History Education in Transnational Perspective: Textbook Revision and the Development of Joint Textbooks

Programme Event

International Committee of Historical Sciences | 26–30 August 2026 | Leipzig, Germany

DATE	LOCATION
29 Aug 2026, 09:00 - 11:30	House 1 SR9 A1004
THEME	CONFERENCE
B - Teaching History and Public History	International Committee of Historical Sciences

Overview

The proposed panel will discuss the history of bilateral textbook commissions and their products - bilateral school history textbooks, from both didactical perspective (as innovative teaching/learning tools), but also seen as political endeavors, as steps on the path of mutual dialogue and understanding left by the older generations for the younger ones. Experiences from existing commissions will be shared with the aim to initiate discussion on the emerging or desired ones that can benefit not only from the material results of the work done, but also from know-how, strategies adopted and rejected, difficulties and the ways to handle them, taking into consideration the variety of educational traditions, school practices, cultural phenomena and political circumstances. Our particular hope is to initiate the dialogue of the bilateral textbooks to be developed in Asia, with the use (and adaptation) of the European experiences. The CISH conference, with the mediation of the International Society for History Didactics and institutional support of the Georg Eckert Institute in Braunschweig (world leading center of textbook research), will create fruitful working atmosphere for a smooth start of such an exchange.

Each of the European panelists will present the historical background of the bilateral commission they participated in, with a special emphasis on the lessons learnt from the process of textbook development and implementation. The Asian participants will refer these presentations to their national and regional contexts, assessing the potential and challenges of undertaking similar projects in relation to Korean-Japanese, Korean-Chinese, or Chinese-Japanese history textbooks.

Participants

Convenor

- Eckhardt Fuchs (Leibniz Institute for Educational Media | Georg-Eckert-Institute)

Chair

- Eckhardt Fuchs (Leibniz Institute for Educational Media | Georg-Eckert-Institute)
- Georg Marschnig (University of Graz)

Panelists

- Steffen Sammler (Leibniz Institute for Educational Media | Georg-Eckert-Institute)
- Georgyi Kasianov (Marie Curie-Sklodowska University, Lublin)
- Sven Saaler (Sophia University Tokyo)
- Igor K?kolewski (Center for Historical Research in Berlin, Polish Academy of Sciences)
- Christina Koulouri (Panteion University of Political and Social Sciences, Athens)

Papers

Introduction

Eckhardt Fuchs (Leibniz Institute for Educational Media | Georg-Eckert-Institute)

Textbook Revision between Western European Countries after 1945

Steffen Sammler (Leibniz Institute for Educational Media | Georg-Eckert-Institute)

Russian–Ukrainian Encounters in School History: Actors, Practices, and Outcomes

Georgyi Kasianov (Marie Curie-Sklodowska University, Lublin)

Bi- and Trilateral History Textbook Research in East Asia in the Age of 'Alternative Facts' and Historical Revisionism

Sven Saaler (Sophia University Tokyo)

Teaching History in Post-Conflict Societies: the Joint History Project in Southeast Europe (1999-2016)

Christina Koulouri (Panteion University of Political and Social Sciences, Athens)

Soviet Bilateral Textbook Commissions in the Cold War: Between Soft Power and Political Control

Daria Khokhlova (University of Zürich)

Polish-German and Franco-German Binational History Textbook Projects as a Completion of the Reconciliation Processes after WW2?

Igor K?kolewski (Center for Historical Research in Berlin, Polish Academy of Sciences)

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