

Lunch Seminar
**“Le Cercle” in the Cold War: A Secret Space for Informal Diplomacy or
Another Super Club for Old White Men?**

Dr. Adrian Hänni, University of Zurich
13.00-14.00, 16th November 2015
Conference Room, Huizinga Building

Dear colleagues,

Currently we have a number of (visiting) scholars at the Institute for History, and we would like to give members of the Institute and our guests the opportunity to profit from each other's perspective through an informal seminar series. This session will again be an informal lunch seminar where **Dr. Adrian Hänni** will do us the honor to present his research project.

“Le Cercle” was one of the most secretive and exclusive political clubs in the West during the Cold War. The regular meetings held around the world have brought together high-level politicians, diplomats, businessmen, military officers and intelligence agents such as Antoine Pinay, Franz-Joseph Strauss, Giulio Andreotti, and David Rockefeller. Dr. Adrian Hänni from the University of Zurich, who is currently at Leiden University with a grant from the Swiss National Science Foundation, will present his research on this transnational network of conservative power elites that has been much neglected by historians. His project makes a valuable contribution to an emerging field of Cold War research that goes beyond national governments and formal decision-making procedures and instead explores the role of informal diplomacy and transnational state-private networks of actors that are connected based on categories such as ideology, faith or class.

Dr. Adrian Hänni is currently at the Institute for History of the University of Leiden as a Postdoctoral Fellow. He is affiliated with the Research Center for Social and Economic History at the University of Zurich and a lecturer for Political History at Distance Learning University Switzerland. He received his PhD in 2013 for a critical historical study on terrorism in the United States. He published research on propaganda, intelligence services, terrorism, and the Cold War.

We cordially invite you to the lunch seminar "**Le Cercle**" in the Cold War. The seminar will take place on **Monday, 16th November** between **13.00-14.00** at the **Conference Room** in the Huizinga Building. Please do not forget to bring your lunch bags and coffee (or tea) mugs with you!

We are very looking forward to your attendance and comments.

Kind regards,

Anne Heyer and Maartje Janse