



OBSERVATORY  
ON HISTORY TEACHING  
IN EUROPE



Teaching History,  
Grounding Democracy.

OHTE Annual Conference

**PRESERVING DEMOCRACY:  
WHY DOES HISTORY  
EDUCATION MATTER?**

# PROGRAMME

2 > 3 December 2021

Room 8, Palais de l'Europe  
Strasbourg | Online



#HistoryAtHeart

# 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE: CHALLENGES, GOALS AND FORMAT

---

On 2-3 December 2021, the Council of Europe Observatory on History Teaching in Europe will host its 1st Annual Conference. The event will bring together over 150 participants and allow education professionals, government representatives and other interested parties to engage in high-level debates on the state of history teaching and related policies.

History reflects our shared past, and the Observatory intends to showcase how history education can help Europe work towards building a more open and inclusive society, one where all of our histories are heard equally. The Annual Conference will facilitate this engagement by creating a Platform, connecting different organisations and networks of experts in the field of history education during a largescale international event hosted in Strasbourg over two days.

Organised around four main plenary sessions, the Annual Conference will also provide a unique opportunity to illustrate the work and goals of the Observatory to future members and partners, as well as the work programme until 2023. Taking advantage of Council of Europe's strategic positioning in Strasbourg, the Annual Conference will involve local stakeholders, such as public authorities, schools, institutes and museums. They will organise a series of side events in line with the core programme and objectives of the conference.

The Conference will take place in hybrid form on <https://ohte2021.worksup.com/>

The Annual Conference is organised by the Council of Europe with the financial support from Andorra and France.

# ABOUT THE OBSERVATORY

---

The Observatory on History Teaching in Europe was set up by 17 member States of the Council of Europe in November 2020 at the initiative of the French Government. It builds on the decades-long experience of the Council of Europe in the area of history education, by offering new insight into how history is taught in the member countries. As we learn more about history through academic research, we equally want to assess how this knowledge is transmitted to the next generation and how these learning outcomes increase young people's understanding of democracy.

Given the risks of manipulating history, it is more important than ever to promote history teaching that helps to educate all young Europeans in democratic citizenship and contributes to the emergence of a common European sense of belonging.

To do this, the Observatory provides both an impartial overview of the state of history teaching in European countries and analysis on specific topics. This is done through a series of regular and thematic reports. For more information on the Observatory's activities, please visit [www.coe.int/ohte](http://www.coe.int/ohte).

Full bios of speakers participating in the conference are available through the following QR code:





## SIDE EVENT WEDNESDAY, 1 DECEMBER 2021

18.30 – 20.00

### Public Debate: Why Should History be Taught? (in French only)

---

in the framework of the debate series "Les Mercredis du Conseil de l'Europe"

City Hall of Strasbourg, 9 rue Brûlée

"Why should history be taught?" How can we promote history teaching that helps to educating all young Europeans in democratic citizenship? Can history teaching enable a shared sense of belonging to grow among Europeans?

This lecture and debate will seek to answer these questions, with input from:

**Mr Kai LITTMANN**, moderator, journalist

**Mr Alain LAMASSOURE**, Chair of the Governing Board of the Observatory on History Teaching in Europe

**Mr Emmanuel DROIT**, Professor of contemporary History, Sciences Po Strasbourg

**Ms Bridget MARTIN**, History Teacher, International School of Paris, member of the Scientific Advisory Council of the Observatory on History Teaching in Europe



# DAY 1

## THURSDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2021

9.00 – 9.20

### Opening Session

---

Welcoming address by **Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Address by **Mr Michele GIACOMELLI**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Italy to the Council of Europe on behalf of the Italian Presidency of the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers

Video address by **Mr Jean-Michel BLANQUER**, Minister of National Education, Youth and Sports, France

Declaration of **Mr Margaritis SCHINAS**, Vice-President of the European Commission

9.20 – 10.45

### First Plenary Session: “History Education for a Democratic Europe”

---

This high-level panel discussion aims at enhancing the Observatory's visibility at the highest political level. The session will focus on the mission and relevance of the Observatory and the relevance of history teaching in the present political context.

Moderator: **Ms Annette GERLACH**, Journalist and TV host, Arte

Panel: **Ms Mila CAROVSKA**, Minister of Education and Science of North Macedonia

**Mr Alejandro TIANA**, State Secretary of Education, Spain

**Ms Anamarija VIČEK**, State Secretary at the Ministry of Education, Science and Techno-logical Development of the Republic of Serbia – Member of the Governing Board of the Observatory

**Mr Alain LAMASSOURE**, Chair of the Governing Board of the Observatory on History Teaching in Europe

**Ms Vibeke JENSEN**, Director of the Division for Peace and Sustainable Development, Education Sector, UNESCO



## DAY 1 THURSDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2021

10.45 - 11.00

Family picture (Foyer de l'hémicycle) - Break

11.00 - 11.15

Projection of the video about the Council of Europe Observatory on History Teaching in Europe

---

11.15 - 12.00

Priorities and interplay between the Council of Europe intergovernmental programme "History Education for Democracy: The Role of Public Authorities in History Education" and the OHTE

---

Mr Jean-Philippe RESTOUEIX, Administrator, Education Department,  
Council of Europe

12.00 - 13.30

Lunch Break [Restaurant Bleu](#) (upon invitation)

13.30 - 14.45

Talk by Mr Niall FERGUSON, Professor at Stanford University,  
Hoover Institution, USA

---

14.45 - 15.00

Break



## DAY 1 THURSDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2021

15.00 – 16.45

### Second Plenary Session: “Why an Observatory on History Teaching in Europe?”

---

This panel discussion brings together representatives of relevant authorities of the Council of Europe member States to discuss approaches and practices in history education. It aims at presenting the Council of Europe's work on history education, highlighting the Observatory's added value and encouraging other member States to join the Partial Agreement. The session will also enable the Observatory representatives to clarify its scope and functioning, answer the questions and address the concerns of any potential members.

It will also offer an opportunity to demonstrate the scientific relevance of the Observatory by presenting the methodology of its regular reports on the state of history teaching and thematic reports on specific issues.

**Moderator:** Mr Matjaž GRUDEN, Director of Democratic Participation, Council of Europe

**Panel:** Mr Vasileios GOUNARIS, Professor at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Vice-Chair of the Governing Board of the Observatory

Mr Raul CÂRSTOCEA, Lecturer at Maynooth University, Ireland, Vice-Chair of the OHTE Scientific Advisory Council

Mr Alexander CHUBARYAN, Research Director of the Institute of World History of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Member of the OHTE Scientific Advisory Council

Ms Inês FIALHO BRANDÃO, Museum specialist, Member of the OHTE Scientific Advisory Council

Ms Luisa DE BIVAR BLACK, Education consultant, Member of the Council of Europe Experts Working Group on History Education

Ms Claude VIVIER LE GOT, President of the Federation for Education in Europe (FEDE)

Mr Florian BIEBER, Director, Centre for Southeast European Studies at the University of Graz, Austria



## DAY 1 THURSDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2021

16.45 - 17.30

Networking coffee and musical interlude (Di Mauro Swing - jazz manouche) [Selfservice of the Palais de l'Europe](#)

17.30 - 18.30

**Informal Joint Meeting of the Governing Board and the Scientific Advisory Council of the Observatory on History Teaching in Europe**

---

Room 8 – *in camera*

19.30 - 22.00

Reception by the Ville de Strasbourg (upon invitation)

City Hall of Strasbourg, 9 rue Brûlée





## DAY 2 FRIDAY, 3 DECEMBER 2021

9.00 – 10.30

### Third Plenary Session: “Pandemics throughout History: what Lessons do these Crises Teach us Today?”

---

In the Covid-19 context, many history educators are reflecting on how to discuss the coronavirus pandemic with their students. How will this moment be remembered in history? What impact will it have on societies? Whose stories and perspectives should be shared? What lessons can be learnt from past public health crises and how should those lessons be applied in the field of education?

Moderator: **Mr Raul CÂRSTOCEA**, Lecturer at Maynooth University, Ireland, Vice-Chair of the OHTe Scientific Advisory Council

Panel: **Mr Luigi CAJANI**, Honorary Professor at University La Sapienza, Italy

**Ms Hilary COOPER**, Emeritus Professor at University of Cumbria, United Kingdom

**Ms Ida MILNE**, Lecturer at Carlow College, Ireland

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee Break [Selfservice of the Palais de l'Europe](#)

11.00 – 12.00

### Fourth Plenary Session: “Towards a Cooperation Platform for History Education ”

---

This panel discussion aims at positioning the Observatory on History Teaching as a platform for knowledge exchange, experience sharing and networking for different professional associations and institutes active in the field of history teaching. The session will feature the expertise of the existing European initiatives and underline the relationship between history professionals and decision makers.

Moderator: **Ms Aurora AILINCAI**, Executive Director of the Observatory on History Teaching in Europe, Council of Europe

Panel: **Mr Eckhardt FUCHS**, Director of Leibniz Institute for Educational Media, Georg Eckert Institute, Germany



## DAY 2 FRIDAY, 3 DECEMBER 2021

**Mr Steven STEGERS**, Executive Director of the European Association of History Educators (EuroClio)

**Mr Martí GRAU SEGÚ**, Head of Service and Curator, Jean Monnet House at the European Parliament, Member of the Academic Team of the House of European History

**Mr Maarten PRAK**, Professor of Social and Economic History, All European Academies (ALLEA) Board member

**Ms Susanne POPP**, Professor of History Didactics, Chair of the International Society of History Didactics (ISHD)

**12.00 – 12.30**

### Closing Session

---

**Moderator:** Ms Annette GERLACH, Journalist and TV host, Arte

**Panel:** Ms Maija INNOLA, Chair of the Steering Committee for Education Policy and Practice (CDPPE)

**Ms Chara MAKRIYIANNI**, Chair of the OHTe Scientific Advisory Council and History Educator

**Mr Alain LAMASSOURE**, Chair of the Governing Board of the Observatory on History Teaching in Europe

Closing speech by Ms Nicole TRISSE, Member of the French parliament and President of the French delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe



## SIDE EVENTS

Taking advantage of Council of Europe's strategic positioning in Strasbourg, the annual conference also involves local stakeholders, including schools, institutes and museums. They contribute to the organisation of side events in line with the main topic, programme and objectives of the conference. Below the side events, are organised by the University of Strasbourg.

### Friday 26 November 2021

#### Screening of the film "Quo Vadis, Aida?"

The film is about the war in Bosnia and the genocide in Srebrenica. The screening will be followed by a debate on the writing of this war.

In the presence of the President of the University of Strasbourg, **Mr Michel DENEKEN**

Cinéma Odysée, rue des Francs-Bourgeois – Strasbourg / 20.30

### Monday 29 November 2021

#### Virtual roundtable on "The effects of Covid-19 on nationalism and borders"

Organised by the CEPA-Foundation in cooperation with Sciences Po Strasbourg.

Information and registration: [www.cepa-foundation.org](http://www.cepa-foundation.org) / 17.00 – 19.00

### Monday 29 November – Tuesday 30 November 2021

#### Talks and roundtables on Cross-Border Cooperation "Borders, Security and National Identity ; towards Transnational approach to sovereignty"

Organised by Franco-German Jean-Monnet Center for Excellence and Borders in Globalization.

Information on the Observatory website: <http://coe.int/ohte> Or contact: [m.maes@unistra.fr](mailto:m.maes@unistra.fr)

### Friday 3 Decembre 2021

Conference held by **Ms Frédérique NEAU-DUFOUR**, historian, former head of the European Center of deported resistant fighters and board member of Le Souvenir Français association.

Upcoming information on the Observatory website : <https://coe.int/ohte>

# PARTNERS

---

The Annual Conference is organised by the Council of Europe in partnership with the City of Strasbourg, the Region Grand-Est, the Collectivité européenne d'Alsace and the French Government.

