

## TOWARDS A FAMILY HISTORY WITHOUT FRONTIERS<sup>†\*</sup>

Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux<sup>\*\*</sup>

**Abstract:** *The first part of this essay presents the teaching and research tradition put into practice by the Annales School of history, in France since 1929 and how its academic interdisciplinary spirit adapted over the years, with continuity and changes, keeping its flexibility and original innovative scientific potential, with an historical approach transcending space and time limits. The following part gives examples of topics discussed in the frame of Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux research seminar series held between 2002 and 2023, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) in Paris, School of advanced studies in the social sciences, sessions dedicated to presentations and discussions related to the comparative history of the family and reproduction systems. Among other interests, these included socio-differentiation, poverty, health, care, marriage, family structure and models of transmission, female strategies, labour and resilience facing crisis, keeping a gender approach as a priority. The last part of the article unravels the launching of a new History of the Family research seminar series, at “George Barițiu” Institute of History of the Romanian Academy, Cluj-Napoca, for building comparative interdisciplinary frameworks towards a history of the family without frontiers. It is time to take account of emerging new family models, supported by digital communication, as the development of transnational families or new forms of family formation, in a context of globalisation, currently favouring events of the day and short-term memories. It is argued that whatever new research tools and quantitative sources largely available, it is important to have a secure discussion forum encouraging free debates within academic networks, allowing independent brainstorming without any frontiers of space or time.*


**Keywords:** Family history, Annales school, multidisciplinary, globalisation, gender, family strategies.

### Introduction

Regular seminars on Family History and Historical Demography took place in Paris, up to last June 8, 2023<sup>1</sup>, entitled “Power and dependencies within the family:

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\*\*Extraordinary Professor at the University of the Western Cape, Statistics and Population Studies Department, Bellville, Republic of South Africa; e-mail: antoinette.fauve-chamoux@ehess.fr;  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7956-0235>

<sup>1</sup> This collective seminar 2022–2023 (teaching unit n° 951, *École des Hautes Études en Science Sociales*, Paris), brought together partners of the teaching team with registered advanced students and researchers at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, 75014 Jourdan Campus, with a large and regular international bilingual participation, English and French; source accessible at: <https://enseignements.ehess.fr/2022-2023/ue/951>.

comparative perspectives (16<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> centuries)”, under the present author’s leadership and chairing, with the label of *École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales* (EHESS) / School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, and in partnership with several institutions and international colleagues<sup>2</sup>. These panels were held since 2002. This essay intends first to explain the long-term scientific tradition of multidisciplinary approach supporting the way Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux’s EHESS collective research seminar was organized up to academic year 2022–2023. The learning tradition put into practice was “teaching research by research”<sup>3</sup>. The following part is putting into perspective the main topics addressed: socio-differentiation, poverty, health, care, marriage, family structure and models of reproduction, female strategies, labour and resilience facing crisis. Thanks to scientific debates and multiple case studies, major scientific advances were noted. Overall, we were building comparative interdisciplinary frameworks, both on macro and micro studies. Last part expresses the wish to go forward, opening fresh perspectives for a new History of the Family series, hosted by the “George Barițiu” Institute of History of the Romanian Academy, Cluj-Napoca.

## I. The Learning Tradition

### A. Multidisciplinary historical approach

In France, Historical Demography and History of the Family emerged as twin disciplines, within social sciences, as attested by the present author along previous studies<sup>4</sup>. During the second part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, History of the Family, combining

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All sessions took place in hybrid format, in partnership with Marie-Pierre Arrizabalaga, generously providing online platform facilities through AGORA, a multidisciplinary research centre for the human and social sciences (EA 7392), Cy Cergy University Paris; source accessible at: <https://cyagora.cyu.fr/>.

<sup>2</sup> Besides Marie-Pierre Arrizabalaga, CY Cergy University Paris and Mary Louise Nagata, Francis-Marion University, USA, founding partners, other regular partners of this seminar were Claudia Contente, Pompeu Fabra University, Spain, Lucia Carle, Revelli Foundation, Italy, Marius Eppel, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania and Helena da Silva, Nova University, Lisbon, Portugal.

<sup>3</sup> *École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales* (EHESS) believes in training for research by doing research; source accessible at: <https://www.ehess.fr/en/en/research-ehess>.

<sup>4</sup> *A Global History of Historical Demography. Half a Century of Interdisciplinarity*, Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, Ioan Bolovan, Sølvi Sogner (eds.), Bern, Peter Lang, 2016 [further: *A Global History of Historical Demography. ...*]; Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, *A la croisée des disciplines, la démographie Historique*, “Revue Roumaine d’Histoire”, LVII, No. 1–4, 2020, p. 89–110; Eadem, *Historical Demography, Natural Daughter of the Annales School*, in vol.: *Jednostka, rodzina i struktury społeczne w perspektywie historycznej. Księga jubileuszowa dedykowana Profesorowi Cezaremu Kukli z okazji 45-lecia pracy naukowej* [Individual, family and social structures in historical perspective. A Jubilee book dedicated to Professor Cezary Kuklo for the 45th anniversary of his scientific work], Piotr Łozowski, Radek Poniat (eds.), Białystok, Instytut Badań nad Dziedzictwem Kulturowym Europy [Research Institute on the Cultural Heritage of Europe], 2022, p. 270–286.

qualitative and quantitative data, was connected to the strong long-term influence of the interdisciplinary and international spirit developed, beginning 1929, by Lucien Febvre and Marc Bloch, around the historical journal “*Annales d’histoire économique et sociale*”, which title was modified several times thereafter<sup>5</sup>.

### 1. From “*Annales d’histoire économique et sociale*” (1929) to “*Annales E.S.C.*” (1946)

Historian Lucien Febvre (1878–1956), Professor at University of Strasbourg (from 1919 to 1933), met the medievalist Marc Bloch (1886–1944)<sup>6</sup>, who shared his conception of history. Together, they created a quarterly journal, the “*Annales d’histoire économique et sociale*” [Annals of economic and social history] in 1929. With 1946, this periodical, remaining under the authority of Lucien Febvre, after some name changing<sup>7</sup>, became “*Annales. Économies, Sociétés, Civilisations (Annales ESC)*”<sup>8</sup>. A large academic community, called worldwide “*Annales School*”<sup>9</sup>, took shape within the VI<sup>th</sup>Section of Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (EPHE), a new department of EPHE created in 1947 under the direction of historian Lucien Febvre, the successful editor in chief of “*Annales*”, promoting a total history („une histoire à part entière”)<sup>10</sup>, including the full spectre of disciples, “un éventail de tous les domaines”, grouping a full range of approaches<sup>11</sup>. Lucien Febvre developed his

<sup>5</sup> Founded in 1929 by Lucien Febvre and Marc Bloch the “*Annales d’histoire économique et sociale*” an academic quarterly historical periodical which was sometimes confused, in its beginnings, with “*Les Annales politiques et littéraires*”, a popular Sunday magazine, launched in 1883 by Jules Brisson, printed up to 1971. After World War II, the academic historical journal, from 1946 up to 1993, was named “*Annales. Economies, Societies, Civilisations*” (ESC). Starting with 1994, it was later called “*Annales. Histoire, Sciences Sociales*” (HSS).

<sup>6</sup> Marc Bloch was assassinated by the French Milice, a suppletive of the Gestapo, on June 16, 1944, North of Lyon (Saint-Didier-de-Formans (Ain), This tragedy ended his partnership with Lucien Febvre.

<sup>7</sup> Successive name changes were such: the quarterly historical periodical was “*Annales d’histoire économique et sociale*” from 1929 to 1938; then it changed first to “*Annales d’histoire sociale*” (1939–1941); soon to “*Mélanges d’histoire sociale*” (1942–1944); then in 1945 “*Annales d’histoire sociale*”; followed at last in 1946 by the world famous title “*Annales. Économies, Sociétés, Civilisations*” (Annales ESC).

<sup>8</sup> From 1946 up to 1993, the periodical remained “*Annales. Economies, Societies, Civilisations*” (ESC). Starting with 1994, it was called “*Annales. Histoire, Sciences Sociales*” (HSS), still its current title. This all sources are accessible in open access, in French, at: <https://www.persee.fr/collection/ahess>

<sup>9</sup> Peter Burke, *The French Historical Revolution: The Annales School 1929–2014*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Stanford, Stanford University Press, 2015. (Revised version of *The French Historical Revolution: The Annales School, 1929–1989*, Cambridge-Stanford, Polity Press-Stanford University Press, 1990); André Burguière, *The Annales School. A New Approach to the Study of History*, Paris, Odile Jacob, 2019.

<sup>10</sup> Lucien Febvre, *Pour une Histoire à part entière*, Paris, Sevpen, 1962.

<sup>11</sup> *Éventail de l’histoire vivante. Hommage à Lucien Febvre* [à l’occasion de son 75<sup>e</sup> anniversaire], offert par l’amitié d’historiens, linguistes, géographes, économistes, sociologues, ethnologues, Fernand Braudel et al. (eds), Paris, Armand Colin, 1953, 2 volumes.

overall vision of the field of History in a series of articles between 1906 and 1952<sup>12</sup> where he offered methodological advice and affirmed its multidisciplinary dimension (geography, sociology, linguistics, philosophy, etc.) including portraits of historians from different disciplines. Lucien Febvre died in 1956.

## 2. The “VI<sup>th</sup> Section” of École Pratique des Hautes Études (EPHE) with Fernand Braudel (1957)

When the present author began her research career, in 1967, the historian Fernand Braudel (1902–1985)<sup>13</sup>, representing the strong second generation of the “Annales School”, was head of the “VI<sup>th</sup> Section” of École Pratique des Hautes Études (EPHE), succeeding to Lucien Febvre. This professor was not only Febvre’s follower, but a scholar of international repute<sup>14</sup>. He was dedicated to the construction of a “new Annales” movement, toward a history posing problems to the past, based on the present needs of humanity<sup>15</sup>. Fernand Braudel encouraged the present author to fully contribute to the development of his unique research international and interdisciplinary institution, promoting “histoire totale”, an effort to conceptualize the multidimensionality of change by moving beyond the fragmentation of historical knowledge into a series of specialized domains.

„With Marc Bloch, Lucien Febvre created a new History, revolutionary in spirit, which today reanimates the French School, settling its prestige, and overflowing little by little beyond our borders, in America, Japan or in the Soviet countries. This creation has been a battle”<sup>16</sup>. (Fernand Braudel, 1962, p. 5).

This historical movement, resisting the old conservative academic traditions of the Paris Sorbonne University, had developed mostly in the frame of interdisciplinary collective group projects, as stressed by Lucien Febvre in 1936<sup>17</sup>. Braudel told Antoinette Chamoux: “You may invest in Historical Demography, but not too much”<sup>18</sup>. Actually, Fernand Braudel made her learn the research methods of the

<sup>12</sup> Thirty-three articles by Lucien Febvre were published together as a book: Lucien Febvre, *Combats pour l’Histoire*, Paris, Armand Colin, 1952.

<sup>13</sup> Fernand Braudel (1902–1985). For a biography, see Giuliana Gemelli, *Fernand Braudel*, Paris, Odile Jacob, 1995.

<sup>14</sup> Fernand Braudel, *La Méditerranée et le monde méditerranéen à l’époque de Philippe II*, Paris, Armand Colin, 1949, 2 vol. Second edition revised, Paris, Armand Colin, 1966, See *The Mediterranean and the Mediterranean World in the Age of Philip II*. New York, Harper & Row, 1972 & 1973, 2 vols. (second revised edition, translated by Sian Reynolds).

<sup>15</sup> “Histoire posant des problèmes au passé, en fonction des besoins présents de l’humanité” see Lucien Febvre, *Face au vent. Manifeste des Annales nouvelles*, “Annales (ESC)”, I, No. 1, 1946, p. 8.

<sup>16</sup> Fernand Braudel, *Note liminaire*, in vol. Lucien Febvre, *Pour une Histoire à part entière*, p. 5. Quotation translated from French by Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux.

<sup>17</sup> Lucien Febvre, *Les recherches collectives et l’avenir de l’histoire*, “Revue de Synthèse”, XI, No. 1, 1936, pp. 7–14. Here p. 12.

<sup>18</sup> Private conversation of Antoinette Chamoux with Fernand Braudel, January 1968. Then he gave her a book copy of Lucien Febvre, *Combats pour l’Histoire*, Paris, Armand Colin, 1965 reprint of the first edition, Armand Colin, 1952.

“Annales School” immediately, including learning “research by research”. Acting already as a big boss, in June 1967, he asked the present author to provide him urgently with a translation in French of the first chapter of the *World We have Lost* (1965) by Peter Laslett (1915–2002)<sup>19</sup>. He was satisfied with her quick translation, and she got a temporary job at Centre de Recherches Historiques (CRH), VI<sup>th</sup> Section of École Pratique des Hautes Études (EPHE). Second, The CRH direction<sup>20</sup> gave her a huge bunch of 5,000 *Family Reconstitution Forms* (FRF) with the task to study this urban nominative set, using the Louis Henry’s<sup>21</sup> statistical method<sup>22</sup> that she had to learn about in a very short time<sup>23</sup>. Antoinette Chamoux was informed that her new task was for a collective project and that she was supposed to fully replace a researcher already gone for six months to America and not to give much time to individual research.

Consequently, the author became an active research member of the *Centre de Recherches Historiques*, where she contributed, with flexibility, to collective historical projects besides her individual research and avoiding extreme specialisation, following the main trend of the *Annales School*. Among other tasks, she was providing editorial work for the “Annales” and was later in charge for long, at the top level, of the School scientific Exchange Programs, on multiple disciplines, with main Academies of Eastern Europe, including the Romanian Academy<sup>24</sup>.

<sup>19</sup> Peter Laslett, *The World We have Lost*, London, Methuen, 1965.

<sup>20</sup> The Director of the Centre de Recherches Historiques was then historian Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie.

<sup>21</sup> Michel Fleury, Louis Henry, *Des registres paroissiaux à l'histoire de la population: manuel de dépouillement et d'exploitation de l'état civil ancien*, Paris, Institut National d'Études Démographiques (INED), 1956; Idem, *Nouveau manuel de dépouillement et d'exploitation de l'état civil ancien*, Paris, Institut National d'Études Démographiques (INED), 1965 (revised version). Reprint in 1976. Louis Henry, *Manuel de démographie historique*, Paris-Geneva, Droz, 1967. The success of this book imposed a second edition in 1970. Later, Louis Henry published a new version completely remodelled: Louis Henry, *Techniques d'analyse en démographie historique*, Paris, Institut National d'Études Démographiques (INED), 1980, 177 p., inspired by the handbook that Henry had written for Portuguese and Brazilian researchers: Louis Henry, *Técnicas de análise em demografia histórica*, Curitiba, Universidade federal do Paraná, 1977, text translated from French to Portuguese by Altiva Pilatti Balhana, Jayme Antonio Cardoso; republished in 1988, Lisbon, Gradiva publisher. Another version appeared in French, which took into account the emerging digital revolution: Louis Henry, Alain Blum, *Techniques d'analyse en démographie historique*, Paris, Institut National d'Études Démographiques (INED), 1988, 180 p.

<sup>22</sup> Antoinette Chamoux, *La contraception avant la Révolution française: l'exemple de Châtillon-sur-Seine*, “Annales (ESC)”, XXIV, No. 3, 1969, p. 662–684 (with Cécile Dauphin), source accessible at: <https://www.persee.fr>

<sup>23</sup> Idem, *A personal account of the history of Historical Demography in Europe at the end of the Glorious Thirty (1967–1975)*, “Essays in Economic and Business History, The Journal of the Economic & Business History Society, Special Issue in Honor of Christer Lundh, University of Gothenburg”, XXXV, No. 1, 2017, p. 171–212. Online long version, including references, accessible at: <http://www.ebhsoc.org/journal/index.php/journal/article/view/378/342>

<sup>24</sup> Idem, *Historical Demography and International Network Developments (1928–2010)*, in vol: *A Global History of Historical Demography ...*, p. 15–66.

### 3. The Ecole des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales and resilience (1975–2000)

In 1975, an independent institution, the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), a School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, replaced the VI<sup>th</sup> Section of EPHE<sup>25</sup>, already, since 1972, under the leadership of medievalist historian Jacques Le Goff (1924–2014)<sup>26</sup>, who represented the third generation of the “Annales School”, leaving behind the enthusiasm for quantitative history among economic historians and demographers of the 1960s<sup>27</sup>. Le Goff, for his part, was defending a New History<sup>28</sup> associated with cultural history and mentalities<sup>29</sup>. In 1970 Fernand Braudel had taken the leadership of the “Maison des Sciences de l’Homme”, institution that he had founded in 1963<sup>30</sup>. The present École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) is issued from this complex institutional shift. The traditional electoral recruitment system was strictly kept. Scholars from various origins were chosen. New members were not elected on strict academic criteria and cursus, but on their books, articles, original research potential and projects, interdisciplinarity and individual value, far from university norms of the time. Seminar participation was very open, including to researchers without regular academic background. Visiting scholars from abroad were welcomed.

<sup>25</sup> Established by Decree of January 25, 1975, “EHESS is an institution dedicated to developing all forms of scientific knowledge concerning human interactions and relationships” [...] “EHESS has long been considered an innovation hub for the Social Sciences. For nearly 70 years, the [Annales] school has been a major player in the renewal and reinvention of theories, methodologies and practice in history, anthropology, and sociology. The school has also promoted and supported inter-disciplinary collaboration between cognitive sciences and philosophy, literature, and mathematics, and is the home of a new institutionally accredited school of thought in economics, the success of which is internationally recognized”, source accessible at: <https://www.ehess.fr/en/history>. Source last consulted in December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

<sup>26</sup> In June 1993, Jacques Le Goff visited Cluj and was awarded Doctor Honoris Causa of Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca.

<sup>27</sup> Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, *Pierre Goubert (1915–2012). A take-off from Beauvais to Global History, Introduction to the special section Pierre Goubert 1915–2012. Beyond the Beauvaisis*. “Romanian Journal of Population Studies”, VII, 1, 2013, p. 75–106.

<sup>28</sup> *La nouvelle histoire, Jacques Le Goff, Roger Chartier, Jacques Revel (eds), Paris, Retz-Centre d’étude et de promotion de la lecture (C.E.P.L), 1978.*

<sup>29</sup> Jacques Le Goff was President of EHESS up to 1977. He was replaced by historian François Furet (1927–1997), President of EHESS from 1977 to 1985. His successor was anthropologist Marc Augé (1935–2023), for the period 1985–1995. Historian Jacques Revel succeeded M. Augé at the head of EHESS (1995–2004).

<sup>30</sup> In 2023, the *Fondation Maison des sciences de l’homme* (FMSH) celebrates its 60 years anniversary. It is a public institution dedicated to research in the Humanities and Social Sciences. FMSH supports innovative research based on international cooperation and interdisciplinary dialogue. As a public interest foundation, the FMSH focuses its resources on programmes and services for research that contribute to the intercultural construction of knowledge. See online information: *A 60-year work for humanities and social sciences research*, source accessible at: <https://www.fmsh.fr/en>. Source consulted September 6, 2023.

Only one specific diploma was delivered by EHESS: a researcher could write an original essay and defend this *Mémoire* as a *Diplôme de l'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales*<sup>31</sup>. This system was preserved up to now. In France, the EHESS Diploma occupies a fully original academic place. It allows “students”, whatever their age, to carry out in-depth research on the theme of their choice, to write a dissertation which, without reaching the size of a thesis, must be much more comprehensive than a master dissertation. No other specific academic cursus was proposed within EHESS to any student before the late 1990s.

After 1975, the EHESS academic body went through a series of main changes and regulations. This unique research institution of rather small size up to the early 1990s, EHESS was internationally considered an innovative hub for the Social Sciences, and a unique place for free comparative research, at international level.

#### 4. EHESS and the Bologna Process standardization (2000–2022)

With the new millennium, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) had to start transforming into a regular university. It adapted slowly to the overall Bologna Process standardization<sup>32</sup>. Researchers were not previously in charge with regular teaching and most contributed to time consuming collective international projects under the leadership of main academic figures. Some research seminars managed to keep their interdisciplinary specificities and flexibilities, but many disappeared with their aging leader. Seminars were ranked into new categories of “courses”, including teaching for master students.

For her part, the author was interested in this huge process of change and was elected, for a three-year period, in 2004, as a member of the EHESS *Pedagogic Council* delivering the EHESS Master in History and admission to the EHESS Doctoral School of History<sup>33</sup>. New possibilities for students to register for international courses in some European Universities were considered<sup>34</sup>. In this period, many research seminars remained largely opened to interested advanced researchers

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<sup>31</sup> The EHESS Diploma is distinct from national university diplomas. It sanctions the writing of a research dissertation. This manuscript must be an original work, written in French and must have the quality of a scientific publication, source accessible at: <https://www.ehess.fr/fr/search/node/Diplome>. Source last consulted on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>32</sup> David Crosier, Teodora Parveva, *The Bologna process: its impact in Europe and beyond*. Paris, Institut international de l'UNESCO pour la planification de l'éducation, UNESCO, 2023, source accessible at: <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000220649>. Source last consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>33</sup> There are now several doctoral schools at EHESS, working in partnership with other establishments of higher education. Source accessible at: <https://www.ehess.fr/en/en/doctoral-studies>. Source consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>34</sup> Currently, EHESS allows registration for a few months in different international courses. The establishment offers several Franco-German semesters (with Heidelberg University, Goethe University of Frankfurt, and Humbolt University), Franco-Italian (with Rome I University) and Franco-Romanian (with the University of Bucharest).

of various horizons, as soon as they were engaged in a valuable original research project and were accepted by the seminar leader. The question of joining other French academic institutions was discussed at various levels. The possibility of a brand-new *Condorcet Campus*, grouping different institutions—resulting in subgroups supposed to share some common places (as cafeteria, library facilities, classrooms and a Conference Centre), in Paris Northern suburb. The Campus project raised difficult questions of autonomy within in EHESS General Assembly meetings, beginning 2009<sup>35</sup>. EHESS joined the “Université PSL” (Paris Sciences & Lettres)<sup>36</sup> a consortium of academic institutions, but in 2021, EHESS decided to quit this group for recovering independence (keeping of course its partnership with CNRS) and its own Doctoral School<sup>37</sup>. Currently, many “seminars” deliver just basic teaching as pedagogical classes for students, within various *modulus*.

### 5. Combining campus umbrellas

At the same time, some important sectors of the “Annales School”, as the main group of economists, experienced a real success story. In 2006, the Foundation for Scientific Cooperation (*Fondation de Coopération Scientifique*) by the CNRS, the EHESS, the École des Ponts ParisTech (ENPC)<sup>38</sup>, the École Normale Supérieure (ENS-PSL), the National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment/Institut national de recherche pour l’agriculture, l’alimentation et l’environnement (INRAE) and the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne<sup>39</sup>, formed together the École d’Économie de Paris/Paris School of Economics (PSE)<sup>40</sup>, today a joint community of nearly 150 researchers and 155 doctoral candidates. This institution “conducts research and teaches economics courses at the highest international level<sup>41</sup>. It actively encourages exchanges between economic analysts and the other social scientists, contributes to economic policy debates and makes its

<sup>35</sup> EHESS, General Assembly, Minutes, EHESS, Administrative archives 2009. Source accessible only internally to Staff members, consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>36</sup> Source accessible at: <https://psl.eu/en>. Source consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>37</sup> The accredited EHESS Doctoral school (ED 286) includes eleven sub-disciplines. Some subdisciplines are jointly organized by two different academic institutions, belonging to different academic consortium, this means different regulations. Source accessible at: [https://www.ehess.fr/sites/default/files/actualite/fichier/ehess\\_livretetudiant2324interieur146pweb-compressed.pdf](https://www.ehess.fr/sites/default/files/actualite/fichier/ehess_livretetudiant2324interieur146pweb-compressed.pdf)

<sup>38</sup> The Ecole des Ponts ParisTech is located near Marnes la Vallée, Eastern Paris suburb, Cité Descartes, 77455 Champs-sur-Marne. Source accessed at: <https://ecoledesponts.fr/en>

<sup>39</sup> The University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne is one of the founding members of Condorcet Campus.

<sup>40</sup> The Paris School of Economics is located on the Jourdan campus in the 14<sup>th</sup> arrondissement of Paris. It was officially opened on February 23, 2017, with an ENS-PSE building of more than 12,000 m<sup>2</sup>, situated between Porte d’Orléans and Parc Montsouris, opposite the Cité Universitaire (CiuP).

<sup>41</sup> Most economic courses and events are in English, on Jourdan Campus, within ENS-PSL premises and in close partnership with ENPC. The corresponding doctoral school ED 465 Economie Pantheon Sorbonne (EPS) is working in partnership with Université Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne and with EHESS, given that some main professors belong to EHESS.



scholarly research accessible via its Partnership Programme and its action “Economics for everybody”<sup>42</sup>. The Paris School of Economics is now considered the leading economics department in Europe and among the top five in world, according to the RePEc ranking<sup>43</sup>. Some PSE professors are EHESS Professors, as economist Thomas Piketty, author of a best seller<sup>44</sup> or Pierre-Cyrille Hautcoeur, economic historian, Directeur d’études EHESS, who was President of EHESS in the period 2012–2017<sup>45</sup>, succeeding historian François Weil (2009–2012)<sup>46</sup>. All teaching and offices of Paris School of Economics are located at Jourdan Campus in the 14<sup>th</sup> arrondissement of Paris, and not on Condorcet Campus, where all EHESS teaching are supposed to be concentrated. The Jourdan Campus is shared by Paris School of Economics (PSE) and École Normale Supérieure (ENS), a member of PSL Consortium.

## 6. EHESS mostly on Condorcet Campus

Overall, in 2022–2023, according to official data, EHESS welcomed 3,000 students, mostly all registered to study on Condorcet Campus-Aubervilliers (93300)<sup>47</sup>, as EHESS kept a smaller Campus in Marseille. It included 1,500 registered doctoral students (with nearly 200 dissertations defended per year in all social science disciplines). EHESS also hosted as many as forty research units organized around specific fields. Most of these groups, Centres or *Laboratories* are functioning jointly with *Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique* (CNRS), one of the largest research governmental institutions in the world<sup>48</sup>. At EHESS, more than five hundred people are

<sup>42</sup> Doctoral School ED 465 is a partner of the teaching and research programs of the Paris School of Economics – PSE. Doctoral students are also included in international networks: European Doctoral Program in Quantitative Economics, Economic Behavior and Interaction Models, Quantitative Economic Doctorate, etc. Source accessed at: <https://www.parisschoolofeconomics.eu/en/about/>; consulted on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>43</sup> This ranking is published by RePEc (Research Papers in Economics), a bibliographic initiative that seeks to enhance the dissemination of research in Economics and related areas, in English, constructing meta data; Source accessible at: <https://biblio.repec.org/>. Consulted on September, 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>44</sup> Thomas Piketty, *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*, Cambridge, MA, Belknap Press/Harvard University Press, 2014. Translated from *Le capital au XXI siècle*, Paris, Éditions du Seuil, 2013. This book was a bestseller. Thomas Piketty, Julia Cagé, *Une histoire du conflit politique, Elections et inégalités sociales en France, 1789–2022*, Paris, Seuil, 2023.

<sup>45</sup> Historian Christophe Prochasson succeeded Pierre-Cyrille Hautcoeur as EHESS President for 2017–2022, followed currently by Romain Huret, historian of the United States of America, beginning 2022.

<sup>46</sup> Previous EHESS President had been historian of religions Danièle Hervieu-Léger, the only woman to have been ever elected head of EHESS (2004–2009) up to now.

<sup>47</sup> Aubervilliers community is located in the immediate suburbs of Paris to the north, department of Seine-Saint-Denis. It is marked by the heritage of industry. It is part of the *Grand-Paris* Development Project (2017–2030).

<sup>48</sup> In 2018, the French CNRS was one of the largest research institutions, according to “Nature Index”, 20 August 2019: source accessible at: <https://www.nature.com/nature-index/news/top-ten-government-institutions-research-science-twenty-nineteen>; consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

in charge with teaching and supervising master's and doctoral students at various levels while not a few are members of other institutions, including attached CNRS members. They are supported by nearly three hundred administrative and technical research support of all kinds and statutes, generating a quick turnover of specialized staff<sup>49</sup>. The EHESS is proud to be one of the founding members of the Campus Condorcet public establishment<sup>50</sup>, where junior EHESS active researchers have also a pedagogic role. Currently, there are no Open Online Courses<sup>51</sup>, EHESS institution being not accredited for it<sup>52</sup>. EHESS retired research members are just encouraged to produce peer-reviewed publications. Today, teaching is often delegated to young scholars and no more the apanage of senior members.

### B. Teaching research by research

In the line of the twentieth-century *Annales School* tradition, senior EHESS members used to bring their research experience and long polyvalent expertise in the frame of their regular seminar<sup>53</sup>. The same cannot be expected today from junior scholars in their early carrier stage. Young scholars are competent in high technologies and digital communication. Anyway, delivering good research results remains a must, as previously, at international level. Given their teaching obligations young scholars are often under time pressure and one of the consequences is the extreme specialization of their scientific interest.

In the 1990s, thanks to the development of easier communication tools and growing globalisation, flourishing largely comparative international projects in History of the Family developed and the present author was lucky and honoured to be part of some main ones. The European project on the history of domestic service, “Servant Project”, acronym for “The socio-economic role of males and females in domestic service as a factor of European identity” (2001-2005), was an interdisciplinary project gathering more than twenty research groups from different countries, including discussants from other continents<sup>54</sup>. The following large research group, of the same

<sup>49</sup> Source accessible at: <https://www.ehess.fr/fr/navigation-recherche>; consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>50</sup> Source accessible at: <https://www.ehess.fr/fr/livret-etudiant-2023-2024>; consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>51</sup> “Massive Open Online Courses” (MOOC). Source accessible at: <https://www.mooc.org/>; consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>52</sup> Currently EHESS is not accredited to deliver online courses corresponding to full distant learning. All classes – including for advanced students –, have to take place face to face and at Campus Condorcet, Aubervilliers.

<sup>53</sup> “EHESS believes in training for research by doing research. Research seminars are the main loci for the students’ training: professors and researchers present their work in progress and in return expect group discussion on their hypotheses and data”; Source accessible at: <https://www.ehess.fr/en/en/research-ehess>; consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>54</sup> *Domestic Service and the formation of European Identity: understanding the globalization of domestic work, 16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Centuries*, Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux (ed.), Bern, Peter Lang, 2004.

kind, was the *European Cost* (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) A34 Project, “The transmission of well-being: marriage strategies and inheritance systems in Europe from the seventeenth to the twentieth centuries”(2005–2010)<sup>55</sup>. Any Cost Action aims at “Building global research communities”<sup>56</sup>. There was then, in various research networks, a clear alliance of population and family history with anthropology and sociology so that comparative research on family systems shed new light on polysecular models of individual and family reproduction<sup>57</sup>. In particular the role of customary rules versus state legislation, the importance, until then almost invisible, of the agency of women on intergenerational behavioural changes were stressed<sup>58</sup>. International research networks on these fields developed with the 1990s, thanks to the *EurAsian Project* (1995–2000)<sup>59</sup>, which was under the unique leadership of Professor Akira Hayami (1929–2019)<sup>60</sup>, who supported and encouraged many related conferences, including sessions taking place in North America, at Social Sciences History Association (SSHA), every autumn. At the same time, multiple international project meetings allowed consolidation of the Family/Demography large international network academic community<sup>61</sup>, including in the frame of the *International Commission for Historical Demography* (ICHHD/CIDH)<sup>62</sup>, Professor Hayami being Vice President (1985–2010) of this scholarly organization.

<sup>55</sup> *The transmission of well-being: gendered marriage strategies and inheritance systems in Europe from the seventeenth to the twentieth centuries*, Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, Margarida Durães, Llorenç Ferrer Alòs, Jan Kok (eds), Bern, Peter Lang, 2009.

<sup>56</sup> Source accessible at: <https://www.cost.eu/building-global-research-communities/>; <https://www.mooc.org/>, consulted September 6, 2023. In 2005, Cost targets were not expressed in the same terms as today, but it is exactly what Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux did, with her team research and international colleagues: “Building global research communities”.

<sup>57</sup> Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, *Historical Demography and International Network Developments (1928–2010)*, in vol.: *A Global History of Historical Demography ...* 15–66.

<sup>58</sup> *House and the stem-family in EurAsian perspective/Maison et famille-souche : perspectives eurasiennes*, Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, Emiko Ochiai (eds), Kyoto, International Research Center for Japanese Studies/ Nichibunken, 1998.

<sup>59</sup> The *EurAsian Project on Population and Family History* was funded by the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture, Japan, 1995–2000. It was mostly based in Kyoto, International Research Center for Japanese Studies/Nichibunken. A large number of related international groups met all over the world in this period and later. A series of major books followed, mostly in English.

<sup>60</sup> Akira Hayami, *Historical Demography in Japan. Achievements and Problems*, in vol.: *A Global History of Historical Demography ...*, p. 386–410.

Emeritus Professor of Keio University, Tokyo, Professor Akira Hayami (1929–2019) was elected as a member of the Japan Academy in 2001 and in 2008 at the French Academy of Sciences, Paris. He was a pioneer in Historical demography. His research concentrated on population dynamics in Japan before the Industrial Revolution. He launched large international comparative projects in economic history, demography, and history of the family.

<sup>61</sup> Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, *Female transmission in comparative perspective*, in vol.: *The logic of female succession: rethinking Patriarchy and Patrilinearity in global and historical perspective*, Emiko Ochiai (ed), Kyoto, Nichibunken, 2003, p. 11–29.

<sup>62</sup> Source accessible at: <https://www.facebook.com/historicaldemography/>, consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### C. Starting a research seminar

Up to 2001, running an individual seminar at EHESS had not been necessary for Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, quite busy with her research, writing, publishing and international networking activities, since many of her close colleagues in Paris had already EHESS collective seminars of interest, but mostly in French language. In 2001, she invited individually some research partners in Paris and the only solution for offering them a forum for their presentation and organize some original and free discussions, was to start a bilingual (English/French) seminar of her own. Marie-Pierre Arrizabalaga and Marie-Louise Nagata were wonderful partners for this venture<sup>63</sup>. It opened perfect opportunities of hosting colleagues from abroad. They presented their research and appreciated fruitful debates. Many further events were initiated in the frame of the EHESS History of the Family seminar (HISFAM). There were useful comments and feedback, in a more friendly and social environment than in formal international Conferences of the time. The seminar group was soon enlarged. We developed exchanges with Japan, Spain and Latin America etc<sup>64</sup>. This was the beginning of exciting exchanges for twenty-two years. We got through the Covid-19 crisis thanks to Zoom and the availability of generous partners<sup>65</sup>, developing the activity of these corresponding scientific networks. But academic year 2022–2023, must be considered as the last of my “regular and classic” EHESS Collective Research History of the Family Seminar Series (HISFAM), given various administrative new constraints.

In the following section I put into perspective – together for memory, general information and future inspiration – the main topics addressed along last year,

<sup>63</sup> *Women, Migration, and Aging in the Americas. Analyzing Dependence and Autonomy in Old Age*, Marie-Pierre Arrizabalaga (ed), Abingdon/New York, Routledge, 2023; Mary Louise Nagata, *Labor Contracts and Labor Relations in Early Modern Central Japan*, Abingdon/New York, Routledge, 2005; Idem, *Balancing family strategies with individual choice: name changing in north-eastern and central villages*, in vol.: *Japanizing Japanese Families, Regional diversity and the emergence of a national family model through the eyes of historical demography*, Emiko Ochiai, Shoko Hirai (eds), Leiden/Boston, Brill, 2023.

<sup>64</sup> *The stem family in Eurasian Perspective. Revisiting House Societies*, Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, Emiko Ochiai (eds.), Bern, Peter Lang, 2009 [further: *The stem family in Eurasian Perspective ...*]; Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, *Family reproduction and stem-family system: from Pyrenean valleys to Norwegian farms*, “*The History of the Family: an International Quarterly*”, Special issue dedicated to the memory of Tamara Hareven (1937–2002), XI, No. 3, 2006, p. 171–184; Idem, *A comparative study of family transmission systems in the central Pyrenees and northeastern Japan*, in vol.: *The stem family in Eurasian perspective ...*, p. 529–555.

<sup>65</sup> During Covid-19, many seminar sessions could take place thanks to online facilities provided by Marie Pierre Arrizabalaga, through her university. I am very grateful to all team members and generous colleagues and researchers of various horizons who gave time, support, and exciting scientific contributions of all kinds along the years, including for a series of workshop organisation and international debates in partnership.

mostly gender, migration and broken families, poverty, socio-differentiation, health and sickness, marriage, reproduction, family models and change, female strategies, labour, and resilience facing crisis.

## **II. The History of the Family EHESS Paris Seminar – ACADEMIC YEAR 2022–2023**

### **A. Main topics discussed**

The 2022–2023 collective research seminar (teaching unit n° 951 of the EHESS, Paris), founded in 2001, brought together, in person, the permanent partners of the teaching team with the advanced students and registered researchers. In partnership with CY University Paris, AGORA Research Center<sup>66</sup>, the sessions were held at the same time in hybrid, in the room allocated to our seminar by the *École Normale Supérieure* at the Jourdan Campus, with a large and regular international bilingual participation, English and French.

Attention focused on family strategies, gender differences in terms of family formation, professional activity, social promotion and share of inheritance. The interactions between socio-economic, political and legal change on the one hand and, on the other hand, individual and collective strategies concerning reproductive behavior and subsequent life choices were highlighted. In the interdisciplinary spirit of the *Annales School*, we addressed the question of the place of the State and local, civil, religious and corporate institutions faced on one side with the force of customs and on the other with the power of mentality changes characterizing new generations.

Keeping a gender perspective was a must. We addressed many questions on kinship, intergenerational transmission of property and material and symbolic values, the condition of children, legitimate or not, widows, the elderly and single people, migration and social mobility according to sibling position and the conjunctural situation of the labor market.

### **1. Migration and families**

Long-standing regular exchanges of our seminar team with Iberian colleagues allowed organizing a series of exciting seminar sessions in comparative perspective. Ofelia Rey Castelao (University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain), 2022 winner of the Grand Prize in Spanish History was awarded by the Ministry of Culture of her country, for her major work on women and migration in early-modern period,

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<sup>66</sup> For more, source accessible at <https://www.cyu.fr/en/researchdevelopment/laboratories/agora-multidisciplinary-researchcentre-for-the-human-and-social-sciences>, see Professor Marie-Pierre Arrizabalaga, <https://www.cyu.fr/marie-pierre-arrizabalaga>.

published by the University Press of Santiago de Compostela in 2021<sup>67</sup>. Ofelia Rey has drawn a convincing parallel between two societies of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, that were geographically distant, from original sources which were of exactly the same type in Chile and in Spain, then under the same legislation. Ofelia Rey was therefore able to study, on both sides of the Atlantic, the place of women in civil and criminal trials, according to various jurisdictions, whether royal, regional or ecclesiastical courts, highlighting that women knew how to perfectly defend their interests and those of their children, mobilizing the necessary assistance to overcome their illiteracy.

This was the occasion for celebrating the thirty years' time past since the *First European Conference of the International Commission for Historical Demography* (CIDH/ICHHD) which had been held in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, during four days, September 22–25, 1993, a brilliant and successful International Conference dedicated to *Internal and Medium-distance Migrations in and from Europe, 1500–1900*. It was organized by Professor Antonio Eiras Roel, University of Santiago de Compostela, elected in Madrid August 1990, President for five years of this Commission of the *International Committee of Historical Sciences* (ICHS/CISH)<sup>68</sup>. This conference was then held in four languages: French, English, Spanish and Portuguese<sup>69</sup>. For the first time the present author met Ofelia Rey Castelao in Santiago, who was co-organizer of the event and in charge of the publication of this major meeting which attracted a considerable number of historians of international repute. *Conference Proceedings* in three volumes circulated among registered participants in 1993. Professor Antonio Eiras Roel and Ofelia Rey Castelao edited two volumes soon afterwards which are still reference books today. The second volume was devoted to the Iberian Peninsula (Spain and Portugal), while the first volume

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<sup>67</sup> Ofelia Rey Castelao, *El vuelo corto. Mujeres y migraciones en la Edad Moderna*, Santiago de Compostela, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela editora académica, 2021. For more, see book presentation accessible at: <https://www.usc.gal/en/departament/history/directory/ofelia-rey-castelao-1621>; consulted on September 22<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>68</sup> This Commission was an internal scholarly body of the *International Committee of Historical Sciences* (ICHS/CISH). In 2000 it was transformed in an independent association as Non-Governmental Organization, becoming a voting member, a full body affiliated to ICHS.

<sup>69</sup> Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux was then Secretary General of this ICHD Commission. The Board of the Commission met in her Office (she was not only working at EHESS, but giving much time to research community as Chief Editor of the “Revue de la Bibliothèque Nationale (BN)” a quarterly historical journal baptized “Illustrated Annales” by the archivists in charge of the rich French National collections, in the period 1988–1995. Professor Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, was then the General Administrator of the French National Library/Bibliothèque Nationale. On October 11<sup>th</sup>, 1990, this Paris Board meeting of ICHD/CIDH took major decisions, acting as Scientific Organizing Committee of the ICHD 1993 Conference, Santiago de Compostela. The French Library was then put in serious trouble by the beginning of digitalisation of data and the project of moving the National Library to new premises. This concerned only books and periodicals. The rest of the collections remained rue de Richelieu in Paris, which was hopefully renovated, while a new building was constructed in the 13<sup>th</sup> arrondissement of Paris, now “Bibliothèque François Mitterrand (BnF)”.

included articles dedicated to other regions of Europe and to the so-called “Reports”, contributions with general, theoretical, and methodological contributions<sup>70</sup>.

In the line of this historical tradition, Pablo Vázquez Bello (University of Santiago de Compostela), in his Paris seminar 2023 presentation, demonstrated that active religious associations developed in Galicia during the period 1659–1834. The Franciscans of Santiago de Compostela, formed in Venerable Third Order, succeed in mobilizing members of local families, practicing a system of mediation and integration of secular immigrant people. Ruben Castro Rodondo (University of Cantabria, Spain) summarised his historical study of lone mothers, working often as servants far from their native village. Many ended with unwanted children in North-West Spain. He also presented the fate of illegitimate children in Castilian Cantabria at the end of the *Ancien Régime* and their high mortality.

## 2. Family and poverty

For Portugal, Maria Marta Lobo de Araújo (University of Minho & Landscape, Heritage and Territory Laboratory-2PT, Braga) showed the action of the Portuguese Mercies (*Misericórdia*)<sup>71</sup> in early modern time and the investment policy of wealthy local families in these charitable institutions, in order to help the poor under the Ancien Régime, particularly women<sup>72</sup>. The administrators of these fraternities (charity brotherhoods) had to put into practice the *Seven corporal works of Mercy*, listed in the *New Testament*, as recommended by Jesus, in the sermon on the Last Judgment, *Gospel according to Saint Matthew*, 25: 36–45: 1) To feed the hungry; 2) To give water to the thirsty; 3) To clothe the naked; 4) To shelter the homeless; 5) To visit the sick; 6) To visit the imprisoned, or ransom the captive; 7) To bury the dead. There are also Seven spiritual works of Mercy<sup>73</sup>.

<sup>70</sup> *Les migrations internes et à moyenne distance en Europe, 1500–1900*, Antonio Eiras Roel, Ofelia Rey Castelao (eds), 2 volumes, Santiago de Compostela, Xunta de Galicia, Conselleria de Educacion e Ordenacion Universitaria, 1994. Forty-four chapters were on the Iberian Peninsula and thirty-three chapters on the rest of Europe, including the scientific Reports. See Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, *Female mobility and urban population in preindustrial France (1500–1900)* in vol: *Internal Migrations and medium distance Migrations in Historical Europe*, Antonio Eiras-Roel, Ofelia Rey Castelao (eds.), Santiago de Compostela, Xunta de Galicia, 1994, p. 43–71.

<sup>71</sup> *Misericórdia* have been extensively studied by Portuguese historians in the past decades as a specific European socio-economic institution. Maria Antónia Lopes, Isabel dos Guimarães Sá, *História Breve das Misericórdias Portuguesas, 1498–2000*, Coimbra, Imprensa da Universidade de Coimbra, 2008.

<sup>72</sup> *As Mulheres nos Caminhos da História*, Maria Marta Lobo de Araújo, Cláudia Contente, Alexandra Esteves (eds.), Porto, Sersilito, 2021 [infra: *As Mulheres nos Caminhos...*]. This book includes a chapter by Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, *Femmes et trajectoires de vie: modèles historiques européens*, in vol: *As Mulheres nos Caminhos ...*, p. 14–37.

<sup>73</sup> *As sete obras de misericórdia corporais nas Santas Casas de Misericórdia*, Maria Marta Lobo de Araújo (ed), Braga, Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Braga, 2018.

The administrators of *Misericórdia* had also the means to endow unfortunate female orphans. In Ponte de Lima, near Braga (17<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> centuries) they awarded some young women, with a financial dowry, to conclude a Christian marriage in good socio-economic conditions. They selected winners according to moral criteria but also according to their physical appearance, avoiding favouring the very attractive girls who could fall into laziness or debauchery. Claudia Novais, moreover, insisted, for Braga, on the importance of the notion of honour for women, through the notarial archives of the same period. Still in the line of interdisciplinary research encouraged by this Portuguese group of scholars (Landscape, Heritage and Territory-2PT), Luís Gonçalves Ferreira analysed the assistance policy practiced in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries by *Misericórdia*, particularly in terms of helping needy families and poor women who received various forms of alms, in money or clothing (*vestiarias*)<sup>74</sup>. In four percent of the cases, it was only a shroud for their funeral. Throughout time, clothes, with their colours, their various symbolisms, and their rewarding functions, served as social-economic and hierarchical markers for those who wear them, whether in the context of a profession, status, rank, culture, etc. The same is true of fashion trends, including of real estate and housing.

### 3. Socio-differentiation, health and sickness

Daniel Mena Acevedo (University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain) brought a very original seminar contribution devoted to the history of home furnishing among the Galician *bourgeois* elites (1750–1820). He showed the evolution of furniture and decoration in Spanish urban family houses, with their traditional and/or innovative items, according to social, professional and educational background of the family. By contrast, historian of Art and Architecture, Paolo Cornaglia (Polytechnic University of Turin, Italy), relying on rich historical archives, studied the plans of the royal palaces built in Turin for the specific lifestyle of the Royal Family of Savoy<sup>75</sup>. He presented the brilliant residences of the princes of Savoy-Carignano, their strict protocol set of rules for daily life, public and private events, according to age, sex, rank, family structure or political circumstances, good and bad days, illnesses, dramas etc. Regarding handicaps and physical and/or psychological disorders and in the lines of her previous project, Alexandra Esteves (University of Minho & Lab2PT, Portugal)<sup>76</sup> addressed the healing strategies concerning the chronic illnesses of women from the

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<sup>74</sup> Luís Gonçalves Ferreira, Poor women and urban assistance in Early Modern Portugal: the case of Hospital of Santiago of Braga, “Revista Portuguesa de História”, n° 52, 2021, p. 77–106.

<sup>75</sup> Paolo Cornaglia, *Giardini di marmo ritrovati: La geografia del gusto in un secolo di cantiere a Venaria reale (1699–1798)*, Torino, Lindau, 1994; Idem, *Guida ai cortili di Torino*, Torino, Il Quadrante, 2015, kindle Edition.

<sup>76</sup> Alexandra Patrícia Lopes Esteves, Helena da Silva, *Olhares Cruzados sobre a história da saúde da Idade Média à contemporaneidade* [Crossed Views on the history of health from the Middle Ages to contemporary times], Braga, Universidade do Minho. Laboratório de Paisagens, Patrimón e Território (Lab2PT), 2022.



wealthy classes in Portugal in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. She reviewed the medical treatments, more or less effective, underlining the traditional importance of gynaecological problems. Tuberculosis was present for men and women at all social levels, particularly in the large cities of Lisbon and Porto. Chlorosis and anaemia touched women who were melancholic, hysterical or suffering from anorexia. The issue of female cancers did not seriously concern the medical community before the 1920s and protective measures for pregnant women were not considered before the 1930s.

Evelien Walhout (University of Leiden, The Netherlands) reconstructed the history of the cholera epidemic of 1866 in Amsterdam and studied the methods developed and implemented by various actors at different levels, in terms of decision-making (public policy, health and medical measures, etc.), for the period 1856-1920, with a particular interest in differential mortality according to sex and age, including maternal and infant mortality<sup>77</sup>, following her previous work on the impact of wars and economic crises on the sex ratio of the local population.

#### 4. Sex ratio

The question of sex ratio was also addressed by Szymon Antosik<sup>78</sup> (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland), within the wealthiest families of Poznań during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, where a surplus of male births was noted, which proved right, without really being able to explain it, the hypothesis put forward by Robert Trivers and Dan Willard, fifty years ago<sup>79</sup>. These scholars had proposed, in 1973, the hypothesis according to which natural selection would favor the capacity of parents to adjust the sex ratio of their offspring according to their capacity to invest. Data from mammals often support this model: as maternal condition declines, the adult female tends to produce a lower ratio of males to females. The question remains open for humans and the subject of intense debate<sup>80</sup>. Biologist historian Grażyna Liczbinska

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<sup>77</sup> Evelien C. Walhout, Erik Beekink, *Just Another Crisis? Individual's Experiences and the Role of the Local Government and Church During the 1866 Cholera Epidemic in a Small Dutch Town*, "Historical Social Research= Historische Sozialforschung / Supplement", No. 33, 2021, p. 54–78. Source accessible at: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3270892> (consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023); Evelien C. Walhout, *An infants' graveyard? Region, religion, and infant mortality in North Brabant, 1840–1940*, Tilburg, Tilburg University Publisher, 2019, 227 p. Source accessible at: <https://research.tilburguniversity.edu/en/publications/an-infants-graveyard-region-religion-and-infant-mortality-in-nort> (consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023).

<sup>78</sup> Szymon Antosik and Helena M. Repczyńska, for this paper, were awarded a price in ICHS Poznań International Congress, August 2022, for the best poster presentation. Source accessible at: <https://www.facebook.com/historicaldemography>

<sup>79</sup> Robert Trivers, Dan Willard, *Natural selection of parental ability to vary the sex ratio of offspring*, "Science", No. 179, 1973, p. 90–92.

<sup>80</sup> See discussions on "TWH" raised by Matthew C. Keller, Randolph M. Nesse, Sandra Hofferth, *The Trivers-Willard hypothesis of parental investment. No effect in the contemporary United States*, "Evolution and Human Behavior", n° 22, 2021, p. 343–360.

(Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland), has been highly interested in sex ratio question<sup>81</sup>. She argued that the states of stress that women experience in times of crisis and war, with deprivation and illness, expose them to difficult pregnancies, miscarriages, childbirth of stillborn or low birth weight premature babies, without mentioning amenorrhea, an absence of menstrual periods, linked to stress and malnutrition<sup>82</sup>.

Drawing on quantitative demographic and medical data recorded during the First World War and the Great Depression, Grażyna Liczbinska demonstrated that exposure to these risks influenced not only the reproductive fragility of their children in the following generation, but also negatively impacted their grandchildren's generation. Rich digital sources – population registers and hospital records – make it possible to have information on health condition of infants, particularly those of single mothers. Within the framework of this very productive Polish working group, using the parish registers of the city of Poznań, Patryk Pankowski (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland) traced the impact of the cholera epidemic of 1866 on the number of marriages which were delayed, thereby postponing the first births of children for the corresponding urban young couples.

### 5. Family and married women

In terms of matrimonial alliance, Marius Eppel (Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania) presented the major historical investigation carried out at the *Centre for Population Studies* of Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, on mixed marriage and religious confession in Transylvania in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries<sup>83</sup> and the numerous oral interviews that he carried out in the regions of Arad, Alba, and Cluj. He explained that the multi-ethnic and multi-religious character of Transylvania became more pronounced over time, both in collective mentality and in individual and family opinion. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, interfaith marriage was perceived in a unitary way by Churches of Transylvania. With the laws of 1894 and 1895 and secularisation, the State intervened in matrimonial

<sup>81</sup> Ján Golian, Grażyna Liczbińska, *The Influence of Extreme Exogenous Shocks on the Sex Ratio at Birth. A Study of the Population of Detva (Upper Hungary), 1801–1920*, “Romanian Journal of Population Studies”, vol. XVI, n° 2, 2022, p. 27–52. Source accessible at: <https://doi.org/10.24193/RJPS.2022.2.02>; source consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>82</sup> Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, *Famine amenorrhoea (seventeenth-twentieth centuries)*, in vol.: *Biology of man in history: selections from the Annales, économies, sociétés, civilisations*, Robert Forster, Orest Ranum (eds), Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1975, p. 163–178. Originally published in French *L'aménorrhée de famine (XVII<sup>e</sup>–XX<sup>e</sup> siècles)*, “Annales. Economies, sociétés, civilisations”, XXIV, No. 6, 1969, p. 1589–1601. Translated by Elborg Forster. Source accessible at: <https://wellcomecollection.org/works/qw4mdz29>; consulted on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>83</sup> Marius Eppel, *Politics and Church in Transylvania 1875–1918*, Bern, Peter Lang, 2012, in vol.: *Connecting Faiths and Nationalities. A Social History of the Clerical Profession in Transylvania (1848–1918)*, Marius Eppel (ed), Bern, Peter Lang, 2021; *Intermarriage Throughout History*, eds.: Luminița Dumănescu, Daniela Mârza, Marius Eppel, Newcastle upon Tyne, Cambridge Scholars, 2014.

questions, which determined couples to also contract a civil marriage. For interfaith unions in which one of the partners was Roman Catholic, it has been possible to safeguard the *sexus sexum sequitur* principle, namely that sons adopted their father's faith, and daughters that of their mother's. Provided for in article 12 of Law LIII of 1868, and subsequently taken up by Law XXXII of 1894 on the religion of children, the way of transmitting religion from parent to child was specified<sup>84</sup>.

For her part, Julieta Rotaru (National Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilizations, INALCO, Paris), co-editor of the "Romani Studies" academic journal, Liverpool University Press, presented, for Romania in 1838<sup>85</sup>, the work carried out by Gypsy women in different socio-professional groups in pre-industrial Wallachia. Many women were breadwinners. This study is part of her project, jointly with David Gaunt, Sweden, on the Rudari community. The authors just published the first monograph on the history of the Rudari people of Romania, including the first mapping of their settlements<sup>86</sup>. The Rudari formed a population which has traditionally inhabited the Balkan area and much of Central Europe. All categories of gypsies were active, often domestic servants from a very young age, they were mobile. There are many day laborers, and those whose profession was not specified earned their bread through seasonal activities, working in agriculture for their masters. Once married, they had also domestic work in their own household. They took care of their children and of the elderly and carried out tasks that one might have thought reserved for men. They particularly knew how to make spindles and wooden spoons for the market. Widowed, as they got older, they appeared as head of household, and were then very often wool spinners, while benefiting from a network of relationships and the respect traditionally due to a Gypsy mother, in her large family group. Julieta Rotaru brought multidisciplinary approach (philology, ethnology, history) with her contributions to the history of Romani communities from Romania.

<sup>84</sup> *Ciclul vieții familiale la românii din Transilvania în a doua jumătate a secolului al XIX-lea și începutul secolului XX* [The Cycle of Family Life among the Transylvanian Romanians in the Second Half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and Beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century], Ioan Bolovan (ed), introductory study and notes by Ioan Bolovan, Diana Covaci, Daniela Deteșan, Marius Eppel, Elena Crinela Holom, Cluj-Napoca, Presa Universitară Clujeană, 2009; *Legislatia ecleziastică și laică privind familia românească din Transilvania în a doua jumătate a secolului al XIX-lea* [The Ecclesiastic and Secular Code of Laws Regarding the Romanian Family of Transylvania in the Second Half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century], Ioan Bolovan (ed), introductory study and notes by Ioan Bolovan, Diana Covaci, Daniela Deteșan, Marius Eppel, Crinela Elena Holom, Cluj-Napoca, Academia Română, Centrul de Studii Transilvane, 2009.

<sup>85</sup> Julieta Rotaru, David Gaunt, *Project: MapRom Mapping the Roma communities in 19<sup>th</sup> c. Wallachia (2018–2021)*. Source accessible at: [www.maprom.se](http://www.maprom.se)

<sup>86</sup> Julieta Rotaru, David Gaunt, *The Wallachian Gold-Washers. Unlocking the Golden Past of the Rudari Woodworkers*, Paderborn, Brill, 2023.

## 6. Family models and children

The end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in France was marked by a new interest in childhood, as shown by Iris Charriou (Paris-Cité University, France) through her detailed study of material cultures and the modalities of social circulation of objects dedicated to babies, in Paris, between 1866 and 1912. Mothers looked for specific clothing and manufactured items, often expensive, adapted to the growth of the child, facilitating their daily life in urban context, while guaranteeing the well-being and safety of the child. Judith Odier (École normale supérieure, ENS-Paris-Saclay University, France), studying the rich archives of the Asile Sainte Anne, opened in 1867 in Paris, addressed the physical, psychological and mental disorders induced by the economic crises of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, particularly among women. She focused her presentation on madness, motherhood, and family ties in Paris in the 1920s. Almost half of the female internees under study presented a delusion of persecution, following some sexual violence, death of a close one, abandonment or other traumas, often occurred within their family.

Catherine Canel-Dol (EHESS, Paris)<sup>87</sup>, author of a doctoral thesis in history, on adoption in France from 1789 to 1923<sup>88</sup>, presented the Law of June 19, 1923, authorizing in France the adoption of children, a law whose centenary is being celebrated this year<sup>89</sup>. The adoption of minors became possible in France with this law. It created a legal filiation link between the adopted child and the adopting adult. Historian and jurist, the question she addressed was whether the proposed system was archaic or a precursor, revealing different strategic models of family reproduction, resulting from this new legislation.

## 7. Family models and change

For Northern Europe, through the example of Helsinki, Beatrice Moring (University of Cambridge, Great Britain)<sup>90</sup> – who worked also on adoption

<sup>87</sup> Catherine Dol, *Adoption et processus de reproduction sociale*, in vol.: *Familles, parents et enfants de l'Antiquité à nos jours: sensibilité, stratégies et conflits: actes du colloque des 17, 18 et 19 novembre 2016/Faculté des Sciences Humaines et Sociales de Tunis, Groupe de Recherche Mouquaranat*, Al Hassen Annabi, Olfa Boudaya, Sihem Kchaou (eds), Tunis, Edition Latrach, 2018.

<sup>88</sup> Christiane Catherine Canel Dol, *Les adoptions en France de 1789 à 1923, rêvées, instituées et vécues* [Adoptions in France from 1789 till 1923: Dreamed, Instituted and Lived], Paris, *L'Atelier du Centre de recherches historiques*, Les thèses du CRH, 2021, Source accessible at: <http://journals.openedition.org/acrh/24371>; <https://doi.org/10.4000/acrh.24371>; source consulted on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

<sup>89</sup> An international Conference took place in Angers, France, entitled “Un siècle d’adoption des enfants en France 1923–2023”, June 20–21, 2023. It followed a report published by Yves Denéchère, Fábio Macedo, *Étude historique sur les pratiques illicites dans l’adoption internationale en France*, Université d’Angers, 2023. Source accessible at: <https://univ-angers.hal.science/hal-03972497v1> (consulted on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023).

<sup>90</sup> Beatrice Moring, Richard Wall, *Widows in European Economy and Society, 1600–1920*, Martlesham / Rochester, NY, Boydell and Brewer, 2017.

strategies<sup>91</sup> – insisted on the permanent work of women who played a regulatory economic role in Finland during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Once widowed, they had to support themselves and their children in an urban environment. Finnish women demonstrated great inventiveness and resilience. They maintained a decent standard of living, with good household economics and business acumen, if possible, with the help of their family members. They knew how to take advantage of the fact that Helsinki was then undergoing urban development. At all social levels, widows were caring of the good management of family assets.

Lucia Carle (Nuto Revelli Foundation, Italy) traced the centuries-old history of a “fief”<sup>92</sup> of the Holy Roman Empire from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, in Monesiglio, Italian Piedmont<sup>93</sup>. She carried out a major analysis of successive heirs, reconstructing the evolution of family power, intergenerational links and complex matrimonial strategies within the Caldera and del Carretto noble family branches, which for a long time shared the same lordship: the eldest branch of the co-lords was invested with three quarters of the assets by the Holy Roman Emperor in 1722, again by Charles-Emmanuel III of Savoy in 1766, and the younger branch, that of the Carretto, enjoyed only the last quarter for a long time, but ultimately inherited the title and all the properties, by a sentence of 1791. This case is particularly interesting for enlightening the multigenerational consequences of primogeniture rule and the long-term importance of succession and power concerning European aristocrat families recognized as belonging to old nobility. Among commoners, regional local rules and customs of transmission used also to regulate matrimonial alliances, future conditions of children, according to gender, rank at birth and legitimacy (or illegitimacy)<sup>94</sup>.

Other sessions of this collective research seminar were devoted to the comparative study of family models of reproduction, always emphasizing the role of women, acting both for family continuity and/or strategies of changes. The action of local communities was of main concern. Salomé Egloff (University of Zürich, Switzerland) presented, through two case studies located in central Switzerland, in

<sup>91</sup> Beatrice Moring, *Adoption of adults and contracts as strategies for family property continuation in pre-industrial Finnish rural society*, “Annales de démographie historique”, issue 1 (n° 141), 2021, p. 41–69.

<sup>92</sup> For definitions, see Marc Bloch, *La société féodale*, Collection L’*évolution de l’Humanité*, tom XXXIV & XXXIV bis, Editions Albin Michel, Paris, 1939–1940. Tome I is entitled *La formation des liens de dépendance* (1939); Tome II is entitled *Les Classes et Le Gouvernement des Hommes* (1940). The free online Canadian UQUAC edition, 1982 is recommended. Source accessible at: [http://classiques.uqac.ca/classiques/blochmarc/societe\\_feodale/societe\\_feodale](http://classiques.uqac.ca/classiques/blochmarc/societe_feodale/societe_feodale) (consulted September 25, 2023). Marc Bloch, *Feudal Society*, Translated by L.A. Manyon, Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1961.

<sup>93</sup> Lucia Carle, *Dinamiche identitarie. Antropologia storica e territori* [Identity dynamics. Historical anthropology and territories], Florence, Firenze University Press, 2013.

<sup>94</sup> Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, *The European rural stem family as a determinant of illegitimacy*, “Romanian Journal of Population Studies”, Cluj-Napoca, XVI, 1, 2022, p. 9–44. Source accessible at: <https://doi.org/10.24193/RJPS.2022.1.01>; <https://rjps.reviste.ubbcluj.ro/volume-xvi-number-1-2022january-june/fauve-chamoux-2022/>

pre-Alpine regions, how village communities and their families, within mountain systems benefiting from communal goods since the early Middle Ages – here above all pastures in valleys and mountain pastures – have implemented, over the centuries, certain strategies of matrimonial alliance and devolution, in order to preserve access to and the proper use of these common goods by their offspring, between 1600 and 1800. To do this, mixed marriages when one of the spouses was not a native of the village were strictly regulated, especially when the local system of property transmission was unequal, which varied from one valley to another. Kamen T. Dontchev (Institute of Ethnology, Academy of Sciences of Bulgaria), a high scholar in Bulgarian customary law, provided an important comparative view, comparing the characteristics of customary law in French-speaking European countries. He stressed the role and power of women on the future of families, and their strategies for continuity<sup>95</sup>. It was possible, on this occasion, to compare the results of his research with the dynamics of family transformation observed in Africa by Mamadou Sounoussy Diallo (General Lansana Conte University, Conakry, Guinea) who conducted a socio-anthropological analysis of the crisis of authority in the urban family of Guinea<sup>96</sup>.

In the line of our comparative EurAsian perspectives (Japan, Korea, China), initiated long ago in the 1990s, as mentioned above<sup>97</sup>, Mary Louise Nagata<sup>98</sup> (Francis Marion University, USA) presented the different models of migration and integration open to migrants arriving in Kyoto, Japan, from the Japanese countryside at the end of the Tokugawa period (1843–1869)<sup>99</sup>. Among the options opened to them, young women had the choice of staying with an employer as a servant, marrying into a locally well-established family business, marrying an indigenous man and then helping him in his business, or return later to their village with their acquired skills. Migrants served as mediators between their communities of origin and the city and facilitated the spread of commercial and artisanal links. In general, the role of women was important in the continuity of lineages, as is the effect of geographic and social mobility on families and specific forms of urban integration following types of migration.

<sup>95</sup> Kamen Todorov Dontchev, *La place de la femme dans le système du droit coutumier des Rhodopes depuis la fin du XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle et jusqu'aux années 50 du XX<sup>e</sup> siècle*, "Études et documents balkaniques et méditerranéens", Paris, Laboratoire d'anthropologie sociale (EHESS/CNRS), Tom 32, 2009, p. 43–49.

<sup>96</sup> Mamadou Sounoussy Diallo, *Peule Female Migration to the Americas and Their Return to Guinea in Old Age: Evolution of Gender Relations in the Mamou Region*, in vol.: *Women, Migration, and Aging in the Americas, 19<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> Centuries. Analysing Dependence and Autonomy in Old Age*, Marie-Pierre Arrizabalaga (ed.), Abingdon/New York, Routledge, 2023.

<sup>97</sup> See above, note concerning the *EurAsian Project on Population and FamilyHistory*.

<sup>98</sup> Mary Louise Nagata, *Labour Contracts and Labour Relations in Early Modern Central Japan*, London/New York, Routledge, 2005.

<sup>99</sup> Idem, *Leaving the village for Labor Migration in Early Modern Japan*, in vol.: *The Road to Independence. Leaving Home in Western and Eastern Societies, 16<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> centuries*, Frans van Poppel, Michel Oris, James Lee (eds), Bern, Peter Lang, 2004, p. 273–311.

At last, a seminar session was devoted to the presentation by Daniel Etienne Altman (CY Cergy University Paris, AGORA Research Centre, France) who revealed the first results of his doctoral research project, devoted to the long history, since the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century – following episodes of severe discrimination – of the social and cultural identity of Russian-speaking immigrant families of Jewish faith in the United States (observed particularly in Miami). He offered an original and comparative analysis, combining a number of historical sources, family histories, autobiographical testimonies and oral interviews collected by him on site. At the same time, he took account of fictions, where authors reconstructed the past generations of their ancestors<sup>100</sup>.

### III. Perspectives of A New History of the Family seminar (HISFAM GLOBAL)

Together with Marius Eppel, we propose to launch a new History of the Family Seminar Series entitled HISFAM GLOBAL at the George Barițiu Institute of History of the Romanian Academy, Cluj-Napoca. This new Seminar, with a permanent hybrid format, will be well adapted to our post Covid-19 academic community. It will allow easier and larger debates at international level, taking opportunity of an existing active network of first-class scholars, already keeping in touch for long and regularly, including promising followers. HISFAM GLOBAL will consider family values and related strategies – to keep going the family – not only in time of peace and golden/glorious/prosperous periods, but also in time of war and crisis (socio-economic, sanitary, political crises including catastrophes, epidemics, famines, high mortality, migration/exodus etc.), refreshing our historical perspectives, inventing new approaches.

We expect speakers from various disciplines and countries to present the complex European, Asian, American, Australian and African historical experience so that the Seminar will be an exciting challenge, comparing, for example, models of family continuity over generations in historical space and time. Topics as arranged marriages, remarriages, separation, polygamy, adoption, circulation of children, sex selection, migrations, will be further addressed, including comparative debates about work in progress and historical publications. The role of the State and the role of religious authorities in these matters of family reproduction (laws, customs and rituals) remain of particular importance as it appeared clearly along the construction of the Anthology book published with Professor Ioan Bolovan in 2016, *A Global History of Historical Demography. Half a Century of Interdisciplinarity*<sup>101</sup>.

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<sup>100</sup> Anatoly Glazer, *Sausage Emigration*, Florida, Novya Florida, 2014 [in Russian].

<sup>101</sup> *A Global History of Historical Demography ...*, 698 p.

Many families are now transnational, supported by digital communication, with only long distance visual and voice contacts. Family relations are taking new paths, with their joys and frustrations, leading to all sorts of unexpected behavioural changes. Facing globalisation, the search for identity and family memory intensifies.

### **Conclusion: Building global comparative interdisciplinary frameworks**

We intend to transcend history, suggesting an interdisciplinary approach of new family systems using anthropology, historical demography, economy, sociology, theology, history of mentalities, gender, medical knowledge etc. In such a context, Historical research should combine statistical data, family reproduction studies (including family structure and transmission systems), legislative knowledge and theology/religious believe. Whatever the new research tools and quantitative sources largely available, it is important to have a secure discussion forum encouraging free debates within academic networks, allowing independent brainstorming without frontiers.

Following recommendations expressed by Fernand Braudel in 1957, when he succeeded to Lucien Febvre, as President of the *Annales School*, exactly the VI<sup>th</sup> section of *École Pratique des Hautes Études* (EPHE), the new research seminar, dedicated to History of the Family in Global Perspective (HISFAM GLOBAL), based at “George Barițiu” Institute of History of the Romanian Academy, Cluj-Napoca, will aim to look forward, “to understand, and make people understand, through the study of historical continuity, the very meaning of our time, to perceive the present as one link in the chain, as a moment in a long-term evolution” [longue durée]<sup>102</sup>. (Fernand Braudel, 1957, p. 182).

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<sup>102</sup> Fernand Braudel, *Lucien Febvre et l'Histoire*, “Annales (ESC)”, XII, No. 2, 1957, p. 177–182; here p. 182.