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Full Research Professor in History, Political Science and Sociology
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GENERAL PRESENTATION

I am a Full Research Professor in Social Sciences at the French National Center for Scientific (CNRS) Since 2021, I also serve as the first elected President of the history of the international Memory Studies Association. If I occupy a research only position (the CNRS is one of the main research-only agency in the world), I have been teaching in different places from Sciences Po Paris to NYU and took part in ten PhD defenses so far, in diverse places from King's College to Texas State University, while I currently serve as advisor or co-advisor of 5 dissertations in history, political science and sociology.

My current work focuses on public action and the transformation of the state through the study of public policies in the field of memory. She is particularly interested in the interactions between bureaucracy, normativity and expertise in the mobilization of the past in contemporary society. Upstream, the aim is to study the emergence and functioning of memory administrations, their networks of experts and their professionals in order to understand the contemporary transformations of the welfare state. Downstream, I explore new methodologies in order to break with an approach centered on the study of the narratives of the past, which is at the heart of most international work on memory, and to shift the focus from the effectiveness of a transmission of the past to the relationship of citizens to the very principle of these policies of memory and their policy feedbacks. This approach allows us to pay attention to the relationship between public action and normativity, on the one hand, and to the role played by socio-economic inequalities in a public policy sector that nevertheless puts forward the universality of its audiences and its emancipatory goals, on the other.

The second group of research I have been conducting is more sociological and concerns the social and institutional frameworks of documentality that mark the contemporary period and the transformation of cultural and heritage institutions that accompany it. In recent years, calls for "participation" by the "public" in order to preserve, in the present and "for the future", the traces of the past have multiplied. My most recent research has focused on the ways in which people keep track of and document periods of crisis (World War II, terrorist attacks and Covid), and the way State and administrations have taken growingly us these "participatory archives" as a tool for the governance of crises and transitions. Since 2022, I have been working on these issues in the environmental field. Finally, I am also a historian of the Holocaust and a specialist in the implementation of anti-Semitic persecutions in Paris, which I study on a micro-historical scale and from a spatial perspective.

EDUCATION

- Awarded national eligibility as full professorship applicant in history, sociology and political science (“qualifiée aux fonctions de professeure des universités”), 2020
- Habilitation in Political Science, Sciences Po Paris, 2019,
- PhD in Sociology, EHESS, 2006
- MA in Social Sciences, Sciences Po Paris, (1999-2001)
- MA in Social Sciences, Ecole Normale Supérieure (1996-2000)

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

- Full CNRS Research Professor in history, sociology and political science, since 2021.
- Visiting Professor, Institute for French Studies, New York University, Spring 2019.
- Associate CNRS researcher in social sciences (tenured position), 2010-2021
- Post-doctoral fellow at Sciences Po Paris, 2007 and 2009
- Researcher for the CIVS, French Prime Minister’s Office, 2008
- Visiting Fellow, USHMM, Washington D.C., Summer 2001
- Visiting Fellow, CRFJ, Jerusalem, Summer 2000

AWARDS

- CNRS Bronze Medal (highest French national distinction for highly promising early career researchers), 2019
- French Voices Award 2017 for *Memory in my doorstep*, <http://frenchculture.org/books-and-ideas/7347-french-voices-award-2017-recipients>
- Winner of 2016 Gold Decibel special award, with *Gens de Paris/ Gens de la Seine*, <https://inshs.cnrs.fr/fr/cnrsinfo/le-projet-gens-de-la-seine-recoit-le-prix-special-du-jury-decibel-dor>
- Best Article Award, *Dapim. Studies on the Holocaust*, 2014, <https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/journal-prize-ah-dapim-studies-on-the-holocaust-article-prize/>
- French Political Science Association Prize for best dissertation, 2007
- Auschwitz Foundation Special Prize for best dissertation, 2007

ON-GOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

Co-investigator of the “Know at this address. Bridging Urban History and History of the Holocaust” collaborative project with Laurent Joly, Eric Le Bourhis; Shannon Fogg and Isabelle Backouche, Maël Le Noc, EHESS, CNRS, Inalco and Missouri S&T (2018-2023) :

For a first illustration of this line of work <https://www.politika.io/en/notice/opportunities-and-antisemitism-housing-in-paris-19431944> and the special issue to come with *Histoire Urbaine*

Co-founder of the COST-European Union Research project, « Slow Memory. Transformative Practices for Times of Uneven and Accelerating Change », 2021-2025, n°CA20105, coordinated by Jenny Wüstenberg (Nottingham Trent University). I am the chair of the Working Group “Politics”:

We are living in times of deep contradictions. While our world accelerates and grows smaller through superfast digital networks, it is also marked by widening socio-economic disparities. We face viral pandemics, rapid species extinction, increased automation of work, quick fixes for mental health, political upheavals and displacements of old certainties. This Action addresses the need for increased interdisciplinarity in our understanding of how societies confront their past to contend with environmental, economic and social changes brought on by sudden events and by slow and creeping transformations. The future of peace, prosperity, politics, work and climate will depend upon how we remember socio-cultural and political changes. Transformative practices of remembrance - as objects of study and as critical interventions - will be shared collaboratively across Arts and Sciences in order to reveal the ways in which humans confront large-scale processes of change. This Action will uniquely focus the attention of scholars, policymakers and cultural professionals on alternative paths to build resilience in the face of contemporary rapid-response culture.

Main investigator of the ArchiCOVID research project, supported by the French National Research Agency (ANR), 2021-2022:

In Spring 2020, the pandemic and the lockdown it led to gave birth to a large number of collect operations of traces of the event – photographs, stories, testimonies organized by cultural institutions and calling for citizen participation. Involving ordinary people in curating this « historical » time was meant to strengthen social cohesion and foster a « collective resilience ». The ArchiCOVID project aims at putting this expectation to the test. Who did actually take part to this social dynamic of curating the ordinary experiences of the pandemic (and who did not)? What did these citizen-participants expect from being part of such a large archivist initiative and what kind of impact did these collective practices have on them? On the other side of the spectrum, to what extent did these collect initiatives change the professional routines of those who launched them, mainly curators, archivists or librarians? To answer these questions, and some others related to them, ArchiCOVID will conduct an in-depth study realizing quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews with participants and professionals as well as a general survey of the general population. In doing so, it will provide professionals for a global evaluation of their initiatives they have longed for. But, far beyond, it will assess to what extent this memory in construction is collective enough to be helpful in building a resilient society for the future.

Main investigator of the research project « Public attitudes toward memory policies », awarded the 2020 *open call for European Social Survey, CHRONOS 2 online web panel*, in 12 countries 2020-2022 :

<http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/about/singlenew.html?a=/about/news/essnews0100.htm>

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EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

Member of the *Editorial board of Memory Studies Journal (SAGE), since 2019 :*

- Journal Citation Reports 2019 : 2 year impact factor : History 1 out of 95 / Cultural Studies 2 out of 41 et 5 years impact factor : History 3 out of 95 / Cultural Studies 6 out of 41
- Scopus CiteScore 2018 : Social Psychology 105 out of 260 / Experimental and Cognitive Psychology 74 out of 135

Member of the *Editorial board of Memory, Mind & Media (Cambridge University Press), depuis 2020,* <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/memory-mind-and-media/information/editorial-board>

Frequent reviewer for

Springer / Cambridge University Press / Berghahn Books

International Journal of Cultural Policy / American Journal of Sociology / American Historical Review / Sociological Forum / French History / Memory Studies / Violence: An International Journal / Holocaust and Genocide Studies / Journal of Educational Media, Memory and Society / Historein / Curator: The Museum Journal / Theory and Society / Comparative Studies in Society and History / Communication Theory / Emotion, Space and Society

Revue Internationale de Politique Comparée / Critique internationale / Revue d'Histoire Moderne et Contemporaine / Les Annales / Politique Européenne ; Pole Sud / Mémoire et politique / European Review of History-Revue Européenne d'Histoire / Revue d'Etudes Comparatives Est Ouest / Genèses / Ethnologie française / Archives de Sciences Sociales des Religions / Gouvernement et action publique / Mouvement social

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES AND UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITIES IN FRANCE

Regular reviews for the European Commission (ERC), US-Israel Binational Science Foundation and European national research agencies.

- Member of the Scientific Committee of the Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention, American University in Paris.
- Member of the Scientific Committee of the Izieu House.
- Member of the Memory Commission of the Fondation pour la Mémoire de la Shoah.
- Member of the Executive Committee of the November 13 Research Program (CNRS/Inserm)
- Member of the Executive Committee of the French National Research Group (GDR) on Memory, between social sciences and biology, CNRS.
- Member of the Advisory Board of the International Panel on Exiting Violence, co-organized by the Fondation de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme and the Carnegie Corporation of New York (2016-2019).

**A SELECTION OF ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS IN ENGLISH (MAINLY)
ORDERED BY FIELD OF RESEARCH**

Out of a total of 19 books, edited books and journal special issues, of 30 peer-reviewed scientific articles and 33 books chapters.

I – Public policies of memory and policy feedbacks

Books and journals special issue

Qui pose les questions mémorielles ? Approche sociologique, ouvrage à paraître aux CNRS Editions, 2023.

De-Commemoration. Making Sense of Contemporary Calls for Tearing Down Statues and Renaming Places, with Jenny Wüstenberg (ed.), forthcoming with Berghahn Books in 2022, with Fayard in 2023 for the French version.

La mémoire collective en question(s), PUF, 2023, avec Sandrine Lefranc (dir.).

Beyond Memory. Can we really learn from the past?, London, Palgrave, 2020, with Sandrine Lefranc, also translated in French, Spanish, Arabic and German.

Administrations of Memory, special issue of *International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society*, n°2, 2019, ed. with Sara Dybris McQuaid, *it became a book at Springer*, 2022.

Visites scolaires, histoire et citoyenneté. Les expositions du centenaire de la Première Guerre mondiale [School trips, history and citizenship. Exhibiting the Centenary of the First World War], La Documentation française, coll. Musées-Mondes, 2016, with Sylvain Antichan, Jeanne Teboul and Gwendoline Torterat.

Les terrains de la mémoire. Approches croisées à l'échelle locale [The fields of memory. Local and interdisciplinary approaches], Presses de l'Université Paris Nanterre, 2018, ed. with Michèle Baussant, Marina Chauliac and Nancy Venel.

Peer-reviewed articles

« Collective memory and Autobiographical memory: perspectives from the humanities and cognitive sciences », avec Lucrèce Heux, Clare Rathbone, Rebecca Clifford et Céline Souchay, *WIREs Cognitive Science*, 2022.

« Visiting History, Witnessing Memory. A study of a Holocaust Exhibition in Paris in 2012 », *Memory Studies*, 2019, 12 (6), 630-645.

« Administrations of memory: Transcending the nation and bringing back the state in memory studies », *International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society*, vol. 32, 2, 2019, with S. Dybris McQuaid, 125-143.

« Halbwachs's studies in collective memory: a founding work for contemporary 'memory studies'? », *Journal of Classical Sociology*, 16(4), 2016, 396-413.

Books chapters

« Memory and Space: (Re)reading Halbwachs and the remembrance of Austerlitz » in Sarah De Nardi, Hilary Orange, Eerika Koskinen-Koivisto and Steven High (ed.), *Handbook of Memoryscapes*, Routledge, New York, 2019, 69-76.

« Does the French State Conduct a Politics of Memory ? » / "Practica el Estado francés una política de la memoria ?" dans Jordi Guixé i Corominas (dir.), *Past & Power. Public policies on Memory debates, from global to local*, Publications and Editions of the University of Barcelona, 2016, 89-101 et 337-349.

II – Past, present and future in a time of crisis

Books

Unlocked memory. How did the Covid Pandemic change commemoration?, avec Orli Fridman (dir.), New York, Palgrave, 2023, à paraître.

Les Mémoires du 13 Novembre [November 13 Memorials], with G r me Truc (ed.), Paris, Editions de l'EHESS, 2020.

Memory on my doorstep. Chronicles of the Bataclan Neighborhood (Paris, 2015-2016), Leuven University Press, 2019, winner of the FACE Foundation *French Voices Award*.

Peer-reviewed articles

« Memory dynamics in times of crisis: An interview with Sarah Gensburger », a conversation with Stef Craps (Ghent University) and Catherine Gilbert (Newcastle University), *Memory Studies*, under press, p.1-13.

« L'espace public du confinement. Archives, participation et inclusion sociale », *Revue d'histoire culturelle, XVIIIe-XXIe si cle*, octobre 2021, 3, with Marta Severo, <https://revues.mshparisnord.fr/rhc/>.

Books chapters

“Unlocked memory”, with Orli Fridman, in Yifat Gutman and Jenny W stenberg (ed.), *Handbook of Memory Activism*, NY, Routledge, 2021, under press, 4000 words.

« From here because from abroad? Migrants and Grassroots Memorials in Paris in this Aftermath of November 13, 2015 » in Sabine Marschall (ed.), *Monuments in the Context of Migration*, London, Palgrave, 2020, 219-242, with G. Truc.

« Beyond Trauma. Researching Memory on My Doorstep » in Danielle Drozdewski and Carolyn Birdsall (ed.), *Doing Memory Research : New Methods and Approachs*, Palgrave, 2018, 109-128.

III - New methodological approaches to the history of the Holocaust

Books and special issues

L'espace de la persécution des Juifs. Paris dans la Seconde Guerre mondiale [The Space of the Holocaust. Paris, 1940-1945], special issue of *Histoire Urbaine*, ed. with Isabelle Backouche and Eric Le Bourhis, 2022.

National Policy, Global Memory. The Commemoration of the Righteous among the Nations from Jerusalem to Paris, New York, Berghahn Books, 2016.

Witnessing the Robbing of the Jews. A Photographic Album, Paris 1940-1944, Bloomington, Indiana University Press, hardcover and paperback editions, 2015.

Nazi Labor Camps in Paris, New York, Berghahn Books, 2011, with Jean-Marc Dreyfus.

Resisting Genocides. The Multiple Forms of Rescue, New York, Columbia University Press, 2011, ed. With Claire Andrieu and Jacques Semelin.

Peer-reviewed articles

« Spoliation et voisinage. Le logement à Paris, 1943-1944 » [Spoliation and Neighborhoodness. Housing in Paris, 1943-1944], *Histoire Urbaine*, December 2021, to be published, with I. Backouche and E. Le Bourhis.

« Très chers voisins. Antisémisme et politique du logement, Paris 1942-1944 » [Dear Neighbours. Antisemitisms and Housing Policies, Paris 1942-1944], with I. Backouche, *Revue d'Histoire Moderne et Contemporaine*, 62 (2/3), 2015, 172-201.

« Antisemitism and Urban Development in France in the Second World War: The Case of *Ilot 16* in Paris », *Contemporary European History*, 23 (3), 2014, 381-403, I. Backouche.

« Picturing the Looting of Jewish Belongings During the Holocaust: What Can History Do With Images ? », *Dapim. Studies on the Holocaust*, 2014, 1-23, *Best article award*.

« From Jerusalem to Paris: the Institutionalization of the Category of the 'Righteous of France' », *French Culture Politics and Society*, 2012, 30(2), 150-171.

« The Righteous among the Nations as elements of collective memory », *International Social Science Journal*, 2012, n° 203/204, 135-146, translated in Chinese, *Revue de l'Académie chinoise de sciences sociales*, 2013.

Books chapters

“Beyond Objects: The Re-allocation of the Apartments of Jewish Tenants in Paris during the Holocaust” dans Maria Eichhorn (dir.), *Orphaned Property in Europe*, with Isabelle

Backouche and Eric Le Bourhis, Berlin, Buchhandlung Walther König, 2021, 52 000 characters.

« Housing and Anti-Semitism in Occupied Paris », notice de l'encyclopédie en ligne *Politika*, <https://www.politika.io/en/notice/housing-and-antisemitism-in-occupied-paris> avec Isabelle Backouche et Eric Le Bourhis, 2017.

« Emotions et univers concentrationnaire » in Alain Corbin, Jean-Jacques Courtine et Georges Vigarello (ed.), *Histoire des émotions*, Paris, Le Seuil, 2017, 229-246, translated in Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese and Japanese.

MAIN AND RECENT PRODUCTIONS IN PUBLIC HISTORY AND DIGITAL HUMANITIES

I - Window in lockdown : building a memory of the public place in time of pandemic

How will we remember the lockdown and the Covid Pandemic ? What kind of traces will we keep of the period in the future? In 2020, with Marta Severo a full professor in Media and Communications at Nanterre University, we launched the collaborative challenge “Windows in Lockdown” asking ordinary people to systematically take photos of the messages that they observed in the public space, in shop-windows, or on public buildings, during the brief outings they were allowed, and then share them on social networks (#WindowsInLockdown) or on a collaborative platform. This project was a huge success in France and Italy. This collection is currently under study and has been made available for anyone and for free as a digital humanity project on <https://vitrinesenconfinement.huma-num.fr>

It echoes the personal blog project I curated after November 13 2015 and which gave birth to *Memory on my doorstep*: <https://quartierdubataclan.wordpress.com/sociology-in-my-neighbourhood/> (mainly in French)

II - It happened here : storytelling history where it took place

“It happened here” is a digital humanity project giving voice to Parisians from the past in the streets and buildings where history took place. <https://happened-here.com/> is an immersive audio series that allows the listener to experience history in the city by exploring a neighborhood, a street, a building and giving a voice to the people who lived there, through archives. I invented and curated this webapp project with my urban historian colleague Isabelle Backouche. So far two podcasts series are available on it, in French and in English, for free: <https://happened-here.com/>

Voices from the Holocaust in Paris : <https://happened-here.com/seasons/parisiens-tell-shoah>

Between 1940 and 1945, the lives of Parisian Jews who fell victim to racial laws were turned upside down. These tragic events took place in buildings, schools, institutions and streets that still exist today. Listen to the singular destiny of these residents, on-site or as a podcast, and access the geolocalised archives to (re)live a community-based story, where daily lives and great historical events are intertwined. This series won awards and support from the Fondation pour la Mémoire de la Shoah, the French Ministry of Culture, the City of Paris, the French Ministry for Veterans Affairs, the National Institute for Audiovisual, The National Archives and the Paris Archives, The George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention of the American University in Paris and the Fondation du Judaïsme Français.

It inspired “Par les Vivants” (<https://www.parlesvivants.org>) an award-winning national educational project for which I have been training high-school teachers, twice a year, to curate podcasts with their students since 2018.

People of the River Seine in the 18th Century : <https://happened-here.com/seasons/gens-de-la-seine>

The idea of this project was to tell the story of people of the past to Parisians and tourists who walked by the Seine after the city decision to open the banks to the pedestrians again after year of car traffic. The listeners can wander the banks of the Seine with our ‘soundwalk’ and meet the people that lived there in the 18th century, when the river was a focal point for life in Paris. You can hear their voices, their quarrels and the sounds of daily life in that era retold through 19 audio stories. Gens de la Seine won a national award in 2016.

III - Curating the past : working to make history alive on site

Curators of the digital exhibition, with Yad Vashem France, *Les Justes parmi les Nations de Paris*, <http://paris-justes-parmi-les-nations.tolk.website>, 2018.

Collaboration with the artist Maria Eichhorn, within the *Documenta 14* (Kassel, 2017), for her installation based on my book *Witnessing the Robbing of the Jews*, 2017 <http://www.documenta14.de/en/artists/13489/maria-eichhorn>.

Collaboration with JR, street artist, the Palais de Tokyo, « Manutention », 2016.

Curator of the exhibition *C'étaient des enfants. Déportation et sauvetage des enfants juifs à Paris [They were Children. Deportation and Rescue of Jewish Children in Paris]*, Paris City Hall, 200 000 visitors, June-October 2012 and exhibition catalogue published by Skira Flammarion, 2012.

Co-curator of the *Le Louvre pendant la guerre. Regards photographiques 1939-1947*, Musée du Louvre, 2009.

IV - Participations in museum boards

Member of the Council of Historians for the Center of Paris, City of Paris, since 2021.

Member of the Conception groupe of the Museum of Terrorism in France, to be open in 2023.

Member of the Scientific Council for the Gurlitt/Spoliations exhibition, Orsay Museum, to open in 2023.

Member of the Scientific Council of the Izieu House, since 2019.

V – Media (a short selection in English only by order of impact)

I give interviews in France on a very regular basis. I put here some few examples in English.

Op-Ed, « The Banality of Robbing the Jews », *New York Times*, 15 novembre 2013, http://www.nytimes.com/2013/11/16/opinion/sunday/the-banality-of-robbing-the-jews.html?_r=0.

« Can the Past change the Future? A sociological reflection about what memory public policies actually do? », *Observing Memories*, Issue n°4, 2020, p. 40-47.

Keynote for the podcast program *Connecting Memories*
<https://anchor.fm/connectingmemories?fbclid=IwAR1zQgtC1tBJyFmAIF63ayph41Vh4Fx3k1c1rgX2tr-8zOnrxwasfi7aOyA>

And if you want to see me giving large audience recent talks :

[“Memory dynamics in a time of crisis”](#), dMSA, December 2020.

[“Curating Covid : Material and Visual Cultures of the Pandemic”](#), University of Michigan, December 2020.

[Paper Trails, Memorials in an Age of Anxiety](#), Columbia Institute for Ideas and Imagination, February 2021.