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Editorial

By Paul Puschmann, Luciana Quaranta

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HISTORICAL LIFE COURSE STUDIES

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EHPS NETWORK

MISSION STATEMENT

HISTORICAL LIFE COURSE STUDIES

Historical Life Course Studies is the electronic journal of the *European Historical Population Samples Network* (EHPS-Net). The journal is the primary publishing outlet for research involved in the conversion of existing European and non-European large historical demographic databases into a common format, the Intermediate Data Structure, and for studies based on these databases. The journal publishes both methodological and substantive research articles.

Methodological Articles
This section includes methodological articles that describe all forms of data handling involving large historical databases, including extensive descriptions of new or existing databases, syntax, algorithms and extraction programs. Authors are encouraged to share their syntaxes, applications and other forms of software presented in their article, if pertinent, on the EHPS-Net website.

Research articles
This section includes substantive articles reporting the results of comparative longitudinal studies that are demographic and historical in nature, and that are based on micro-data from large historical databases.

Historical Life Course Studies is a no-fee double-blind, peer-reviewed open-access journal supported by the European Science Foundation (ESF, http://www.esf.org), the Scientific Research Network of Historical Demography (FWO Flanders, http://www.historicaldemography.be) and the International Institute of Social History Amsterdam (IISH, http://socialhistory.org/). Manuscripts are reviewed by the editors, members of the editorial and scientific boards, and by external reviewers. All journal content is freely available on the internet at http://www.ehps-net.eu/journal.

Co-Editors-In-Chief:
Paul Puschmann (Radboud University & KU Leuven) & Luciana Quaranta (Lund University)
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The European Science Foundation (ESF) provides a platform for its Member Organisations to advance science and explore new directions for research at the European level. Established in 1974 as an independent non-governmental organisation, the ESF currently serves 78 Member Organisations across 30 countries. EHPS-Net is an ESF Research Networking Programme.

The European Historical Population Samples Network (EHPS-net) brings together scholars to create a common format for databases containing non-aggregated information on persons, families and households. The aim is to form an integrated and joint interface between many European and non-European databases to stimulate comparative research on the micro-level.
Visit: http://www.ehps-net.eu.

EDITORIAL

The year 2018 starts with several changes to the editorial board. From 1 January 2018, Paul Puschmann (Radboud University & KU Leuven) and Luciana Quaranta (Lund University) are the editors-in-chief of *Historical Life Course Studies*. They have been appointed by the broader editorial board as the successors to Koen Matthijs (KU Leuven), who served as the editor of the journal from its launch in 2014. Over the course of last year, he decided to step down from this position due to other academic commitments. At this stage we would like to thank him for all the time, energy and funds, he has invested into *Historical Life Course Studies*. Thanks to Koen's commitment, *Historical Life Course Studies* has become a full-grown, double-blind, peer-reviewed, open-access journal in the field of historical population studies. Of course, Koen will stay a member of the Scientific Advisory Board.

Next, Marja Koster (International Institute of Social History) replaces Namita Bhatia (KU Leuven) as the managing editor of *Historical Life Course Studies*. Namita has not only been dealing with a considerable share of the email correspondences with authors, reviewers and our readership, but she has also taken care of the layout of articles. As such, she has contributed to the success of *Historical Life Course Studies*, and deserves our gratitude. Last but not least, Kristina Hodelin-ter Wal (Radboud University) replaces Robyn Donrovich (KU Leuven) as our copy-editor. Robyn has been very devoted, punctual, fast and accurate, and thanks to her professional commitment the language of the papers by non-native English speakers improved significantly. We are grateful for her services.

Furthermore, we would like to shortly introduce ourselves to the readers. Paul Puschmann is an assistant professor of economic, social and demographic history at the Radboud Group for Historical Demography and Family History at Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands. He is also affiliated with Family and Population Studies, KU Leuven, Belgium, where he obtained a PhD in social sciences. His PhD thesis focused on the processes of social inclusion and exclusion of urban in-migrants in the port cities of Antwerp, Rotterdam and Stockholm in the period 1850-1930. Paul has published widely on historical demographic topics in Europe, including partner choice, marriage, migration, fertility and mortality, and on the recent population history of North Africa and the Middle East. Paul is co-founder of *Historical Life Course Studies* and he served as associate editor before he took up the position as co-editor-in-chief.

Luciana Quaranta is an assistant professor at the Department of Economic History and Centre for Economic Demography at Lund University, Sweden. She obtained a PhD in Economic History on the basis of a thesis that looked at impacts across the life course of early life exposures in five rural parishes in southern Sweden in the period 1813-1968. Luciana's publications are within the field of historical demography and have primarily focused on mortality, fertility and on the short- and long-term determinants of living standards and health in the past within Europe. She has also contributed widely to the development of the Intermediate Data Structure (IDS) and of programs for extracting data for analysis and conducting comparative research.

The new co-editors-in-chief will stay devoted to the mission of *Historical Life Course Studies*: Publishing methods and results of studies based on data from historical databases. Priority is given to papers which deal with longitudinal data from databases, which are stored in the IDS, as well as with methodological contributions with respect to the implementation of the IDS, and the extraction of data from this database format. However, we welcome papers from the whole broad range of historical population studies, including cross-sectional studies, and we also publish descriptions of new and existing historical databases in the fields of historical demography, family history, historical sociology and historical geography. Ever since the start of *Historical Life Course Studies* in 2014 the number of articles per volume has increased, and the new editorial team will do everything within its power to make sure that this growth in output will continue. From all the manuscripts currently under review as well as plans for special issues, we believe that the position of *Historical Life Course Studies* will become even stronger in the future. Of course, you are invited to discuss plans for special issues or individual papers, and if you have questions about the journal, the submission or the review procedure, you can always contact us.

Although we aim to publish an ever-growing number of articles, quality goes over quantity. The most important quality mechanism for academic output is double-blind peer review. We therefore would very much like to thank all those scholars, who have generously spent their time painstakingly reviewing papers (and incidentally also the data and analyses behind the papers) for *Historical Life Course Studies* during the previous years. In alphabetical order:

George Alter, Matthias Blum, Ioan Bolovan, Anders Brändström, Hilde Bras, Erik Buyst, Sofie De Veirman, Isabelle Devos, Lisa Dillon, Martin Dribe, Sören Edvinsson, Peter Ekamper, Theo Engelen, Joshua Goldstein, Per-Olof Grönberg, Saskia Hin, Angélique Janssens, Lionel Kesztenbaum, Jan Kok, Martin Klesment, Sebastian Klüsener, Martin Kolk, Marko Lamberg, Ron Lesthaeghe, Aat Liefbroer, Geert Loosveldt, Ineke Maas, Kees Mandemakers, Hans Jørgen Marker, Hideko Matsuo, Christa Matthys, Emily Merchant, Joana Maria Pujadas-Mora, Stefan Öberg, Michel Oris, Richard Paping, Michel Poulain, Luciana Quaranta, Gilbert Ritschard, Steven Ruggles, Francesco Scalone, Marlou Schrover, Reto Schumacher, Hilde Leikny Sommerseth, Gray Swicegood, Mikolaj Szołtysek, Peter Teibenbacher, Gunnar Thorvaldsen, Jan Van Bavel, Bart Van de Putte, Marco van Leeuwen, Frans van Poppel, Lotta Vikström & Richard Zijdeman.

Last but not least, we wish to thank Jan Kok (Radboud University) and Gillian Stevens (University of Alberta), as they have given the editors thorough advice through the years about how to launch and manage an academic journal and how to deal with potential conflicts of interest. This advice turned out to be very useful!

We wish all readers, authors, reviewers and everyone else who committed themselves somehow to the success of *Historical Life Course Studies* a happy, healthy and productive New Year!

Paul Puschmann & Luciana Quaranta

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