

Topic: Endings in World and Global History

Organizers: Matthias Middell (University of Leipzig); Holger Weiss (Åbo Akademi University, Turku)

Venue: Belfast

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Call for Papers for the ESSHC World History Network: Endings in World and Global History

Most histories deal with phenomena that seem to be new or are presented as the inauguration of new times. In this respect, historiography has established a narrative tradition of opening towards the future, which implies that another era comes to an end. Through analyses and debates concerning revolutions since 1789, we observe three different constellations: (1) a constellation where such caesuras promote sharp contrast between the new and the old, (2) a constellation where there is more of a sense that continuities and discontinuities go hand in hand, and (3) a constellation where there is a parallel existence between the emerging new and the remaining old that does not come to an immediate end. This is particularly true in world and global history where more than one dimension, more than one space, and more than one temporality has to be included. The problem of endings is central to the writing of world and global history. This not only includes dissolution and breakdown but also the end of violence and tension, which has to be addressed in this context. Endings may come for some historical actors as a surprise, but others are actively involved in overcoming crisis and dead ends.

With world history acting as a backdrop, we therefore invite contributions to the World History Network's sessions of the European Social Science and History Conference – to be held in Belfast, Northern Ireland, from 4 to 7 April 2018 – that deal with endings in all its various forms. As in the past, the World History Network especially encourages the submission of panels that make comparisons across either times or spaces in a truly global manner; nevertheless, we also welcome a well-argued selection of case studies.

Since the number of panel slots for world history is limited at the ESSHC, we will give preference to coherent panel proposals; however, individual papers are welcome as well. Panels should consist of three papers and a commentary. As the selection criteria for panels, among other requirements, is the transnational composition of the panel, we urge applicants to send in submissions that have a strong focus on exchange between scholars from different institutions and countries.

The deadline for proposals is 15 April 2017. Proposals must include the name(s) of the contributing scholars, their institutional affiliation, a 300-word abstract, and, in the case of panels, the titles and short summaries of the individual papers. One copy of the panel proposal should be sent to the conference secretariat (address below) and one copy to each of the co-chairs of the network.

The Twelfth European Social Science History Conference is organized by the International Institute of Social History. For details, see: <https://esshc.socialhistory.org/esshc-belfast-2018>

Further information and an electronic preregistration form for the conference can be obtained from the conference website at <http://www.iisg.nl/esshc> or by mailing the conference secretariat at ehi@esshc.eu.

Contact

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