

**15th-16th July 2025**

Room 3 - UFR STAPS - Nantes Université (15th of July)

Centre des archives diplomatiques de Nantes (16th of July morning)

Room 3 - UFR STAPS - Nantes Université (16th of July afternoon)

# Exploring International Sports Relations

## A State of the Field

**Celebrating Ten Years of RERIS**

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# 15th of July

Nantes Université, UFR STAPS, room 3

## 10am–10:30am: introduction

### Panel 1: Sport and International Relations. National State of the Field (10:30am–12:30pm)

*What were the key transformations in scholarship regarding sport and international relations in specific countries? How did this work connect to international research?*

*Animation: Amanda Shuman (Universität Freiburg)*

François-René Julliard (Université de Dijon), *US Sport and International Relations during the Cold War: A Short State of the Art*

Nicola Sbeti (Università di Bologna), *Sport and International Politics: An Overview of the Italian Literature*

Julien Beaufils (Université de Rennes 2), *East German Sporting Diplomacy in the Cold War (1949-1990): State of the Field and Perspectives*

Juan Antonio Simon Sanjurjo (Universidad Politecnica de Madrid), *Sport and International Relations: An Analysis of Spanish and Latin American Literature*

## 12:30pm–1:30pm: lunch break (room 1-2)

### Panel 2: Connecting Historiographical Fields (1:30pm–3:30pm)

*How can two distinct historiographical fields be connected? In what ways can the history of international sport be transformed by approaches from gender history, religious history, environmental history, or public history—and vice versa?*

*Animation: Lidia Lesnykh (Université de Fribourg)*

Philippe Vonnard (Université de Fribourg-UNIL) and Lionel Pablon (Université de Rennes 2), *Studying International Sport Competitions in an Environmental Perspective*

Florys Castan-Vicente (Université Paris-Saclay), *An International Network of Separatists Sportswomen: The International Women's Sports Federation Trought the Lens of its National Branches (1921-1936)*

Daniele Serapiglia (Universidad Complutense de Madrid), *For Catholic and Anti-communist Youth: Transnational Sports Networks in Southern Europe under the Aegis of Pius XII's Church*

Deborah Guazzoni (Società Italiana di Storia dello Sport), *Considerations about International Sport Relations in Public History inside Sports Museums and Temporary Sports Exhibitions*

## 3:30pm–4pm: break

### Panel 3: New Challenges of Olympic Studies (4pm–5:30pm)

*How can we transform this research field, through new research avenues and methods?*

*Animation: Lindsay Sarah Krasnoff (New York University)*

Amós del Castillo Petidier (Universidad Complutense de Madrid), *The EU at the Games: A Historical Analysis of the European Union's Involvement in the Barcelona '92 and Athens '04 Summer Olympic Games*

Igor Martinache (Université Paris-Nanterre), *The Paris 2024 Social Charter: Subversion from Within the Olympic Institution or Extending the Realm of Sportwashing?*

Leslie Waters (University of Texas at El Paso), *The Challenge of Incorporating New States at the 1992 Olympic Games*

**5:30pm–5:45pm: From Barcelona to Nantes. Friendship, Discoveries and....  
Work, by Philippe Vonnard (RERIS series co-director)**

**8pm: diner at Magma Food Hall**

# 16th of July

Center of diplomatic archives, Nantes (9am-12am)

## Panel 4: Infra/Supra National Identities (9am-11am)

*How does trespassing nation-state boundaries allow for a reconceptualization of the social sciences of sport?*

Animation: Lucie Hêmeury (UNIL)

Eduardo Molinelli (Università per Stranieri di Perugia), *Sports Against Francoism: The Comitè Català pro Esport Popular in Exile (1946-1948)*

Erminio Fonzo (Università di Salerno), *The International Sports Relations of the Gioventù italiana del Littorio (1937-1943)*

Lorenzo Venuti (Università di Bologna/Università di Firenze), *The Hungarian Variant: The Failed Frankfurt Congress of 1910 and the Problem of Multi-ethnic States*

Paul Batcabe-Lacoste (ENS Paris-Saclay), *Studying a Transnational Socialist Sporting Event: The Case of the Peace Race in the 1950s*

Visit of the Center of diplomatic archives, Nantes

## 1pm-2pm: lunch break (UFR STAPS, room 1-2)

Nantes Université, UFR STAPS, room 3 (2pm-6pm)

## Panel 5: Sports Diplomacy? (2pm-4pm)

*What insights does the history of diplomacy offer to the historical understanding of sport and international relations?*

Animation: Yannick Deschamps (Université de Picardie Jules Verne)

Raphaël Benbouhou (UNIL-Université Sorbonne Nouvelle), *The Organisation and Development of Franco-Spanish Sporting Relations: The Role and Involvement of French and Spanish Diplomats (1920s-1950s)*

Kateryna Chernii (Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam), *Exploring the Field of 'Sports Diplomacy'*

Yacov Zohn Muldoon (University of Wisconsin-Madison), *Diplomacy and Finances: Soviet International Relations through Football (1930-1991)*

Lindsay Sarah Krasnoff (New York University), *Fast Breaks: The Opportunities and Challenges of Basketball Diplomacy*

## 3:30pm-4pm: break

## Panel 6: Key Concepts (4:30pm-5:15pm)

*What key concepts can help transform our understanding of the internationalisation of sport? How were these concepts constructed and transformed over time? What do they contribute to the social sciences of sport more broadly?*

Animation: Nicola Sbeti (Università di Bologna)

Claire Nicolas (Universität Basel), *International Sports History through Postcolonial and Decolonial Analytical Lenses*

Sylvain Dufraisie (Nantes Université), *How do Internationalisms Deal with Sports?*

**5:30pm: concluding remarks, by Yannick Deschamps  
and Lucie Hêmeury**

# 10 Years of RERIS

## Useful informations

### Coordination contact

Sylvain Dufraisse (sylvain.dufraisse@univ-nantes.fr)

### Administrative contact

Lucie Grillon (lucie.grillon@univ-nantes.fr)

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### Scientific advisory board

Sylvain Dufraisse (Nantes Université), Deborah Guazzoni (Università degli Studi di Milano), Julianne Lanz (Universität Rostock), Lidia Lesnykh (Université de Fribourg), Claire Nicolas (Université de Genève), Grégory Quin (Université de Lausanne), Nicola Sbeti (Università di Bologna), Amanda Shuman (Universität Freiburg), Juan-Antonio Simon (Universidad politecnica de Madrid), Philippe Vonnard (Université de Lausanne)

### Venues

UFR STAPS - 25 bis, boulevard Guy Mollet, 44322 Nantes  
(tram 2, stop: Recteur Schmitt)

More informations: <https://staps.univ-nantes.fr/fr/contacts-et-administration>

Center of diplomatic archives - 17 rue du Casterneau, 44000 Nantes  
(bus 10, stop: Mitrie)

### Lunches and diner

UFR STAPS, room 1-2 - 25 bis, boulevard Guy Mollet, 44322 Nantes

Magma Food Hall - 15 rue La Noue Bras de fer, 44200 Nantes

(tram 1, stop: Médiathèque)