

Provisional programme

“Nations, knowledge, ideologies from the 18th century to today”

Université de Lorraine - IDEA Nancy

14th-16th October 2026

Wednesday 14 October 2026

1.30 pm: welcome

2 pm: introduction/opening

2.30 pm: Plenary speaker – Stefan Berger, Ruhr-Universität Bochum: “History and the (re)construction of national identity in twentieth-century Britain, US and Australia – comparative perspectives”

Chair: to be announced

3.15 pm: break

3.30 pm. – 5 pm: Les savoirs et la construction de la nation // Shaping knowledge, framing nationhood - chair : to be announced

- Richard Somerset (Université de Lorraine) - The power of the past: polemics of nationhood-construction in late 18th century England
- Camille Auboin (Université Paris Nanterre) - German colonialism, science, nation-building, 1900
- Rémi Boucay (EHESS) - “A work that should grow with the country”: military Science and national interests at the U.S.-Canada border in the 19th century.

5 pm-5.15 pm: break

5.15 pm – 6.45 pm: Les savoirs et la construction de la nation (2) // Shaping knowledge, framing nationhood (2) – chair : to be announced

- Elsbeth Heaman (McGill University) - Knowledge and the American Multilateral Turn in 1940
- Louise Dalingwater (Sorbonne Université) - Nation and narration: The case of the National Health Service (NHS)
- Émilie De Witte (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle) - From Statistics to the Nation: The Invention of the “White Working Class” in British Knowledge on Educational Inequalities

7 pm: concert by the Ensemble Arcovivo

7.30 pm: cocktail

9 am - 10.30 am:

Les frontières au défi des savoirs, les savoirs au défi des frontières // Borderwork: frontiers and the shaping of knowledge— chair : to be announced

- Céline Sabiron (Université de Lorraine) - The Making of National Identities: Travel Translation, Periodical Criticism and Franco-Scottish Mediations in the 1820s
- Saimaiti Maimaitming (Europa Universität Viadrina) - Johann Gottlieb Fichte and the Making of Chinese and Turkish Nationalism
- Eyup Ozvern (independent scholar / Middle East Technical University), Alp Kaya (Ege University) & Ozgur Erdem (Dokuz Eylül University) -The Drivers and Limits of the Shift from French to German Influence in Turkish Economic Thought

Éducation, enseignement et disciplines au service de la nation // Tools in the service of nationhood : education, pedagogy, disciplines— chair : to be announced

- Yuetong Li (Cambridge University)- Merely Auxiliary? The Hilfswissenschaften and the Hierarchy of National Historical Knowledge in Germany, 1830–1900
- Trung Thien Kim Nguyen (CY Cergy) - From Hutcheson to Reid: The National Dimensions of Knowledge in the Scottish Enlightenment
- Michael Schiefelbein (Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn) - Landscapes, Bodies and Written Artifacts: On the geophilosophical Principles of historiography and institutionalised teaching of history in early Israel
- Daniel Tröhler & Nicole Gotling (University of Vienna) - Educating the nation, and the nation in education

10.30 am-11 am- break

11 am – 12.30 pm: Situer la frontière: politiques de la géographie // Situating the frontier: the politics of geography – chair: to be announced

- Asis Mistry (Calcutta University) - Knowing the Border, Imagining the Nation: Knowledge Circulation and the Construction of National Identity in the Indo-Nepal Borderland (remote)
- Philippe Cauvet (Université Bourgogne Europe)- Science, nation & democracy: rethinking Irish constitutional nationalism's approach to partition after Sunningdale
- Reia Farrall-Anquet (Université de Nouvelle Calédonie)- Australia and the Indo-Pacific: Knowledge, Anxiety, and Naming

12.30 pm – 2pm: lunch

Thursday 15 October 2026 (afternoon)

2 pm - 3pm: Plenary speaker – Guy Beiner, Visiting Professor, Globalization Program, Venice International University & Professor of History and Sullivan Chair of Irish Studies, Boston College

Chair: to be announced

3.15 pm - 4.45 pm:

La culture et ses supports : (re)définir les contours de la nation // The formats of culture and the framing of nationhood – chair : to be announced

- Leonor Veiga (independent researcher & art curator)- Venice Biennale (1895-2026) (remote)
- Hanna Steinert (Heidelberg University)- Art as soft power – The Roma Pavilions at the Venice Art Biennale (remote)
- Emilie Seguin (Université Gustave Eiffel) - Painting the territory and defining the contours of the nation: J.M.W. Turner's Picturesque Views in England and Wales

La nation au croisement de la théorie et de la pratique // Nationhood: theory and praxis – chair : to be announced

- Laurie Bréban (Université Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne)- De la fiction à la pratique coloniales : le projet utopique de Vasco de Quiroga
- Colin Tyler (University of Hull)- The Role of Knowledge(s) in National Reconstruction: Viscount (R.B.) Haldane, philosopher ideologue, and institutional economist
- Julie Mommeja (Université de Lorraine) – A New Cyber-Nation : Ideologies and Utopias of a Cyberspace Under Construction

4.45 pm-5.15 pm: break

5.15 pm-6.45 pm:

La culture et ses supports : (re)définir les contours de la nation (2) // The formats of culture and the framing of nationhood (2) – chair : to be announced

- Juliana Lopoukhine (Sorbonne Université)- Stateless writers: challenging national classifications
- Lise Jaillant (Université de Lorraine)- Archives and AI: Rethinking National and Imperial Narratives in the Digital Age
- Joachim Danaxon (Université Grenoble Alpes) - Redéfinir la civilisation, combattre la barbarie : le journalisme comme instrument de contestation des discours coloniaux européens et du pouvoir monarchique dans le Royaume du Nord d'Haïti

La nation au croisement de la théorie et de la pratique (2) // Nationhood : theory and praxis (2) – chair : to be announced

- Alessandro Dividus (University of Turin) - Meritocracy as a Technology of National Legitimation: Institutions, Elites, and the Politics of Selection
- Cyril Hédoin (Université Reims Champagne-Ardenne) - The Borders of Public Reason: National Identity and Nationalism in Public Reason Liberalism
- Rajesh Shukla (Saint Paul University, Ottawa) - On the Intersections of Minorities Rights and Multicultural Citizenship in Canada

7.30 pm: Gala dinner

Friday 16 October 2026

8.15 am – 8.45 am: welcome

8.45 am- 9.45 am: Plenary speaker - Richard Bourke, University of Cambridge: “Europe in Universal Histories from Voltaire to Hegel”

Chair: to be announced

9.45 am - 11:15 am:

Récits d’identité et héritage colonial // Narratives of identity and the colonial legacy – chair : to be announced

- Jennifer Nielsen (Southern Cross University, Australia) - Who calls Australia home? The racial logics of being “Australian” (remote)
- Jean Dellemotte (Université Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne)- Quatre nuances d'eurocentrisme : regards du XVIIIe siècle sur le retard économique des populations autochtones
- Laura Singeot (Université de Tours)- Truth-Telling Beyond the Nation: Decolonial Knowledges and Conflicting Histories in Sharlene Allsopp’s The Great Undoing (2024)

Nation et économie : du concept à la discipline économique // Economics and the nation: emergence of a discipline – chair : to be announced

- Marc Deschamps & Joël Ravix (Université Marie and Louis Pasteur) - A Look Back at the Concept of National Political Economy
- Quentin Savignat (Université Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne)- What is a nation for an economist? The notion of productive power in France, Germany and the United-States around 1820
- Marlyse Pouchol (Université de Reims Champagne Ardennes)- The Nation and the Concept of Society in the History of Economic Thought

11.15 am-11.30 am: break

11.30 am.-12.30 pm: round table (chair : to be announced)

Karine Bigand (Aix Marseille Université), Pauline Collombier (Université de Lorraine), Karin Fischer (Université d’Orléans) : “Nation building on the island of Ireland : narratives and mediators”/ « Constructions nationales sur l’île d’Irlande : récits et passeurs »

12. 20 pm-12.40 pm: closing remarks

12.40 - 2pm: lunch

3 pm- 5pm: guided visit of Nancy.