

## **Business Meeting of the Working Group on Historical Approaches in Cultural Analysis**

**17th Congress SIEF Congress, Aberdeen,**

**June 5th 2025, 13.00-14.15 (hybrid)**

### **Participants (in-situ)**

#### **Members**

Hande Birkalan-Gedik

Katre Kikas

Gabriele Orlandi

Susanne Österlund-Pötzsch

#### **Guests**

Marija Dalbello

Oriane Girard

Sanna Kähkönen

Karina Lukin

### **1. Welcome**

Hande Birkalan-Gedik and Gabriele Orlandi welcomed participants and introduced themselves. Members and guests at the working group business meeting introduced themselves.

### **2. Approval of the agenda**

Hande Birkalan-Gedik proposed the following agenda for the meeting:

- (1) Approval of the agenda,
- (2) Reports from the current chairs,
- (3) Other publications by HACA Members
- (4) Planned Activities for 2025 and 2026,
- (5) AOB,
- (6) Farewell and Closing.

The agenda was approved by the participants. Hande Birkalan-Gedik led the meeting. Minutes were taken by Katre Kikas.

### **3. Reports from the current chairs**

**Working group conference.** Hande Birkalan-Gedik and Gabriele Orlandi talked about the interim conference of the working group that took place on June 13 and June 14, 2024, in Marburg, Germany. The conference was titled *Reimagining of Europe: De-colonizing Historical Imaginaries, Disciplinary Narratives in Folklore and Ethnology and Beyond*. Ten

papers given at the conference explored Europe and European-ness as shifting social constructs, entangled in complex and transnational negotiations and encounters. The conference was full of fruitful and stimulating discussions and it is worth to continue with the tradition of smaller and more intimate meetings of the HACA.

The event was organised by Hande Birkalan-Gedik and Gabriele Orlandi (HACA co-chairs), Anna Caroline Haubold (HACA secretary) and Viktorija Ceginiskas (HACA member) with the valuable financial support of SIEF and the *Herder Institut für historische Ostmitteleuropaforschung* (Herder Institute for historical research on Eastern and Central Europe).

A Special Issue with selected papers is in the review process with AJEC (editor Hande Birkalan-Gedik).

**Special Issue of Cultural Analysis.** Hande Birkalan-Gedik introduced the Special Issue of Cultural Analysis *Encountering Uncertainties in Ethnology and Folklore* (volume 23:1; edited by Hande Birkalan-Gedik, Katre Kikas and Konrad J. Kuhn) that grew out of the panel *Encountering uncertainties: ethnographic methods and national traditions* organized by HACA at the SIEF 2023 Conference in Brno. Katre Kikas and Sanna Kähkönen spoke about their articles, Hande Birkalan-Gedik introduced other contributions.

**Panel at SIEF2025.** Hande Birkalan-Gedik and Gabriele Orlandi organized a panel entitled *Un/writing disciplinary histories: transnational, transcultural, and transdisciplinary dialogues in ethnology and folklore* (2 sessions and a roundtable).

#### 4. Other Publications by HACA members

Hande Birkalan-Gedik introduces a forthcoming volume that grew out from a panel at SIEF 2021 online conference: Lauri Turpeinen, Konrad Kuhn, Hann Snellman. Forthcoming in 2025. *Political Dimensions of Ethnological Knowledge in Post-War Europe*. Helsinki: Finnish Literature Society.

Marija Dalbello introduced a volume that was an outcome of the panel at the SIEF 2017 in Göttingen: Salmi-Niklander, Kirsti, Dalbello, Marija (2022) *Reading Home Cultures Through Books*. New York: Routledge.

Marija Dalbello talked about a recent volume on transnational women's writing in the nineteenth century: Dalbello, Marija, Wadsworth, Sara 2024. *Global Voices from the Womens Library at the Worlds Columbian Exposition: Feminisms, Transnationalism and the Archive*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Marija Dalbello, Oriane Girard, Sanna Kähkönen and Karina Lukin were invited to become members of the WG.

Caroline Haubold is stepping down as the secretary of the WG after more than six years and the WG will continue with Hande Birkalan-Gedik and Gabriele Orlandi as co-chairs.

#### 5. Planned Activities for 2025 and 2026

**Online seminars.** Hande Birkalan-Gedik and Gabriele Orlandi discussed plans to launch the series of online seminars (approximately one seminar every semester—Spring and Fall). They really hope that the seminars will create a livelier network and would be a great opportunity to discuss common interests within our group. The idea is to invite experts from different fields

who could give new insights into the areas of interest of the members of the working group. Seminars would also be excellent place to introduce ongoing projects. All ideas are welcome through emailing Hande Birkalan-Gedik and Gabriele Orlandi!

**HACA interim meeting 2026.** The co-chairs opened their plans for the next interim conference. Quite possibly it will take place in May 2026 in the Institute for Ethnology and Social Anthropology in Aix-en-Provence (France). The tentative title is: *Global Scripts, Local Echoes: Post-Folklore Histories Meets Heritage Regimes* and the idea is to focus on the shifts that took place in 1950s and afterwards. There is a plan to cooperate with the SIEF working group of Cultural Heritage and Property, as the topic converges with their focus. The participants of the meeting proposed to widen the scope of the conference to bring in more historical width. The conveners will consider these suggestions and explore the best options for the HACA members.

## 5. AOB

**Pre-print circulation of the publications.** Gabriele Orlandi proposes that working group members could circulate their pre-print publications among themselves to get feedback.

## 6. Farewell and closing.

The meeting ends at 14.15 o'clock

Minutes by Katre Kikas (13.6.25)

Hande Birkalan-Gedik (21.6.25)

Gabriele Orlandi (21.6.25)

*Hande Birkalan-Gedik*

*Gabriele Orlandi*