Report by the EURHO Secretariat for the period 2015–2017

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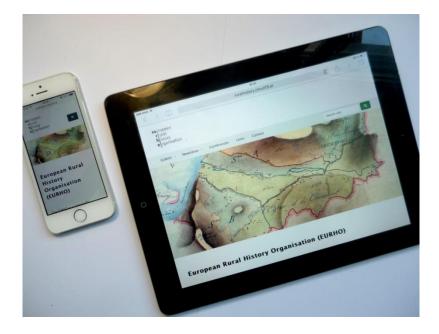
This report about the activities of the EURHO covers the period between the General Meetings on 8 September 2015 in Girona/Spain and on 11 September 2017 in Leuven/Belgium. It covers the following activities: (1) the EURHO website, (2) the Rural History Newsletter (RHN) and (3) other administrative activities.

1. EURHO website

The website of the EURHO (<u>www.ruralhistory.eu</u>) which was launched in January 2013 has been regularly updated at the Institute of Rural History (IRH) in St. Pölten/Austria. The contents to be updated comprised, among others, the new members of the Management Committee, the new institutional members, the conference Rural History 2017, the links collection and – last but not least – the newsletter.

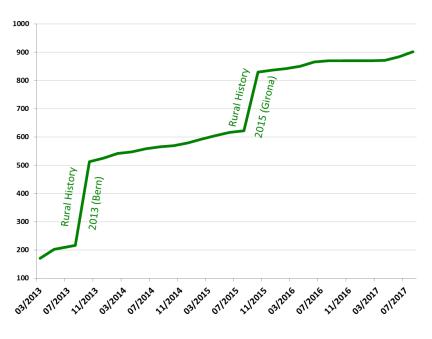


Since more websites are now loaded on smartphones and tablets than on desktop computers, the EURHO website needed to be updated. A new version of the EURHO website with mobile friendly responsive web design (adapting the layout to the screen size of different devices) is currently being prepared (<u>http://ruralhistory.cloud19.at/eurho</u>). This new website will also be adapted to the different paths visitors take on their mobile devices and will have an easier navigation design. Also social media buttons (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc.) will be integrated in the new website in order to make it easier for visitors to share content with their social media connections.

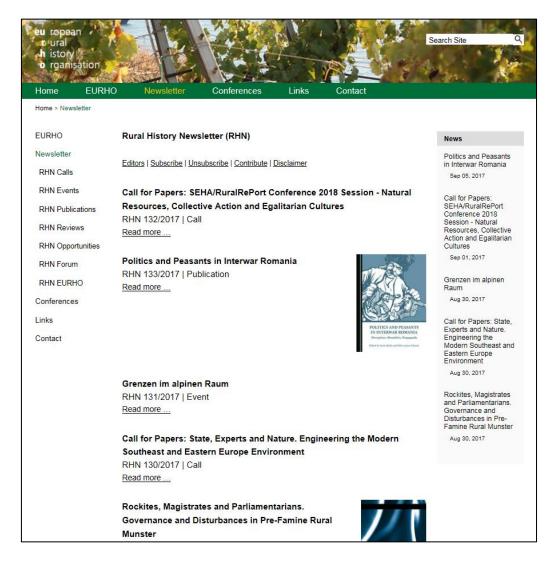


2. Rural History Newsletter (RHN)

Since the last report, the number of subscribers of the RHN has again increased significantly. Currently, 902 subscribers from all over the world receive a digest of new issues of the RHN every other week.



The scope of the RHN has not changed much in the past two years. The mailings primarily contain calls for panels, papers or articles, information on conferences, workshops, seminars, exhibitions and other events. The RHN also regularly includes the TOCs of new issues of the most important journals and books series within the field as well as links to online-reviews of recent publications. More and more the RHN is actively used by EURHO members to disseminate information about events, new publications and vacancies in the field of rural history. In the meantime, Brigitte Semanek has joined the team of the Institute of Rural History in St. Pölten/Austria and since then has been supporting Ulrich Schwarz in his activities as RHN editor.



3. Other administrative activities

The Secretary also settled a couple of minor administrative activities. These comprise the answering of requests by visitors of the website, the communication with the organisers of the conference Rural History 2017 and the preparation of the MC and General Meetings 2017 in Leuven (setting of agendas, nomination of the Officers by the MC, nomination of the Regional Representatives by the individual members etc.). The following persons were nominated as Regional Representatives for the period 2017-19 by at least two individual members of the respective region:

- Anne-Lise Head (Switzerland) for Central Europe
- Socrates Petmezas (Greece) for Southern Europe
- Vicente Pinilla (Spain) for South-West Europe
- Mats Morell (Sweden) for Scandinavia

For the other regions no nominations have been made; thus the current representatives will stay in office.