the theme of the European Association for Urban History Conference will be “**Cities at the Boundaries**”; however, the EAUH 2024 Conference will also be open to all topics and research aspects from the field of urban history.

Therefore, the European Association for Urban History invites scholars to discuss the boundaries of social and economic development related to cities and urban agglomeration, as well as a wide array of topics related to cities that lay on geographic-, state-, as well as other borders. The EAUH 2024 specifically welcomes all topics related to the environmental problems and sustainable development of cities, such as post-industrial transformation, modernization of public infrastructure, and social housing.

The EAUH 2024 conference is also an excellent opportunity to discuss the current topics of cultural-, and industrial heritage as well as its preservation and the renewal of cities, for example, the impact of structural change and armed conflicts. The Local Organizing Committee would also like to invite historians of medieval-, and modern urban history to discuss current themes using multidisciplinary and comparative approaches.

In 2012 Prague hosted an EAUH Conference for the first time in the Czech Republic. Thus, it is the privilege of the city of Ostrava and the University of Ostrava to be the second host for an EAUH Conference in Czechia.

In the 19th and 20th centuries, Ostrava developed into one of the most important centers for coal mining and metallurgy in Central Europe. In the past decades, the Ostrava region has undergone a successful economic transformation and presently is an essential economic-, cultural and educational on Czech Republic's borders with Slovakia and Poland. Ostrava city's history and agglomeration represent a unique path of urbanization and industrialization. It offers unique industrial heritage sites and modern museums for the curious visitor.

The Local Organizing Committee kindly invites you to explore the conference website, which provides information related to the scientific content of the conference as well as practical information about traveling to Ostrava and finding appropriate accommodation.

Proposals

Please note that each section must have one organizer and at least one co-organizer. Each must be from a different institution. The organizer and co-organizer, or co-organizers of the session, cannot have their own post in their session with the exception of the round table.

- Each Main Session should consist of at least 6 paper presentations. (2 time slots, 6-10 papers).
- Each Specialist Session should consist of at least 3 paper presentations. (1 time slot, 3-5 papers).
- Each Round Table should consist of at least three commentators/discussants (1 time slot).

Panel proposals will be assessed by the International Committee which will accept or refuse them or suggest modifications.

For [submissions and registrations, and more information](https://aisuinternational.org/en/the-call-for-sessions-eauh-2024-deadline-march-15-2023/), visit the conference website: <https://aisuinternational.org/en/the-call-for-sessions-eauh-2024-deadline-march-15-2023/>

2.6 CFP: Towards an Environmental History of the Oil Industry, LMU Munich, 15–16 June 2023

Organizers: Odinn Melsted, Cyrus Mody, and Simone Schleper (Maastricht University), Christof Mauch (Rachel Carson Center)

Deadlines: 20 February 2023 for proposals; 26 May 2023 for precirculated papers

With accusations against the international oil industry’s contribution to environmental degradation and anthropogenic climate change on the rise, oil companies have reacted by advertising their investments in renewables, pollution control, and more recently “net-zero” efforts. Among concerned publics like environmental activists, however, these counter-narratives are often perceived as “greenwashing”—i.e., superficial efforts intended to confuse rather than sincere steps toward needed change.

Suspicious about the effectiveness and sincerity of Big Oil’s environmental mitigation efforts have a long history. Yet, some oil companies have been at the forefront of alternative energy development, such as ARCO Solar, Scallop Nuclear, or Union Geothermal. In the late 1970s, Exxon and Schlumberger even contributed to the first rechargeable lithium-ion battery, arguably a green transport technology. Several oil actors have shaped the environmental movement itself, such as Maurice Strong, the oilman who chaired the United Nations’ first environmental conference in 1972 and became first director of the UN Environment Program. Were all those activities simply “greenwashing” as we now understand that term? Or do we need to historicize this concept and differentiate between greenwashing campaigns and genuine efforts by oil companies?

Bringing together scholars working on various aspects of oil (and gas) and environmental histories—

black and green—this workshop aims to unpack the concept of “greenwashing.” It aims to engage with the existing literature on the environmental history of oil, while opening future directions for research collaborations on the environmental strategies pursued by oil companies themselves. The workshop is jointly run by the NWO-funded Vici project “Managing Scarcity and Sustainability: The Oil Industry, Environmentalism and Alternative Energy in the Age of Scarcity, 1968–1986” (PI Cyrus Mody, Maastricht University) and the [Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich](#).

Paper topics include (but are not limited to):

- Regulation and mitigation: atmospheric and ecosystem pollution by wells/pipelines/tankers/refineries/gas stations; industry measures to deal with and/or prevent environmental impact; flaring vs. utilization of natural gas in a historical perspective; oil/gas conservation measures and regulations.
- Front-stage and back-stage negotiations: struggles (and more positive engagement) with environmental agencies, internal/external environmental impact studies; public vs. internal positions on environmental problems like photochemical smog, acid rain, or anthropogenic climate change, and associated debates/policies.
- Coalitions and disputes: conflicts with citizens/communities/organizations/authorities over exploration/drilling/pipelines in non-developed or protected areas; oil industry confrontation/cooperation on environmental issues; oil entrepreneurs funding environmental organizations; “leave-it-in-the-ground” conflicts in historical perspective.
- Lobby and campaigns: environmental public relations and greenwashing campaigns; industry funding of nature conservation or other environmental philanthropy.
- Transition and renewal: oil industry investments in alternative/renewable energy; research

on alternative fuels or battery technology; oil industry outlooks and transition scenarios.

We welcome proposals that engage with one or more of the above themes. We invite scholars of all ranks, including PhD students. Contributions should relate to the activities of specific international oil/gas companies, related organizations (such as OPEC or CONCAWE), or the industry as a whole. We especially welcome papers with a focus on the Global South or other regions that have received less attention in the oil/environmental history literatures. The workshop will be held in person in Munich over two days on 15–16 June 2023. Invited participants will be asked to submit a short discussion paper (3.000–5.000 words) for precirculation prior to the workshop. Accommodation and travel expenses will be covered by the workshop organizers. We strongly encourage train travel where possible; international air travel costs within reasonable means will also be reimbursed. We seek to publish an edited volume or special issue based on the workshop papers.

Please send proposals with an abstract of 300–350 words and a short CV (in a single PDF file) to events@rcc.lmu.de **by 20 February 2023**.

For further information or practical questions, please contact either Odinn Melsted (o.melsted@maastrichtuniversity.nl) or Cyrus Mody (c.mody@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

3 Awards

3.1 CFA: Royal Society Publishing Notes and Records Essay Award

DL: 28th February 2023

Notes and Records reports on current research and archival activities throughout the field of history of science, technology and medicine. The Essay Award is open to researchers in the history of science who have completed a postgraduate degree within the last five years. The previously unpublished essay of up

to 12,000 words should be based on original research and it may relate to any aspect of the history of science, technology and medicine in any period. Download [the flyer](#) for more information or [watch the video](#) for inspiration.

The winning entry is chosen using the journal's standard criteria for selection (i.e. excellence and interest to a wide audience) and will be published in the journal.

The 2021 Essay Award Fiona Amery for her entry [The Disputed Sound of the Aurora Borealis: Sensing Liminal Noise During the First and Second International Polar Years, 1882-3 and 1932-3.](#)

The award consists of:

A cash prize of £500

A runner-up prize of £250

Three honourable mentions will each receive £100

Publication of the winning entry in Notes and Records

All winners will receive a one year online subscription to *Notes and Records*

Timetable

Deadline for submission of an essay is **28th February 2023**

Terms and conditions

This award is organised by The Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge (known simply as 'The Royal Society') of 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG, registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales under number 207043.

How to enter

The opening date for entries is 00.01 on 1 September 2022. The closing date of the prize draw is 23.59 on 28 February 2023. Entries received after this time will not be accepted.

The essay must be submitted electronically to notes@royalsociety.org

The award is free to enter and no purchase is necessary.

The essay should be no more than 12,000 words in length, including references, and should reflect the style guidelines of the journal.

The submission must be accompanied by a covering message confirming the postgraduate degree title and where and when it was awarded.

Eligibility

The award is open to all researchers in the history of science who have completed a postgraduate degree within the last five years, except employees of the Royal Society, their families, agents or any third party directly associated with administration of the award.

In entering the award, you confirm that you are eligible to do so and eligible to claim any prize you may win. The Royal Society may require you to provide proof that you are eligible to enter the award.

The essay should not be under consideration for publication elsewhere. It must be written in English.

Only one entry per person is permitted.

For [more information](https://royalsocietypublishing.org/rsnr/essay-award), visit: <https://royalsocietypublishing.org/rsnr/essay-award>

4 Positions

4.1 PhD position in the History of Digital History

DL for applications: **13 February 2023**

The Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH) is looking for motivated and qualified candidates with an interest in the **history of digital history** to develop, with our help, an application for an individual [AFR PhD grant](#) (Luxemburg National Research Fund).

The doctoral project would take place within the framework of a new research project & network about the history of digital humanities that is currently being developed by [Dr. Gerben Zaagsma](#) (C²DH) and [Prof. dr. Julianne Nyhan](#) (Technische Universität Darmstadt/ University College London).

We are interested in applicants who seek to explore the nexus between (digital) technology and changing modes of historical knowledge production. Possible topics include but are not not limited to:

- The early beginnings of historical computing in the 1950s and 1960s or humanities research from this period or before that integrated algorithmic research methods or thinking, not necessarily using machines.
- The development of historical computing in the Eastern bloc.
- The international Association for History and Computing (1986-2005)

If selected for an AFR, the PhD candidate will be offered a **work contract (up to 4 years)** at the University of Luxemburg and will be jointly supervised by Dr. Zaagsma and Prof. Nyhan.

Your profile

- Candidates should have (or expect to achieve) a Master degree in History, Digital History or Humanities, or a related field in the Humanities
- Good verbal communication and academic writing skills in English;
- Linguistic skills corresponding to your chosen topic (German, Russian, others).
- Enthusiasm for research and critical thinking.

We actively encourage applicants from underrepresented social, economic, and cultural backgrounds to apply, as we strongly believe that an intercultural and diverse team strengthens the research and practice of digital history.

Successful AFR applicants will be offered:

- An exciting multi-disciplinary and international research environment with ample opportunities to exchange with scholars at the University of Luxembourg;
- A highly competitive salary for a full-time PhD position for a period of maximum 4 consecutive years (3+1 years);
- A package of mentoring, training and career development as well as access to a wide range of courses and seminars offered by the University of Luxembourg. A close connection with the Chair of Humanities Data Science and Methodology, TU Darmstadt will be encouraged, including the opportunity to actively participate in the research-related events and activities of the Chair, as mutually agreeable.

- Doctoral candidates are encouraged to actively engage in disciplinary, interdisciplinary as well as transferable skills trainings and to develop their scientific profile and network through participation in international conferences.

About the University of Luxembourg and the C²DH

Founded in 2003, the University of Luxembourg is the only public university of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. Multilingual, international and research-oriented, it is also a modern institution with a personal atmosphere. 1,420 academic staff (including 950 doctoral candidates) supporting 268 professors, assistant professors and lecturers in their teaching. The academic staff originates from 94 different countries, and the 6,783 students from 130 different countries.

The Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH) is the University of Luxembourg's third interdisciplinary research centre, focusing on high-quality research, analysis and public dissemination in the field of contemporary Luxembourgish and European history. It promotes an interdisciplinary approach with a particular focus on new digital methods and tools for historical research and teaching.

How to apply?

Prepare your complete application including:

- a cover letter including your personal motivation for the PhD project;
- a CV (incl. links to publications and/or previous projects);
- a project description for your PhD project (max. 2 pages) that includes the research area, and objectives.

Please send your application to gerben.zaagsma@uni.lu, whom you can also contact for questions.

The deadline for applications: **13 February 2023** at midnight CET (Luxembourg time) and candidates will be notified of the outcome of their application by **22 February**. The deadline for submitting the AFR grant applications is **8 March 2023**. The applicants will be informed by July 2023 whether the application has been accepted for funding.

Form for annual membership renewals / registration of new members



Annual membership includes subscription to ICOHTEC's refereed annual journal ICON, access to all back issues of ICON in electronic form via the ICOHTEC website, a monthly Newsletter, and special registration rates at the annual ICOHTEC symposium.

I wish to *renew my membership/* *to become a new member in ICOHTEC. (Tick below the appropriate description/rate):*

- An individual. Rate: (40€ or 40 \$ or equivalent) per year*
- A student. Rate: (40 € or 40 \$ or equivalent for two years)*
- An institution. Rate: (75 € or 100 \$ or equivalent) per year*
- A library. Rate: (Europe: 36 €,Oversees 39 € or 52 \$) per year*

Tick the years of membership to be paid: **2022** **2023** **2024** **2025**

I submit the total amount: _____
Your first name and surname: _____
Email: _____
Postal address: _____
Country: _____

Tick the method of your payment:

Through international money transfer: Make international money transfer to:
"ICOHTEC" at Commerzbank Bochum (Husemannplatz 3-4, D-44787 Bochum, Germany):
IBAN:DE44 4304003603902590 00; BIC: COBADEFFXXX

Through a cheque. Send the check with the appropriate sum made out to "ICOHTEC" and send to:
Stefan Poser, Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT), Department für Geschichte, Neuer Zirkel 3, D-76131 Karlsruhe,
GERMANY

After filling the form, please send by email to Viktor Pál, ICOHTEC Treasurer at viktor.paal@gmail.com and to Stefan Poser, President of ICOHTEC at stefan.poser@kit.edu