

European regionalisms in the long 20th century (1890-2015)

Workshop

Institute for History, Leiden University,

10-12 November, 2016

Convenors: Eric Storm (Leiden University) and Xosé M. Núñez Seixas (LMU, Munich)

The interest in regionalism is rapidly growing, particularly in Europe. The issue of regional versus national identities is making headlines nowadays, with strong regional movements in Scotland, Catalonia, Flanders and supposedly also in the Ukraine. Regional movements and processes of regional identity construction are crucial to understand our current globalizing world, where the nation-state loses relevance and ethnic, regional, transnational and supranational identities are becoming more important. Regional identities and regionalism, however, are a constant feature of European modernity since the end of the 19th century. Developed as a side-effect of the emergence of national identities, regionalism has often been regarded as an inward-looking, reactionary and nostalgic phenomenon and in some cases as a direct forerunner of a sub-state nationalism eventually leading to separatism. Yet, the regional is not only a complementary dimension of the national, but also a product of modernity, which has been able to adapt itself to the transformations experienced by European societies throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. As with nationalism, regional identities and regionalisms have coexisted with liberalism, traditionalism, fascism and communism. They survived the Interwar and the Cold War periods and persist until the present days. The aim of this workshop is to offer a cross-country and diachronic perspective on the development of regional identities and regionalism, focusing on the one hand on big areas within Europe (Southern Europe, Central Europe, Scandinavia, Eastern Europe, etc.), and examining on the other hand the relationship between regionalism and specific ideologies and regimes (Fascism, Communism...), as well as different themes related to them, from food to tourism and the arts.

Provisional programme:

Thursday 10 November

- 13.15: Welcome (Xosé M. Núñez Seixas, LMU Munich and Eric Storm, Leiden University)
- 13.30 Regionalism under Fascism (Xosé M. Núñez Seixas)
- 14.15 Regionalism under Communism (Susan Smith-Peter, College of Staten Island CUNY)
- 15.00 break
- 15.30 Western Europe and Democracy (Daniele Petrosino, University of Bari)
- 16.15 Folklore (David Hopkin, Oxford University)
- 17.00 Language (Johannes Kabatek, University of Zürich)

Friday 11 November

- 9.30 Tourism and international expositions (Eric Storm)
10.15 Nature (Jan-Henrik Meyer, University of Copenhagen/New York University)
11.00 Break
11.30 Food and consumption (Philip Whalen and Mariam Dekanozishvili, Coastal Carolina University)
12.15 Southern Europe (Fernando Molina, University of the Basque Country and Xosé M. Núñez Seixas)
13.00 Lunch
13.45 Scandinavia (Peter Stadius, University of Helsinki)
14.15 British Isles (James Kennedy, University of Edinburgh)
15.00 Break
15.30 Low Countries (Joep Leerssen, University of Amsterdam)
16.15 Germany and surrounding areas (Jeremy De Waal, Vanderbilt University/FU Berlin)

Saturday 12 November

- 9.30 Russia (Mark Bassin, Södertörn University and Mikhail Suslov, Uppsala University)
10.15 East Central Europe (Irina Livezeanu, University of Pittsburgh)
11.00 break
11.30 Balkans (Tchavdar Marinov, Centre of Advanced Study Sofia)
12.15 Conclusions (Xosé M. Núñez and Eric Storm)

For more information: h.j.storm@hum.leidenuniv.nl or x.nunez@lmu.de

Participants are requested to register (fee is € 50,-) at: history@hum.leidenuniv.nl

Draft papers will be circulated in advance. The results of the workshops will be published as *Regionalism and Modern Europe* (Bloomsbury).