CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE COMITE INTERNATIONAL DES SCIENCES HISTORIQUES

The 20th Century Approached by South American Historiographies: History Writing in Transnational Crossroads

Programme Event

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

DATE	LOCATION
27 Aug 2026, 14:30 - 16:30	House 3 SR223
THEME	CONFERENCE
C - National and Regional Schools of Historiography	International Committee of Historical Sciences

Overview

This panel explores the developments of South American historiographies regarding the 20th century social and cultural histories of local societies. It aims to discuss in which ways the major frameworks of our field of knowledge have set the tones and boundaries of History writing by local scholars, and, on the other hand, how local perspectives on national or regional South American histories have helped to enrich broader environments of historiographical debates.

The panel comprises five papers related to specific historiographical approaches. In all of them, the reflection on the contours of modernity and modernization in South American contemporary society has a central role.

Barbara Weinstein´ paper focuses on the domain of labor history, shedding light on how, in the past decades, other categories of workers, beyond the classic conception of an industrial working class, have been envisaged as part of shaping of a modern society in Brazil.

Gabriela Pellegrino´s sheds light on the circulation of social forms of mobilization in the Amazon, overcrossing the national borders. It approaches the social demands coming from various social groups for the creation of different kinds of “reservations”.

Olivier Compagnon´s paper presents a balance of the uses of the social history of ideas by South American scholars in the field of religion, particularly regarding the intellectual debates that shaped, in transnational bases, the theology of liberation.

Camila Gatica Mizala´s addresses the debates on transnational cultural circulation related to the cinema and the ideas of modernity of Chilean and Argentinean urban societies. To close the panel, Juan David Murillo Sandoval discusses how the history of books and the history of media – of both, radio and television – have renewed perspectives on contemporary cultural practices among urban and rural population in Colombia.

Panelists work with the premise that the developments of the historiography represent not only a contribution as “case studies” resulting from international historical frameworks, but that they have been offering decisive elements to reframe the field of History as a whole.

Participants

Convenor

- Gabriela Pellegrino Soares (University of São Paulo)

Panelists

- Barbara Weinstein (New York University)
- Gabriela Pellegrino Soares (University of São Paulo)
- Olivier Compagnon (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle)
- Camila Gatica Mizala (Universidad de Chile)
- Juan David Murillo Sandoval (Instituto Caro y Cuervo)
- Marcos Leitão de Almeida (University of São Paulo)

Papers

Labor History and Global History: the working class in Brazil

Barbara Weinstein (New York University)

Historical overcrossings in the Amazon: social and symbolic struggles

Gabriela Pellegrino Soares (University of São Paulo)

The Theology of Liberation and the Social History of Ideas

Olivier Compagnon (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle)

Going to the movies and ideas of modernity in Chile and Argentina: a Cultural History

Camila Gatica Mizala (Universidad de Chile)

History of Books and Media: grasping cultural practices in Colombia

Juan David Murillo Sandoval (Instituto Caro y Cuervo)

Hell on Earth: Slaving Strategies in the South Atlantic

Marcos Leitão de Almeida (University of São Paulo)

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