PUBLICATION

'Warfare and Welfare': An inter-disciplinary study describing and analysing the impact of wars on the development of the welfare state in a number of countries. [MORE INFO](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3777)

NEW CALL FOR HISTORICAL TESTIMONIES

The Transmemo research project on family memory about the resistance and collaboration in Belgium during the Second World War is seeking French-speaking families with a family member suspected of collaboration at the end of the war for an oral interview. [MORE INFO](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3780)

BOOK PRESENTATION


ROUND TABLE

Presentation of a number of publications on the Great War on the occasion of the commemorations, 19 November 2018 CegeSoma. [MORE INFO](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3782)

SPECIAL ISSUE LE VIF 1918-2018

31 historians from all Belgian universities analyse the struggles and challenges of the immediate postwar period. [MORE INFO](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=3785&pag0nbr=62&pagofs=0)

Wars are moments of acceleration in the development of social policy. After the Second World War in Belgium, the welfare state is directly associated with the Social Pact of April 1944. In a new book, the connection between wars and the development of the welfare state ('the warfare-welfare nexus') for a number of countries in and outside Europe is the central theme.

The book is the initiative of three social scientists, specialised researchers on the welfare state and social policy: Herbert Obinger (University of Bremen), Klaus Petersen and Peter Starke (both University of Southern Denmark).

They reunited a number of experts, historians as well as social scientists to describe and analyse, from common interdisciplinary research questions, the impact of wars on the development of the welfare state in a number of countries.

Fourteen countries: Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Japan, the USA, Great Britain, Australia, Finland, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Israel are discussed. The chronological emphasis is on both world wars, particularly the Second World War, but for some countries also the 19th century military conflicts are analysed.

Preparation of war, warfare, occupation and postwar

The impact of wars on the development of the welfare state differs in each country. For some countries, the preparation of war was a crucial phase, for others the occupation or the immediate postwar period proved more decisive. These different phases are discussed in the different country chapters.

The chapter on Belgium and the Netherlands is a comparative analysis written by Dirk Luyten, researcher at the State Archives/CegeSoma. For both countries, the two world wars appeared to have been important for the further development of the welfare state. They created an upscaling of social protection from the local to the national level and led to a greater commitment of organisations of employers and workers in the planning and implementation of social policy. More than the occupation, the immediate postwar period proved crucial: innovative measures that were introduced became permanent and paved the way for the development of the welfare state in the next decades.

The book allows to compare national developments and to put them in a broader geographical context.

New call to families in the context of the Transmemo project

The **Transmemo** project is a federal and interdisciplinary research project on family memory of the resistance and the collaboration in Belgium during the Second World War. CegeSoma participates in this project in partnership with a team of historians of Ghent University and a team of social and cognitive psychologists of the **UCL (Université catholique de Louvain)**.

The project was launched in October 2017 and dozens of Dutch- and French-speaking families have already been interviewed. A year later, we are still looking for Francophone families of which a member has been accused of collaboration in the aftermath of the war.

The reasons for the accusation can vary in nature: propaganda, engagement on the Eastern Front, economic motivations, volunteering with the German Red Cross, etc. Above all, we try to understand what these families have experienced and the way in which they talk about these experiences today. It is not necessary to know all the details of the family history, just for the family members to accept to share their memory or their relation to the topic.

We are looking for participants of all generations, even if they have not known their great-grandparents. Participants should be minimum 16 years old.

The participation is completely anonymous and regulated by an agreement between the participants and the partner institutions.

If you think you can help us, or if you would like more information on the project, please contact:

- Florence Rasmont (historian, CegeSoma) : [florence.rasmont@arch.be](mailto:florence.rasmont@arch.be)
- Aline Cordonnier (cognitive psychologist, UCL) : [aline.cordonnier@uclouvain.be](mailto:aline.cordonnier@uclouvain.be)
- Pierre Bouchat (social psychologist, UCL) : [pierre.bouchat@ulb.ac.be](mailto:pierre.bouchat@ulb.ac.be)
‘Hendrik de Man: headstrong, fiendish and dreaming’: Author Jan Willem Stutje talks to Rudi Van Doorslaer about his new biography.

The ‘Friends of CegeSoma (State Archives)’ and the Masereelfonds (co-organisator) have the pleasure of inviting you to the afternoon conference where Jan Willem Stutje will talk to Rudi Van Doorslaer about his recently published biography on Hendrik de Man.

De Man was and remains a controversial figure: socialist and collaborator during the Second World War, but undoubtedly also the most international figure in Belgian politics of the 1930s.

In the book ‘Hendrik de Man. Een man met een plan’, Jan Willem Stutje reveals this fascinating figure in all its contradictions. Attentive to the historical context, he traces the trajectory of an ingenious and untouchable thinker who ended his life discredited and forgotten.

Jan Willem Stutje is a historian and attached to Ghent University and the International Institute of Social History in Amsterdam.

He published books on ‘Paul de Groot. De man die de weg wees’ and ‘Ernest Mandel. Rebel tussen droom en daad’, which was translated in English and German.

In 2012 ‘Ferdinand Domela Nieuwenhuis (1846–1919). Een romantisch revolutionair’, was published, with which he was listed on the shortlist of the Libris Geschiedenis Prijs.

The author will sign the book for those who wish it. The price is 34,99 € (29 € for member of the Friends of CegeSoma and the MF) and can be purchased on the day of the conference.

This conference (in Dutch) will take place in the conference room of CegeSoma on Wednesday 5 December 2018 at 2.30 p.m. (Square de l’Aviation, 29 - 1070 Brussels).

Registration is required:

asbl-vzw.cegesoma@arch.be of 02.556.92.11

Do not hesitate to bring other interested persons!

After four years of commemoration activities related to the hundredth anniversary of the First World War in Belgium, it is time for an evaluation. Books and journals have already given overviews and opened research perspectives which thus far had remained unexplored. CegeSoma wants to introduce some of these publications and their authors to you on 19 November 2018 from 9.15 a.m. till 1.15 p.m.

Registration for the presentations, the debate and the reception is possible until 14 November 2018 via this link: [link].

More information: isabelle.ponteville@arch.be

Some of their studies are the direct result of research projects initiated by the State Archives. The event offers a unique opportunity to acquire new information and to exchange views with experts of the Great War from the three language communities of our country.

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**Programme**

9.15 a.m. Welcome by Chantal Kesteloot, head of Public History at CegeSoma / State Archives

Presentation of the publications by the authors (in their respective languages)

9.30-10.15 a.m. 0 Antoon Vints and Martin Schoops, *De Overlevers*. De Belgische oorlogsslachtoffers tijdens de Interbellum. Antwerpen, Pôle, 2018.


0 Geneviève Warland (dir.), *L’expérience de la mémoire en Belgique, Mémorial, Wannen Verlag*, to be published soon.


11.30-11.40 a.m. Coffee break

11.40-12.25 a.m. 0 Chantal Kesteloot and Laurence van Ypersele (dir.), *La Belgique et la Grande Guerre*, Brussels.


12.35 a.m.-1.15 p.m. Debate: 2018 and then? Which are the possible fields of research?

1.15 p.m. Reception
1918-2018. Four Years of War. Hundred Years of Impact

November 1918. Finally, the guns fell silent. Yet, it was not possible to close the chapter. The world as we knew it had disappeared for good. A new fragile world was beginning, still to be invented. It was the beginning of “the short 20th century” as Eric Hobsbawm so eloquently put it, a phrase now appropriated by many historians.

To illustrate this complex period, the Vif/L'Express has published a special issue, aimed at a wide audience, which has been coordinated by Chantal Kesteloot and Laurence van Ypersele.

To evoke some of these questions, they appealed to 31 historians of all the universities of the two Belgian communities. Each text is accompanied by one or more carefully selected images which illustrate the richness of the collections of the federal institutions. Are addressed, the topics related to the military questions, the tensions and achievements of the post-war period, the consequences of the conflict on the international level but also on society. The issue concludes with a few contributions which illustrate the memory of the war and the turning point that constitutes the "Great Centenary".

This issue is also the opportunity to highlight the renewal of historiography. Although it has existed since long before this anniversary, it is a fact that studies on the Great War have never been so numerous: more than thirty young historians are writing or finishing a PhD relating completely or in part to the First World War, an unprecedented phenomenon.

The publication deals with a number of questions and issues that are challenging. How did the experience of the Great War have such a profound impact on Belgian society, which went through such a particular time of war.

How did the almost total occupation of the territory shape a specific memory of this conflict? This history is not limited to our frontiers: the colonial dimensions and the peace treaties are also considered as the Great War dramatically affected the situation in this field.

In short, a history, an experience, but also a firmly plural but indispensable memory for the understanding of the history of this little but complex country.