

Editorial

By Paul Puschmann, Joana Maria Pujadas-Mora, Gabriel Brea-Martinez and Wieke Elien Metzlar

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HISTORICAL LIFE COURSE STUDIES

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MISSION STATEMENT

HISTORICAL LIFE COURSE STUDIES

Historical Life Course Studies was established within *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.

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.

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Joana Maria Pujadas-Mora (Open University of Catalonia & Center for Demographic Studies, Autonomous University of Barcelona)

&

Paul Puschmann (Radboud University)

Associate Editors:

Gabriel Brea-Martinez (Lund University) & Wieke Metzlar (Radboud University)



Radboud University

Nijmegen, the Netherlands



EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

We look back on the past two years with great satisfaction. The special issue *What Was Killing Babies? European Comparative Research on Infant Mortality Using Individual-Level Causes of Death*, guest edited by Angélique Janssens (Radboud University, Nijmegen) and Alice Reid (University of Cambridge), has been successfully completed. In addition, on the occasion of the retirement of Professor Angélique Janssens, a special issue on *Histories of Health* was published in her honour. This issue also appeared as an edited volume with Radboud University Press and can be freely downloaded from the [Press's website](#). The volume was festively presented to Angélique during the workshop *How Did We Lift the Burden? Infectious Disease Mortality in the Western and Non-Western World (1800–present)*, held at Radboud University at the end of August 2025.

We are also pleased to observe that submissions to *Historical Life Course Studies* are once again on the rise, as are citations of published articles. This indicates that the research featured in the journal continues to resonate with, and be utilized by, scholars across historical demography, economic history, social history, and related disciplines. At the same time, our visibility on social media continues to grow, and we look forward to connecting with everyone on our new Bluesky profile, which will be launched shortly. The year 2026 promises to be a very busy one, not only because of strong individual submissions, but also thanks to an upcoming large special issue on historical sources on causes of death. This special issue is being guest edited by Tim Riswick (Radboud University), Elena Crinela Holom (Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj), Grażyna Liczbińska (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań), and Michail Raftakis (University of Bologna).

We would also like to inform our readers of a change in the editorial team. We have said farewell to Eva van der Heijden (Utrecht University), and we take this opportunity to thank her warmly for her dedication to *Historical Life Course Studies*. Eva handled a substantial number of submissions and was a reliable point of contact for authors, reviewers, the editors-in-chief, and our managing editor. Our collaboration was not only highly productive, but also consistently pleasant and collegial.

At the same time, we are delighted to welcome two new associate editors: Gabriel Brea-Martinez (Lund University and Open University of Catalonia) and Wieke Metzlar (Radboud University). Gabriel is a historian and historical demographer who earned his PhD from the Autonomous University of Barcelona in 2018. He is Associate Professor at the Open University of Catalonia and Senior Researcher at the Department of Economic History and the Centre for Economic Demography at Lund University. His research focuses on long-term patterns of socioeconomic inequality and social mobility from preindustrial and industrial societies to the present, with particular attention to their links to demographic behaviour.

Wieke Metzlar is a PhD candidate in the Department of History, Art History and Classics at Radboud University. Her doctoral research examines gender inequality in mortality, with a particular focus on excess mortality among girls in the Netherlands during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Using individual-level mortality data, her work investigates which girls faced elevated risks of death and seeks to identify the underlying determinants of their premature mortality.

This editorial also provides an opportunity to once again thank the sponsors of *Historical Life Course Studies*. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the International Institute of Social History, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), the European Society of Historical Demography, Radboud University Press, Lund University, and HiDo – Scientific Research Network Historical Demography (Research Foundation Flanders, Application number W001821N). Thanks to their support, we are able to continue publishing all journal content in Diamond Open Access.

Finally, we would like to thank our readers, authors, and everyone else who has contributed to the success of *Historical Life Course Studies*. We are deeply grateful for your support and hope to continue counting on you in the years to come. We would especially like to thank the scholars who reviewed papers during the past two years. In alphabetical order:

Nicola Barban, Jan Van Bavel, Onno Boonstra, Gabriel Brea-Martinez, Xingchen ChiaChi Lin, Claudia Contente, Nadeche Diepgrond, Ingrid van Dijk, Sören Edvinsson, Theo Engelen, Alessio Fornasin, Coen van Galen, Siegfried Gruber, David Hacker, Jonas Helgertz, Marloes Hülsken, Julia Jennings, Emily Klancher Merchant, Jan Kok, Joris Kok, Paolo Matos, Koen Matthijs, Stanislao Mazzoni, Saverio Minardi, Rick Mourits, Sanne Muurling, Michel Oris, Michail Raftakis, Diego Ramiro Fariñas, Tim Riswick, Matthias Rosenbaum Feldbrügge, Gabriele Ruiu, Alberto Sanz-Gimeno, Rick Schouten, Jessie van Straaten, Gunnar Thorvaldsen, and Kai Willführ.

Best wishes,

Paul Puschmann, Joana Maria Pujadas-Mora, Gabriel Brea-Martinez & Wieke Elien Metzlar

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