

ISRH

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR REGIONAL HISTORY

CALL FOR PAPERS

1st

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR REGIONAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

21-22 September 2023 (virtual WEBINAR format)

Regions from a Historical Perspective

The new regional history focuses to obscured points in traditional historiography. A growing number of scholars in the humanities and social sciences have turned their attention to space as a means of understanding historical processes. History-oriented scholars have deliberately included such terms as "region", "space" and "territory" into the focus of historiography, too. There are many different interpretations of regional history in literature, today. The old regional histories under the German label *Landesgeschichte* and the history of *Heimat* still have lively traditions. Equally so the regional studies activities in the United Kingdom since the mid-20th century. It's historiography, globally viewed, still requires more robust and clearer direction.

Many regional scientists define regions as a level between local and national. This conception has also been adopted by some historians. The new regionalism has given a new importance to the histories of areas. Much attention has been given to the territories that cross state borders, ethnologic borders, and linguistic borders. Such phenomena as divided cities, the economic and cultural micro-regions and the contemporary history of so-called potential states can be studied under the label of regional history. A border can also have mental nature. Such themes as immigration, linguistic minorities and the multifaceted sense of belonging to a place and community can be interesting themes in historical perspective. Regional history may study artificial regions too: that may never have had historical identity but could still be reasonably restricted by some meaningful research criteria. An entirely different meaning for regional history has been developed in the research of international macro-regions. Such phenomena as globalisation and international business draw attention to the level of continents and free trade areas. This concept is commonly used by economic historians and globalisation researchers. The first ISRH Webinar "Regions from a historical perspective" will present the broad variation in regional history. All contributions that connect temporality to any kinds of regional bodies are welcome.



university of
groningen

Keynote Speakers:



Prof Sulevi Riukulehto
(Vice Chair of the ISRH Steering Committee)

Theme: *Why regional history, why globally and why now?*

Prof Riukulehto works as Research Director in Regional History and Cultural Heritage at the University of Helsinki Ruralia Institute, Finland.



Prof Elize S van Eeden
(Chairperson of the ISRH Steering Committee)

Theme: *Considering the many variations of regional history*

Prof van Eeden is an NRF-rated professor of History and specializes in regional history in multidisciplinary contexts. She is Deputy Director of the School of Social Sciences at the Vanderbijlpark campus, North-West University, South Africa.



Prof Marijn Molema
(Board member of the ISRH Steering Committee)

Theme: *Towards a new Regional Economic and Policy History*

Prof Molema is a professor (by special appointment) of Regional Vitality & Dynamics, University of Groningen, Netherlands, Faculty of Arts, dept. of Economic and Social History.

Sub-themes:

- Transnational regions / Regionalism and History
- Historical constructions of regions
- Social History and regions
- Regional cultures in History
- Regional history and economic development
- The regional in local histories
- Identity and regions
- Ethnicity
- Gender in regional history contexts
- Cross border regions
- Security and conflicts

Deadline for submissions:

28 February 2023. A title and abstract of no more than 250 words are to be submitted. Follow the link for Abstract submissions: <https://isrh.org/services/>

Registration fee

The 1st ISRH will be sponsored – no webinar fee will be charged for attendants.

Website info:

Registration link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeWwep3FIDBvUgm5TAYIly2PBEPsPIWqq68pZrJcQyMTIreQ/viewform>

Membership invitation link: <https://isrh.org/membership/>

Coordinator:

For any inquiries contact Ms Yolandi Strydom (E-mail: openbookdesign9@gmail.com)

Webinar Organisers:

The Steering Committee of the ISRH – Prof Toyin Falola (University of Texas at Austin, USA); Prof Umesh Ashok Kadam (Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India); Prof Kenneth Murray Knuttila (Professor Emeritus, Brock University, Canada); Prof Sulevi Riukulehto (University of Helsinki, Finland); Prof Elize S van Eeden (North-West University, South Africa); Prof Marijn Molema (University of Groningen, Netherlands); Mr Fumihiko Koyata (Hirosaki University, Japan); Mr Emile Coetzee (North-West University, South Africa).