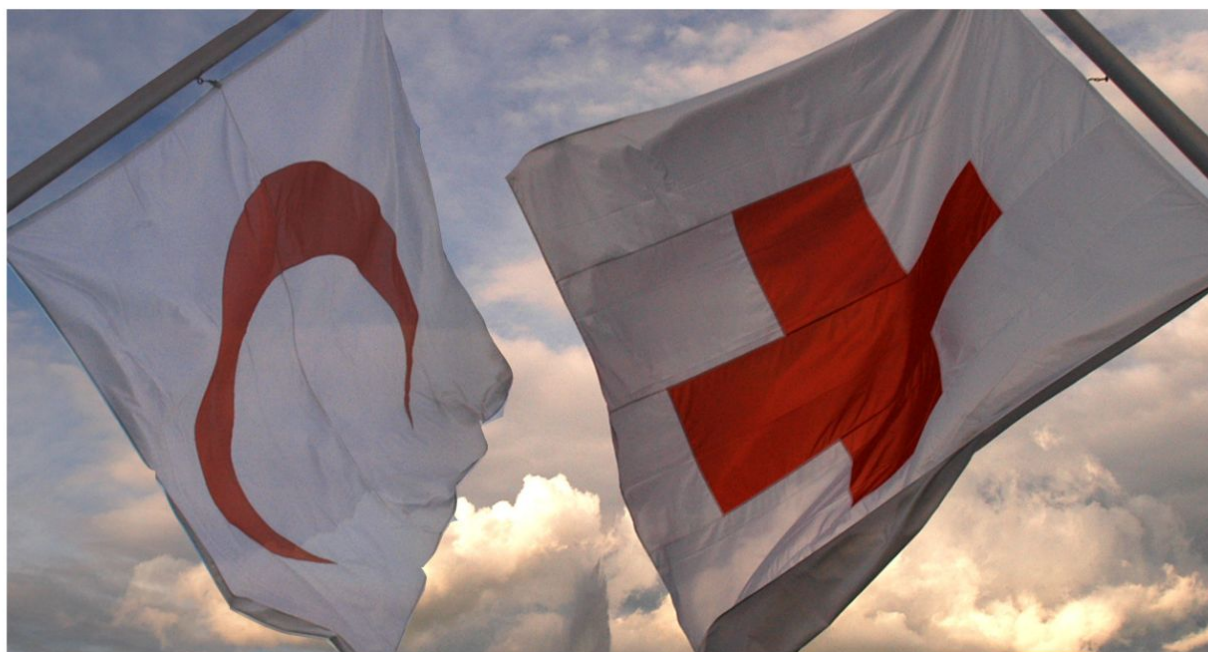


The League of Red Cross Societies: Historical Perspectives, 1919–1991

IFRC, Geneva 14–16 June 2023



Australian
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Please remember the presentations are strictly 20 minutes with 10 minutes for questions.

Wednesday 14 June

5.30 – 7.30pm Welcome Reception: IFRC

Thursday 15 June

9.00 - 9.15am Welcome/Introductions IFRC Secretary General Jagan Chapagain

9.15-10.15am – Session 1 [Chair – Melanie Oppenheimer]

- Overview of Resilient Humanitarianism project. [Melanie Oppenheimer \(Australian National University\)](#)
- The League of Red Cross Societies and the global fight against venereal diseases in the aftermath of the First World War. [Romain Fathi \(Flinders University\)](#)

10.15 -11.15am – Session 2 [Chair – Neville Wylie]

- The invention of Impartiality. How the competition between the League of Red Cross Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross shaped a humanitarian principle. [Joël Glasman \(University of Bayreuth\)](#)
- Helping People in a Divided World: The League of the Red Cross Societies for Hungarian Refugees 1956-57. [Sarah Knoll \(University of Graz\)](#)

11.15 - 11.45am – Morning Tea

11.45-1.15pm – Session 3 [Chair – Susanne Schech]

- Entanglements of Benevolence: War, Colonial Rule, and the League of Red Cross Societies in the Asia Pacific, 1919-1941. [Yoshiya Makita \(Jobu University\)](#)
- China and the League of Red Cross Societies in the Aftermath of WWII [Caroline Reeves \(Harvard University\)](#)
- Shortcomings and Success in the League of Red Cross Societies' Response to the 1950 Cusco Earthquake. [Lisa Covert \(College of Charleston\)](#)

1.15 - 2.15pm - Lunch

2.15 – 3.45 pm – Session 4 [Chair – Romain Fathi]

- Cold War in Neutral Spaces of International Organizations: The Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent Society and the International League of the Red Cross in the 1950s-1980s. [Severyan Dyakonov \(Harvard University\)](#)
- From open hostility to aloof membership: History of relations between the Soviet Red Cross and the League (1919-1941). [Jean-François Fayet \(University of Fribourg\)](#)
- “Health for Humanity and Peace for the World”: Representations of the League of Red Cross Societies in the Post-Stalin Soviet Union. **Siobhán Hearne (University of Manchester)**

3.45 pm - 4.00pm – Afternoon Tea

4.00 – 5.00 pm – Session 5 [Chair – Davide Rodogno]

- Regionalism and relevance: Latin America and the LRCS strategy for institutional survival during the 2nd World War. [Neville Wylie \(University of Stirling\)](#)
- The League in Wartime: Between competition and cooperation in the Red Cross movement during the Vietnam War (1966–1972). [Marie Cugnet \(University of Fribourg\)](#)

5.00 – 6.00 pm

Launch of IFRC Archives Website

- **Grant Mitchell**, IFRC Archivist in conversation with **Melanie Oppenheimer**
- Demonstrations of the software by IFRC Archivists **Mélanie Blondin** and **Sarah-Joy Maddeaux**

7 pm Conference Dinner [Café Papon, Old City]

Friday 16 June

9.30 - 10.30 am – Session 6 [Chair - Rosemary Cresswell]

- The involvement of the League of Red Cross Societies and the Spanish Red Cross in establishing a system of voluntary non-remunerated blood donations in Spain. [Alejandra de Leiva \(Institute of History of Science\)](#) and [Jon Arrizabalaga \(IMF-CSIC Barcelona\)](#)
- “Give Blood. Save Life”: The League of Red Cross Societies & the 1974 World Red Cross Day. [Jordan Evans \(Flinders University\)](#)

10.30-11.00am - Morning Tea

11.00 - 12.30 pm – Session 7 [Chair – Melanie Oppenheimer]

- LRCS and the Policy of Nursing in the Interwar Balkans. [Evguenia Davidova \(Portland State University\)](#)
- Mutually beneficial engagements: The League and WHO in global public health. [Rosemary Cresswell \(University of Strathclyde\)](#)
- The Red Cross movement and disabled peoples – transnational insights. [Dominique Marshall \(Carleton University\)](#)

12.30-1.30pm – Lunch

1.30 - 3pm – Session 8 [Chair – Jean-François Fayet]

- Making the Red Cross Black: Decolonization and the Croix Rouge de la République Démocratique du Congo, 1960-1966. [Jeremy Rich \(Marywood University\)](#)
- Going global? The LRCS and the decolonization of Sub-Saharan Africa (1960s-1970s). [Marie-Luce Desgrandchamps \(University of Fribourg\)](#)
- Decolonising Humanitarian Assistance? The League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Africa Drought Relief Operations (1970s-1980s). [Susanne Schech \(Flinders University\)](#)

3.00 - 4.30 pm – Session 9 [Chair – Melanie Oppenheimer]

- [David Forsythe \(University of Nebraska-Lincoln\)](#) – discussant Romain Fathi
- **Final Reflections** – Neville Wylie, Susanne Schech & Rosemary Cresswell

4.30 - 5.00pm Next steps & publication discussion

5.00pm Conference concludes