

Call for papers for the Conference: “History of French cultural diplomacy”
Organisers: University Sorbonne-Nouvelle Paris 3/ French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs/ Institut français

To celebrate the centenary of the Association française d’action artistique (French Association for Artistic Action [AFAA]), the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Institut français, and the University Sorbonne-Nouvelle Paris 3 are organising a series of events to study the history of French cultural diplomacy.

Among these events, an academic conference will take place in **Spring 2022** at the University Sorbonne-Nouvelle in Paris. The conference will look at the history and activities of French cultural networks abroad: this includes services for cultural cooperation, French Institutes, French research institutions overseas, and Alliance Française centres. The proceedings of the conference will be published.

The academic committee of the conference invites French and international scholars to submit paper proposals. Although the main approach of the gathering will be historical, interdisciplinary submissions are welcome.

The academic committee especially encourages proposals about the different **dimensions** of cultural diplomacy (language diplomacy, artistic exchanges, cultural and creative industries, academic diplomacy, teaching and intellectual debates); about **individuals and institutions engaged in** cultural diplomacy (state and non-state agents and institutions – including services and directions of French Ministries, Alliance Française centres, foundations, cultural institutions, leisure and creative businesses, diplomats and unofficial agents of cultural diplomacy); about the **objectives and complexities** of the field (questions of audiences, means of actions, objectives and multilateralism); about **problematized periods and issues** (French cultural diplomacy at the time of the Cold War and decolonizations, for example). **Comparative approaches** with other national models are also welcome, and so are country or region-specific contributions (for example French cultural diplomacy in Latin America, Japan, and Europe, etc.)

The academic committee will give priority to proposals that employ the wealth of records gathered by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs at the diplomatic archives at La Courneuve and Nantes (files of consulates, French institutes, Alliance Française centres, cultural centres; archives of the AFAA, of the Service des Œuvres françaises à l’étranger and the Direction générale des Affaires culturelles) Further documentation from a selected number of French diplomatic posts will be added as part of the centenary of the AFAA.

Paper proposals in French or English will be considered. Each proposal should comprise a paper title, abstract of between 1,000 and 3,000 characters (including spaces) and a CV. Submissions should be emailed to HistDiplo2022@gmail.com **by 4 December 2020**. Queries should also be directed to this email address.

Selected participants will be contacted by 20 December 2020.

Academic committee:

Bruno-Nassim Aboudrar (Sorbonne-Nouvelle univ. / Paris 3, France)

Yves Bruley (EPHE, France)

François Chaubet (univ. of Paris Nanterre, France)

Xavier Darcos (Institut de France)

Charlotte Faucher (univ. of Manchester, UK)

Janet Horne (univ. of Virginia, USA)

Philippe Lane (univ. of Rouen Normandie, France)

François Mairesse (Sorbonne-Nouvelle univ. / Paris 3, France)

Laurent Martin (Sorbonne-Nouvelle univ. / Paris 3, France)

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