

# INTH | Newsletter February 2026



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## **RETHINKING HISTORICITY: EXPLORING TEMPORAL RELATIONS IN A CHANGING WORLD**

6th network conference of the International Network for Theory of History — Tallinn (Estonia), 19–22 May 2026

The International Network for Theory of History (INTH) is pleased to announce that its sixth network conference will take place from 19 to 22 May 2026 at the School of Humanities in Tallinn University (Estonia). The conference aims to bring together historians, philosophers, and researchers from related fields worldwide to explore questions in the theory of history and historiography, exchange perspectives, and foster new collaborations.

### **PLEASE READ THE INFORMATION BELOW CAREFULLY!**

You can find the program [here](#).

For those who have been selected to present a paper at the INTH conference:

- Please remember to complete your registration via [this](#) link.
- Please upload your updated abstract [here](#).
- If you still need to make changes to your presentation title or your affiliation, you can do so through [this](#) link.

**For all participants:** please make sure to complete your official conference registration via [this](#) link.

You can find all the practical information on our [website](#).

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**THE FUTURE OF INTH — STATUTES**

The International Network for the Theory of History (INTH) was founded in 2012 in Ghent and has since grown into a vibrant community of over 1,500 scholars. Through the network, we facilitate the exchange of ideas and collaboration, by offering a directory of theorists of history, an online community-based [bibliography](#) of theory of history, as well as a forum for announcing events.

As we prepare for the next Biannual Network Conference in 2026, to be held in Tallinn, we formed a working group to reflect on the future direction of INTH. Our goal was to explore new services and resources we could offer to theorists of history worldwide, as well as to consider the legal structure of the network.

After several meetings, and with the help of many committed contributors, we have prepared **a first version of our [Statutes](#)**. As you will read, we will be working with a **membership** structure, and INTH will be coordinated by a **board** consisting of approximately seven members, as well as an **advisory board**.

**If you have any comments or suggestions regarding these statutes, please let us know at [inth@ugent.be](mailto:inth@ugent.be).**

During the conference in Tallinn, our first General Assembly will take place.

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### **The politics of Historicization: Inaugural Lecture Series**

Historicization — treating an object, idea or phenomenon as historical — has often been associated with critical thinking, democratic dialogue and political emancipation. However, historicization has also faced persistent skepticism. Critics warn it can lead to moral relativism, undermine communal identities, or impose cultural imperialism.

This lecture series explores the promises and critiques of historicization by examining questions such as: What does it mean to historicize an idea, or phenomenon? And is it typically modern? What political, ethical, or cultural values does historicization promote, obscure or suppress? When does historicization serve as a tool of critique, emancipation, or democracy — and when does it constrain political imagination or moral judgment?

Alongside the lectures, a monthly reading group will create space for collective reflection on these themes.

**12.02.2026: What is Historicization?— Kenan Van de Mierop** (Universiteit Leiden). Exploring the conceptual foundations and genealogies of historicization as a mode of thought.

**26.02.2026: History as Destruction — Katherina Kinzel** (Universiteit Utrecht). Exploring the critiques of historicization as destructive set of operations.

**20.03.2026: Historicization, Testimony and Epistemic Justice — Jonas Ahlskog** (Åbo Akademi University). On the ethical and epistemological dimensions of historicizing experience and witnessing.

**24.04.2026: Koselleck and the Historicization of Historicism — Fernando Esposito** (Universität Konstanz).

**13.05.2026: Historicizing Gender — María Inés La Greca** (National University of Tres de Febrero). On

**26.06.2026: Historicization and the Legitimacy of Democracy — Irène Herrman** (Université de Genève). How historicization has been mobilized to promote, defend, or question democratic ideals/practices/institutions.

**All lectures are hybrid.** More information on our [website](#).

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## REVIEWS

Since its establishment, INTH has managed a review section for books in the theory of history and history of historiography. We are grateful to our reviewers who have written English reviews of books in various languages, and to authors who have alerted us about their publications.

[Here](#) you will find the list of books we would like to be reviewed. If you are interested in writing a review (or you have a book up for review), please contact us. Further information can be found on our [website](#).

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## CONFERENCES

**27.02.2026:** [Workshop: Teaching Theory of History & Philosophy of the Humanities \(Utrecht, the Netherlands\)](#)

**9-10.03.2026:** [Women of the Museum XL: The \(Museum's\) Future is Female \(Amsterdam, the Netherlands\)](#)

**20.03.2026:** [Annual Conference The Modern Age: Celebration! Anniversaries and commemorations in the Low Countries, 1780-1940](#)

**16-17.04.2026:** [Tragedy and Resistance \(Literaturforum im Brech-Haus, Berlin\)](#)

**19-22.05.2026:** 6th INTH Conference: [Rethinking historicity: exploring temporal relations in a changing world \(Tallinn, Estonia\)](#)

**10-12.06.2026:** [18th Annual Conference of the Society of the Study of Childhood in the Past \(SSCIP\)](#)

**17-19.06.2026:** [International PhD Seminar in American History / American Studies Middelburg \(Middelburg, the Netherlands\)](#)

**02-03.07.2026:** [Workshop Conservative Women: Politics and Gender from 19th century – 21th century \(Antwerp, Belgium\)](#)

**26.07.—01.08.2026:** [Aurora Summer School NeoLEMoS: Neo-Latin for Early Modern Studies](#)

**27-29.08.2026:** [Historians' Days 2026: The Future of History \(Leiden, the Netherlands\)](#)

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

**13.03.2026:** International PhD Seminar in American History / American Studies Middelburg (Middelburg, the Netherlands)

**01.05.2026:** Journal of the Philosophy of History— Trust and Truth: Testimony and the Epistemic Validity of Historical Writings

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## LECTURES

**26.02.2026:** History as Destruction — Katherina Kinzel (Universiteit Utrecht). Exploring the critiques of historicization as destructive set of operations. (Ghent, Belgium, and online)

**06.03.2026:** Book Launch: Lottery fantasies in Europe (Utrecht, the Netherlands)

**19.03.2026:** Book talk: On Pedantry. A Cultural History of the Know-it-All (CHS) (Utrecht, the Netherlands)

**20.03.2026:** Historicization, Testimony and Epistemic Justice — Jonas Ahlskog (Åbo Akademi University). On the ethical and epistemological dimensions of historicizing experience and witnessing. (Ghent, Belgium, and online)

**25.03.2026:** Book launch 'Cultural History for a Changing World' (Utrecht, the Netherlands)

**24.04.2026:** Koselleck and the Historicization of Historicism — Fernando Esposito (Universität Konstanz).

**07.05.2026:** Seminar Femke Valkhoff & Tijmen van Voorthuizen: Writing women and drinking queers (CHS) (Utrecht, the Netherlands)

**13.05.2026:** Historicizing Gender — María Inés La Greca (National University of Tres de Febrero). On historicization and embodiment in feminist and queer historical theory. (Ghent, Belgium, and online)

**02.06.2026:** Seminar Carine Zaayman and Jody Metcalfe: Dutch Colonial Histories and Its Afterlives (CHS)

**26.06.2026:** Historicization and the Legitimacy of Democracy — Irène Herrman (Université de Genève). How historicization has been mobilized to promote, defend, or question democratic ideals/practices/institutions. (Ghent, Belgium, and online)

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## READING GROUPS

**13.03.2026:** The politics of Historicization: periodization and sovereignty

**08.05.2026:** The politics of Historicization: unhistoricism in queer studies

**05.06.2026:** The politics of Historicization: Contextualism

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## POSITIONS

Kind regards,

*The INTH team*