



Identity and Representation

Programme

26 November 2002

Hilton Brussels City Hotel, Brussels

17:00 **Opening Session:**

Welcome: **Prof. Charlie Jeffery**
Director
ESRC Research Programme on Devolution and Constitutional Change

Sharon Memis
Head Europe Programme
British Council Brussels

Speaker: **Prof. Dr Ronald Soetaert**
Department of Teaching Sciences
University of Ghent

19:00 **Dinner**
Keynote speech: *Revisiting 'Britishness' following Devolution*

Speaker: **Prof. David Eastwood**
Vice-Chancellor
University of East Anglia

27 November 2002

Scotland House, Brussels

08:30 **Bus collects participants from Hilton Brussels City**

09:00 **Reinforcing Identities: Scotland and Devolution**

Chair: **Gavin Hewitt CMG**
UK Ambassador to Belgium

Speaker: **The Rt. Hon Helen Liddell**
Secretary of State for Scotland

09:45 National Histories under Revision

This session will explore trends towards a revision of a 'standard' national history and will explore regional challenges to the standard version. How have historians negotiated the national vs. the regional perspectives? What implications does regional differentiation of national history have for politics and policy?

Chair: **Prof. Michael Keating**
Department of Political and Social Sciences
European University Institute Florence

Speakers: **Dr Elisa Roller**
Department of Government
University of Manchester

11:00 Coffee Break

11:20 Teaching New Histories

This session will explore how far differentiated understandings of history have permeated curricula and textbooks. Who decides what is taught where? How far should school students be confronted with different understandings of the nation? What issues were faced in the reshaping of history teaching in the period of post-communist transition in East-Central Europe?

Chair: **Dr Rob Phillips**
Principal Lecturer in Research at the Institute of Education
Manchester Metropolitan University

Speakers: **John Hamer**,
Education Consultant
Former member of Her Majesty's Inspectorate for England

Prof. Dr. Vratislav Capek
Director of History Department
Charles University, Prague

12:50 Lunch

14:00 History, the Mass Media and Public Debate

This session will explore the popular resonance of debates about the national vs. the regional past in the mass media. What do the papers say? What is the role of TV historians? How different is the historical output of the national vs. the regional media? Can the media shape our national (or regional) identities?

Chair: **John Wyles**
Partner Gplus Europe

Speakers: **Prof. Christopher Harvie**
Professor of British and Irish Studies
University of Tübingen

Brian Taylor
Political Editor BBC Scotland

Rolf Falter
Adviser to the Belgian Prime Minister

15:30 Break

**16:00 Closing Session: Is it our History too?
Critical Takes on Britain's 'Island Stories'**

This session will discuss the following questions. Are British 'island stories' white-European island stories? Does regional historical consciousness exclude minorities whose identity has other roots? What place is there for Black Britons, Asian Britons or other ethnic minorities where history is now more 'Scottish' or 'Welsh'?

Chair: **Prof. Charlie Jeffery**
Director
ESRC Research Programme on Devolution and Constitutional Change

Speakers: **Jo Littler**
Lecturer in Media and Cultural Studies
Middlesex University

George Szirtes
Poet, Translator, Editor, Critic, Artist

Suhayl Saadi
Novelist, short story writer and poet

17:30 Reception hosted by Scotland Europa