

## Research Program 2012-2015

*Axis I: Political and religious powers and commitments*

*Axis II: Functioning and representation of societies*

*Axis III: From land to sea, spaces and exchanges*

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*Axis I: Political and religious powers and commitments*

I-1: Politicisation and the arts of governing

I-2: Religions, Churches and norms

I-3: Wars, violences and political transitions

### ***1: Politicisation and the arts of governing***

Authors: Laurent Bourquin, Philippe Hamon

#### **1-1: Politicisation and political commitments**

The ANR (National Agency of Research) Conflipol program we ran between 2007 and 2010 led us to study thoroughly the processes of politicisation. It answered a double questioning. First, how did conflicts, over a long period of time (from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century) lead to the emergence of a political sphere, autonomous from the religious sphere? Secondly, how the political, as its construction went on, did bring political solutions to problems that were, originally, of another nature altogether? Our research has brought together medievalist, modernist and contemporaneist historians, as well as sociologists and political scientists, and has produced besides a haul of responses, new lines of research, which are included in the scientific project of Axis 1 for the 2012-2015 four-year program.

#### **Politicisation: the projects in the French West**

We think the CERHIO must (although not alone, of course) study the processes of politicisation in the French West. Several initiatives were taken under the former program, notably a series of roundtables organised by Philippe Hamon, around the catholic *Ligue* in Brittany. They allowed us to reflect upon the issue of the circulation of information, in cities as well as in the countryside, and about the impact of big national issues in popular motivations. This thorough work requires access to complex sources and deserves to be continued. The investigation will have to question the modes of commitment of the rural people, while trying to draw on former conclusions of social and cultural History of that background, as well as using the recent questionings from political History (Philippe Hamon). Michel Nassiet wishes to lead a research on the *Ligue of Anjou*, whose members had a discourse that was political as much as religious.

Exploring the mechanisms of politicisation in the West must necessarily include the Revolution and continue into the contemporary period. The Conflipol program indeed underlined the importance of the years 1789-1794 in this process which combines the move from particular and local issues to general ones and the birth of irreconcilable cleavages. In this perspective, Aurélien Lignereux believes the white (royalist) politicisation in the countryside of those regions, in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, to be a very promising field of research that needs to be serenely approached, now that political passions pertaining to the issue have been largely soothed. He considers studying carefully the modes of commitment, the forms of social supervision or the types of local gatherings in order to understand how the figure of the “armed parishioner” (“*paroissien armé*”) emerged, as a homologue for the “combating citizen” (“*citoyen combattant*”).

## **Cultures and political commitments**

Whether it occurs through a “top-down” or a “bottom-up” process (following the schemes of Maurice Agulhon and Gilles Pécoud, respectively), politicisation is accompanied, from the Renaissance onwards, by the affirmation of new political cultures. Admittedly founded on intellectual legacies but also on increasingly precise knowledge and innovating practices, they condition individual and collective commitments that have been little studied before the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. We well know that it is an immense project, and we have chosen to limit our investigation to two social and political backgrounds.

First, we wish to concentrate our efforts on the court, understood here mainly as the place of decision and political counsel. Several among us (Laurent Bourquin, Philippe Hamon, Cédric Michon) took part in the work led by Olivier Poncet on decision-making within the Ecole nationale des Chartes. Following these reflections and those that have begun in the University of Paris I around Nicolas Offenstadt and Patrick Boucheron, we want to analyse the political action of State personnel through their culture. We do not intend to retreat into any kind of determinism, but rather study the phenomenons of circulation and transfer that develop in Europe from the Renaissance on. Thus Cédric Michon wishes to compare the itineraries and the “mental tools” of counsellors in the main western monarchies and principalities at the turn of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Centuries.

Secondly, and in a broader approach, we plan to study aristocratic commitments under a new perspective. For a long time, they have been interpreted through the interplay of family networks and clientelism. Works by Roland Mousnier, followed by those of our anglo-saxon colleagues (Kristen B. Neuschel, Sharon Kettering) and finally those of Arlette Jouanna and Jean-Marie Constant have all insisted on the underlying collective dynamics in the great nobles' political action. Without questioning the conclusions of those fundamental studies, we think they do not enable us to apprehend all the social and political logics at play: in many political itineraries, individual factors seem paramount and deserve to be examined. We wish to set up a collective and pluriannual project in order to study, on a long period of time (from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries), the modalities of political commitment, by using the methods of the collective biography that have now been thoroughly tested. To start with, we will avoid the big anthropological models, even if it means encountering them later, and maybe qualify and refund them. Some characters have produced enough sources for their study to be led thoroughly, like François d'Alençon (Laurent Bourquin) or Thomas More (Cédric Michon). Others require more complex enquiries in the archives, but the success of Cédric Michon's collective investigation on Francis I<sup>st</sup>'s counsellors (see the report) proves this method to be fruitful.

## **1-2: Spaces of power: beyond and below the central State**

So as to understand the conditions in which this political culture affirmed and complexified itself from the Middle Ages to the contemporary period, we need to free ourselves, at least provisionally, from the interpretative frame of the State. The history of the central State and its construction is indeed such an important process and (quite rightly) so much studied that this phenomenon often overshadows other specific forms of circulation of cultures and political practices. We would like, along the next four-year program, to work on these issues on two different scales: interstate and infrastate.

### **Building political spaces on an inter or transnational scale**

First, we will analyse the conditions in which the political culture circulates across borders, to the point of allowing the construction of relatively coherent political spaces. Until the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century at least, the specifically national dimension of the elites' culture remains little marked: the potent impact of the Reforms, the shared mastering of Latin, a similar way of life among city-dwellers or parishioners, allow the circulation of political ideas, their transfer, their adoption from one country to another. Diplomats are counted among their essential mediators. François Brizay wishes for example to study the correspondence of French consuls, ambassadors and State secretaries in their relations with the central Mediterranean from the 1680s to the 1780s. Jörg Ulbert intends to revisit Frederick II<sup>nd</sup>'s foreign policy, studying the Prussian diplomats' consciousness of the commercial interests of their country on the international stage. In both cases confrontations with different political cultures occur (like that of the regency of Tunis). From the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, while nationalism grows via the press, the army and the school in all public opinions, some inter or transnational political spaces maintain a significant role. The elites (among others) exchange information, adopt common methods, adhere to the same ideas, but within deeply renewed frames. Three workshops are or will be opened in this perspective. The first, associated with the Research Group "European rural societies" (GDR "Sociétés rurales européennes", Nadine Vivier) will deal with the overall enquiries that were run on rural societies in most European and North-American countries. What were the goals of those enquiries? They displayed a will to encompass the economic state of the countryside, their adaptation to the transformation of the agriculture, of the markets of farm and craft products. But at the same time, they reveal issues of power. Who answered those enquiries and tried to influence their results? Did rich landowners impose their vision, and what was their impact on the policies which were chosen? Confronted with the interplay of social categories in the countryside, how did the State behave? Did the inquiry not have a mediating aim, that of winning over the rural population's support? This work, which began with the agricultural enquiry of 1866 in France, aims at a comparative research extending to Europe and North America. Those transnational political dynamics will also be highlighted thanks to three enquiries run by Yves Dénéchère. The first one is dedicated to foreign policy journalists and intends to study their practices, sources of information, and sociology. A second enquiry will be dedicated to the spaces and moments of encounter of European societies (for instance through the twinning of towns). A third enquiry will deal with the instrumentalisation of children in international relations – a theme that has become very important in contemporary diplomacy, following the definition of the rights of the child by the UN and the considerable impact in terms of image that the children's condition can have on public opinions. The construction of these new inter and above all transnational political spaces will also be central in Emmanuel Droit's research on the collaboration between the services of political police in the Eastern bloc during the Cold war: the circulation and connexions that existed between them justify completely a reflection on a transnational scale in order to

determine whether or not a specific culture emerged, shared by the different national personnels who worked together in the field of State security.

### **The “local” and the central State: administrative framework and social issues**

We do not only want to study the political culture from the perspective of its international circulation, but also analyse the new art of government, as close as possible to the individuals, which accompanies it. Indeed, in order to be efficient, the power needs sociocultural intermediaries. That is the reason why we want to interpret anew the process of “State-building” through that means, adopting several sociopolitical scales (local and regional). The research we plan to carry out is mainly dedicated to France but will make include European countries: it will be necessary to collaborate with foreign colleagues in order to compare the situation in France with what is happening elsewhere. This requirement will be all the more important that the “French exception” in the postrevolutionary period in the politico-administrative field has been seriously called into question.

In that case as in others, we wish to build programs of research which take in long periods of time. That does not mean focusing on invariants and overestimating them, but it means locating changes and breaks, thanks to a methodology that has been successfully tested by the team who worked for four years within the Conflipol program. Thus Philippe Hamon considers to dedicate investigations to the building of the politico-administrative sphere, specially between the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries, in order to study the links between central logics, the urban and/or regional strategies, the interplay of social elites and the administrative practices. These reflections will connect to those of Gauthier Aubert, who is preparing a political History of Brittany from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century to the Revolution, in which he will dedicate a lot of space to study those processes. Yann Lagadec wishes to organise a series of collective works too, dedicated to the local building of the State. He considers tackling it through the power's local servants, or through the constituencies in which they deploy their action. Thus, for a period going from the late 17<sup>th</sup> Century to 1815, he would join the reflections started jointly with Jean le Bihan about the “territories of the State” (see the work they published in 2009 with Jean-François Tanguy on the history of the “canton”). A work in progress on subdelegates and subdelegations (“subdélégués” and “subdélégations”) should constitute the backbone of this project.

### **1-3: The political authority: a practice which needs to be questioned**

The growing autonomy or “autonomisation” of the political and the affirmation of a new art of governing lead us to think the notion of “power” in a different way, or at least to prefer, in that context, that of “authority”. Hugues Neveux and Jean Nicolas essentially dealt with it under the perspective of the respect or the resistances it aroused. We wish to adopt a different approach, analysing on the one hand the conditions of its exercise, and on the other hand its embodiment.

### **Exercising authority**

Rather than dedicate our attention to the processes of legitimation of authority, we prefer, for the next four-year program, to dwell on the concrete conditions of its exercise. Following up on the work we plan on local State-building (cf. supra), we want to study some tools used by governments, and measure their efficiency. Some of them have an explicitly political objective, for instance those that have been set up to control the opinion. Aurélien Lignereux wants to study in particular the enquiries

realised during the First Empire which scrutinised the populations' murmurings and measured their morale during wartime. He hopes to determine the efficacy of the spies (the “mouches”) and the accuracy of the prefectural statistics by confronting them to more classical sources, like the official press.

However, the exercise of political authority does not necessarily (or at least, not immediately) aim at controlling a supposed “opinion” thanks to tools that are explicitly political. It also relies on a much broader collection of information, within the broad social or economic enquiries launched by the governments in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Nadine Vivier began an important work designed to compare the agricultural enquiries run during the same period in Spain, Ireland, the Ottoman Empire, in North America and of course in France. Admittedly, they displayed the intention of knowing better the economic state of the countryside, its adaptation to the changes in agriculture, in the markets of farm and craft products, but at the same time those enquiries revealed issues of power: to pretend to meet the needs of the countryside was also a means of controlling it. It is also a facet of Gilbert Nicolas' work on the great ministerial enquiry on schoolmasters realised in France in December 1860-February 1861. Indeed, public order appears to be a central concern for the authorities. The exercise of authority itself is an integral part of it. But rather than approaching it under the perspective of the maintaining of order, we prefer to choose that of the return to order after the crises. In that sense, we join partly the intellectual frame designed by Bruno Cabanes, Stéphane Audoin-Rouzeau and Christophe Prochasson on the post-war periods, dwelling on the means to which the authorities resort in order to restore legality after a rebellion. Gauthier Aubert thus intends to study the mechanisms that lead a revolt to end, observing above all their inscription in the social body with the setting up of repressive and punitive mechanisms, as well as operations of mediation and negotiation.

### **Embodying authority**

Without starting anew the remarkable investigations already conducted on the theoretical legitimation and the representation of authority, we want to understand better in what conditions a character manages to embody it. We will consider the authority, in that context, as an abstract notion as well as a group of practices. In order to explain it, Pierre Karila-Cohen will use the many discourses on authority, in the main theoretical writings (by de Maistre, Tocqueville, etc.), but will above all rely on the way daily political controversies, in the press and the public debate, are considered, as well as on the usual administrative exchanges. More than everything else, he will try to grasp authority on the micro scale, in the daily relationship between those who have a form of authority and those who submit themselves to it. With this objective in mind, he will study the history of the prefectural authority in France in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, since the creation of the office in 1800 until 1914. Prefects and subprefects, the State's representatives in the “départements” and “arrondissements”, must indeed signify and exercise their authority on an entire territory, hence build a complex relationship with its population. It means studying their methods, their role in the ceremonies in which they take part, or even their personal implication in maintaining order.

As for Aurélien Lignereux, he wishes to carry out a central reflection on the respect of authority through a close study of the gendarmes' social profile, in particular thanks to the constitution of a database comprising 8,000 individuals, who operated in the “départements” which were annexed to France under the Revolution and the Empire. He also wishes to take into account the whole system underlying authority (the police, customs, indirect contributions, etc.) in order to understand better the foundations of this authority, at the same time new and rejected, as show the rebellions that occurred in

those territories in that period. The embodiment of authority by the “French” gendarmes takes place in a particular political context, in which, in addition to dynastic or religious commitments, certain forms of pre-national claims seem to play an important part, which of course makes the situation more complex in terms of legitimation of the authority.

## ***2: Religions, Churches and norms***

Authors: Florian Mazel, Jean-Michel Matz, Marie-Madeleine de Cevins, Didier Boisson and Philippe Blaudeau

### **2-1: Ecclesial institutions and social regulations**

Since Antiquity, Western societies have drawn from their religions their representations of Man and the world, thus setting the conditions for many exchanges between the spiritual and temporal spheres, between immaterial or symbolic goods and worldly ones, exchanges that have participated in the regulation of those societies. In monotheist religions, the ecclesial institution has organised, guaranteed and benefited from those exchanges at the different levels of its hierarchy. Studying those phenomena requires carrying out, over a long period of time, a comparative history of the ecclesial institution proper to each of those religions, in four main directions. First, it will be necessary to apprehend the strength of the institutional construction realised by those Churches, despite crises of growth and internal debates, in order to measure the efficacy of the machinery and the supervision (conciliar decision-making bodies during late Antiquity, diocesan and parochial structures in medieval Christianity, provincial institutions and synods in Protestantism...). A second line of research will need to consider the territory as a space of projection for the institution and to study the Churches as “territorialised” institutions (patriarchal sees and phenomena of deconstruction/reconstruction of the ecclesial space in late Antiquity...) or, on the contrary, as structures going beyond borders (universalism, international Protestant network in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century...). A third field of enquiry will focus on the men who organise ecclesial institutions and to whom falls the regulation of society; prosopography, the human side of institutional history, will be privileged (bishops, parochial clergy and the mendicant brethren in the Middle Ages, the Protestant ministers in France...). Finally, the last subject of research will deal with the social networks (aristocratic, “civic”...) that are constituted around religious establishments or contemporary spiritual communities, following diverse modalities depending on the geography or chronology we consider. These research lines share a common interest for the institutional, economic and social realities, as well as for political and symbolic ones.

### **2-2: Orthodoxies, heresies, dissents and controversies**

A second line of work will deal with the making of religious norms and dissents and the part played by this double construction in the assertion process of powers and institutions. The study of polemic discourses, of controversies and their instrumentalisation will form the core of the research, taking in trinitarian and Christological debates which brought into play alternative conceptions of catholicity and apostolicity in late Antiquity, the quarrels organised by Protestants of the “Refuge” at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, not to forget the medieval disputes on heresy in the 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries or on witchcraft in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century. The very status of the controversy in the ideological debate, and its evolution, will be closely studied, as well as the elaboration of specific vocabularies and discursive models. This research will often draw on the scientific edition and the commentary of previously unpublished sources, for the Antiquity (the *Breviarium causae Nestorianum et Eutychnianorum* by Liberatus of Carthage in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century) as well as the Middle Ages (the anonymous treaty *Vauderye du Lyonnais en brief* of the 15<sup>th</sup> Century) and the modern period (the acts of the reformed provincial synods in the region of Orléans

and Berry, Huguenot political texts of the years 1557-1598). The importance of the production of memory that the historiographical tool constitutes (Histories of the Church, chronicles) will be especially studied with regard to its performative design: indeed, it is supposed to vouch for the exact conformation of the partisan logic to the (idealised, of course) tradition. But some works will dwell on the definition of deviant behaviour, from the rejection of the official doctrine (heresy) to witchcraft and the practices of possession and exorcism or the regular apostasy, from the late Middle Ages to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. What is mainly at stake in this research is, among other elements, their integration in a political history of the construction of territories, institutions and identities, from ecclesiological quarrels of the Antiquity to the part played by the manipulations of religious controversies in the making of sovereignties as soon as the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Centuries and even more in the context of the genesis of the modern State, between the 14<sup>th</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. In this field, most studies will deal with Christianity, but some, notably among the most contemporary ones, will widen the perspective to other monotheist religions.

### **2-3: Vocations and engagements, clerics and laymen**

The third aspect of the question will aim at analysing different forms of commitments, that of clerics and monks or of laymen, of individuals or groups, be they political engagements or religious ones (vocations). The research will deal with the late Antiquity, the Middle Ages, the modern and contemporary periods and will enable to understand the processes of engagement, analyse personal or collective itineraries and highlight their social, economic and political stakes. Three themes approach this subject. The first will study the vocations and the comprehension of religious engagements through prosopographic enquiries (dignitaries and canons of the cathedral chapter of Le Mans in the 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> Centuries, ministers in the region of Orléans and Berry in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries...). The links between religious vocation, economy and society will be considered thanks to a study of material life (goods, incomes, administrative methods, level of comfort, buildings), notably in the mendicant convents of Central Europe (Austria, Bohemia, Hungary, Poland) but also through works on the spiritual retreats or the brotherhoods of the Rosary in Brittany in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries. The second theme will deal with the connection between political and religious engagements. A reflection will take place about how groups defined by their religious identity had to respond to the necessities of confessional struggle and fabricate a political identity and even create an institutional structure: it is the case of the research led on the doctrinal conflict in which took part anchoritic groups and cenobitic communities of Egypt, Syria, Palestine or Constantinople in the post-chalcedonian period (451-536), on the history of the Huguenot party from the years 1560 to 1629, or those carried out on the Hezbollah movement in Lebanon. Finally, the third theme will enable us to link the issue of engagement to religious, intellectual and philosophical history by working on the freedom of conscience, which will be studied in its historical evolution, or through specific studies on some authors (Basnage de Beauval in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century) so as to show the context in which the concept underwent mutations.



### ***3: Wars, Violences and Political Transitions***

Authors: Luc Capdevila, Marc Bergère

The sub-axis “Wars, Violences and Political Transitions” is structured along three set of themes of compared history between cultural areas (Western and Eastern Europe, Subsaharan and Northern Africa, North and South America), inscribed in the long duration (17<sup>th</sup> Century to our days). It privileges a social and cultural history of war in a transnational and transversal methodological approach, that postulates at the same time the heuristic virtues of the singularity of each conflict in its own context, and the visible or invisible filiations between those different traumatic events. It is also fully inscribed into the current historiographical renewal, around the subjects of mobilisation and demobilisation (military, economic, political, social, cultural, memorial...) of societies in countries at war, engaged in democratic transitions or under colonial domination, tackling as well very “present” issues: the status of “the child”, environmental questions, memory and identity issues... Finally, it contributes to theoretical and practical research on territories and populations in “colonial situations”, interlocking scales (transnational, national, regional, local) and interdisciplinary works.

#### **3-1: The practices of war**

The works presented here intend to inscribe the study of wars in a long-term perspective (17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Centuries) while relying on the relative centrality of both World Wars. More often than not, this leads to writing a history enriched with matching approaches from one conflict to another (from the Seven Year war to the Napoleonic wars, that of 1870, and the contemporary colonial and post colonial wars), between different lands (Africa, America, Europe), or even maritime and aerial spaces (see the figure of the war pilot). Besides, research will carry on about international competition in the Mediterranean (1797-1813), which leads to the issue of the exploitation of maritime resources in “exceptional” situations.

In this social and cultural history of war, following works on the violences of war in particular, some main lines of work stand out: the experience of the battlefield and the fight in the modern period, the question of the link between war(s) and masculinity, and the convergent works dealing with war and madness. This latter aspect will be analysed both in the perspective of clinic and mental traumas of combatants during and after the conflict, and with regard to the role of wars (in particular both World Wars, which can be considered the matrix of a genuine psychiatric revolution) in the history of psychiatric practices and institutions, as well as in the patrimonialisation of war and its places (battlefields, fortifications, arsenals).

#### **3-2: Mobilisation, demobilisation of populations and societies at war and in transition**

Beyond combatants strictly speaking, we intend here to examine societies in wartime or in immediate post-war times, as well as in post-dictatorship or post-colonial years and in transition to democracy. In that perspective, several themes stand out: the question of the mobilisation of resources and territories in situations of war (logistics, supply, infrastructure, impact of war on the environment...), the history of military occupations from the perspective of the civilians (attitudes of resistance, gendered approach). Particular attention will be paid to the status and the experience of children “in wartime”,

under two specific perspectives: the enunciation of their “experience of war” via children's “words” (writings and drawings) as well as the very present issue of their engagement or even “enrolment” in conflicts, and the underlying question of their educative and/or penal treatment in post-war years. What will particularly matter is understanding how the end of the Second World War, in line with the “spirit of Philadelphia”, corresponds to a specific moment in time that oscillates between repression and protection of the minors. Here again, the works to which we are alluding are inscribed in a comparative approach on the European scale (Western and Eastern Europe), of the Second World War, the Cold War and the post-soviet world. The analysis of displaced populations in post-war situations also opens fertile comparisons as far as the fascist, nazi and “collaborateur” “refugees” in some European and American (both North and South) societies are concerned. Finally, rich in epistemological debates, some studies examine the problems of compared history of present times, notably through the construction of social memory and the conditions in which history is written in countries in post-war, post-dictatorship or post-colonial situations (Western and Eastern Europe, Latin and North America, Sub-Saharan Africa...). Following the same perspective, the question of the patrimonialisation of war, its places and its traces (battlefields, cemeteries, fortifications, arsenals...) proves to be stimulating.

### **3-3: Colonial and postcolonial spaces**

The existing team will carry on their comparative and regional study on republican colonialisms in the Southern Cone in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries, in particular on the production of Indian sources, focusing on two main problems: how those societies and Indian populations adapt to national States, and the issue of the history of the fronts of colonisation (Chaco, Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego, Araucania, Atacama, Easter Island). Research will be about the circulation and identification of social actors, the experiences and transfers in public policy, and if possible on environmental issues.

In addition, research will be engaged about the representations of the colonised populations among the French and British military in Sub-Saharan Africa. A theoretical study will also be run on the “colonial situations” and the “imperial” models, linked to a groundwork study on the so-called peak of the colonial regime in French colonies of Sub-Saharan Africa in the 1930 decade. Besides, the works on the history of indigenous prisoners will continue, as well as on colonial wars through a comparative approach of the conflicts that accompanied the French, British and Portuguese empires, and of the colonial wars of contemporary South America.

Finally, we wish to contribute to the emergence of comparative research on the history of populations in the high mountains confronted with global change (economic, social and environmental) and public policies from the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century to our days. This project involves setting up an international and multidisciplinary team (sciences of the living as well as social and human sciences) so as to analyse three spaces characterised by situations of internal or imperial colonialism: the Peruvian altiplano, the high Atlas Mountains in Morocco, and Tibet. The scientific perspective we chose focuses on the relationships between high mountains communities and the States.

## *Axis II: Functioning and representation of societies*

II-1: Norms and Deviances

II-2: Wealth, Work and Social Groups

II-3: Cultures and Cultural Anthropology

### ***1: Norms and Deviances***

Authors: Eric Pierre, Michel Nassiet

The concept of norm that is dealt with here includes on the one hand the normative, that can be called the rules, i.e. the norms explicitly published by an authority in a code or a set of regulations, and on the other hand the social norms generated by society, which usually remain implicit, but to which many behaviours conform. The concept of “deviances” designates deviations from the norms that subvert them in different ways, dysfunctions, disorder, or that tend to generate an alternative norm. Those very important social phenomena deserve to be studied as such, but they also have a valuable heuristic aspect, even when they remain on a marginal dimension, given that through the subversion of norms, they provide us with a means to observe the norms themselves.

We will study norms and deviances in particular at a basic social level, that of the relationship between men and women, contributing to a social and cultural history of gender. Confronted with deviances and disorders, the judiciary will not only be considered as an instrument of repression and of social control, but as a tool of regulation, and even of social protection, particularly as far as children and young adults are concerned. Health-related actors will also be studied in a perspective of prevention and social integration. This field of research is widely open to interdisciplinarity and generally to all social sciences: sociology, anthropology, history of law, etc.

#### **1-1: Social and cultural history of gender**

The concept of “gender” can be defined as the social and cultural construction of sexed identities. One of the main contributions of the concept was to highlight the necessity of this issue in the study of men, that is to engage a history of masculinity. This field is part of the study of the norms since it implies, firstly, identifying norms of behaviour, of social roles, and norms of representation; and because these norms have been recurrently subverted, at all times, and more specifically in the more recent period.

#### **Sexed identities**

For the more remote periods, the actual experiences and practices are much less known than their representations, and sources are clearly scarce. The research will thus consist in observing social norms of behaviour, for which the most numerous sources are the criminal ones, for instance the remission letters (“lettres de rémission”), which stock is far from having been exhausted as far as the 16<sup>th</sup> Century is concerned. A book published in 2011 offers a first approach to the masculine and feminine roles by placing them within a global system in which the fundamental principle is honour (M. Nassiet, Champ-Vallon). This type of observation will be taken up and systematised.

As for the contemporary era, the construction of identity will be studied by Christine Bard and her PhD students, focusing in particular on young girls and observing various elements: bodies, fashion, garments. Several lines of study will be engaged on narrower subjects while taking in long periods of time. The study of deviance as a heuristic way to approach norms will be carried out on moral scandals by several historians from Angers as well as Jean-François Tanguy, who will prepare a work on a criminal case that was never studied thoroughly: that of “l'abbé Bruneau”, executed in Laval in 1894.

### **Matrimonial status**

Marriage, as a means of social ties, and because it strongly determines the relationships between men and women, is necessarily at the centre of this field of study. We will study the definitions of the conjugal ties between norms and deviances. Indeed, more often than not, there is no unique rule defining marriage, but a plurality of norms, due to the multiplicity of references (pagan/Christian, Catholicism/Protestantism); in other cases alternative forms of union exist (common-law marriage, civil unions) or the norm itself is diverted (clandestine marriage, forbidden but valid, or marriage “à la Gaulmine”). The definition of the matrimonial tie poses problems that will be studied on the whole historical period, from the Antiquity to the present transformations. We will study celibacy in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century in a similar perspective, as a family tie that is fulfilled through filiation; indeed many singles wish to become parents through adoption, whether by referring to the 1923 law that entitles them to it, or by getting around its restrictive application and resorting to international adoption; finally, homosexual couples avoid the legal prohibition by invoking their single status.

### **Contemporary feminism**

Finally, for the contemporary era, we will continue the history of feminist activist actions which, side by side with transformational events and evolutions of the social and economic structures, have contributed to the disruption of the relations between sexes. This history articulates perspectives from political history as well as gender history. A collective project coordinated by Christine Bard will consist in redacting, after working on sources, a thousand biographical notes of actresses and actors of feminism. This high quantity of information will allow some figures to emerge, putting an end to their absence in the historiography. This base will provide the data for prosopographical analyses and the study of variables such as the origins of the activists, their religious identity, the multiplicity of their affiliations, their professional commitment. This method will pave the way for comparisons with other countries through the observation of precise elements. A symposium on the feminists of the first wave will be held in May 2011. The *Dictionnaire biographique des féministes* (Bard and Chaperon [dir.], Autrement editions) will be published in 2012.

### **1-2: History of the judiciary system**

The concept of judiciary system is to be understood in its wider meaning: it includes the normative texts and the procedures, as well as the judiciary personnel and the specialised jurisdictions, and the infra-justice (i.e. the different modes for settling conflicts outside the institutional frame).

Researchers from the CERHIO intend to transcend the old divisions between historians of law and

historians of the humanities, the latter studying not law but the judiciary apparatus and its social effects; it is also necessary to transcend the opposition between those who defend the idea of the autonomy of Law, and those who consider Law and juridical practices as a mere reflection of social values and their evolutions.

The judiciary system will be analysed in its daily processes (daily justice) as well as in situations of relatively acute conflict (emergency justice), be it in peaceful times or in times of paroxysmal crisis. Finally, research on judiciary systems seem strongly favourable to international comparative studies. The CERHIO is the only history centre to take part in the European group of research on normativities (“Groupe Européen de Recherche sur les Normativités”, GERN-CNRS) which gathers more than 50 research centres.

### **In the modern era**

In the modern era, remission letters (“lettres de rémission”) enable us to study directly the exercise of royal mercy, i.e. the retained justice, but also throw light on the delegated justice. Strangely, the royal exercise of remission remains little known. Recently it has been argued that a certain royal laxity in the granting of forgiveness had led to give impunity to criminals, but the consultation of the procedures of ratification (from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century on, in particular) is enough to dismiss this hypothesis. Hence Michel Nassiet will extend the study of remission in order to realise comparisons between regions (“Grande chancellerie”, Brittany, Artois) and between eras (16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Centuries).

In order to understand better the exercise of justice, it will be particularly fruitful to carry out a cultural history of the magistrates and their juridical mental tools relying on their own writings. As for the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, Frédérique Pitou will publish a text she knows well, the *Collection of Sentences* (“*Recueil de sentences*”) by Pichot de la Graverie (5,000 pages of text in seven volumes) where the author consigned sentences and reported the behaviour and divisions among administrators of Laval. She will also synthesise works on other writings by magistrates or lawyers from Laval and Le Mans.

### **In the contemporary period**

Studies on the “justice for minors” (“justice des mineurs”) -an institution that has been strongly socialised since the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century and articulates both penal and social concerns- will proceed. This particular branch of the judiciary will be studied under three perspectives: that of the norms and laws, that of the institutions (institutions and courts) and finally that of the actors (the young, the judiciary and educative staff, etc.).

The work on correctional institutions has already allowed a new evaluation of the role of philanthropy in the origins of agricultural colonies, and will be continued by an exhaustive analysis of the history of the Mettray institution (1839-1937), a colony which evolutions show the changes in this sector. Subsequently, we will write a synthesis on the history of reformatories between 1830 and 1975. As for children courts and judges, we plan on completing nationwide research on their creation via examples in some “départements”. It is indeed useful to see how and in what conditions occurred the specialisation of the judges. Who were the magistrates designated to assume this new office and how they assumed it (training of the judges, diffusion to the public of this new justice for minors, etc.). We will also have to study how the system organised their relationship with the prosecution (the

“Parquet”).

A one-day conference has been planned in 2011, dedicated to the comparative analysis of a key measure within the justice for minors in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century: probation. Carried by a movement of international reform born in the USA at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, this new penal measure accompanied the birth of judges specialised in children, and has been at the heart of a justice for minors that has claimed to be “protectional”. It spread and became law in very numerous western countries, and sometimes underwent adaptations to the national juridical and judiciary systems, that deserve to be studied. New actors were thus introduced in the judiciary processes: the parole delegates or probation officers. We are planning research on those officers in order to understand better their role at the judge's side, to deal with the issues of their professionalisation (from voluntary work to salaried work) and training. Besides, the expertise of parole delegates, combined with that of the psychologists and psychiatrists working in the judiciary, has favoured certain important evolutions in the re-education sector (such as the observation in open custody).

Another line of analysis will address a specific form of deviance among the young: wandering. Upon request from the Judiciary protection of the youth institution (“Protection judiciaire de la jeunesse”), a three-day conference will be dedicated to the different forms of wandering (from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century vagrant to the isolated young man of the 1950s and to the present-time wanderer) as well as how they are being taken care of by penal and social institutions.

Marc Bergère, following his own works on the legal purge in France after the Liberation, will study the penal repression of the minor's collaboration with the Nazis in a comparison between Belgium and France. He will intend to grasp the treatment given to the young collaborators and see how the courts behaved towards them, in a paradoxical period for the French judiciary history when a structural reflection was beginning in common law, around a so-called “protectional” model for the repression of juvenile delinquency. From this angle, comparison with countries which had to face similar situations appears to be relevant, in particular in the case of Belgium, where research on this topic is well advanced and benefits from the country's double experience (1914-1918 and 1940-1945).

The international dimension will be very useful in the study of this justice for minors. On the one hand, an exploratory inquiry will enable us to see whether it is possible to study the way young delinquents were taken care of in Northern Africa during the colonial period. On the other, although a synthesis on the practice of courts for children in five countries will be completed by the end of 2010, a new work is planned on the circulation of models and the elaboration of international norms in the field of children's rights. Unlike the former project which focused on the international level (congresses and journals), this one will require the study of the transnational scale (international associations and institutions such as the League of Nations or the UNO).

As for “ordinary” justice, we plan to proceed with our works on criminality and violence. The responses of the judiciary system will be approached through the procedure (inquiry, trial, expertise, etc.) as well as through the analysis of exceptional cases.

### **1-3: Childhood and youth between norms and deviances**

Connected to both the former (1-2) and the next (1-4) themes, and benefiting from the synthesis

recently published by Ivan Jablonka (*Les Enfants de la République. L'intégration des jeunes de 1789 à nos jours*, Paris, Seuil, 2010), works on childhood and youth will form an important line of work. Although it has long been questioned by sociologists, taking into account age categories in history has progressed significantly. It is a crossroads subject that allows a great variety of approaches and methods, as well as an interesting combination of scales, from the analysis of individual files to that of public policies. This topic also allows to take in a long period of time.

### **Childhood and filiation**

The child is socially inscribed into a filiation, that is normed but can also lead to deviances. For instance, in the mid-Middle Ages, away from the ecclesial definition of marriage, other forms of union were considered illegitimate, together with their descent. Carole Avignon will study the theoretical and practical aspects of those phenomena.

In the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, filiation is interrogated by the increasing practice of the adoption of children. Yves Dénéchère will study adoption on the international scale in its humanitarian, political and religious dimensions: elaboration of norms and rules (children's Law at the international level) and study of the practices (international godfathers and godmothers). A work he will publish in 2011 (Armand Colin editions) will be the first synthesis on international adoption in France. The issue of the instrumentalisation of children in international relations in France will be another line of research to follow.

### **Childhood and abuse**

In the line of her studies on the justice for minors and parents-children relationships, Pascale Quincy-Lefebvre will work on childhood protection generally speaking and particularly on abused children. In that perspective, she will propose a reflection on “Childhood protection and social change” and the forms of mobilisations in favour of childhood. How and in what context has “abuse” become a national cause within families and institutions and a support for public action? How to include this issue within the history of the minors (rights and duties) in the liberal era? How the new figures of “evil” and social suffering have been built in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century? Two directions will be privileged:

-a history of civil society and the collective forms of mobilisation around the “scandal” sparked off by the “spectacle” of child suffering. The work will look into different generations of associations in order to identify specific historicities for engagement and mediation in the fields of childhood protection;

-a sociopolitical history of abuse in order to understand how it has been imposed as a category and even as a new paradigm in public policies and for the actors in charge of their implementation. Specific attention will be paid to the decades 1970 and 1980.

### **Childhood and integration**

Ivan Jablonka, following the books he published on the migration of children from the Reunion island

and how the young have been taken care of since the Revolution, intends to proceed with his research on integration policies. Those policies are diverse, they mobilise different institutions and actors, but are articulated around public policies that aim at men and territories at the same time and turn out to be particularly coherent: colonial policies since the French Revolution, care for delinquent or abandoned children, the policy for the reception of immigrants since the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, nationality Law, etc. The notion of integration being part and parcel of the republican idea, his research project also aims at renewing the historiography of the Republic and the State in France, while also engaging international comparisons (notably with the USA).

#### **1-4: Behavioural deviances and mental therapies in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

History of psychiatry is a new field of research for the CERHIO. It will mobilise several researchers within collective projects. Hervé Guillemain will begin an inquiry on childhood in psychiatry in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and more particularly on committal to psychiatric institutions and child psychiatry. He also plans to submit a project before the National Agency of Research (ANR) dealing with the history of the “psy field” (psychiatry, psychotherapies, psychology, psychoanalysis). Starting with the constitution of a network of university researchers and local correspondents related to psychiatric institutions, it will aim at building three tools (an encyclopedic dictionary, a national then international database, and a guidebook of the sources) combining those usually separated fields. In order to coordinate those forces, an online cooperative platform will be developed. Finally Hervé Guillemain will take part in the writing a collective synthesis on the history of psychotherapies and alternative health practices.

Thierry Fillaut will proceed with his work on “the young and drinking in Brittany in the second 20<sup>th</sup> Century”. This study, supported by the Institute of scientific research on beverages (“Institut de recherches scientifiques sur les boissons”, IREB), aims at defining better the relationship between the Breton young and drinking from the years 1950 to 2000 (more specifically, the continuities and mutations with the generations; and the causes for the latter). Beyond the central issue of intoxication, particularly important in the region, it will require to apprehend the whole system in which the Breton young develop and which influences their attitudes. The objects of study will hence be: the evolution of consumptions (alcoholic or not) linked to that of the drink market; drinking habits and their contexts (parties, work, studies, family), as well as where the consumption of alcohol takes place. He will also need to consider the policies implemented by both the public institutions and the voluntary sector in order to prevent behaviours of alcohol consumption.

More generally, Thierry Fillaut will work on a history of sociopathies (mental illnesses, “social scourges” of the interwar period and current addictive behaviours) and of their treatment within and outside hospitals, leading to a history of health professions.

#### **2: *Wealth, work and social groups***

Authors: Frédérique Pitou, Jean Le Bihan

Several members of the CERHIO wish to proceed with their research on social history. They intend to



continue works already in progress as well as open new lines of study.

## **2-1: Developing new sources**

The team wants to make new sources available for the scientific community, most of them unpublished to this day. This work is fundamental in order to continuously fuel scientific research. Most of the projects deal with the western part of France. The medievalists around Florian Mazel intend to translate the “Actes des évêques du Mans” (*Actus pontificum Cenomanensis*), the most important narrative and diplomatic text dating back to the Carolingian era and concerning the West of France (it was written around the years 840-860), and the edition and the translation of several other versions of the text realised in the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Centuries will follow. Two texts from the modern era could be published as well: the diary of a Parisian member of Parliament, Barillon d'Amoncourt, covering the years 1692-1741 (Benoît Musset) and the “Collection of Sentences” of a lawyer from Laval, Pichot de la Graverie, covering the years 1712-1768 (Frédérique Pitou). The latter provides information dealing above all with Pichot's own court, but also allows to observe how society as a whole works. Other works of this type exist and could be developed in the same way in the years to come, given the valuable contribution they make to our knowledge of urban societies under the Ancien Régime. Finally, Jean-François Tanguy will work on the scholarly edition of an enormous private correspondence that enables researchers to follow the life of a family of civil servants established in Nantes at the eve of the Belle Époque. Although most of those sources deal with Brittany and Maine, the focus on western France is not systematic at all; besides, thanks to the fertile comparisons they will allow, those publications will be of great interest for research going well beyond the regional scope.

Within the team, the researchers in contemporary history wish to engage in a parallel reflection on the contribution of literary sources to the understanding of society. For Marie-Bénédicte Vincent-Daviet, the aim is not so much to reopen an old theoretical debate as to examine how, in practical terms, literature can help us understand societies of the past (the symposium “Histoire et littérature, regards croisés: enseignement et épistémologie” to be held in the National institute of pedagogical research in Lyon in May 2011 shows how topical this concern is). The main field of implementation for this project will be contemporary Germany.

## **2-2: Society: collective identities and individual mobility**

In order to approach new groups and new individuals, we intend to use tools as efficient as possible. Several of us wish to carry out prosopographical inquiries that are known to allow a precise understanding of social dynamics. Eric Guerber will study the auditors (“logistéia”) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Centuries in the Greek-speaking part of the Roman Empire; Joëlle Quaghebeur will work on the aristocratic elites in Brittany in the Middle Ages; and Sylvie Granger will deal with the male and female musicians of the West in the modern era. The second inquiry we mentioned is part of an international program that intends to develop a transperiodic reflection on the notion of elite in the West; the third is run within the ANR program MUSEFREM (the creation of Church musics in France in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries). These studies have already started and will probably be completed at different moments of the next four-year sequence. At the same time, several medievalists of the team, among which Isabelle Rosé, aim to use the notion of network, classically used in sociology (Alain Degenne and Michel Forsé, *Les réseaux sociaux*, Paris, Armand Colin, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2004) but more rarely exploited in History, in order to reopen the issue of the aristocratic elites of the Middle Ages. The

objective is to modelise those networks, for instance in the form of graphs, be they centred on an institution or on an individual, i.e. “ego-centred”. The former can be studied thanks to a serial documentation, while the latter require to cross information from the different sources dealing with the subject under study.

Those devices of investigation should allow to examine in a new light the traditional issue of social identity in a broad sense, that remains topical in scientific debates in particular among modernist historians (Fanny Cosandey [ed.], *Dire et vivre l'ordre social sous l'Ancien régime*, Paris, EHESS editions, 2005). The research will mainly focus on the social elites: the auditors in the Greek-speaking cities of the Roman Empire, who drew prestige and glory from their status of servants of the Emperor, the nobility of the medieval and modern West, and finally the German administrative elites, who experienced a little known legitimacy crisis during the First World War. The memory of the nobility, particularly, is a theme that will be addressed in priority by several of the team's members. It will be approached specifically with regards to its links with power, and will be dealt with in several specific inquiries, individual as well as social, through the diverse ties between men and places – homes, working places, *etc.*

At the same time, we intend to dwell upon the issue of individual mobility. It is a vast field of research, very much in favour since the 1970s when the abandonment of the marxist paradigm authorised a controlled narrowing of the research grounds (see Christophe Charle, “Micro-histoire sociale et macro-histoire sociale. Quelques réflexions sur les effets des changements de méthode depuis quinze ans en histoire sociale”, in Christophe Charle [ed.], *Histoire sociale, histoire globale?*, Paris, Maison des sciences de l'homme de Paris, 1993, p. 45-57, as well as the works in modern history by François-Joseph Ruggiu). This historiographic turn is also exemplified, in methodological terms, by the simultaneous rise of prosopographic studies (see *supra*). However, a lot remains to be done in order to grasp and understand individual trajectories, be they social, professional or geographic, in different eras of history. A first project will set out to reconstitute the family trajectories of the inhabitants of the Ivry parish, to the south of Paris, in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries (Fabrice Boudjaaba). Contrary to the trend of a historiography dominated by the issue of immigration (see Gérard Noiriel, “L'histoire de l'immigration en France: état des lieux des recherches, perspectives d'avenir”, *Hommes et Migrations*, 1255, 2005, p. 38-48), this research deliberately chooses rural populations that can be considered stable at the start as an object, in order to examine how they have adapted, along the decades, to the mutation of urbanisation. These works are in line with those by J. Dupâquier and aim at validating and completing them (see Jacques Dupâquier and Denis Kessler, *La société française au XIXe siècle: traditions, transitions, transformations*, Paris, Fayard, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 1998, and *3000 familles, vingt ans après*, special issue of the *Annales de démographie historique*, 2004/1). Relying on the usual techniques of family reconstitution, they should engage a discussion with Paul-André Rosenthal's classical analyses (Paul-André Rosenthal, *Les sentiers invisibles. Espaces, familles et migrations dans la France du XIXe siècle*, Paris, EHESS editions, 1999). Besides, we wish to examine again the ties between mobility and capacity (“capacité”), in the sense that prevailed in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, that of a skill funded on training and recognised by a qualification. It will imply the analysis of the careers of the musicians of the West, as soon as the database listing them has been completed (see above). Perhaps the notion of mobilisation will be useful in that process. About the use of the latter concept in history, a good reference is: Guillaume Pierre, “Modalités et enjeux de la professionnalisation”, in Guillaume Pierre (ed.), *La professionnalisation des classes moyennes*, Talence, Maison des sciences de l'homme d'Aquitaine, 1996, p. 9-15. Similarly, the historians working on the contemporary period plan on dedicating several projects to examining the way the State weighs on individual mobility, in line with

works not yet published by J.-P. Jourdan (Jean-Paul Jourdan, *Le personnel de l'administration dans le sud-ouest aquitain de la fin de l'Ancien régime aux années 1880*, thèse d'Etat, university Paris IV, 2000, p. 774 ff.), i.e. the mobility of the civil servants, whether German or French, but also that of their children. Indeed, the children of civil servants are obviously the first beneficiaries of the scholarship granting policy, of which still very little is known today, beyond the now classical works by A. Prost and P. Gerbod (Antoine Prost, *Histoire de l'enseignement en France 1800-1967*, Paris, Armand Colin, 1967, p. 327-328, and Paul Gerbod, *La vie quotidienne dans les lycées et collèges au XIXe siècle*, Paris, Hachette, 1968), and to which an inquiry will be dedicated, focusing on secondary education (Jean Le Bihan and Marie-Bénédicte Vincent-Daviet). In the same perspective, historians working on the 20<sup>th</sup> Century plan to develop a reflection on the specific case of health professions (Thierry Fillaut), which experienced a late but spectacular professionalisation, as observed by G. Cresson and F.-X. Schweyer (Geneviève Cresson and François-Xavier Schweyer (ed.), *Professions et institutions de santé face à l'organisation du travail*, Rennes, École Nationale de la Santé Publique, 2000).

### **2-3: Men and women at work**

The theme of work requires a specific questioning and our approach will follow three perspectives. First, that of the wages: indeed, a lot remains to be clarified about this element, in particular for the Middle Ages. The analysis of medieval accounts should allow to improve our knowledge on this point (Emmanuel Grélois). Second, the trade brotherhoods: several inquiries are planned on the coopers brotherhoods in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries. One of them, focusing on Reims and funded on the analysis of the community registers and the accounting of the local coopers community, will dwell on the ties between the norms and practices of the trade. Another one, conceived at a wider geographical scale, will aim at making an inventory and a classification of the status of those communities, thus comparing them and identifying their evolutions. It will underline what those normative texts tell us, despite their aridity, about the reality of work in the modern period (Benoît Musset). Finally, the last approach that has been chosen is that of women's work, still in the modern period, and more specifically in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Contrary to a preconceived idea that has prevailed until recently, women then did intervene in many sectors of the economic activity, urban and rural, and a majority of them even exercised a “professional” activity. Hence, relying on a varied documentation -administrative, fiscal, notarial, etc.- it will imply to determine how, in those times, feminine work was inserted or not in the organisation of production (by family or trade). In the particular cases of the trades of art, entertainment and leisure, the researchers will reflect upon the evolution towards the professionalisation of women artists, musicians, painters, etc. (Sylvie Granger). The question of the relationship between genders within the labour world will be at the heart of this research (Dominique Godineau).

### **2-4: The question of seigneurie**

The last topic several members of the team wish to get down to is that of seigneurie. This theme will be specifically considered from the point of view of the levy and the management of the seigneurial goods. To estimate the real weight of the seigneurial levy is a very difficult operation in itself, in particular with regards to the Middle Ages when a great variety of fiscal systems existed and only left very partial sources. Nevertheless, this variety itself needs to be investigated. The objective is to determine whether or not it is possible to establish a typology of the kinds of levy taking into account statuses, local customs, as well as crops and agricultural practices. It will then be possible to focus on certain specific types of levies: those defined as ecclesial (tithe, alter fee, burial fee...) that will be

envisaged with respect to the “gregorian” reform and its effects on the global transformation of seigneurie (Florian Mazel), but also the levies defined as symbolic, of which we will need to define the nature and the concrete functioning: were they real or fictitious levies? Did they require several regular payments or only an all-inclusive tax? A specific enquiry will deal with Central Europe convents -in Austria, Bohemia and Hungary notably. It will try to clarify the way those institutions managed their goods, but also the way material life was organised within them, in order to improve our understanding of the links between poverty and economy as they established themselves in the Middle Ages.

Some modernists in the team also wish to work on the topic of seigneurie. The analysis of Barillon d'Amoncourt's diary (Benoît Musset) should bring a new light to the social ties that unite the author to the inhabitants of his seigneurie of Champagne, as well as on the strategies in terms of commodities management or on the rivalries that opposed him to other users of the land.

### ***3: Cultures and cultural anthropology: history of the body and construction of images of the self***

Authors: Jean-Pierre Lethuillier, Sylvie Granger

History of material culture and cultural anthropology gather several researchers within the CERHIO, whose works deal with the uses of the body: ornaments and looks, hygiene and decency, support, postures, etc. Thus, a second level of research will be that of the history of the body, which leads to a third one: the emphasis on tastes and appearances. Systems of representations are indeed strategies, that can be identified through sociabilities: the latter will be submitted to a political study in a broad sense, including social and gender distinctions, which analysis is the main goal of this line of research.

In practical terms, the themes are organised according to three fields: clothing and dressing practices, dancing and entertainment, and drinking -as an activity linked to the processes of social distinction. Each of these fields are expanded below. The first two mainly concern the modern and contemporary periods, the third one intending to adopt an approach on the very long term. Societies of the West of France will be at the heart of the reflection but wide confrontations within the French and European spaces will be necessary.

#### **3-1: Clothing and dressing practices**

The work that is planned in this field of study partly follows up on the research completed in the past years, but also requires to go beyond previous problems and issues and to reorganise the CERHIO's forces in the field.

The research that was made broke with the traditional approaches of the history of dressing practices, that tended to be confined to a study of the forms, and even allowed to go beyond the issue of appearances. For the modern and contemporary periods, it was possible to make some headway on complex notions (transvestism, dread of sex indifferenciation), to renew our approach of regional costumes (now apprehended as elements of cultural history and not only of regional ethnology, as signs of entry into modernity and not as archaisms). In both cases, we linked our research to economic history on the one hand, and to cultural and ideological history on the other.

But still, these lines of research were developed in independent frames (gender history, history of material culture). Bringing them together within the 2012-2015 four-year contract is in itself a success.

The history of clothing and dressing practices has not spread in French research as much as, for example, the history of feeding, probably because historians addressing that field have defined more clearly the rich cultural and ideological dimensions of their object. This is precisely the aim of the CERHIO, which would like to impulse a more dynamic development. It can rely on partnerships in Universities, in CNRS and in museums. The latter (Galliera Palace, museums of societies such as the Musée de Bretagne, Museon Arlaten, etc.) will be new and important collaborators. A Grouping of scientific interest (GIS) currently under formation will associate academics, museum curators and textile restorers; international connexions will enhance the reflection (Germany, Netherlands, Italy, Romania notably, some of these countries being leaders in that field). As for contemporary periods specifically, oral inquiries will be developed or exploited.

Among the objects around which this research will be formed are the following:

- Standardisation, will require to examine military and professional uniforms, as well as the normed uses of fabrication (clothes-making tools, techniques of the dressmakers, circulation of patterns and models). We will systematically reinsert dressing phenomena in their economic context.

- Evolution of practices, studied in the context of a history of hygiene (which until now has focused on linen more than on clothes proper). Similarly concerning the history of decency: it has included little work on dressing practices, focusing instead on prescriptions and normative discourses: chosen and imposed behaviours, right to femininity, etc. A collective work is planned around the ornament of the woman's face (cosmetics, headgear and hairstyle) and the issues it refers to.

- Complexification of the schemes that used to frame the historical discourse on fashion, opposing curial and/or Parisian norms to a supposed provincial backwardness, whereas research has shown, for the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, original circulations and reuses of models, which were rarely just copied. Contemporary fashion will be studied through the controversies it creates (in its principle as well as in its "excesses"), from the catholic discourses in particular.

- Those approaches rely on a renewal of methods. Classical sources (ancient books, iconography, museum collections) will be considered from their origins, the objective of their making or constitution, their instrumentalisation, in order to be criticised and become objects of history themselves. This approach will imply returning to objects that have been kept, and to an archaeological work (study of the making procedures, wear marks, reflection on uses) which the most innovative museum researchers apply to those objects.

### **3-2: Entertainment and sociabilities**

Beyond the technicality pertaining to some of those fields of inquiry, the team will examine in perspectives of anthropological and social history the field of urban cultural practices: theatre and comedy, ball and concert, reading societies and libraries... and even promenades.

The main direction of this research will be to re-interrogate societies and representations linked to

cultural practices in a broad sense, and particularly those which refer to entertainment and leisure. These themes are too often studied through the Parisian example, and need to be examined in provincial spaces – where of course the Parisian model is present, but followed by whom, to what extent and following what process? These interrogations have been neglected until now concerning cultural elements considered secondary if not futile (dancing, for example). Yet they are important sections of the cultural heritage. It is well-known that dancing repertoires circulated from Paris to the provinces, that 18<sup>th</sup>-Century novelties (“contredanse”, German dancing, “walse”, etc.) reached wider and wider social and geographical circles. But still nothing is known of the practical modalities of this circulation: between imitation and teaching, how did people learn to dance? How and beside whom did people acquire new repertoires, as well as new manners that they assumed and imposed? By which channel did the transmission occur? What price were people prepared to pay to acquire a new image of themselves, a reflection of the background they wished to imitate? Beyond the dancing lesson, we will go in depth into the issue of the ball, in order to try and determine how it brought together, federated or divided urban societies in the provinces.

The project does not aim at studying dancing itself (as a repertoire or a technique) but at using it as an indicator enabling us to identify social exchanges: dancing can show the appropriation of a model coming from the urban centres. Although most of the project focuses on the transmissions occurring under the Enlightenment, we will widen the study to previous centuries through the analysis of dancing and its evocations in the corpus of remission letters of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. This leads us to a field of research that has remained unexplored until now.

These themes are closely linked with many researches currently in progress: history of the body (dancing as the dressage of appearances), gender history (men/women confronted with dancing or at the ball), history of education (masters and pupils, lessons and pedagogy, youth in transition), of social groups (imitations, antagonisms, cleavages, identities), of norms and deviances (dancing and violence, the ball as a social regulator)...

### **3-3: Beverages and society**

On this theme, the CERHIO will carry out research in ancient history, in particular relying on the archaeology of beverages and drinks (milk, beer, mead, wine, etc.) and of their differentiated uses, from the prehistoric period to the Middle Ages; and other works that will be led on a more recent period, from the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries, on the wine-producing worlds and the discourses and practices referring to them. In both cases, the issues of the social and cultural history of tastes as well as the sacred and medicinal practices will be present. Resorting to long-term studies will enable us to identify the differences between different societies as well as the evolution experienced by each of these societies.

The ANR PERHAMO program will be completed in the year 2011 and will lead to the publication of a synthesis at the beginning of the next four-year program. The methodological approach (issue of the archaeological containers, paleogenetical and chemical analyses, etc.) has been well tested, and the uniquely interdisciplinary experience enables us to submit a new program which, in line with the first, will gather historians, archaeologists, epigraphists and archeobotanists around a specific but well-spread category of containers of alimentary and medicinal use, i.e. beverage containers (glasses, chalices, cantharus, bowls, cups, jugs, pitchers, etc.). As in the PERHAMO program, the technical

approach (typology of the forms of containers, identification of their contents) will not be an end in itself but will combine with the other scientific disciplines in order to fund a discourse on daily and holy practices of consumption of substances endowed with nutritive, medicinal and/or psychotropic virtues.

The wine-producing world will also be investigated under the perspective of its evolution since the 17<sup>th</sup> Century to the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The history of consumption has, to a large extent, considered wine as a generic category: a drink that can be alternatively sacred, festal, nutritive, etc. Yet the increasing sophistication of wine production after the 17<sup>th</sup> Century requires a more segmented approach. Wines differ according to a veritable grammar of the good taste where all are not the same, where several acquire specific characteristics. Thus, while the sparkling wine of Champagne has been associated since the years 1710-1720 to the effervescence of the aristocratic parties, the red wine of Beaune maintains a strong medical matrix.

The construction of the discourse on wines of distinction, from the years 1700 to the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, has not been fully exploited yet, despite the many available supports: paintings, posters, gastronomic writings, medical discourses, specialised press, etc. It is also of interest to dwell on the forms of cohabitation between an aesthetic and positive discourse on the wine of distinction mentioned and a pejorative discourse on popular drinks and a virulent denunciation of alcoholism. Beyond normative discourses, the study of this diversification of wine production must also rely on regional inquiries that would allow to measure it. Investigations led in the West and elsewhere, on post-mortem inventories of different social characteristics and selected from different periods of time, must bring light to the types and the origin of the wine drunk, and to the proportions of wine relative to other drinks (cider, in particular). Material culture also has to be studied thanks to the inventory of containers (barrels, bottles) or of serving items (jugs, jars, glass bottles, tin or silver cups, glasses...).

The diversity of investigative methods from one period to another will not prevent to lay down, within the CERHIO, the basis for a overall reflection on the uses of the drinks, in order to go more deeply into the study of the systems of representation and construction of images of the self.

### *Axis III: From land to sea, spaces and exchanges*

III-1: Coastal and rural societies

III-2: Maritime exchanges, merchandise circulation

III-3: Patrimonial approach

#### ***1: Coastal and rural societies***

Authors: Annie Antoine, Gérard Le Bouëdec

##### **1-1: Spaces and their laying out**

The tradition of rural geography, that had been developed in Rennes by geographers (André Meynier, Pierre Flatrès), has been taken up by historians from the CERHIO. Contrary to the environmentologists who present those areas in a very “naturalist” way, the latter insist on the role of the inhabitants in landscape formation. This brings together specialists of the countryside with those of the coast, which are often rural spaces too.

##### **The laying out of rural landscapes**

The study of rural landscapes, explored through important works in the previous years, remains one of the CERHIO's specialisations. Research on landscapes and hedge farmlands in the Middle Ages and the modern era, led by A. Antoine and D. Pichot, have continued with symposiums, seminars, communications and works by students. This theme has progressively taken a strong interdisciplinary orientation: research on hedged farmlands has been led in collaboration with members of the UMR 6566 CREA AH and in particular its current director, D. Marguerie, palynologist (see the publication of the collected papers of the symposium “Bocage et sociétés” edited by A. Antoine and D. Marguerie, Rennes, PUR, 2007). Works have also been realised with geographers of the University of Rennes 2 specialised in damp environments (constructions on rivers and marshes from the Middle Ages to the modern era) as well as with researchers from INRA (“Institut national de la recherche agronomique”) in Rennes (Jacques Baudry and Françoise Burel).

The medievalist historians of the CERHIO in Rennes are proceeding with this field of research linking it to that of the habitat, the seigneurie and the powers. They collaborate with archaeologists from Rennes 1 and INRAP (“Institut national de recherche et d'archéologie préventive”). A thesis is currently under way (supervised by F. Mazel and D. Marguerie), dedicated to the landscape of the North-East of Ille-et-Vilaine in the 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> Centuries with a joint scholarship from the Region and CNRS.

The participation of some members of the Centre to the program COST A 35 (Program for the study of European rural societies), in particular A. Antoine and N. Vivier who belong to its management committee, allowed the development of comparative reflections on a European scale starting from the field of study of Western France. This search for European comparatism has led to several papers abroad on the issue of agrarian systems found in the farmland of Western France, which are both extensive and very specialised (A. Antoine), contributing to an improvement of the reflection and of the questioning. A thesis is under way (co-supervised by A. Antoine and a Norwegian colleague) on agrarian systems and society on the Shetland Islands from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. In the next four-



year program, the issue of the environment and the sustainability of ancient agrarian systems and related societies will be at the centre of the research on rural landscapes.

### **The planning of coastal spaces**

Along the next four-year program, research on the planning of coastal spaces will be combined with works by historians of the environment, notably those of the RUCHE network (“Réseau Universitaire de Chercheurs en Histoire Environnementale”, presented in 2009 in an issue of the RHMC journal), as well as with France Normand who is leading a major program on environment in the University of Québec in Trois-Rivières. The seminar organised around the work of both PhD students from CIEQ and the CERHIO in the autumn of 2009 should be renewed each year until both students have had their viva. As for the sources, we will continue and go more in depth into the exploitation of inquiries: Colbert's inquiries (1664), that of Le Masson du Parc (1726-1728), that of Chardon at the end of the Ancien Régime, the descriptions made and published by the civil engineers of the “Ponts et Chaussées” in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, very informative newspaper articles from the 1870s as well as public enquiries which were shown to be rich in information under the Third Republic by Daniel Closier (EHES). Partnerships with local authorities will be particularly valuable on that aspect. We have been able to work with the Conseil général of Morbihan, but we need to widen our research and valorisation partnerships. Within the GIS of maritime history as well as the CERHIO, we have engaged in collaboration with archaeologists of the DRASSM (“Direction des recherches archéologiques sous-marines”) and we are planning on working more with museums.

As for rural landscapes, the essential object of our observation will be the evolution of coastal territories. It will require to reconstitute their trajectories according to the prevailing practices, following the cycle: development of a cycle, crisis, reactivity, elaboration of a new model. This line of research relies on the setting up of an ANR program “Construction, protection and management of coastal environments in times of crisis” (in progress) and a PhD scholarship obtained in 2009 on “coastal communities confronted with the ocean: measures of protection and conditioning of the coast (late 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Centuries)”. It aims at studying, on the Atlantic coast, the environmental risks and accidents, in particular submersions by sea and sand, and at evaluating the relative weight of natural and human causes (G. Le Bouëdec, C. Cerino, S. Llinares).

The artificialisation of the coast depends to a large extent on harbour constructions. As early as the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, the edification of port structures was endowed with every virtue, and notably that of leading to economic development, even when macro-economic conditions were not favourable. Sylvie Llinares' work (her HDR) on Chardon's inquiry points this out undeniably in the last years of the Ancien Régime. For the years to come, we will not focus on major ports, but on secondary ports which, from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century to the early 20<sup>th</sup>, were major local issues, not always taken into account by national authorities.

### **1-2: Micro-economic approaches of societies**

In the last four-year program we developed what we had previously discovered, i.e. the pregnancy of pluriactivity as a way of management and a way of life, for rural societies as well as coastal ones. We now intend to proceed with this research, with methodological and heuristic objectives.

Studying small, local elites of entrepreneurs has proven the existence of a certain success of

pluriactivity, which demonstrates a real social development. The term of strategy has frequently been used in order to designate this capacity of development and adaptation. For example, in the European Social Science History Conference held in Ghent in 2010, the working group “Methodological tools for the history of the economic role of siblings in traditional societies”, has allowed to measure the importance of family strategies. However, this term of strategy can appear too rational, and the members of the GIS of maritime history prefer that of reactivity, in particular to designate the entrepreneurs' capacity to adapt when confronted with changes in the economic situation, or with conflicts that arose in times of momentary or lasting crises.

Indeed, it appears that in coastal zones, the study of the social network through its micro-elites show processes of social reactivity rather than full-fledged strategies. Research led in small ports highlights family and individual dynamics. This line of research relies on works in progress on the world of small and medium entrepreneurs of the coast, with four theses under way, notably on the elites of the small medium ports from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries and on consular elites in port cities in France under the Ancien Régime. All the components of neighbouring societies appear through the study of conflicts: conflicts of uses between neighbouring communities around the exploitation of a same resource or when the resource begins to run out, conflicts when incompatible uses develop on the same territory, conflicts between users and the authorities, between local authorities and State authorities... The list of possible conflicts would be without end, but what matters is studying them through the issue of their actors.

In rural territories -although here again the difference with coastal zones is meagre- the issue of pluriactivity has given way to that of specialisation. We intend to study how economic specialisation has made progress in traditional societies (on the long term, from the Middle Ages and probably until the 1960s). The basis for this work (A. Antoine, M. Cocaud, research by students), consists in exploiting agricultural accounts in order to analyse precisely all the mechanisms of the management of farms. As in the analysis of pluriactivity (where we replaced the model of the specialised farmer with that of the farmer with multiple activities, showing this did not necessarily lead to misery), it will come down to question the model of specialisation (seen as a factor of progress) as opposed to that of mixed farming (subsistence farming). We aim at supporting an idea we have begun to highlight in several papers by numerous case studies: in old economies, specialisation, although never total (a part of mixed farming has always been necessary to sustain the farmer and his family) has long and often been present. For example, it seems that in Western hedged farmlands, under the Ancien Régime and maybe even before, the fact that 30% of the income came from bovine livestock allows to say that the economy was specialised. This acknowledgement enables us to take a fresh look at old rural societies of Western France.

Other paths will also be explored in the study of rural societies, in particular the study of cadastral evaluations of land properties and built properties (N. Vivier). An essential element of the fiscal system, those evaluations were also a basis for the land market. We will develop two themes: the first is dedicated to the elaboration of the land evaluations: how were they elaborated? Who were their authors? What type of data was gathered in order to establish them? How was information controlled? Can we estimate their reliability? In a wider perspective, the second theme will deal with the links between the evaluation of the commodities realised for the land register and their value on the land market, whether rural or urban. Was evaluation narrowly linked to economic realities or did other factors intervene? The confrontation of different national experiences should allow to understand better the way fiscal estimation functioned.

Finally, it is important to mention a very innovative line of research led in Angers (Yves Dénéchère and Cristiana Oghina-pavie) on the History of the Vegetal in a close collaboration with the “Centre François Viète d'épistémologie et d'histoire des sciences et des techniques” (EA 1161, University of Nantes) and with the “Institut fédératif de recherches (IFR 149) Qualité et santé du végétal (Quasav” which gathers research teams from the University of Angers, of the Agrocampus West-Angers INHP, of INRA Angers-Nantes and of the University of Nantes. This multidisciplinary program which associates historians, historians of the sciences and biologists, relies on joint seminars with biologists and historians; it requires the collection of data in the form of oral inquiries (exploitation of the archives of the vegetal) and leads to publishings as well as works by students. This collaboration between biologists and historians around the theme of the Vegetal is a major emerging theme for the CERHIO, destined to be developed in the course of the next four-year program. Several research programs have been set up and are now seeking funding.

### **1-3: Powers**

Several members of the CERHIO consider they still have findings to make on the issue of powers in coastal regions and of specific forms of politicisation in rural backgrounds. How did infra- or proto-political antagonisms, no matter their scale or intensity, become ideological oppositions, included in wider conflictual structures? What was at stake and how did those generalisations happen? How autonomous was the notion of polity in those conflicts which often reflected rivalries of power? The issue of how the participation in those conflicts widened, i.e. the dynamics of collective commitments, will also require the researchers' attention. How did populations engage in those conflicts? What were the forms and degree of political participation, the nature of partisan aggregations? These interrogations are particularly relevant when applied to the case of village disputes: those small, factional oppositions were instrumental in the politicisation of the countryside in the contemporary era.

The concept of “informal politics”, which was discussed in a symposium in Lorient (december 2009), is particularly useful to understand how, the limits of legitimate politics were set, although never definitively. Researchers whose interest lies in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century will resort to this concept in order to study the modes of imposition and institutionnalisation of a legitimate political order (F. Ploux). L. Le Gall, through the figure of small village notables, whom he calls the “intellectuels”, plans to study the demands of communal splits, that pose the issue of the powers, linked to the development of fishing or tourist activities.

For coastal zones, the local scale will be privileged. Our previous works allowed us to better understand the process of institutionalisation of the coast from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, and hence to highlight the role of the State there. It implies studying the relationship with the polity on the coast, considering political life as conditioned by this particular relation with the State, embodied by the political practices of village and city administrations, and their degree of autonomy on maritime issues. Those questions will be studied over a long period of time, from the Middle Ages to nowadays, in order to take into account the complexity and slowness of the process of assertion of the State on the coast. Nevertheless, from the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, the State's omnipresence, its constraints, its recruiting mariners and workers, its lawmaking on new practices, became the new referent for every local actor and user. On the coast, the State has been mainly embodied by the Navy. The latter must be considered a major political actor, both on the national scale (a thesis is under way) and above all on the local level. This dimension is included in a more global program with the Universities Paris IV, Lille III and the

Historical service of the Ministry of Defense (J. Quaghebeur, J.-B. Bruneau, G. Le Bouëdec, S. Llinares, C. Cérino).

## **2: *Maritime exchanges, risk, conflicts***

Authors: Gérard Le Bouëdec

In our research report, we highlighted our capacity to work on long periods of time and we intend to pursue this approach. We had already adopted an original perspective on Europe/Asia relations by developing the notions of acculturation and technology transfers in the Asia Link program. Romain Bertrand's article (*RHMC*, 2007, “Rencontres impériales: l'histoire connectée et les relations asiatiques”) as well as the scientific ties established with our colleagues from Warwick (already present within the Asia Link program) enable this new orientation to be reinforced and eventually taken into account in the new project of museum of the “Compagnie des Indes”. Simultaneously, following the symposium organised in Québec in 2008 on Atlantic History, the French scientific community has taken hold of the concept (see the symposium of June 2010 entitled “L'impact du monde atlantique sur les “Anciens mondes” en Europe et en Afrique du XVe au XIXe siècles”, relying notably on syntheses by Cécile Vidal [EHESS, special issue on the French Atlantic in 2009] and Jean-Paul Zuniga [*RHMC*, 2007, “L'histoire impériale à l'heure de l'histoire globale, une perspective atlantique”]). The drawback of this approach focusing on the Atlantic is that it does not take into account the Indian Ocean. This constitutes an opportunity for us to demonstrate the interconnexion -or the interaction- of the fluxes of exchanges on a planetary level. In order to depict those phenomena, it will be useful to observe the circulation of merchandise, which implies that we thoroughly understand the complex network of maritime transport connected to the European and American coasts as well as those of the Indian Ocean, not forgetting their connexions with other means of transportation (rivers or roads) in their respective hinterlands. This issue was addressed by our intervention in the symposium of Nantes, in 2010. Finally, we include in that global dimension of exchanges the idea that war can be creative, and not only destructive, in the long run.

### **2-1: The internationalisation of exchanges**

During the last four-year program, we worked on international exchanges over long periods of time through the symposium “De l'amphore au conteneur. Conditionnement et arrimage des navires de mer de l'Antiquité à nos jours” directed by Dominique Frère, who led an ANR project on perfumes and by S. Llinares, on the modern era. Dominique Frère is following this line of research and specifically that of the circulation of beverages, a theme that is also addressed for the modern era (a thesis is under way) and the contemporary era (T. Fillaut).

Research on the internationalisation of exchanges is being profoundly renewed, and we are engaged in new axes of investigation:

1- that of the world history aims at approaching the interconnexion of exchanges on different scales, from coastal shipping (a thesis is under way on the exchanges between Bordeaux and Brittany in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century), the articulation of internal and external exchanges (a thesis was completed on Lyon and the sea), between European connections (a thesis is under way on France and the North in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries), between regional connections and overseas connections (four theses are under way on

France-Asia relations, connected with the Asia Link program). Our French-inclined commitment in Atlantic history opens stimulating perspectives on the feedback from overseas exchanges (G. le Bouëdec, S. Llinares). But J. Ulbert addresses it under a different perspective, interrogating the role played by the economy and the maritime exchanges in Prussia's foreign policy. S. Llinares' project focuses on the problematic of the competitiveness of the ports at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century.

2- that of the Euro-Asian interconnected history opens perspectives from the book on “the taste of India” (included in the Asia Link program) and tends to balance both perspectives on the relations between Europe and overseas countries. It has also led to four ongoing theses on Franco-Asian relations connected to the Asia Link program. The CERHIO can become a research centre on Asia (G. Le Bouëdec, S. Llinares), again relying upon the Historical service of the Ministry of Defence (archives of the “Compagnie des Indes” of Lorient, later of the troops stationed in the Indian Ocean), and the museum of the “Compagnie des Indes” which new project could be associated with a “maison de l'Inde”. We also remain in contact with our former partners of the Asia Link program from Warwick in the UK and Lisboa in Portugal in order to put together a new collaborative project.

## **2-2: Taking into account War on the new world stage**

Historians working on the maritime military have noticed that research in this field has become less and less frequent as far as the modern era is concerned, while it has been developing widely in the contemporary era. However, even for the former era, there has been a noticeable renewal through the issue of the supplying of arsenals, and the possibility to widen the theme of “Navy and Politics” from the contemporary period to the modern era. Another line of research deserves to be explored starting with the comprehension of the coastal military operation, which also opens the way to international comparisons, notably within the War Studies network.

War will be considered a driving force in the new Atlantic economy, part and parcel of the globalisation under way since the 17<sup>th</sup> Century (see P. Hrodej's works on privateering, “la guerre de course”), as well as a means to reconsider the role of the French Navy during the Second World War (J.-B. Bruneau), and a frame for the study of the colonial war prisoners (A. Mabon).

## **2-3: Renewing the approach of maritime accidents**

Shipwrecks will be studied through the “Bureau Enquêtes Analyses” questionnaires, showing a shift from a looting/rescuing approach to a more global analysis of maritime risk.

## **3: Patrimonial approach**

### **3-1: Sources for the history of the rural world**

Exploiting the collections of Agrocampus Ouest

Author: Dominique Poulain

Dominique Poulain was made responsible for safeguarding and exploiting the pedagogical, scientific and cultural patrimony of the institution by its managing director, on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010. Relying on its valuable hundred-year-old history and architecture, Agrocampus Ouest wishes to establish in Rennes a

museographical meeting place: “l'Espace Rieffel”.

The first operations to carry out are the stocktaking of properties as well as the restoring of rooms and the fitting out of premises; then the highly valuable pedagogical and scientific collections, fallen into disuse in the last decades, will be presented within an exhibition room arranged in early-19<sup>th</sup> Century style, in temporary thematic exhibitions organised in collaboration with our cultural partners or in the reconstitution of a chemistry laboratory of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The area will also allow to discover the history of the School from 1830 to our days, and the life of its founder, Jules Rieffel, through an original audiovisual scenography. Exhibitions will be open to the public a few days a year. The whole operation will be carried out between 2010 and 2013 on a budget of around €1,2 million.

### **Audiovisual sources for the history of the rural world**

Author: Martine Cocaud

Along the last decade, several missions have been awarded by the western branch of the INA (“Institut national de l'audiovisuel”) to the CERHIO in order to build an audiovisual database entitled “L'Ouest en mémoire” (“The West in memory”). This work is being realised under Martine Cocaud's direction and implies the collaboration of many students in the redaction of files presenting extracts from the selected films; it has been prolonged at least for the 2010-2011 period and maybe beyond.

See “L'Ouest en mémoire”:

<http://www.bretagne-economique.com/Actualite/Region/article/ouest-en-memoire-l-ina-publie-130.html>

On the same field, Martine Cocaud and Edouard Lynch intend to realise the inventory of audio-visual sources of the rural world. A preparatory study day was organised in the spring of 2010 in order to define the methodological framing of this work: 1- inventory of the films dealing with the rural world in productions by institutions, associations or amateurs, as well as in television broadcasts; 2- reflection on the nature of audiovisual sources and the specific juridical questions their exploitation raises; 3- methodological discussions on the possibilities to exploit those documents with a scientific objective. This inventory will be published online or on print.

### **Programme Plozévet**

Authors: Aurélie Hess, Bernard Paillard

At the beginning of the 1960s, the small town of Plozévet in south-Finistère hosted an interdisciplinary inquiry in social and human sciences, probably the most important of the kind to have ever been carried out in France. It was an extremely original occasion, thanks to the number of researchers and disciplines involved. Studies that were demographical, anthropo-biological, historical and geographical, ethnological as well as sociological and psychological were led. Close to a hundred researchers scrutinised every aspect of the Plozevetians and their lives. This was the opportunity to gather a wide-ranging documentation on the Breton rural world of the decade, at a time of profound upheavals in its land structures and ways of life.

One of the objectives of the inquiry was to lead a “study of the French rural and agricultural world in

its adaptation to modern life conditions”, and indeed, the results show a Breton rural community confronted with the many aspects of modernity. Plozévet is undoubtedly the Breton and even French town which provides most testimonies from this period of rapid changes. They are all the more worthwhile fifty years later. Studying anew that period and comparing it to the present situation enable us to throw a new light on the evolutions experienced since then. The inquiry has been known mainly through two books, that of Edgar Morin (*Commune en France, Les métamorphoses de Plozévet*, Fayard, 1967, 287 p.) and of André Burguière (*Bretons de Plozévet*, Flammarion, 1978, 395 p.).

However, we shall not forget the rest of the documentation produced at the time, both scientific reports and documentary sources under different formats:

-sound sources: 300 hours of interviews recorded during Edgar Morin's inquiry, now belonging to the Donatien Laurent Collection on popular culture;

-audiovisual sources: five films by Robert and Monique Gessain as well as their rushes;

-iconographical sources (the Jacques Windenberger photographic collection, among which about fifty photographs online on the website of the “Archives départementales of the Bouches-du-Rhône”; anthropometric and diverse photographs in the collection of the Centre for anthropological research of the “Musée de l'Homme”, deposited at the “Centre de recherche bretonne et celtique” (CRBC), Université de Bretagne Occidentale, Brest)

-under diverse formats: the archives of the inquiries.

These archives are being digitalised and described through the project Plozcorpus, led by Bernard Paillard, emeritus research director in CNRS, and his team from the CERHIO (Aurélié Hess, Eugénie Ollivier, Laure Welschen), in partnership with the CN2SV (Stéphane Pouyllau, DelphineUsal, “Centre national pour la numérisation de sources visuelles”), and with the support from the “Maison des Sciences de l'Homme de Bretagne” (Catherine Godest, public relations) and the CNRS digital facility TGE Adonis. The first phase of work (digitalisation, documentary processing, description, metadata, uploading) concerns the text and sound archives from Edgar Morin's inquiry. It will be completed at the end of 2010, with a OAI-PMH portal. The site is already available at the following address: <http://plozcorpus.in2p3.fr>. The first forms will be online at the end of the year. The second phase of the work will deal with the remaining archives of the inquiry.

To proceed with Plozcorpus would consist in digitalising and describing not only the “Morin collection” but also those of the other researchers who worked in Plozévet, in order to complete the corpus of the inquiries. That could be done by applying for a grant from the ANR.

Simultaneously, the Plozarch project, supported by the Regional Council of Brittany and the town of Plozévet, intends to favour the appropriation of the findings of those inquiries by the local people themselves. Besides, it consists in actualising some of those data through new groundwork. Directed by Bernard Paillard and coordinated by Laure Welschen, Plozarch gathers local actors (inhabitants, associations, schools) who carry out inquiries. Closely connected to Plozcorpus, it will last three years, at the end of which (2013) a book will be published and audiovisual and sound reports will be edited. A website is already dedicated to the project: <http://plozevet.hypotheses.org>

The whole documentation, that of the 1960s (Plozcorpus) and that which is being gathered thanks to Plozarch, has different digital formats (texts in pdf, images in jpg, films in mov or .lv, sounds in wav mp3) and is prone to the integration into a multimedia document. Films and their rushes have also been digitalised by the “Cinémathèque de Bretagne”, as well as the Donatien Laurent sound collection by the Dastum association; the photographs by Jacques Windenberger will be uploaded on the website of the “Archives départementales des Bouches-du-Rhône”. The multimedia document could be published online or on a DVDrom, drawing inspiration from the Sagasciences files published by CNRS. The content of the document will be centred on Plozévet but shall not limit itself to it: we intend to go beyond the simple monography and rather participate in a wider reflexion on the 1960s, a decade of profound upheavals in Brittany as well as in France. That is why this project is demanding and complex to carry out: it requires important financing and the arrival of new collaborators in the team: graphic designers, scenarists, computer scientists, sound engineers, etc.

### **3-2: Submarine archaeology, history of archaeology**

Author: Christophe Cérino

Today, the development of coastal zones must include the management of heritage and customs of the past. Their promotion in particular in small ports, has been considered a driving force for local development. We can rely on the links established with the international network of submarine archaeology and those to be established with museums around the theme “History, Patrimony, Coast and local development” (C. Cérino and J.-M. Le Boulanger).

In line with the international symposium held in Lorient in June 2009, we will go on reflecting on the process of patrimonialisation of shipwrecks. Three lines of work will be investigated:

-we will take part in the project of Atlas of maritime cultural properties planned by ADRAMAR (“Association pour le développement de la recherche en archéologie maritime”) and supervised by DRASSM. Our contribution will deal with Southern Brittany more particularly where Christophe Cérino has already been supervising, for the “Musée sous-marin du Pays de Lorient”, a program of bathymetry in coordination with the Greater Lorient council (CAP Lorient) as well as an inventory of contemporary shipwrecks.

-the collection, by film, of testimonies related to mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> Century shipwrecks, and the contexts of ship use, is already under way.

-through the organisation of several roundtables about the links between museography, patrimony and submarine archaeology, we intend to reflect more thoroughly on museographical mediations, conservation problems and experiences of multimedia mediations. For this occasion we will notably rely on the GIS of maritime history, DRASS and the “Musée national de la Marine”.

### **3-3: Categorisation and valuation of the archives: books, manuscripts and other supports**

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We intend here to consider archives as subjects of study. Indeed, the definition of archives provided by



the law of 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1979 (according to which archives are all the documents, no matter their date or their support, produced and received by an individual or a corporate body, while in their activities) can only have an instrumental value. It overlooks all the institutional, social, patrimonial, anthropological, identity-related processes which are at work in the highly complex transformation of documents implied by the shift from a status of a mere sub-product of human activities, to that of a sign, considered valuable enough to be preserved over a long period of time. This process of archive production will be investigated according to the following two perspectives.

First of all, professional practices appear to be fundamental. They are the ones which select the archive material, shape it, endow it with means of access, and then deliver it to the users, after a work that cannot be considered only in its purely technical dimension. The seminar we began in 2008 will hence be continued, and will enable us to broaden the issue of classification: general taxonomy, classification schemes, professional methods, individual practices, perception and use by the users, impact of IT. Summaries of the papers are still being regularly published on the HAL-SHS website. A project of book is being considered. An annual study day in February will enable us to discuss various points of view and to deal with other professional practices, which will potentially be addressed more thoroughly in a specific seminar. The following themes will be discussed: Governance and Human rights: the democratic value of archives? (2011); Materiality of the archive material: between preservation and restoration (2012); Museography of the object or museography of the idea: exhibiting the archive document (2013); How mature is IT archiving? (2014).

More generally, understanding better the archiving processes requires to historicise in a more decisive way archive science itself. Admittedly, such a historical archive science exists, but the history of archives has been undoubtedly neglected. This acknowledgement will lead us to undertake the edition of a guidebook of the sources for the history of the public services of archives. It will not consist in an exhaustive inventory but rather in a typological analysis. In the same perspective, an investigation will be dedicated to a fundamental type of document in the functioning of local archives services: the annual activity report (legal context, form, contents, some elements of criticism).

On all those aspects, we will consider the supports no matter where they are kept: archives, libraries or other storing premises, be they public or private, institutional or informal.