Dear reader,

In this 10th edition of our digital newsletter, with the beginning of a new year just around the corner, we would like to inform you about our activities in the last months and present you a brief overview of upcoming events.

WE CONGRATULATE the EUROCLIO programme "Historiana - Your portal to the past" for being selected by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe as one of the three World Aware Education Award winners. The Center for Historical Culture is one of the collaborating partners.

For more information on our Center, its activities and its research, please visit our regularly updated website www.eshcc.eur.nl/chc

We wish you all lovely holidays and all the best for 2012!

We hope to be in touch with you next year!

Kind regards,

Pauline Harmsen
Research Assistant CHC

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Research grants and visiting scholarships received by CHC members

Stephanie Benzaquen: in Spring/Summer 2012 (April 1-July 30) Stephanie Benzaquen will be a Leon Milman Memorial Fellow at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington DC. She will develop her research project “Art theory and cultural memory of the Holocaust: reading images of Nazi atrocities with Warburg's Mnemosyne's Atlas”.

Prof.dr. Maria Grever: received a Logis stipend from the board of the Georg Eckert Institute for International textbook Research (Braunschweig, Germany) for a two-weeks visiting scholarship in June 2012. [www.gei.de/en/georg-eckert-institute-for-international-textbook-research.html](http://www.gei.de/en/georg-eckert-institute-for-international-textbook-research.html) She will participate in the research group of GEI and deliver a paper on historical distance and commonality with respect to the NWO research program Heritage Education. Tina van der Vlies MA will join her in the first week; she will present a paper on her PhD project Historical scholarship and school history: national narratives in Dutch and English textbooks, 1920-2010 focusing on her instrument of analysis for history textbook research.


Dirkjan van den Berg (MA-student of Radboud University Nijmegen): will carry out a research internship (10 ECTS) at the Center for Historical Culture, concerning research on national narratives in history textbooks (January-June 2012). Supervisors: dr. Geertje Mak (RU) and prof.dr. Maria Grever (CHC EUR).

Dr. Bregje van Eekelen: spent two months of the year at San Francisco (USA) to carry out research for her project Brainstorms: Fragments of a Cultural Concept (1908-1968). Activities: To study the emergence, appropriation and adaptation of creative thinking in military-industrial contexts in the 1940s and 1950s, she tracks the emergence of creative thinking in military-industrial archival materials at the NRLF facility of the University of California Berkeley and at the University of California Santa Cruz.

Membership of committees and other activities CHC members

In November 2011 Stephanie Benzaquen made a field research in Cambodia for her PhD dissertation. The travel, which had received the support of the Erasmus Trustfonds, aimed to document the current context of memorialization of the Cambodian genocide perpetrated by the Khmer Rouge in 1975-79.

The opening in November 2011 of the long-awaited trial of top Khmer Rouge leaders Nuon Chea, Ieng Sary, and Khieu Samphan at the UN-sponsored Khmer Rouge Tribunal in Phnom Penh makes all the more pressing the questions how, by whom, and for whom Khmer Rouge atrocities are memorialized in Cambodia today. My field research aimed to establish a picture of organizations and individuals in the fields of culture, art, and research that are engaged in representing the country’s recent history. Archive institutions such as the Documentation Centre of Cambodia and the Audiovisual Resources Center Bophana. Memorials and museums such as Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and Choeung Ek “killing fields”. Cultural and artistic organizations such as the Reyum Institute, Metahouse, and Sa Sa Bassac Gallery, which present multiple perspectives on the construction, rather than re-construction, of Cambodian society as the latter enters the world of global economics, mass culture, and social media. Democratic Kampuchea (as the Khmer Rouge called Cambodia) was one phase – certainly the most murderous – in a continuum of violence that included French colonial oppression, American bombing, Vietnamese occupation, and a protracted guerrilla warfare (until the late 1990s) in which the sides involved were supported by different international powers. It appears from my field research that what is at stake in Cambodia now, perhaps, is a more integrated understanding of the Khmer Rouge period, demanding that it be both “deflated” and re-contextualized within such historical and social continuity. It is a stake in which Cambodians, undoubtedly, want to have a greater agency.
Prof.dr Maria Grever has been appointed as chair of the KNAW scientific committee NIOD / Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies.

Prof.dr. Carla van Boxtel, participated in a working visit to the deputy minister Halbe Zijlstra, organised by Cultuurnetwerk Nederland, 24 maart 2011, The Hague.

Historical Didactic Collection CHC

Recently the HD Collection received two important additions. Huub Kurstjens (CITO) donated a collection of recent CSE related history textbooks (12 meters). Willem Janssen, Deputy-director of the Rotterdam Roncalli MAVO, donated a 17 meters collection of ULO / MULO / MAVO related books and documents. The CHC is very pleased with these additions, because they provide access to topics which, up to now, could not be researched from our own library resources.

The CHC commits itself, in co-operation with the University Library, to have included these new arrivals into the UL collection database by July 2012. The contents will then be fully searchable through the Web. Our extra effort will be greatly supported by three library internships Juliette Verheij (EUR), Somaya Ben Gamra (EUR) and Dirkjan van den Berg (Radboud University Nijmegen), and research assistant Pauline Harmsen. See also www.eshcc.eur.nl/english/chc/hdc/.

CHC Research Group Meetings/ National and international conferences

August - December 2011


06-10-2011: CHC Research Group Meeting: Geerte Savenije presented a paper about her research on students’ entrance narratives concerning her case Transatlantic slave trade. Kosmopolis and Image IC presented plans on Heritage of the future - heritage lessons.

Upcoming 2012


March 2  CHC research meeting in collaboration with the Monarchy research group. Papers: prof.dr. Gita Deneckere on her latest book Leopold I, the first king of Europe; Dr. Gustaaf Janssens on the significance of Belgium monarchy for communal relations.


Recent publications members CHC 2011 (selection)


Maarten van Dijck, presented the paper ‘Between urban policy and state formation. The social discipline of cultural practices in sixteenth-century Antwerp’ at the conference ‘Diversity & deviance: art, commerce and religion in Antwerp’ at the Technische Universität Dresden, December 12th.


Dr. Bregje van Eekelen, presented a paper at the conference Knowledge/Culture/Social Change at the University of Western Sydney in November 2011.

See also [www.eshcc.eur.nl/english/chc/publications/](http://www.eshcc.eur.nl/english/chc/publications/)

**News from other organizations**

EUROCLIO last newsletter 2011
[www.eurocloi.eu/new/index.php?option=com_acymailing&ctrl=archive&task=view&mailid=23&key=4d28fd64bb6a1b5ee18f7b4c32e7b1](http://www.eurocloi.eu/new/index.php?option=com_acymailing&ctrl=archive&task=view&mailid=23&key=4d28fd64bb6a1b5ee18f7b4c32e7b1)

**Historiana – Your Portal to the Past** [www.historiana.eu](http://www.historiana.eu) Historiana is an international program on history and heritage education in Europe, initiated to develop an educational website on the history and heritage of Europe that involves more than 30 countries. It offers teachers and young people the opportunity to compare locations and period, various experiences of people, and the consequences of historical developments, articulated in material and immaterial legacies of Europe. The website offers a first real alternative solution to the idea of a European History Textbook.

**Journal of educational media, memory, and society (JEMMS)**
Editor: Simone Lässig, Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research
Published on behalf of the [Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research](http://www.eurocloi.eu/new/index.php?option=com_acymailing&ctrl=archive&task=view&mailid=23&key=4d28fd64bb6a1b5ee18f7b4c32e7b1)


**Kosmopolis Rotterdam and Imagine IC** collaborate with CHC to develop dynamic heritage education projects focused on the future, such as *Super-diversity in dynamic cities*. See [http://www.kosmopolisrotterdam.nl/](http://www.kosmopolisrotterdam.nl/) and [http://www.imagineic.nl/](http://www.imagineic.nl/)

For more information on organizations concerning historical culture, historical consciousness, collective memory and textbook research, see also [www.eshcc.eur.nl/english/chc/links/](http://www.eshcc.eur.nl/english/chc/links/)