

Focus on the Resistance

On 1 October 2019, the TV series '*Kinderen van het Verzet*' (Children of the Resistance, broadcast as from 22 October 2019) by Canvas was launched at CegeSoma.

The series addresses the growing interest of society and historical research in the history and remembrance of the resistance in Belgium. CegeSoma plays a key role in this trend and we give an overview of our main 'resistance initiatives'.

International Conference "Holocaust Studies and Its Social Setting"

To conclude the second phase of the project "European Holocaust Research Infrastructure", with the State Archives/CegeSoma being one of its partner institutions, an international conference is going to be held in Amsterdam on July 3, 2019.

CegeSoma publishes its annual report 2018

Positioned between two major commemorative events of two World Wars, the year 2018 was an essential year for CegeSoma.

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We created the foundation for a reorientation of our strategic research policy and for a thorough overhaul of our collection and repository management policy.

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Call for papers : Cultures of Spectacles in German-occupied Belgium. Parallels and Differences between the First and the Second World War.

In March 2020, the institute for Media Studies (*KU Leuven*) and CegeSoma will organize a workshop about the multiple types of spectacles (cinema, theatre, music-hall, circus, fairs, dance, cabaret, etc.) that took place in occupied Belgium during the First and the Second World War.

Which sense should we give to commemorations?

In 2019, we will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Belgium as well as the 50th anniversary of CegeSoma. This is the perfect occasion for our institution to reflect on the relationship between 'history' and 'commemoration' or public memories.

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2019 : A festive year at the CegeSoma!

Fifty years ago, in 1969, an enthusiastic team of six young researchers came together to initiate pioneering work on the history of the Second World War. The Centre for Research and historical Studies on the Second World War (CREHSGM), the predecessor to the CegeSoma, was born!

Also in 1969, the first edition of the *Journal of Belgian History* appeared, which is published by CegeSoma/the State Archives since 2011.

Seventy years ago, in the evening of September 3, 1944, Brussels was liberated by British troops accompanied by Belgians of the Brigade Piron.

EHRI call for special Conny Kristel Fellowship

EHRI invites applications for its first Conny Kristel Fellowship. EHRI is offering a fellowship of three weeks at NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies in Amsterdam to honour the memory and legacy of Dr. Conny Kristel, former EHRI project director and senior researcher at the NIOD, who sadly passed away on 6 October 2018.

The deadline for applications is 31 December 2018 and the fellowship will have to be completed by 31 August 2019.

The Readers Card becomes Free of Charge

From 1 June 2018, access to the 19 reading rooms of the Belgian State Archives (including the CegeSoma reading room) becomes free of charge.

This new measure aims to make the Belgian archives accessible to all citizens. Prices for research-services and costs for 'reproductions on demand' however increase substantially.

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2019-2020: CegeSoma and War Heritage Institute join forces

In 2019-2020, it is exactly seventy five years since the liberation of Belgium and Europe from Nazism.

In the context of this anniversary, CegeSoma and the War Heritage Institute concluded an agreement to promote further collaboration between the institutes.

CegeSoma presents its multiannual plan and its annual report for 2017

For the first time in its history, CegeSoma presents a multiannual plan (2017-2021).

It is the result of various meetings with stakeholders, of which our specialized scientific committee, renewed in 2017, is the most important one.

In honour of Social Welfare

On Saturday 17 March, the magnificent historic Social Welfare building was open to the public on the occasion of the biannual Art Nouveau/Art Deco open days, allowing anyone interested to visit these places usually closed to the public or subject to restricted access.

New contact addresses !

To improve the quality of our service, CegeSoma has two new contact addresses:

info-cegesoma@arch.be : for correspondence and the providing of information

repro-cegesoma@arch.be : for the request of reproduction of documents

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Update Call for Papers - Languages and the First World War II 2018 Conference

Europe House London, 10 September - KU Leuven, Brussels Campus, 12 September

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Background

Following a successful first international conference on Languages and the First World War (University of Antwerp and the British Library, June 2014), two successful books of essays (Palgrave-MacMillan), and the following that has been built up (@LanguagesFWW and the blog, <https://languagesandthefirstworldwar.wordpress.com/>, run by Julian Walker), the organisers are pleased to announce the second Languages and the First World War conference for 10 and 12 September 2018.

Was Grandfather a Nazi? The first reactions after the launch

On 13 September 2017, the book "Was Grandfather a Nazi?" was presented in the conference room of CegeSoma, in the presence of a large audience of press and public. The conference room proved too small for the large audience who wished to be present.

READING ROOM - Summer Opening Hours

Between 1 July and 31 August, our reading room will be closed on Fridays as well as on Mondays. For the other three week-days, the normal hours are maintained.

ARCHIVES – UGESCO project : High-quality Spatial-temporal Metadata for the Digitised Collections

On 1 April, CegeSoma, in coordination with a multidisciplinary team (Ghent University, Universit  Libre de Bruxelles, and KU Leuven), launched the UGESCO project (Upscaling the Geo-temporal Enrichment, Exploration and Exploitation of Scientific Collections). UGESCO is dedicated to improving the quality of geo-temporal metadata of digitized audiovisual collections.

ARCHIVES - Join our Team of Volunteers!

Are you retired and passionate by the history of Belgium? Or are you a student or recently graduate looking for useful experience to strengthen your cv? Do you have a heart for volunteering? The CegeSoma is looking for new volunteers to complement the existing team and offers you the opportunity to explore archives that are often closed to the public and to strengthen your archival competencies. Please contact: cegesoma@cegesoma.be or 02/556 92 11.

PUBLICATION - a Clear and Accessible Guide on the Sources of the Post-War Purges

Archives providing information on the post-war purges (the so-called 'repression') and its aftermath are not always very accessible to a layperson. On 18 May, a guide will be presented to the press, giving an overview of the archives that allow to reconstruct the individual trajectory of those who were confronted with the purges. The guide is an initiative of Ghent University, the ULB, the State Archives and CegeSoma and explains in a clear language how the different sources can be used.

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Reading Room – Changes in the Time Table

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From November 2016, our reading room will be open without interruption from Tuesday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. This new time table corresponds with the one applied by our colleagues of the State Archives 2 in Brussels. This (small) diminution of our weekly opening times is also in line with the future policy of the State Archives with regard to the accessibility of its reading rooms.

Important notice

* CLOSING DAYS ? Friday 1 November 2019 (All Saints Day) ? Monday 11 November 2019 (Armistice) ? Friday 15 November 2019 (King's Day).