

Organized by the Association for the History of Management and Organizations (AHMO), the Institut de Recherches Historiques du Septentrion (IRHIS) and the Lille University Management (LUMEN), the Journées d'histoire du management et des organisations (JHMO) will bring together in Lille on 17 and 18 March 2022 researchers in history, management sciences, sociology, economics, or other disciplines studying organizations and their managerial practices from a historical perspective. The JHMO will also be the occasion to award The Joseph Colleye Prize in the history of accounting.

## General Session

Traditionally, the general session is open to all proposals for papers dealing with the topics and themes of the AHMO: history of management sciences and their disciplines, history of organizations, and history of managerial practices in organizations. Proposals must use a historical methodology and be based on archival sources, a corpus of texts, interviews, etc. The conference will give preference to novel and original submissions.

## Thematic session: Crises

In parallel, a thematic session will focus on the notion of crises (sudden inflection of the economic situation and/or irreversible and brutal rupture of an organization, an institution, a structure). The crisis will be considered in all its diversity, political crisis (revolution, coup d'état), military crisis (defeat), economic crisis, epidemic crisis, at different scales, company, states, international. One of the objectives of this session is to think together in order to take a step back from the current health crisis which reminds us of the economic, socio-cultural and political fragility of our societies.

In industrial societies built on certainties, the certainty of dominating nature thanks to the mastery of techniques, the conviction that the mode of economic growth and social organization adopted are suitable for all and that inequalities are justified, the crisis is a thunderclap. It reminds us that chance, accidents, and unpredictable events are part of human society and that we should probably take them into account in order to have the means to react.

Crises are most often unexpected and events for which we are ill prepared. They reflect a form of brutality, of harshness, the consequences of which everyone fears. As Ricoeur (1988) reminds us, "the crisis (...) consists in a dysfunction of the relationship normally stretched between the horizon of expectation and the space of experience". Ricoeur lists several areas of crisis, often overlapping: medical, psychophysiological, cosmopolitical, epistemological and economic.

The work of Ernest Labrousse on the different natures of crises (old and new types) and on the links between crises and revolutions, makes crises founding moments with lasting effects (Labrousse, 1944). His work still influences research in economic history (Grenier 1991; Démier, 2008). By writing that "societies have the crises they deserve," Labrousse invites us not only to better understand these ruptures in order to better avoid them, or failing that, to overcome them. He also calls for a deeper understanding of economic, political, and social organizations to limit the risks of crisis. Labrousse highlights that the growing inequality in the distribution of wealth (monetary or in natural resources), the increase in poverty, and a sharp rise in prices, for example, are the harbingers of the revolutions of the 18th and 19th centuries in France. In his speech to the Chamber of Peers on 27 January 1848, on the eve of the 1848 revolution, Alexis de Tocqueville did not explain anything else, stating:

"Gentlemen, I believe that we are sleeping on a volcano. If governing does not consist above all in knowing the volcano in order to evacuate the populations before the irruption, what is the legitimacy of the Prince? The reflection on crises which this conference encourages leads to a more general reflection on the meaning of the government of nations and the governance of organizations.

Crisis is a major concern in management sciences, whether in the organizational, commercial, financial, or communication fields. To better manage in times of crisis, Thévenet (2009) traces the stages of a crisis: denying the crisis, finding a scapegoat, being stunned and therefore unable to react, rebelling, and then being reborn. Companies can bounce back from a crisis (Hébert, 2009), resilience being a major notion in post-crisis research. The crisis can also be an opportunity to innovate in order to avoid or circumvent difficulties. It also leads to a rethinking of the very role of the company in society. The economic crisis of 2008-2009, for example, acted as an important catalyst, forcing companies to consider the social consequences and economic impacts of their actions. Even if recent crises seem to raise a series of difficulties, they can also be a source of hope and optimism, and cause positive externalities.

The intersection of levels of analysis (micro, meso and macro) and disciplines (history and management sciences) will allow for a deeper analysis and understanding of past and present crises as well as their short, medium, and long-term effects. The aim will be to research the origin of crises, to specify how they propagate, and how they disrupt relations between economic, political and social actors. The aim is also to draw lessons from crises and post-crisis situations and to analyze their effects on economic, social, and political organizations. Are crises an opportunity to accelerate changes/evolutions already underway or, on the contrary, do they slow them down? What can we learn from past crises? What changes in value systems do crises bring about? Beyond this non-exhaustive list, the committee will welcome any proposal likely to help write this "history of crises".

## References

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- Maurer J-L., Perrot D., Preiswerk Y., Rist G., Sabelli F. et Vallet J. (1984), *Crise et chuchotements. Interrogations sur la pertinence d'un concept dominant*, Genève, Graduate Institute Publications.
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- Varga E. (1976), *La crise économique, sociale, politique*, Paris, Editions sociales.

## Practical information

Organizing committee: Hélène Gorge and Béatrice Touchelay (University of Lille)

Scientific Committee: Lise Arena (Management Sciences, University of Côte d'Azur), Ludovic Caillaud (EDHEC Business school), Pierre Gervais (History, University of Sorbonne Nouvelle - Paris 3), Anthony Galluzzo (University of Saint Etienne), Hélène Gorge (Management Sciences, University of Lille), Nicolas Guilhot (University Jean Moulin Lyon 3), Pierre Labardin (Université Paris-Dauphine), Cheryl McWatters (University of Ottawa - Canada), Pascal Raggi (History, Université de Lorraine), Fatima Regany (Université de Lille), Paulette Robic (Management Sciences, Université de Nantes), Béatrice Touchelay (Université de Lille), Dragos Zelinschi (Management Sciences, Université de Nantes).

Submission guidelines: The paper should be no longer than 1 to 2 pages (5,000 characters maximum, excluding bibliographic references) and should clearly indicate the research problem, the sources, the methods, and the main results if available. Written in French or English, and accompanied by abstracts in French and English, proposed submissions should be sent to [helene.gorge@univ-lille.fr](mailto:helene.gorge@univ-lille.fr) and [beatrice.touchelay@univ-lille.fr](mailto:beatrice.touchelay@univ-lille.fr)

Key dates: Submission of proposals until 4 January 2022 and decision of the review committee by 20 January 2022 (each submission will be subject to a double-blind referee process).

Paper format: Papers in French or English will be grouped in sessions according to the topics. Each presentation will last 20 minutes and will be followed by a question period. Papers may be delivered in French or English.

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## The Joseph Colleye Prize

This prize is named in honour of the founding president of the Belgian *Ordre des experts comptables et comptables brevetés*, created in 1959: Joseph Colleye (1908-2001). A major player in the legal recognition of the accounting profession in Belgium and its development, Joseph Colleye also was the author of 30 books and a multitude of articles, particularly on the standardisation and computerisation of accounting. As director of the *Editions comptabilité et productivité*, he supervised in 1975 the publication of the first French translation of the famous *Tractatus de computis et scripturis* of Luca Pacioli's *Summa*, undertaken by Robert Haulotte and Ernest Stevelinck, two accountants passionate about accounting history.

This prize is funded by the Fonds Joseph Colleye, a non-profit organisation that also supports a series of activities to promote the accounting history collection of the University Library at the Université de Nantes. This undertaking will pay tribute to one of the previously mentioned historians of accounting, Ernest Stevelinck (1909-2001), whose personal library was at the origin of the constitution of this collection. In 1970, he was the convenor of the first World Congress of Accounting Historians, whose 15th edition was to take place in St Petersburg in July 2020 but which has been postponed to 2022, due to the pandemic.



The prize in the amount of **€1500** will be awarded to the author(s) of an article on the history of accounting techniques and of their uses. The selection of the recipient(s) will be made by an international jury. **To be eligible for this prize**, the article, written in French or in English, must have been published in 2020 or in 2021 in a ranked academic journal (please note carefully, preprints will not be accepted). In addition, the author or one of the authors must submit, at the same time, a paper to be presented at the JHMO 2022.

- Deadline for submission of applications: 4 January 2022
- The paper and a short C.V. must be sent to: [prixcolleye@ahmo.fr](mailto:prixcolleye@ahmo.fr)