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## Rapport d'activité Activity Report

2021-2022

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Pierre du Bois

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## Mot de la Présidente



Voici le septième rapport d'activité de la Fondation Pierre du Bois pour l'histoire du temps présent. La Fondation vise à susciter des recherches sur l'histoire du temps présent et à soutenir des chercheurs et des étudiants travaillant dans ce domaine. Elle a été créée en 2008 suite à la disparition de mon mari, Pierre du Bois, qui nous a quittés, à 64 ans, le 23 juin 2007, prématurément, infiniment douloureusement. Pierre du Bois était historien et, pendant ses quinze dernières années, professeur d'histoire et politique internationales à l'Institut de hautes études internationales à Genève, spécialiste de l'intégration européenne et des relations internationales contemporaines. Passionné par l'histoire du temps présent, Pierre du Bois voulait créer cette Fondation et avait, depuis fort longtemps déjà, formulé ses objectifs. Sa disparition prématurée l'a empêché de réaliser lui-même ce vœu.

Ce septième rapport rend compte des activités de la Fondation en 2021 et 2022. Si en 2020, les activités ont subi un certain impact des restrictions dues à la pandémie de Covid-19, elles se sont déroulées tout à fait normalement en 2021 et 2022. Conséquence – positive – de la pandémie, les colloques ont eu lieu en version hybride, c'est-à-dire en présentiel et par voie électronique, et ont ainsi attiré un public plus large et plus international que précédemment. En 2021 nous avons lancé une nouvelle initiative, ensemble avec le département d'Histoire et politique internationales du Geneva Graduate Institute, à savoir un Atelier (workshop) Pierre du Bois organisé par et pour des doctorants, afin de leur permettre d'approfondir leurs connaissances sur des sujets liés à leur thèse de doctorat et de mieux faire connaître leur travail à l'extérieur. Poursuivie en 2022, cette initiative a rencontré un vif succès. Enfin, la publication des «papiers d'actualité», rédigés en partie par nos chercheurs associés, se poursuit.

En 2021, le Professeur Michael Goebel, le titulaire de la Chaire Pierre du Bois «L'Europe et le monde» à l'Institut, a quitté Genève pour des raisons personnelles et est retourné à la Freie Universität de Berlin où il occupe la position de Professeur Einstein d'histoire globale. Au nom de la Fondation j'adresse nos plus profonds remerciements au Professeur Goebel dont nous regrettons vivement le départ: non seulement il a été le premier

titulaire de cette Chaire créée en 2018 en partenariat avec l'Institut, mais il a merveilleusement rempli ses fonctions, avec enthousiasme, compétence, brio et succès. Il a tracé la voie que, je l'espère, ses successeurs vont suivre. Michael reste un ami de la Fondation, un ami tout court, nous lui souhaitons tout le bonheur du monde, et je suis certaine que nos chemins continueront de se croiser à l'avenir. La procédure pour sa succession à l'Institut suit son cours.

Comme toujours, ma reconnaissance va à l'Institut, notre principal partenaire: à sa Directrice, la Professeure Marie-Laure Salles, aux professeurs du département d'Histoire et politique internationales, aux doctorants et étudiants, à l'ensemble du personnel, aux chercheurs associés, ceux qui ont connu Pierre autrefois et les autres, qui nous rejoignent petit à petit.

Je voudrais aussi exprimer ma profonde gratitude envers le Conseil de Fondation: présent constamment à mes côtés avec ténacité, une vision long-terme, un grand sens de l'initiative, beaucoup de sagesse et d'amitié, il guide la Fondation – et moi-même – de main ferme. Ensemble, nous nous réjouissons de fêter en 2023-2024, l'anniversaire des quinze ans de la Fondation Pierre du Bois!

Nous vous y donnons rendez-vous, chers amis de la Fondation, et nous réjouissons de continuer la conversation avec vous, comme Pierre du Bois aurait aimé dire !...

*Irina du Bois*

## From the President

This is the seventh Activity Report of the Pierre du Bois Foundation for Current History. The Foundation's mission is to stimulate research in current history and to support researchers and students in this field. It was established in 2008 and bears the name of my husband, Pierre du Bois, who left us prematurely at the age of 64, to our immense sadness, on 23 June 2007. Pierre du Bois was a historian and, for the last 15 years of his life, Professor of International History and Politics at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva. He was a specialist in European integration and contemporary International Relations. Passionate about current history, Pierre du Bois wished to create this Foundation and had already outlined its objectives long ago. Due to his premature passing, he was unable to realize these objectives himself.

This seventh report covers the Foundation's activities in 2021 and 2022. If in 2020, the Foundation's activities were somewhat impacted by Covid-19 restrictions, in 2021 and 2022, they returned to their previous rhythm. As a – positive – consequence of the pandemic, the conferences were conducted in a hybrid format, i.e. both in person and online, and thus attracted a larger and more international audience than in previous years. In 2021, we launched a new initiative in partnership with the International History and Politics department at the Geneva Graduate Institute: a Pierre du Bois doctoral workshop,

organized by and for PhD candidates, offering them an opportunity to present their work externally as well as to broaden their knowledge on subjects related to their dissertation. Repeated in 2022, the initiative was a resounding success. Finally, the "Current Affairs in Perspective" papers, often written by our Research Associates, continue to be published.

In 2021, Professor Michael Goebel, Pierre du Bois Chair "Europe and the World" at the Graduate Institute, left Geneva for personal reasons and returned to Freie Universität Berlin, where he is Einstein Professor of Global History. We deeply regret his departure and, in the name of the Foundation, I send Professor Goebel our heartfelt thanks: not only was he the first holder of this Chair established in 2018 in partnership with the Graduate Institute, he also did his job wonderfully: with enthusiasm and proficiency; with verve and success. He has paved a way that, I hope, will be followed by his successors. Michael remains a friend of the Foundation as well as a personal friend and we wish him every success – I have no doubt that our paths will cross again in the future. At the Geneva Graduate Institute, a procedure is currently underway to appoint his successor. As always, I am grateful to our principal partner, the Geneva Graduate Institute: to the Director, Professor Marie-Laure Salles, to the professors in the International History and Politics department, to the students and PhD candidates, to the staff and to the Research Associates – both

those who once knew Pierre and those who have joined us more recently.

I would also like to express my deep gratitude to the Foundation Board: always at my side with tenacity and vision, initiative and a good deal of wisdom and friendship, it steers the Foundation – as well as myself – with a firm hand. Together, we look forward to celebrating in 2023-2024 the Pierre du Bois Foundation's 15th anniversary.

We invite you to join us then, dear friends of the Foundation, and we look forward to continuing the conversation, as Pierre du Bois would have liked to say!...

*Irina du Bois*

## LA CHAIRE PIERRE DU BOIS

### PIERRE DU BOIS CHAIR

*Since its inception in September 2018, fortuitously coinciding with the Foundation's tenth anniversary, Professor Michael Goebel has been the holder of the Pierre du Bois Chair "Europe and the World".*

## Pierre du Bois Chair "Europe and the World"

PROFESSOR MICHAEL GOEBEL



Michael Goebel

During the calendar year 2021, Michael Goebel was the holder of the Pierre du Bois Chair "Europe and the World" until August 2021. His research and teaching at the Geneva Graduate Institute combine the histories of cities, migration, and nationalism – with a particular focus on the period from 1850 to 1950. These are the themes he taught on, in a variety of Master's courses for history students and those of neighboring disciplines, in 2021. In September 2021, he left the Geneva Graduate Institute to take up a position as Einstein Professor of Global History at Freie Universität Berlin.

Building on his earlier work, Michael Goebel wrote articles about the French Empire, published in 2022 in the *Cambridge History of Nationhood and Nationalism*, and the global history of anticolonialism in the twentieth century, forthcoming in an edited volume on *The Anticolonial Transnational* edited by Erez Manela and Heather Streets-Salter. He also wrote a chapter for the *Routledge History of Latin American Migration* and another for the *Cambridge History of Global Migration*. Another article, about the relationship between digitization and global history, was published in 2021 in *Geschichte und Gesellschaft*. At the same time, for Cambridge University Press, he

has been the editor of the *Elements in Global Urban History*, a field in which much of his current research is concentrated. The four-year research project *Patchwork Cities: Urban Ethnic Clusters in the Global South During the Age of Steam*, which began in the fall of 2020, continued throughout the calendar year 2021, with the participation of one postdoc and one doctoral student (see project website).

The year 2021 finally saw the realization of the Pierre du Bois Conference "Political Proteus: Nationalism's Entangled Histories," which had originally been planned for the previous year, but was postponed because of the pandemic. The well-attended event at the Geneva Graduate Institute featured historians from around the world, who collectively aimed to take stock of the historiography of nationalism during the "global turn" of past decades. Some of the speakers collectively published a special section in the prestigious *American Historical Review*, published in 2022 (see separate section on Conference Publications).

*Through a series of public lectures, the Pierre du Bois Chair addresses Europe's role in the nineteenth- and twentieth-century world, for example through colonialism and migration, as well as the question of how that global role conversely impacted European history itself.*

## Pierre du Bois Lectures



### Adom Getachew

The Pierre du Bois Lectures continued in 2021, with a talk on 12 April by Adom Getachew, the Neubauer Family Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Chicago. Well-known for her widely acclaimed book *Worldmaking After Empire: The Rise and Fall of Self-Determination* (Princeton 2019), Professor Getachew spoke about the problem of empire in the thought and writings of the famous African American scholar W.E.B. Du Bois.

*In the 2022 academic year, the Pierre du Bois Foundation supported the invitation of a Visiting Professor to teach at the Geneva Graduate Institute for one semester.*

## 2022 Pierre du Bois Visiting Professor: Oksana Myshlovska

In the 2022 academic year, the Pierre du Bois Foundation supported the invitation of a Visiting Professor to teach at the Geneva Graduate Institute. The invitation was for a period of one semester, following the departure of Professor Michael Goebel, the first Pierre du Bois Chair "Europe and the World", during the recruitment process for his successor. For the 2022 autumn semester, the Graduate Institute thus welcomed Oksana Myshlovska, a Lecturer at the University of Bern and expert on the politics of history and memory in Ukraine and Eastern Europe.

As a Visiting Professor at the Institute, Oksana Myshlovska offered a course on conflicts in the post-Soviet space, "From Perestroika to the Russian-Ukrainian War: Several Generations of Contention and Violent Conflict in the Post-Soviet Space". Grounded in a constructivist approach to the study of international relations and conflicts, the course examined conflict escalation, protraction and transformation from a historical perspective, with the most recent escalation as of February 2022 as an episode in the contention in the space that emerged after the collapse of the Soviet Union. The course was well-received by students, an indication not only of its high pedagogical quality, but also of its relevance to the study of current history in

general and to the recent episode in conflict escalation in particular.

In addition to this course, Professor Myshlovska gave a lecture at the International History and Politics Forum on "The War before the War: Examining the Failure of National Reconciliation in Ukraine during the Late Soviet and Early Independence Periods".

With a PhD from the Graduate Institute, Oksana Myshlovska is currently a Postdoctoral Researcher and Lecturer at the University of Bern. She has previously been a Guest Lecturer at the Graduate Institute as well as a Researcher at the University of St Gallen and at the Global Studies Institute in Geneva.

She is also a contributor to a SNSF project on the role of civil society in conflict transformation and reconciliation in Ukraine, Chechnya and Georgia. Amongst several other publications, she has recently co-edited a book entitled *Regionalism Without Regions: Reconceptualizing Ukraine's Heterogeneity*, published in 2019. She continues her research and teaching on the role of socio-psychological factors in conflicts in the post-Soviet space.



Oksana Myshlovska



*The Pierre du Bois Conference is organized annually by the Geneva Graduate Institute in partnership with the Fondation Pierre du Bois.*

## Political Proteus: Nationalism's Entangled Histories

26–27 AUGUST 2021



Group Photo of the 2021 Conference in Geneva

The 2021 instalment of the Pierre du Bois Conference, organized by Professor Michael Goebel, Pierre du Bois Chair "Europe and the World" at the Geneva Graduate Institute, was an unusual one in several respects: Standing in the shadow of the Covid pandemic, it should have been the conference's 2020 instalment, but was postponed twice. When it finally took place, in hybrid form, but mostly as an in-person event, for many of its participants it was the first respite after nearly one-and-a-half years of hibernation, the first physical handshakes with colleagues from afar, sweetened by marvelous late-summer weather on the shores of Lake Geneva with views of the Mont Blanc.

Like world affairs in recent years, however, its topic was more somber: Nationalism, or more precisely the global history of nationalism, for

the discussion of which a committed internationalist city and institution provided a propitious backdrop and vantage point. Although no-one at the conference expected the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the renewed topicality of nationalism was clear enough in the summer of

### THE 2021 CONFERENCE

2021, pressed upon the participants by the partial de-globalization brought about by the Covid pandemic as well as years of the rise of nationalist populism in Western Europe, Russia, the United States, India, or the Philippines.

The theme's urgency in current affairs contrasted unfavorably with

about two decades of relative neglect by historians and other social scientists. Although nationalism had been a key ingredient of historical and political research in the 1980s and 1990s, talk of globalization, the supposed erosion of nation-states, and the rise of global history as a disciplinary sub-field began to sideline it from the research agenda from the 2000s. The conference participants thus strove collectively to address the question of what historians can contribute to the study of nationalism in the wake of their discipline's "global turn".

If transnational and global history have forcefully driven home an argument about the global rise and spread of the nation-state form, it is that this phenomenon cannot be understood as having emerged from within single (nationally defined) societies, which then traveled as an intellectual template from one place to the next, but rather as an integral part of global processes itself. The conference consequently brought together scholars from, and of, different world regions and different themes.

Instead of following the usual paper-after-paper format, the event was structured mainly through a series of roundtables, each of which featured three speakers and a chair, who put a series of questions to the speakers, so they could address them jointly from the angle of their main interests of historical research. The themes were "Global History, Eurocentrism, and Nationalism" (with Sebastian Conrad, Cyrus Schayegh, and Cemil Aydin), "Nationalism and Internationalism"





Michael Goebel at the 2021 Conference in Geneva

(with Nicola Miller, Glenda Sluga, and Sandrine Kott), "Nationalism, Race, and Racism" (with Nicole CuUnjieng Aboitiz, Tiffany Florvill, and Alex Lichtenstein), "Multinational Empires, War, and Violence" (with Michelle Campos, Pieter Judson, and Ron Grigor Suny), "Colonialism, Decolonization, and Nationalism" (with Richard Drayton, Frederick Cooper, and Lydia Walker), and "Nationalism, Trade, and Economic Globalization" (with Grace Ballor, Stefan Link, and Marc-William Palen). Most of the 90-minute roundtables were subsequently published on the Graduate Institute's YouTube channel, where they can still be viewed by those not able to make it to Geneva or tune in online in August 2021.

In addition to the roundtables and the keynote lecture, the conference also featured two workshops, in which the pre-circulated papers by graduate students and recent postdocs were discussed. The first, showcasing work by Thomas Gidney, Yorim Spoelder, and David Motzafi-Haller, focused on the relationship between post-WWII decolonization and various forms of nationalism. The second, with papers by Emmanuel Dalle Mulle, Christopher Szabla, and Joel Veldkamp, zoomed in on various examples of historical migrations and how these related to instances of nationalism.

Apart from revealing the irredeemably Protean nature of nationalism through history, a good part of the debate at the event concentrated on the relationship between the study of nationalism and methodological nationalism in the social sciences. What does it mean to

attempt to write histories "beyond the nation-state," or not taking the national unit of analysis for granted? How can this be achieved without forgetting or minimizing the continuing power of nationalism to shape our political world? The conference participants, of course, did not provide unitary answers to these questions. Good historians as they are, or prey to their own *déformation professionnelle* if you will, they insisted on the specificity of time and place. They nonetheless collectively and forcefully agreed that their profession's global turn and the historical study of nationalism need not, indeed should not, be opposites.

In order to substantiate and promulgate this claim, many of the conference participants wrote short think pieces about the relationship between nationalism and global history, which have been published by the profession's flagship journal, *The American Historical Review*. The special thanks of the conference organizers therefore go to the journal's then editor, Alex Lichtenstein, and his successor, Mark Philip Bradley. They also go to the Swiss National Science Foundation, which alongside the Pierre du Bois Foundation, generously funded the event. And finally, they go especially to the student assistant, David Motzafi-Haller, and his helpers, who turned both logistics and the surrounding events into a remarkably smooth and pleasant affair.

## LES COLLOQUES

### CONFERENCES



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER BERNARD YACK AT THE 2021 CONFERENCE IN GENEVA**

*The conference's keynote lecture, which took place in the evening of the event's first day, was held by Professor Bernard Yack, a renowned political theorist at Brandeis University. Entitled "Being in Time: The Experience of Nationhood," the lecture focused on what Yack called the "sine qua non" and the "most distinctive feature of nationalism," which in his view consisted in "a way of imagining our existence in time." Instead of dwelling, as Benedict Anderson famously did, on the sense of connection with "people who dwell not in our presence," Yack concentrated on emotional ties with "people who dwell not in our present"—that is, the "intergenerational resonances" of nationhood. On a more upbeat note, he concluded that such a sense of "being in time" eventually allowed that nationhood was "not necessarily incompatible with cultural diversity."*

## Modern Transimperial and Interimperial Histories: Forms, Questions, Prospects

12 – 14 MAY 2022

The 2022 Pierre du Bois Annual Conference was devoted to the question of Modern Transimperial and Interimperial Histories, and was organized by Professor Cyrus Schayegh from the Geneva Graduate Institute.

Until about a decade ago, most historians of empires, especially Western ones, empirically studied them in separation, and in effect methodologically and conceptually treated them separately, too. At the same time, from the 1990s, some historians have reframed metropolitan-colonial relationships, emphasizing interdependencies as much as hierarchies. Building on this revision and on insights from global history, transimperial historians working on different themes and areas since the early 2010s have been studying a variety of interdependencies, relationships and hierarchies between and across empires and their peoples. Building

on a handful of earlier conferences, we felt the time was ripe for a first major stock-taking of this blossoming field. To do so, this three-day conference brought together junior and senior historians who, specializing in different themes and focusing on geographical areas including the US, European, Japanese, and Eurasian empires, have produced pathbreaking work in transimperial history. They were joined by a few doctoral students from the International History and Politics department of the Geneva Graduate Institute who work on related themes.

Following welcome notes by Irina du Bois and Cyrus Schayegh, the conference began with a keynote lecture by Louise Young (University of Wisconsin-Madison), "Now You See It, Now You Don't: Changing Sightlines on the Japanese Empire." Young's keynote lecture was followed by ten panels over three

days. Panel 1, "Historiographical and conceptual reflections," included presentations by Nadin Heé (Osaka University), Véronique Dimier (Université Libre de Bruxelles), and Paul Kramer (Vanderbilt University). Panel 2, "Regions," started with a talk by Nicole CuUnjieng Aboitiz (Cambridge University) and continued with Anne-Isabelle Richard (Leiden University), Alexey Miller (European University at St. Petersburg), and Harald Fischer-Tiné (ETH Zürich). Panel 3, "Economy," comprised four presentations, by Marc-William Palen (University of Exeter), Moritz von Brescius (Harvard University/Universität Bern), Ulrike von Hirschhausen (Universität Rostock), and Jiajia Liu (Geneva Graduate Institute). Panel 4, "Labor(ers) and merchants," featured presentations by M'hamed Oualdi (Sciences Po Paris), Alexander Keese (Université de Genève), and Christof Dejung (Universität Bern). Panel 5, "Settlers



Group Photo of the 2022 Conference in Geneva





Cyrus Schayegh at the 2022 Conference in Geneva

and agriculture," started with a talk by Peter Lavelle (Temple University) and continued with Martin Dusingber (Universität Zürich), and Mona Bieling (Geneva Graduate Institute). Panel 6, "War and violence," included talks by Alexander Morrison (University of Oxford), Vladimir Hamed-Troyansky

(Geneva Graduate Institute). Panel 10, "Nation(alism)s," featured talks by Ronald Grigor Suny (University of Michigan), Shellen Wu (The University of Tennessee Knoxville), Leyla Amzi-Erdogdular (Rutgers University), and David Motzafi-Haller (Geneva Graduate Institute).

In the concluding plenary discussion, conference participants raised a host of points for further consideration. These included the question of how scales work in transimperial histories, which varied social worlds do, and do not or less, get covered, and whether some empires may have a relatively larger weight in transimperial history and historiography than others, and why (Schayegh); how nationalisms, especially the connected nationalisms of the long 19th century, might factor in transimperial histories (Miller); how one may study transimperial legacies and what weight to give to economic factors (von Hirschhausen); how to work with and think of the different "Cs" – including but not limited to competition, cooperation, and connectivity – that stand out in transimperial history (Hedinger); what differences there are between thinking of the transimperial as a method or perspective (Laqua); what the (also political) stakes are in and for transimperial history and how we can make sure that transimperial histories keep foregrounding asymmetrical power

## THE 2022 CONFERENCE

(University of California, Santa Barbara), Daniel Hedinger (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München), and Martin Thomas (University of Exeter). Panel 7, "Race," featured talks by Ulrike Lindner (Universität zu Köln), Patrick Bernhard (University of Oslo), and Eileen Ryan (Temple University). Panel 8, "Knowledge," included talks by Nile Green (UCLA), Damiano Matasci (Université de Genève), Daniel Laqua (Northumbria University), and Miguel Bandeira Jerónimo (Universidade de Coimbra). Panel 9, "Law," began with a talk by Jenny Day (Skidmore College) and continued with Lale Can (City University of New York), Florian Wagner (Universität Erfurt), and Anna Diem

relations, which is an inherent advantage, in principle, over global histories, which do so less (Kramer); how crucial it is for historians to define their working definitions of terms like "empire" and "transimperial" (Dimier; Suny); what we lose intellectually and politically when we write transimperial histories and what we gain, and who the "we" is (Hamed-Troyansky); and how to better foreground environmental histories in transimperial history (Bieling).



KEYNOTE SPEAKER LOUISE YOUNG  
AT THE 2022 CONFERENCE IN GENEVA

*The conference's keynote lecture, which took place the very first morning, was held by Louise Young (University of Wisconsin-Madison), "Now You See It, Now You Don't: Changing Sightlines on the Japanese Empire." Focusing on Japan and the United States as sites for the production of "imperial knowledge" after 1945, she tracked the connections between geo-political context and evolving accounts of imperialisms past and present. Her account divided into three phases: the early Cold War in Asia, the high-growth era of the 1970s and 1980s, and the most recent period of Japanese decline since the 1990s.*

## LE PRIX PIERRE DU BOIS

## THE PIERRE DU BOIS PRIZE

*Le Prix Pierre du Bois récompense la meilleure thèse de doctorat en histoire du temps présent soutenue au cours de l'année écoulée à l'Institut de hautes études internationales et du développement à Genève, dans le département d'Histoire et politique internationales. Il est doté d'une valeur de 5'000 CHF.*

## Geoffroy Legentilhomme

### LE PRIX PIERRE DU BOIS 2021

Le Prix Pierre du Bois 2021 a été décerné au Dr Geoffroy Legentilhomme pour sa thèse intitulée "Mutualisme, concurrence et science actuarielle. Contributions à l'historiographie du système suisse d'assurance-maladie (1865-1970)" et soutenue sous la direction des Professeurs Carolyn Biloft et Marc Flandreau.

#### **Mutualisme, concurrence et science actuarielle. Contributions à l'historiographie du système suisse d'assurance-maladie (1865-1970)**

This dissertation explores the long-term development of the Swiss

health insurance system, from the mid-19th century to the 1970s. Departing from the State-centred and cultural approaches dominant in the historiography of social insurance, it adopts the analytical tools of business history to study the process through which the activity consisting in offering protection against the risks associated with illness evolved over time. Based on the exploration of the archives of both non-profit mutuals and life insurance companies, this dissertation shows how the early, locally organized and managed mutual aid organizations, progressively

broadened their scope and severed the ties they had throughout the 19th century maintained with the working class, in order to cater to an ever-growing middle-class market. This process, which was accompanied and fostered by profound organizational transformations at the firm level and by the importation, in the world of mutual aid, of managerial and commercial technics originating in the realm of for-profit life insurance, led to the emergence after the Second World War of health insurance as a product of mass consumption.



Dr Geoffroy Legentilhomme entouré de Marie-Laure Salles, Davide Rodogno et Irina du Bois



## Ex aequo Michele Sollai et Joel Alfred Veldkamp

LE PRIX PIERRE DU BOIS 2022

Le Prix Pierre du Bois 2022 a été décerné ex aequo au Dr Michele Sollai pour sa thèse intitulée "The Thin Green Line: Farmers, Experts, and the Practice of Agrarian Development in Ethiopia (1930s-1950s)" (et soutenue sous la direction de la Professeure Amalia Ribí Forclaz), et au Dr Joel Alfred Veldkamp pour sa thèse "The Politics of Aleppo's Christians and the Formation of the Syrian Nation-State, 1920-1936" (sous la direction du Professeur Mohammad-Mahmoud Ould Mohamedou).

### **The Thin Green Line: Farmers, Experts, and the Practice of Agrarian Development in Ethiopia (1930s-1950s)**

'The Thin Green Line' is an exploration into the vast, complex and still largely uncharted history of agrarian development in Ethiopia. It follows the historical trajectories of the farmers and experts that shaped the practice of development during the Italian colonial occupation, the Second World War and in the 1950s. While considering the rationale and aims of the various development blueprints advanced by the fascist regime, the Ethiopian government, and international agencies from the 1930s to the 1950s, the dissertation focuses on how development ideas and projects were understood, lived, and transformed by local actors "on the ground". By doing so, the dissertation reveals the multiple connections and continuities that characterized the evolution of agrarian development in Ethiopia during this timeframe. Albeit thin, and often concealed in plain sight, a "green line" of continuity runs beneath and through the major political shifts, economic and social



Dr Michele Sollai

changes characterizing the history of Ethiopia from the 1930s to the 1950s.

### **The Politics of Aleppo's Christians and the Formation of the Syrian Nation-State, 1920-1936**

This thesis examines the political discourses and practices of the various Christian communities in Aleppo during the first part of the French occupation of Syria. In particular, it explores the often tortured relationship between Aleppo's Christians and the Syrian Arab nationalist movement, which was working to unite the territories occupied by France into a novel nation-state defined by Arab national identity. Using sources in Arabic, Armenian, and French, the thesis pursues this question through the lenses of collective memory, the settlement of tens of thousands of Christian refugees in Aleppo in 1915-1930, the issue of Aleppo's autonomous status, the petitions sent from Aleppo to the League of Nations and the French authorities,



Dr Joel Alfred Veldkamp avec Jussi Hanhimäki

the elections held in Aleppo during this period, and the paramilitary movements created to contest the political status of the city in 1936. The thesis concludes that the political choices of Aleppine Christians in this period were mediated by their religious identity, and that despite the prominence of several Aleppine Christians in the nationalist movement, Aleppo's Christians as a whole formed a locus of resistance to that movement which had no parallel in the other cities of Syria. This resistance continued from the beginning of the French occupation until 1936, when the French authorities elected to form an alliance with Syria's nationalists, and worked together with them to crush Christian dissent in Aleppo. This thesis adds to the understanding of the origins of the Middle East's current nation-state system, and especially the role that religious identity and religious solidarity played in its creation.

*In 2021, the Pierre du Bois Foundation launched a series of doctoral workshops in partnership with the Department of International History and Politics at the Geneva Graduate Institute. PhD students have the opportunity to organize an annual workshop to further their research and deepen their knowledge of a set of themes related to their work. This joint initiative aims to create further opportunities for PhD students by helping them advance and disseminate their doctoral work.*

## Modernizing Landscapes: New Histories of Development and the Environment between Europe and the World

22 OCTOBER 2021



Group Photo of the 2021 Doctoral Workshop in Geneva

The first annual Pierre du Bois Doctoral Workshop took place in Geneva on 22 October 2021 on the topic of “Modernizing Landscapes: New Histories of Development and the Environment between Europe and the World”. The organizers were PhD candidates Mona Bieling, Ahmad Fahoum, Simon Lobach, and Michele Sollai. The workshop consisted of presentations by doctoral students and feedback from the three invited experts: Antoine Acker, Emily Brownell and Helen Curry.

The workshop featured a set of three panels. The first panel titled “More-than-Human Agents of Development” discussed the historical relationship between human and non-human actors, in an effort to understand and emphasize the role that the latter played not just as spectators or background but also as active agents of development and modernization. The papers presented reflected on the central role of animals in development policies drawn and enacted in the first

half of the 20th century. Based on the case study of Palestine during the British mandate years (1917-1948), Mona Bieling shed light on the role played by the Middle Eastern goat in informing British colonial environmental thinking. Efrat Gilad looked at camel and pork meat production and consumption in Palestine during World War II. Joshua Thew introduced the livestock improvement program initiated by the Near East Foundation in Greece in the interwar and post-war period.



Mona Bieling, Michele Sollai, Susanna Hecht, Emily Brownell (on the screen), Antoine Acker, Helen Curry, and Ahmad Fahoum at the 2021 Doctoral Workshop in Geneva

The second panel “Colonial (Infra) Structures of Development” delved into the key issue of infrastructure in the context of plans and practices of colonial development, focusing particularly on the environmental logics and effects of such modernizing policies. The papers presented articulated modernization schemes in different places, which allowed for the examination of the similarities and the particularities of each case.

## THE 2021 WORKSHOP

Moe Omiya investigated the connections and continuities in the development of the port city of Tsingtao (China) and of its rural surroundings during German and then Japanese colonial rule (1898-1945). Amal Shahid examined the relationship between British colonial public works, famines, agriculture, and climate in the North-Western Provinces of India in the late 19th century. Ahmad Fahoum concluded the panel with a paper on land reclamation projects

and the fight against malaria in British-mandate Palestine.

The third and last panel “Science, Expertise, and the Development Landscape” investigated the role of scientists and development experts in shaping colonial and post-colonial environments. Michele Sollai focused on the case of Italian-occupied Ethiopia (1936-1941), showing how Italian experts sought to integrate “local” agricultural and environmental knowledge within the scientific development framework of colonial rule. Nathalia Capellini examined the history of the construction of the Tucuruí hydroelectric dam in the Brazilian Amazon, focusing in particular on the developmentalist plans and narratives produced by Brazil’s military regime since the 1960s and their contrast with the implementation of this project in the following years. Simon Lobach concluded the panel with a paper on various attempts of modernization and resource exploitation of Suriname’s Amazon, with particular reference to the relationship between colonial experts and administrators and the Maroon communities inhabiting the rainforest.

The final roundtable centred on some of the key themes that have accompanied the past and present development of historiographies

on development and the environment. Emily Brownell, Antoine Acker, Helen Curry, Shaila Seshia Galvin, and Susanna Hecht discussed relevant issues within both fields. Themes that figured prominently were the conceptualization and representation of the agency of non-human actors, problems and challenges in assessing the role and representation of “indigenous” knowledge, and how the historical study of development and the environment can contribute to contemporary debates on development and environmental policy.





Group Photo of the 2022 Doctoral Workshop in Geneva

## **Histories of Capitalism in Europe and the World**

**29 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

The second Annual Pierre du Bois Doctoral Workshop took place in Geneva on 29th and 30th September 2022. The Workshop was themed “Histories of Capitalism in Europe and the World”, and was organized by PhD candidates Amal Shahid, Fernanda Conforto de Oliveira, Şeun Williams, and Michele Zampa. The workshop consisted of three panels, each including three or four speakers, a chair, and a discussant. There was also a roundtable discussion on the methods and approaches to research in economic history. The first panel was on “Colonialism and Economic History”. Doctoral

researchers Felipe Melo, Ernest Sasu Kwame Sewordor, and Amal Shahid presented their papers, which were commented on by invited expert Andreas Eckert from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. The papers critically examined the underpinnings and impacts of capitalist development in different colonial contexts. The historical topics covered ranged from Melo’s examination of the impacts of 18th century European capitalism on the cultivation of Brazilian raw cotton; to Sewordor’s discussion on the place of concessionaire imperialism and racial capitalism in gold-mining in

colonial Ghana; as well as Shahid’s exploration of issues relating to famine relief, labour and the poor-house in colonial India. The second panel brought together papers exploring the subject of “Multispecies Capital: Colonising and Commoditizing Nature”. Tomas Bartoletti, Sabrina Sigel, Anshul Verma and Şeun Williams were the doctoral researchers who presented their papers on the panel, after which Eric Vanhaute from Ghent University was invited to offer comments and feedback. Collectively, the centrality of the entangled relationships between



humans and other species particularly within commodity economies is the thread that runs through the papers. Anshul Verma and Şeun Williams examined the place of colonial science in the capitalist commodification of milk, and livestock (for meat) in India and Nigeria respectively. The history of the institutionalisation of economic entomology, and the economic importance of a number of insects in plantation economies in Syria and German Samoa were the focus of Tomas Bartoletti's presentation; while Sabrina Sigel dwelled on a discourse analysis of the themes of deforestation and (un)sustainability in newspaper reports on the capitalist exploitation of São Paulo forests in the late 19th century.

The third panel was titled "Financial History". Doctoral researchers Michele Zampa, Fernanda Conforto de Oliveira and Qiuyang Chen presented their research, which was commented on by invited expert Juan Flores Zendejas from the

University of Geneva. The panel discussed the role of a number of financial institutions and practices within a wide range of historical, political and geographical contexts. While all the papers were tied together by the common focus on the development of financial customs within their specific historical contexts, the presenting scholars used a variety of different research methods to approach their topics. Michele Zampa used econometrics

## THE 2022 WORKSHOP

and primary source analysis to shed light on the credit allocation mechanism to private and public firms under the Fascist regime. Fernanda Conforto de Oliveira explored the decision making process of

the International Monetary Fund through the 50s and 60s vis-à-vis the political changes in Argentina and Brazil through quantitative text analysis. Qiuyang Chen focused on the development of informal credit networks of women in southeast coastal China, making use of interviews, archival materials, and privately collected reports.

The workshop also included a roundtable discussion on the methods and approaches to research in economic history. The discussants were Professors Rui Esteves, Amalia Ribí Forclaz and Nathan Sussman from the Geneva Graduate Institute, as well as Pilar Nogues-Marco from the University of Geneva, and Andreas Eckert. The roundtable discussion focused on the future of economic history as a discipline, the convergence of social sciences, and the integration of different methodologies.

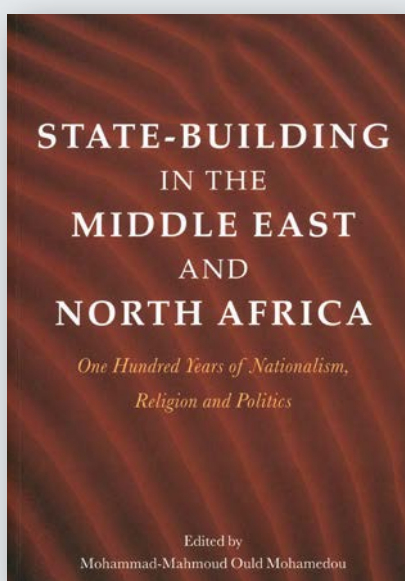


Rui Esteves, Andreas Eckert, Pilar Nogues-Marco, Nathan Sussman, and Şeun Williams at the 2022 Doctoral Workshop in Geneva

*The Pierre du Bois Foundation contributed to the publication of a variety of books, articles, and special issues. These publications were often the result of prior conferences or events supported by the Foundation.*

## State-Building in the Middle East and North Africa

MOHAMMAD-MAHMOUD OULD MOHAMEDOU (ED.), I. B. TAURIS, 2022

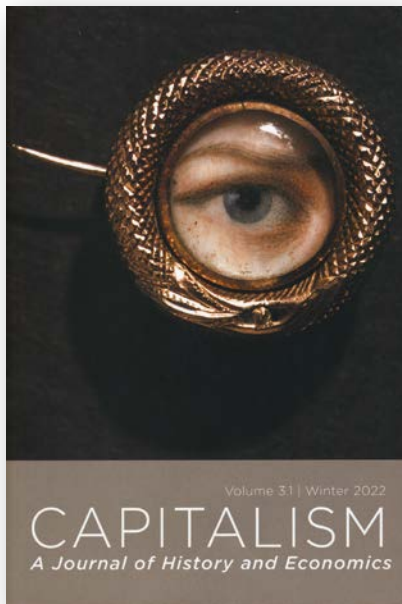


This book originated with an international conference held on 27-28 September 2017 at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. Examining the question of 'Elusive State-Building: The Middle East and North Africa. 1917-2017', the conference was organized as part of the Annual Pierre du Bois Conference, an event jointly convened by the Pierre du Bois Foundation and the Department of International History and Politics at the Graduate Institute.

This book traces the emergence and evolution of state-building across the MENA region and identifies the main factors that impeded its success: the slow end of the Ottoman Empire; the experience of colonialism; and the rise of nationalistic and religious movements. The authors reveal the ways in which the post-colonial state proved itself authoritarian and formed on the model of the colonial state. They also identify the nationalist and Islamist movements that competed for political leadership across the nascent systems, enabling the military to establish a grip on the security apparatus and national economies. Finally, in the context of the Arab Spring and its conflict-filled aftermath, this book shows how external powers reasserted their interventionism. In outlining the reasons why regional states remained hollow and devoid of legitimacy, each of the contributors shows that recent conflicts and crises are deeply connected to the foundational period of one century ago.

Edited by Mohammad-Mahmoud Ould Mohamedou, the volume features contributions by stellar scholars including Faleh Abdel Jabar, Lisa Anderson, Bertrand Badie, François Burgat, Benoît Challand, Ahmad Khalidi, Henry Laurens, Bruce Rutherford, Jordi Tejel and Ghassan Salamé.

*Excerpts from the Editor's Acknowledgements  
and the book's back cover*



## Microcosms

**CAPITALISM. A JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND ECONOMICS, VOLUME 3.1, WINTER 2022**

*Microcosms* - which grew out of the Annual Pierre du Bois Conference 2019 - is a special issue of the journal, *Capitalism: A Journal of History and Economics*, Winter Volume 3 Issue 1, 2022. The special issue includes papers on a wide range of topics, which each look at capitalism through a different "microcosmic" lens, from the universe of plantations to the seemingly smaller loci of the sleeping conditions of agricultural workers. Rather than describing the evolution and transformation of capitalism as a historical process, the papers genuinely 'rethink' the nature of the system itself by challenging some of its historical and conceptual tenets and above all by adopting a particular "micro" object of analysis. By doing so, the papers contribute to the flourishing historiographical debate on the history of capitalism, with a view to canon-questioning and multi-methodological approaches. The issue's contents include papers by the following authors (in order of their appearance): C.N. Bilotto, Kim Oosterlinck, Arnaud Orain and Sophus Reinert, Julie-Marie Strange and Sarah Roddy, Amalia Ribí-Forclaz, Samuel Segura Cobos, Ulbe Bosma and Kris Manjapra, and Pierre Eichenberger.

Carolyn Bilotto and Amalia Ribí Forclaz



## Rethinking Nationalism

**AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW LAB, MARCH 2022, PP. 311–371**

Over the past decades, historians in much of the Western world have pledged to "go beyond the nation-state" in their research and to abdicate what is now commonly called "methodological nationalism." While there is widespread agreement among historians about both the desirability and, increasingly, the reality of a transnational and global turn in our discipline, it is less clear what exactly this turn has meant for the historical study of nationalism. Historians may try to relinquish nationalism, but as Russia's invasion of Ukraine made clear, if any such clarity was needed, they do not live in a world in which nationalism has significantly weakened during the past half century. The Pierre du Bois Conference of 2021 was therefore devoted to taking stock of developments over recent decades in the global historiography of nationalism.

Instead of following the paper-after-paper format long customary in academic proceedings, the conference was organized around a series of roundtables, each shedding light on nationalism's relationship with other phenomena. Following this more conversational format, we also decided to publish not research papers, but rather altogether twelve short programmatic pieces of roughly 2,500 words each. Under the title "Rethinking Nationalism" these contributions by the field's leading historians became the first instalment of the new AHR Lab, published in March 2022 in the leading history journal, *The American Historical Review*. The contributors thereby hope to reopen conversations on the historiography of nationalism globally, which in recent decades have been neglected.

Michael Goebel

## LES SUBSIDES

### GRANTS

*La Fondation soutient des recherches sur l'histoire du temps présent, en accordant des subsides à l'organisation de colloques et d'autres manifestations, et en soutenant des publications et des projets originaux et de qualité.*

## “Ordinary” Ottomans: Post-WWI Settlements and Experiences of the End of Empire

CONFERENCE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEUCHÂTEL,  
10–11 NOVEMBER 2022



The Pierre du Bois Foundation supported this international conference co-organized by the Institute of History at the University of Neuchâtel and the Department of Near and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Basel. The purpose of the conference held at the University of Neuchâtel from November 10-11, 2022 was to examine how ordinary Ottomans experienced the collapse of the empire in which they lived. Historians have long sought to understand the transition from empire to nation-state across the region, particularly elaborating on the theme of continuities and ruptures. While this debate has certainly been instructive, existing accounts have tended to focus on the experiences of the empire's elites. This workshop examined the lives and experiences of

ordinary Ottomans whose voices, paths, and personal trajectories were often left out in these existing top-down historical narratives. What did the life of groups or individuals such as garage owners, craftsmen, textile workers, merchants, families, communities or markets look like after the end of WWI in the Middle East? And how did they respond to the fluid futures and uncertain contexts brought about by the end of the First World War and the establishment of new states in the Middle East?

The two-day conference began with an introduction by Aline Schlaepfer that addressed the concept of “ordinariness” and its applicability in the field of Middle Eastern history. During the first day of the conference, presentations focused on state and tribe relations, Ottomans in exile, as well as the role of families in the reconfiguration of political spaces after the collapse of Empire. During the second day of the conference, guests more closely examined ordinary professions and activities, while emphasis was also given to the role of family archives in the writing of social history.

The conference sponsored by the Pierre du Bois Foundation was organized by Jordi Tejel and Aline Schlaepfer, with the help of Juan Carlos Castillo Quiñones, Youssef Bessourour and Joris Stächeli. It was also supported by the Universities of Neuchâtel and Basel, the Swiss National Science Foundation (Scientific Exchanges, and Eccellenza), and the National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) for migration and mobility studies.

## La nature – Natur

6<sup>ES</sup> JOURNÉES SUISSES  
D'HISTOIRE  
6. SCHWEIZERISCHE  
GESCHICHTSTAGE,  
UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE,  
29 JUIN – 1<sup>ER</sup> JUILLET 2022



La Fondation Pierre du Bois a soutenu les Sixièmes Journées suisses d'histoire qui se sont tenues à Genève du 29 juin au 1<sup>er</sup> juillet 2022. Plus de 700 visiteuses et visiteurs y ont assisté à près de 80 panels et six tables rondes autour de la thématique de «La nature» traitée dans une perspective historique. Avec environ 230 exposés de chercheuses et chercheurs venus de Suisse et de l'étranger, les échanges ont été particulièrement fructueux entre les scientifiques et le grand public.

[www.journeesdhistoire.ch](http://www.journeesdhistoire.ch)



## LES CHERCHEURS ASSOCIÉS

### RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

*Un groupe de jeunes docteurs et de doctorants, dont certains avaient travaillé avec Pierre du Bois, s'est constitué autour de la Fondation depuis sa création. Ils participent à l'établissement et à la réalisation de son programme d'activités et ils prêtent main-forte à l'organisation des colloques et des conférences. Nombreux parmi eux sont les auteurs de «Papiers d'actualité/ Current Affairs in Perspective». Ce réseau de «chercheurs associés» aspire à croître et à contribuer au développement de la Fondation et au rayonnement du «hub» d'histoire de Genève.*

Maylis holds a PhD in Economics and History from the Graduate Institute in Geneva. She is currently Howard S. Marks Postdoctoral Fellow and Invited Lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania, where she investigates and teaches financial and monetary history. She held previous positions at Oxford University and at Rutgers University. Her current projects focus on the history of central bank diplomacy, international currencies and the evolution of the French banking sector in the 19th and 20th centuries.



**Dr Maylis Avaro**

Anne-Sophie est Maître de conférences en Histoire de l'Asie du Sud à l'Université Paris Cité. Elle est docteur en histoire et politique internationales de l'Institut de hautes études internationales et du développement à Genève (IHEID) et a obtenu en 2010 le Prix Pierre du Bois pour sa thèse intitulée *Le nationalisme et l'exil: le cas des réfugiés tibétains en Inde* (PUF, 2010). Ses travaux de recherche et ses nombreuses publications portent sur les théories de la nation et du nationalisme, les migrations internationales, les réfugiés et les diasporas, et les relations internationales en Asie.



**Dr Anne-Sophie Bentz**

Mona holds a BA in Language and Culture Studies from Utrecht University and an MA in International History from the Graduate Institute. She is currently a PhD candidate at the Geneva Graduate Institute and a Landhaus Fellow at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society at LMU Munich. Her dissertation examines the British Mandate for Palestine through an environmental history lens, discussing the impact of landscape changes on power relations.



**Mona Bieling**

Bernhard holds a PhD and MA in International History from the IHEID and a BA in International Relations from the University of Dresden. He is currently a Lecturer at the Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence (CSTPV) at the School of International Relations of the University of St Andrews, Scotland. His interests include the history of terrorism, International Organizations and terrorism, and state terrorism as well as German foreign politics and history, the Cold War, and transatlantic relations. Bernhard is the author, among others, of *The United Nations and Terrorism. Germany, Multilateralism and Antiterrorism Efforts in the 1970s* (Palgrave, 2014).



**Dr Bernhard Blumenau**

Pierre-Étienne a obtenu son doctorat auprès de l'IHEID. Sa thèse a été publiée sous le titre *Bombarder l'Allemagne. L'Offensive alliée sur les villes pendant la Deuxième Guerre mondiale* (PUF, 2014). Il a aussi co-dirigé l'ouvrage collectif *Europe Twenty Years after the End of the Cold War/L'Europe vingt ans après la fin de la guerre froide* (Peter Lang, 2012) issu du colloque organisé par l'IHEID et la Fondation Pierre du Bois en 2010. Auteur de plusieurs articles et contributions, il travaille en tant que conseiller scientifique auprès de la Bibliothèque et des Archives des Nations Unies à Genève.



**Dr Pierre-Étienne Bourneuf**

## LES CHERCHEURS ASSOCIÉS

### RESEARCH ASSOCIATES



**Dr Andrea Chiampan**

Andrea is a Marie Curie Fellow at the University of Toronto. He was previously a Swiss National Science Foundation Fellow in the Program on Science, Technology and Society and a Stanton Fellow in the Security Studies Program at MIT. He obtained his PhD from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. His research interests include the history of technology, nuclear weapons, and transatlantic relations during the Cold War.



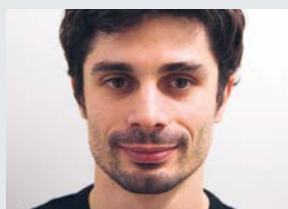
**Dr Damian Clavel**

Damian is SNSF-Ambizione Fellow at the University of Zurich. Combining micro-history and global history of capitalism, his current project seeks to determine whether and how indigenous American polities sought, through the hiring of European diplomatic and financial agents, to access early nineteenth-century British and French financial markets. Damian holds a PhD from the Geneva Graduate Institute. Prior to coming to Zurich, he was the Howard S. Marks Postdoctoral Fellow in Economic History at the University of Pennsylvania, as well as an Economic History Society Anniversary Fellow at the University of Oxford and the Institute of Historical Research.



**Dr Doina Anca Cretu**

Anca holds a PhD in International History from the Graduate Institute. She is currently a Research Fellow within the European Research Council project “Unlikely Refuge? Refugees and Citizens in East-Central Europe during the Twentieth Century,” based at the Masaryk Institute and Archives of the Czech Academy of Sciences. Anca’s research interests include the history of humanitarianism, history of development, and history of refugees. She is currently finalizing her first monograph, preliminarily titled “In Quest of an Ideal: Foreign Aid and State Building in Interwar Romania” (Stanford University Press).



**Dr Emmanuel Dalle Mulle**

Emmanuel is a Marie Curie UNA4CAREER post-doctoral researcher at the Complutense University of Madrid where he is completing a project on majority-minority relations in interwar Western Europe. He obtained his PhD in International History and Politics at the Geneva Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies and was awarded the Pierre du Bois Prize in 2016 and the University of Geneva Latsis Prize in 2018. His research interests include the history of nationalism, minorities, human rights and the welfare state.



**Paul Deshusses**

Paul holds a BA and an MA in Political Science from the University of Geneva, an MA Erasmus Mundus in Bioethics from the University of Leuven, Radboud and Padova, and an MA in International History from the Geneva Graduate Institute where he is currently a PhD candidate and Teaching Assistant. His dissertation traces the history of biosemiotics, an interdisciplinary science, close to ethology, investigating communication both within and between organisms.



**Dr Sabina Donati**

Sabina is the author of the book *A Political History of National Citizenship and Identity in Italy, 1861-1950*, published by Stanford University Press in 2013 and a finalist for the Frances Richardson Keller-Sierra Prize in the USA. Her peer-reviewed article on citizenship issues in the imperial context was published in the academic journal *Italian Culture* in 2021. She has also been invited to the French research institution *École française de Rome* where she presented her research on the history of naturalizations in Italy in December 2022.

## LES CHERCHEURS ASSOCIÉS

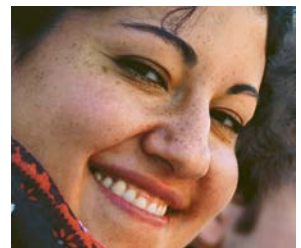
### RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Dominic holds a PhD in International History and Politics from the IHEID. His thesis on “The Idea of Europe in Classical Weimar: The Case of Goethe, Schiller, Herder and Wieland” was awarded the Latsis Prize of the University of Geneva and the Pierre du Bois Prize in 2011. Dominic’s research focuses on the history of ideas and political thought, historiography – particularly Enlightenment and early universal histories – as well as identity and alterity in early modern Europe.



**Dr Dominic Eggel**

Julieta holds a BA in International Relations from El Colegio de México (2004) and a Master in International History and Politics from the Graduate Institute (2013). She is currently pursuing a PhD in History at El Colegio de México. Her research interests encompass the history of international institutions and the intersections between food and health in Latin America, Europe and Asia in the 19th and 20th centuries. Her doctoral dissertation explores the role of Mexico and other Latin American countries within the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (1945-1990) from a transnational and comparative perspective.



**Julieta Rosario Falcón-Salgado**

Giuliano obtained his PhD in International History and Politics at the Geneva Graduate Institute in 2023. His research looks at the relations between migration and nationalism with a specific focus on movements in the central Mediterranean corridor. Giuliano was a Research Assistant at the University of Manchester and at the UNHCR Archives and Records division. In 2020, Giuliano obtained a SNSF grant to spend one academic year as a Visiting Fellow at the Institut für Europäische Ethnologie at the Humboldt University in Berlin. Giuliano holds a BA in Philosophy and an MA in Philosophical Sciences from the University of Catania.



**Dr Giuliano Beniamino Fleri**

Détentrice d’un Master de l’Université de droit d’Aix-en-Provence et d’un autre à l’IHEID, et titulaire du diplôme d’avocat, Aude a soutenu sa thèse intitulée «Les armes de destruction massive: essai critique sur une notion à géométrie variable» à Aix-en-Provence. Elle enseigne actuellement le droit international public à l’Institut National Universitaire Champollion d’Albi. Ses recherches portent aussi sur les questions de sécurité.



**Dr Aude Gata**

Shaloma completed her PhD entitled “International Organizations and their Operations Relating to the Supervision and Administration of State-Building (1919-1964)” at the Graduate Institute in 2015. From 2009-2012, she worked for a project entitled “From Relief to Rehabilitation,” funded by the SNSF. Her research interests include the mandates system of the League of Nations, the trusteeship system of the United Nations, state-building initiatives carried out by the United Nations, humanitarian intervention, and peacekeeping operations.



**Dr Shaloma Gauthier**

## LES CHERCHEURS ASSOCIÉS

### RESEARCH ASSOCIATES



**Professor Basil Germond**

Basil is Chair in International Security at Lancaster University. Prior to his coming to Lancaster in 2011, he was Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Oxford and Research Fellow at the University of St Andrews. He obtained his PhD from the Graduate Institute. His research is cross-disciplinary (International Relations, Human Geography, History) and aims at understanding human, social and political interactions at, from, within, and with the sea. An expert in naval and maritime affairs he has published two books and in excess of 30 academic articles and book chapters on seapower, maritime security, and the geopolitics of the sea. He has advised Government and Parliament on questions related to the maritime dimension of Global Britain as well as the impacts of climate change on maritime security.



**Dr Céline Germond-Duret**

Céline is Lecturer in Environmental Politics and Policy at Lancaster University, UK. Her expertise covers marine policy and the blue economy, international climate politics and global inequalities, indigenous peoples, as well as discourse analysis. Her work aims at unravelling the power relations and dominant discourses in development and environmental politics and highlighting their practical implications. Her research has appeared in *Development and Change*; *Environment, Development and Sustainability*; *Marine Policy*; *Third World Quarterly*; and *Sustainable Development*. She co-edited a special issue on the Blue Economy published in *The Geographical Journal*; co-authored the “blue economy” entry for the *International Encyclopedia of Geography* (Wiley-AAG); and is the co-editor of a volume on *Blue Economy – People and Regions in Transitions* (Routledge).



**Dr Paroma Ghose**

Paroma has a BA in History from the University of Cambridge (2010). She has an MDev in Development Studies (2013) and a PhD in International History (2020), both from the Graduate Institute. Her doctoral thesis used French rap lyrics to tell a history of the “Other” in France (1981-2012), and was awarded the Pierre du Bois Prize (2020). She is a postdoctoral researcher based at the Geneva Graduate Institute, and is affiliated with the Modern Korean Studies Institute at Yonsei University, Seoul.



**Dr Thomas Gidney**

Thomas completed his PhD in International History at the Graduate Institute. His thesis examines how British colonies were admitted as member states to the League of Nations and the politics behind why only Britain decided to “represent” its colonies internationally. Thomas is currently working on a SNSF project on the politics of juridical extraterritoriality during the ‘Interwar’ period, and is also working with the universities of Oxford and Exeter on a project on the history of aid organisations and their legitimacy.



**Dr Jérôme Gygax**

Jérôme holds a PhD in International Relations from IHEID. A former visiting scholar at Columbia University (New York), he works as a regular contributor to the Swiss media: *Le Courrier* (Geneva) and the Swiss Radio-TV RTS. His research interests encompass cultural and public diplomacy, notably in the U.S.A. and Europe, as well as strategic security, intelligence, and the evolution of propaganda from the Cold War to the present time. He is involved in publication projects covering political and psychological warfare, and strategic communication in the post-Cold War era and digital age. He is a contributor to the Routledge Handbook series, notably on Transatlantic Security and Public Diplomacy.



## LES CHERCHEURS ASSOCIÉS

### RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Vassily is a SNSF post-doctoral researcher at the European University Institute in Florence. He is working on a project on the securitisation of Islamism and separatism in Russian domestic and foreign policy. He obtained his PhD in International History and International Relations – Political Science at the Geneva Graduate Institute in 2020. His book on Soviet policies on and attitudes toward Islam and Islamism during the Soviet-Afghan War will be published by Cornell University Press / North Illinois University Press in February 2024. His research interests include the end of the Cold War, terrorism, post-Soviet conflicts, and Russia's foreign policy.



**Dr Vassily A. Klimentov**

Joris is Assistant Professor of Comparative, EU and International Law at Leiden University and Senior Advisor at the Stimson Center. His research focuses on EU external relations law and global governance. Joris received his PhD from the European University Institute in Florence, where he was awarded the 2014 "Mauro Cappelletti Prize for the Best Thesis in Comparative Law". In 2022, he was appointed to the Committee on European Integration of the Dutch Advisory Council on International Affairs.



**Professor Joris Larik**

Geoffroy defended his PhD in 2020 at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva. His research interests include the history of insurance and of actuarial science, with a particular focus on Switzerland. He is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Zurich.



**Dr Geoffroy Legentilhomme**

Brigitte is a Reader in International History and Politics at the University of Portsmouth. Her research focuses on the history of European integration including the recent publication *Reinventing Europe: The History of the European Union, 1945 to the Present* (with K Seidel and L Warlouzet, 2023). Brigitte has taught widely across history and politics subjects in Austria (Vienna), Switzerland (IHEID, Geneva), Denmark (Copenhagen), and the UK (LSE, Westminster, Oxford, and Brunel).



**Dr Brigitte Leucht**

Mariusz is a Lecturer in African History at the Institute of African Studies, Leipzig University. He completed his PhD at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in 2017. His research and teaching interests focus on the history of economic institutions and financial intermediaries. He is currently working on his *habilitation* project, "Africa's Financial Frontiers: The Politics and History of Capital Markets in Sub-Saharan Africa".



**Dr Mariusz Lukasiewicz**

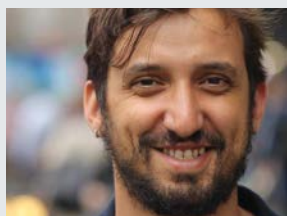
Damiano is a Senior Research Associate and Lecturer at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. After obtaining a PhD in history from the École des hautes études en sciences sociales (Paris) and the University of Geneva, he held research, teaching or visiting positions at the Universities of Heidelberg, Paris 1, Lausanne, Sciences Po Paris, and Oxford. His work explores the history of Europe and colonial Africa in a transnational and transimperial perspective, with a focus on education, childhood and science (19th-20th century). His full bio and list of publications can be found on his website ([www.dmatasci.org](http://www.dmatasci.org))



**Dr Damiano Matasci**

## LES CHERCHEURS ASSOCIÉS

### RESEARCH ASSOCIATES



**David Motzafi-Haller**

David is currently pursuing his PhD in International History and Politics at the Geneva Graduate Institute. His research investigates the broad socio-economic effects of a century of international development by looking at the careers of Zionist-Israeli construction foremen within their longer family histories. His broader research interests include micro-history, family history, prosopography, and historical anthropology.



**Professor Marek Neuman**

Marek is Assistant Professor at the International Relations and International Organization department of the University of Groningen, where he also obtained his PhD degree. His research interests fall into three strands. The first deals with the role Central and Eastern European countries play in the European Union's foreign policy. The second takes particular interest in uncovering the dynamics behind the EU's relations with the Russian Federation and other Eastern European countries. The third, and most recent one, ventures into the area of the European Union's relations with Central Asia.



**Dr Francesca Piana**

Francesca is a historian of European and international history. She holds a PhD in International History and Politics from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, for which she obtained the Pierre du Bois Prize in 2013. Francesca was a Postdoctoral Fellow of the Swiss National Science Foundation (2013-2016) and of Binghamton University and the *Journal of Women's History* (2016-2017). Her teaching and research interests include the history of international organizations, transnationalism, humanitarian aid and the mission, migration, and women and gender in 20th century Europe.



**Dr Nathaniel Powell**

Nathaniel obtained his PhD in International History from the Graduate Institute. His dissertation focused on French military interventions in Africa during the 1970s and early 1980s. He has published a book entitled *France's Wars in Chad: Military Intervention and Decolonization in Africa* with Cambridge University Press (2021). His current research continues to focus on postcolonial Franco-African relations, with a particular interest in the relationship between France and various African intelligence agencies. He is also working on a project on the Cold War in Mobutu's Zaire.



**Dr Leonardo Rodríguez Pérez**

Leonardo obtained an MA at Limoges University, specializing in French political history, as well as an MA in Foreign Societies and International Relations from the Sorbonne University Paris I. He holds a PhD in International Studies from IHEID. Currently, he works as a civil society advocate at the U.N. and he is a Lecturer in International Studies at the University of Business and International Studies (Geneva). His main areas of expertise are international human rights, self-determination, indigenous peoples' and minorities' rights, traditional knowledge, and drug policy.

## LES CHERCHEURS ASSOCIÉS

### RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Farzan is a Researcher in the Middle East WMD-Free Zone Project at the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. He was previously a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Global Governance Centre of the Graduate Institute Geneva, a Nuclear Security Pre-doctoral Fellow at the Centre for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University, and a Visiting Fellow in the Department of Government at Georgetown University. Farzan holds a PhD and MA in International History from the Graduate Institute Geneva and a BA in History and Political Science from McGill University. His research focuses on Middle East politics, nuclear arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, and economic sanctions.



**Dr Farzan Sabet**

Rodrigo has a BA in History (USA), MA in International Relations (UK), and PhD in International Studies with a specialization in International History and Politics from IHEID. His thesis was on privatization of water rights by states (Chile as case study) and the impact of international organizations (e.g. World Bank, OECD, UN) on state decision-making. Rodrigo has experience in international trade and TV production. He co-edited the 2017 magazine of the Swiss Society of Americanists, focused on Chile. He is currently professor and academic administrator with interests in best practices for water and energy, diplomatic sector reform, and Latin American history.



**Dr Carlos Rodrigo Sáez-Munoz**

Aline is Assistant Professor at the Department of Near and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Basel, with the Swiss National Science Foundation's Eccellenza Professorial Fellowship. She was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the American University of Beirut and Princeton University, as well as a Research Associate and Senior Resident at the University of Geneva. She is interested in the modern history of Iraq, minorities, and the issue of the Ottoman legacy in the post-Ottoman Middle East.



**Professor Aline Schlaepfer**

Amal holds a PhD in International History from the Geneva Graduate Institute. Her doctoral research focused on the political economy of famine relief and labour in North India, 1860-1920. Currently, she is a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute of Political Studies, University of Lausanne, on the project *Moral and Economic Entrepreneurship: A Collaborative History of Global Switzerland, 1800-1900*. She examines the Basel Mission's economic activities in India during the 19th century.



**Dr Amal Shahid**

Caio is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research, in Johannesburg. He holds a BA in International Relations from the University of Coimbra and an MA in Sociology and Social Anthropology from the Central European University, Hungary. In 2017, he completed his PhD in History at the Graduate Institute, for which he obtained the Pierre du Bois Prize in 2018. His research draws on the intersections between diplomatic history, histories of decolonization, and transnational histories of race and (anti-)racism.



**Dr Caio Simões de Araújo**



## LES CHERCHEURS ASSOCIÉS

### RESEARCH ASSOCIATES



**Dr Michele Sollai**

Michele is a post-doctoral researcher of the Fonds National Suisse, currently at the Rachel Carson Center, Munich. He obtained his PhD in International History in 2022 from the Geneva Graduate Institute, with a thesis on the history of agrarian development in Ethiopia, for which he received the Pierre du Bois Prize. Michele's current project is titled *The Global Battle of Wheat: Mobilizing Science for Agrarian Development in Fascist Italy*. His research interests include environmental history, science and technology studies, and the history of fascism.



**Joshua U. Thew**

Joshua is currently pursuing his PhD in International History and Politics at the Graduate Institute. His research focuses on how American attitudes and ideas about race, ethnicity, and religion influenced and determined rural education and development practices in the Middle East, in the 20th century. His broader research interests reside in the fields of community organization, agriculture - and particularly agrarian outreach - health, and recreation as vehicles for knowledge exchange.



**Dr Lola Wilhelm**

Lola is a historian based at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Geneva. She works on the modern history of the pharmaceutical industry, international health and infectious diseases. Her past research on Nestlé and international development has been published in the *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* and *Monde(s)*. She teaches on a breadth of topics in the global history of the 19th and 20th centuries, from the history of multinational enterprises to colonial health in Africa.



**Şeun Sedę Williams**

Şeun is a doctoral candidate and teaching assistant at the Geneva Graduate Institute. He earned his BA and MA degrees in History at the University of Lagos, Nigeria. His research interests intersect histories of veterinary public health, nutrition, commodities and colonialism in Nigeria and West Africa. His ongoing PhD study explores the history of veterinary science and livestock capitalism in Nigeria vis-à-vis the entangled relationships between humans and animals.



**Dr Özcan Yilmaz**

Özcan est chargé de cours en histoire internationale au Global Studies Institute de l'Université de Genève. Il a obtenu son doctorat en études internationales à l'IHEID avec une thèse portant sur l'évolution du nationalisme kurde en Turquie. Il a reçu le Prix Pierre du Bois en 2012. Ses recherches portent sur l'histoire des relations internationales, le nationalisme kurde, le Moyen-Orient contemporain, l'Empire ottoman et la Turquie contemporaine. Ses publications incluent notamment *La formation de la nation kurde en Turquie* (PUF, 2013).



**Dr Barbara Zanchetta**

Barbara is Senior Lecturer in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy at the Department of War Studies of King's College London. She is the author of *The Transformation of American International Power in the 1970s* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) and the co-author of *Transatlantic Relations since 1945: An Introduction* (Routledge, 2012). Currently, she is working on a monograph tentatively titled "The United States and the 'Arc of Crisis': American foreign policy, radical Islam and the end of the Cold War, 1979-1989".

#### ANCIENS CHERCHEURS ASSOCIÉS

Axel est titulaire d'un doctorat en histoire et politique internationales de l'IHEID (2011). Il a contribué à divers colloques et publications de la Fondation Pierre du Bois et a été chercheur associé à Boston University et à l'Université libre de Bruxelles. Ses travaux de recherche portent sur la question de l'identité européenne et du rôle du territoire dans le processus de construction de l'UE. Il est actuellement le Secrétaire général de la Haute école spécialisée de Suisse occidentale (HES-SO).



**Dr Axel Marion**

Felix is an executive at Novartis, heading the company's Commercial Strategy for Sub-Saharan Africa (>1Bn people market, 47 countries). Prior, he was a strategy consultant at Accenture. Felix obtained his PhD from the Graduate Institute, with a dissertation on History of Science and Medicine. He was a researcher at Princeton University and the Max Planck Institute, and recipient of the Pierre du Bois Prize in 2017.



**Dr Felix Ohnmacht**

Katrin holds a PhD in International History and Politics from the Graduate Institute, having previously obtained a BA from the University of Oxford and an MA from the University of Brussels. She was awarded the Pierre du Bois Prize in 2008, published her thesis *National Interests and European Integration* with Palgrave Macmillan and is co-editor of the book *Europe Twenty Years after the End of the Cold War/L'Europe vingt ans après la fin de la guerre froide* (Peter Lang, 2012) following a conference organized by the Graduate Institute and the Pierre du Bois Foundation. She currently works for the SNSF, where she is Head of the Strategy Division. She is a member of the Pierre du Bois Foundation Board and Co-Chair of the Research on Research Institute.



**Dr Katrin Milzow**

Licencié ès lettres de l'Université de Lausanne, Johannes obtient en 2007 le Master/DEA de l'IHEID. Son principal centre d'intérêt est l'histoire contemporaine et la politique étrangère et économique de la Suisse. Après avoir travaillé pour le Département fédéral des Affaires étrangères à Berne et à Paris, il a rejoint le Secrétariat d'Etat à l'économie (SECO), puis a rempli un mandat à la Banque asiatique de développement à Manille. Il travaille actuellement au SECO pour l'aide au développement suisse.



**Johannes Schneider**

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*Atiya Hussain, PhD candidate at the Graduate Institute*

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**Irina du Bois**

#### PRÉSIDENTE DE LA FONDATION PIERRE DU BOIS POUR L'HISTOIRE DU TEMPS PRÉSENT

Irina du Bois est ingénieur-chimiste de l'École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Suisse. Elle est aussi titulaire d'un MA en Histoire internationale de l'Institut de hautes études internationales et du développement à Genève et d'un BA ès lettres de l'Université de Genève. Elle a fait toute sa carrière chez Nestlé (Nestec SA) où elle a été successivement Sous-directrice, cheffe des Affaires réglementaires (1986-1991), puis Directrice adjointe, cheffe des Affaires réglementaires et de l'environnement (1991-2004) et, jusqu'en 2010, Directrice adjointe, cheffe des Affaires réglementaires et scientifiques. Entre 2010 et 2014, Irina du Bois a été membre du Conseil d'administration de Givaudan SA.



**Philippe Burrin**

#### ANCIEN DIRECTEUR DE L'INSTITUT DE HAUTES ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT À GENÈVE

Philippe Burrin a dirigé l'Institut de hautes études internationales et du développement de 2004 à 2020. Comme professeur d'histoire des relations internationales, il a travaillé notamment sur les idéologies et les régimes politiques en comparaison internationale, les guerres et les occupations militaires, les violences de masse et les génocides.

Philippe Burrin a été professeur ou chercheur invité à l'Institut d'études politiques de Paris (Chaire Elie Halévy), au Center for European Studies de l'Université de Harvard, à la Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität de Francfort, au Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, et à All Souls College à l'Université d'Oxford.



**Roger de Weck**

#### JOURNALISTE, AUTEUR, PROFESSEUR INVITÉ AU COLLÈGE D'EUROPE À BRUGES

Le journaliste et auteur Roger de Weck enseigne au Collège d'Europe à Bruges. Il a dirigé la Société suisse de radio-télévision SSR à Berne et présidé le Conseil de fondation de l'Institut de hautes études internationales et du développement à Genève.

Roger de Weck a été rédacteur en chef de l'hebdomadaire allemand *Die Zeit* et du quotidien zurichois *Tages-Anzeiger*. Il a dirigé la collection d'ouvrages de politique étrangère *Standpunkte*. Il est l'auteur de bestsellers.

Fribourgeois bilingue, il a grandi à Genève et Zurich et étudié l'économie à Saint-Gall. Il est docteur *honoris causa* des universités de Fribourg et Lucerne.

#### **MEMBRE DE CONSEILS D'ADMINISTRATION**

Christiane Kuehne est titulaire d'un BA en économie de l'Université de Lausanne (HEC), d'un MA en droit de l'Université de Saint-Gall et d'un diplôme universitaire en nutrition de la Faculté de pharmacie et médecine de Dijon.

Elle a poursuivi une longue carrière chez Nestlé (1977-2015), qui l'a conduite dans de nombreux pays. En tant que Sous-Directrice elle a créé et dirigé l'unité stratégique de nutrition et santé (2004-2009) et elle a été Directrice de l'unité stratégique alimentation (2009 à 2015).

Depuis 2012 Christiane Kuehne siège dans divers conseils d'administration : de L'Oréal SA (2012-2016), de James Finlay Ltd (depuis 2016) et de Stora Enso Oyj (depuis 2017).



**Christiane Kuehne**

#### **CHEFFE DE LA DIVISION STRATÉGIE DU FONDS NATIONAL SUISSE DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE (FNS), BERNE**

Titulaire d'un BA de l'Université d'Oxford et d'un MA de l'Université de Bruxelles, Katrin Milzow a obtenu son doctorat auprès de l'Institut de hautes études internationales à Genève, sous la direction de Pierre du Bois. En tant que membre très actif du groupe de Chercheurs associés, elle a contribué à la création et au développement de la Fondation Pierre du Bois dès ses débuts.

Auprès du FNS, elle coordonne la stratégie sur des questions clés de politique de recherche et est également responsable du data team, des processus stratégiques, de la gestion des risques et de la conformité. Elle a publié récemment des travaux traitant d'évaluation de la recherche et de l'édition scientifique, est Co-Chair de l'institut international Research on Research Institute, et a servi à titre d'expert indépendant de l'UE sur la politique de la recherche.



**Katrin Milzow**



## PROCHAINS ÉVÉNEMENTS

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### 3 and 4 April 2023

##### **The third Pierre du Bois Doctoral Workshop 2023**

##### ***Mobile Actors in Global History***

Organized by Anna Diem, PhD candidate, the Geneva Graduate Institute, and Burak Sayim, PhD, NYU, Abu Dhabi, in partnership with the Pierre du Bois Foundation.

#### Mai 2023

Publication du septième **Rapport d'activité/Activity Report 2021-2022** de la Fondation Pierre du Bois pour l'histoire du temps présent.

#### 15 septembre 2023 et 13 septembre 2024

**Le Prix Pierre du Bois** est attribué à la meilleure thèse de doctorat dans le domaine de l'histoire du temps présent soutenue pendant l'année académique 2022-2023 et 2023-2024 à l'Institut de hautes études internationales et du développement à Genève, dans le département d'Histoire et politique internationales.

#### 18 and 19 October 2023

##### **The Annual Pierre du Bois Conference 2023**

##### ***Women and Children as Sites of Intervention: Past, Present, Future***

Organized by Professor Nicole Bourbonnais, the Geneva Graduate Institute, in partnership with the Pierre du Bois Foundation.

#### Spring 2024

##### **The fourth Pierre du Bois Doctoral Workshop 2024**

**Celebration of the 15th Anniversary of the Pierre du Bois Foundation.**

#### Autumn 2024

##### **The Annual Pierre du Bois Conference 2024**

##### ***Debts and Taxes. A History of Innovation***

Organized by Professor Rui Esteves, the Geneva Graduate Institute, in partnership with the Pierre du Bois Foundation.

#### Mai 2025

Publication du huitième **Rapport d'activité/Activity Report 2023-2024** de la Fondation Pierre du Bois pour l'histoire du temps présent.

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Editeur: Fondation Pierre du Bois pour l'histoire du temps présent

Conception et réalisation: ●■ [www.point-carre.ch](http://www.point-carre.ch), Vevey

Impression: Polygravia

Photos: Institut universitaire de hautes études internationales, Genève: page 2.

Eric Roset, photographe, Genève: couverture, pages 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 35.

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