

Call for Papers:

Panel: Re-inventing rurality? Contemporary debates and historical perspectives

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The pressing issues of the present, such as climate protection, populism, animal breeding/animal law or the inadequate equipment with new technologies (lack of digital or transport infrastructures) are to a large extent linked to rural areas. At the same time, rural areas still appear as an ideal alternative to urban (post)modernity. At the beginning of the 21st century, rural areas are often at the center of debates - both as spaces of stagnation that are to be left and as spaces in which new social concepts are being developed. Though the debates on “the rural” pick up contemporary problems they are not new at all. Rural exodus, deserted villages, the notion of traditionalism and backwardness on the one hand and idealization, utopia and space of a better world on the other are not new at all.

The panel should bring together papers on the meanings of rurality in different places and times. This could mean negotiations of the borders between urban and rural, rurality and nature. It integrates topics on rural migration, questions of rurality and society, backwardness or utopian ideas. It covers early modern times up to the present in a transregional and transdisciplinary perspective. Discussing different aspects together the panel contributes to the historicisation of “the crisis of rurality”.

We are looking forward for proposal questioning the concept of rurality over time and space. We appreciate empirical and theoretical approaches.

The Conference Rural History 2021 of the European Rural History Organisation (EURHO) takes place in Uppsala, Sweden, from Monday 23 August to Thursday 26 August 2021.

<https://www.ruralhistory.eu/conferences/rural-history-2021>

<https://www.ruralhistory2021.se/>

Please, use the following link for uploading a paper proposal.

<https://www.ruralhistory2021.se/call-for-papers/>

Deadline: 15 January 2021