# Executive Board Annual Report 2021

## Name of the Section/Network/Temporary Working Group:

## Communication History

## Management team:

Chair: Gabriele Balbi (USI Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland)

Vice-chair: Janne Nielsen (Aarhus University, Denmark)

Vice-chair: Valérie Schafer (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg)

Young Scholar Representative: Niklas Venema (Freie Universität Berlin. Germany)

## Social media:

Website : <https://ecreahistorysection.com>

Twitter : <https://twitter.com/COHEcrea>

## Activities in 2021:

During the pandemic year 2021, the section was involved in different activities, especially in September 2021, when:

* The edited book [Digital Roots. Historicizing Media and Communication Concepts of the Digital Age](https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783110740202/html) (edited by Gabriele Balbi, Nelson Ribeiro, Valérie Schafer and Christian Schwarzenegger) was published by De Gruyter. This book is a long-term effort of the section started at least in 2018 and it involves several members. All the chapters are in open access and it received a lot of attention in the academic community of communication and media historians;
* The postponed EEC Conference in Braga happened. 6 panels plus the business meeting (where the new management team was elected) were allocated to the section and all were held through Zoom. For an overview of the panels, see [here](https://commhistorysection.files.wordpress.com/2021/12/coh_panels-40ecc2021.pdf).
* Immediately after the end of the general conference, the section co-organized with two other ECREA sections (Radio and Sound and Television Studies) a joint post-conference entitled *Old Media Persistence*. The one day online symposium, held on Webex, was very interesting and engaging with several scholars from different world regions. To check the program see [here](https://commhistorysection.files.wordpress.com/2021/11/ecrea-old-media-persistence_program-final.pdf). A special issue of SCOMS on this topic will be published by 2023, so far a [call for paper](https://www.hope.uzh.ch/scoms/announcement/view/31) is out.

## Plans for 2022:

In 2022, the section will have two main key moments:

* The workshop *History of Digital Media and Digital Media Historiography*, co-sponsored by the ICA Communication History Division, and hosted by the Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C2DH), University of Luxembourg, 2-4 February. This will be an hybrid event and for more information see the program [here](https://ecreahistorysection.com/program/).
* The ECC 2022 conference in Aarhus will be a second crucial gathering for the section’s members, hopefully in person. In order to attract more submissions, the management team has released a specific call: see <https://conferences.au.dk/ecrea2022/call-for-papers/>. The section is also sponsoring two preconferences
  + [The Transformation of Public Dissent: From Counter-Publics Spheres and Alternative Media to Disinformation Ecologies?](https://ecreahistorysection.com/2022/01/10/cfp-ecrea-communication-history-section-pre-conference-october-6-7-2022/), held on 6-7 October, 2022
  + A second one is still in negotations and will be jointly organized by COH section and International and Intercultural communication section. The call will be out by March 2022.