

AGENCIA ESTATAL DE INVESTIGACIÓN - Convocatorias 2018
Proyectos de I+D de GENERACIÓN DE CONOCIMIENTO y Proyectos de I+D+i RETOS INVESTIGACIÓN

AVISO IMPORTANTE - La memoria no podrá exceder de 20 páginas. Para rellenar correctamente esta memoria, lea detenidamente las instrucciones disponibles en la web de la convocatoria. Es obligatorio rellenarla en inglés si se solicita más de 100.000,00 €.

IMPORTANT – The research proposal cannot exceed 20 pages. Instructions to fill this document are available in the website. If the project cost exceeds 100.000,00 €, this document must be filled in English.

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TÍTULO DEL PROYECTO (ACRÓNIMO): ¿Cambio social sin grupos sociales? El seguimiento de trayectorias colectivas en el pasado desde una perspectiva relacional (siglos XIV-XX) RECSNETS I

TITLE OF THE PROJECT (ACRONYM): Social change without social groups? Tracking collective trajectories in the past from a relational perspective (14th-20th centuries) (RECSNETS I)

1. SCIENTIFIC PROPOSAL

For some years now, the study of social innovations –such as social integration or reversion of inequalities- has been one of the research areas selected under the EU Horizon 2020 Program in the field of Social Sciences and Humanities. What can historians bring to this debate? The answer to this question, which is unavoidable in this Project, needs to be broken down into parts. We are not referring here to an unknown subject in historiography, especially in social history. After all, the object of historical science is the study of past societies and, in this respect, it could be said that all historical change, in the most diverse sectors, entails a change in society (Man, 1991, 1997, 2012). By the same token, it is clearly a subject of interest in the many sector-based lines of research that have opened new horizons in historical studies in recent years: environmental history, gender history, social inequality studies, family reconstitution, and many more. In some cases, an attempt has been made to explain these sectoral changes based on social or institutional change (Fisher-Kowalsky et alia 2018). Similarly, advances in new information and digital technologies, which are present in many of these studies, have opened up new possibilities to use databases in the analysis of continuity and rupture with regard not only to individual trajectories, but also to mass data handling (Humphries, 2010).

Yet, we have to admit that the issue of social change, understood as the formation and consolidation of new social agents that define a new framework of economic and institutional relations, is not explicit in the majority of historical studies, so it cannot be said to occupy a central place in historiographic debate today. Moreover, the emphasis often placed on new emerging subjects, and probably some mistakes made in the past, have facilitated the marginalisation, in many of these studies, of social groups. But, is it possible to talk of social change, and even social reproduction, without referring to the social groups involved? (Davidson, 2013; Pontón, 2016)

From our perspective, backed by years of research experience, the study of groups and sub-groups that operate in a society is essential to analyse and integrate the different, and sometimes new, variables considered in a new framework for explaining global social change. The study of social groups also affects the adoption or rejection of one or another technological procedure, either to respond in a new way to old questions, or to raise new questions arising from the incorporation of new elements, new technologies and the new concerns of 21st-century citizens (Wright, 1984, 2009, 2018).

This Project is part of an ambitious historical research program that the research team started a few years ago and wish to culminate in the future with a proposal for new methods for reconstructing social changes in the past (14th-20th centuries). In the four years projected for the duration of the Project, we intend to address the formation and reproduction of social

groups, based on two clearly defined methodologies; on the one hand, linking very diverse aspects, which have often tended to be contemplated and analysed in isolation, in relation to the affected social groups and sub-groups and to the global change of the society; and on the other, exploring the possibilities of new technologies in the handling of massive data accumulated in some exceptionally rich historical documentary sources. Overall, the Project aims not only to analyse some classic topics of social history, which in itself is already interesting, but also to raise new questions and new working hypotheses regarding a very current issue.

1. The necessary renovation of a classic topic of social history.

The scientific objectives of the research programme in which this Project is framed, and also the previous projects conducted by this research group, are the exploration and implementation of new approaches and methods for reconstructing social changes in the historical past. It cannot be said to be a new subject in historiography. For many years, social change has formed the basis for debates that have taken centre stage in social and economic history: the transition from feudalism to capitalism, the Industrial Revolution, and the liberal revolutions. These three topics included reflections about social change from the socio-economic, technological and institutional perspectives (Aston, 1988; Allen, 2009; Davidson, 2013). In recent decades, the emergence of sectoral debates has led to a substantial renovation of historiography, but they have not always made clear the relationship between some of the new study topics and social change. This would be the case, for example, with studies on poverty, women and in general, on population groups considered marginal. Our approach also differs from the studies on historical demography, environmental history and social inequalities, where the sometimes highly sophisticated calculation methods have not considered the characteristics of the social groups involved, nor the possible conflicts with the groups affected or displaced by them. The study of elites has also been negatively conditioned by preconceived ideas of social change, often assuming that the elites are the indisputable drivers of any change (Lachman, 2000; McCKloskey, 2010).

Research team members' backgrounds

The project, in which most of the team are working in its final phase (HAR 2014 (2015-2018): *Neither elite nor poor. Middle classes and social change in historical perspective*), has focused on middling social groups and, with respect to their link to social change, the need to further knowledge of the social groups in each society has been emphasised.

A significant part of the results of the project, presented in the 29th Economic and Social History Seminar held last July in Girona, shape the idea of social change that is our starting point and which we want to elaborate on in the new Project. It would, therefore, provide a high degree of continuity with the project that is now drawing to its close, as well as with previous projects, as can be seen from their titles:

- HAR2008-02960/HIST (2009-2011): *Social dynamics and historical change in rural societies: Analysis of groups and social inequalities.*
- HAR2011-25077 (2012-2014): *Impoverishment and enrichment processes in rural societies: a way of studying social dynamics in History.*

The most significant development compared to previous projects is our clear commitment to exploring the possibilities of applying new information technologies to the challenges of the suggested approach.

The need and possibility, thanks to new technologies, of integrating the study of social change into the study of social groups.

Some decades ago, Edward P. Thompson posited the following question in the title of a famous article on 18th-century English society: "Class struggle without class?" (Thompson, 1978). The article asked how social groups were articulated around certain fiscal conflicts, access to common resources or staple food in the context of the decomposition and

recomposition of social classes, as well as the different cultural practices that defined them before the classes and institutions that constituted industrial capitalism were consolidated (Thompson, 1991). The beginning of the 21st century bears some resemblance to that time: the decomposition of the industrial world of the second technological revolution has led to a situation of dissolution of the working class, precarious employment, an increase in inequalities, in continental migrations and in environmental degradation against a backdrop of technological change (Wright, 2010; Stiglitz, 2015; Atkinson, 2015). Many questions arise: how are the new social groups articulated? What degree of horizontal fluidity has been established between them? What are the new mechanisms of social mobility? How is inequality defined in a context of increasingly precarious and globalised incomes or in a new economy in which wealth has become more intangible or financial? What represents paid and unpaid work in household incomes? How does all this affect the social and demographic behaviours of families and cultural and leisure-time practices? (Antúnes, 2000, 2003; Harvey, 2007; Milanovic, 2016)

We can see, therefore, that the decomposition of the industrial world is posing similar challenges to those faced by societies during processes of intense social change. Hence, our Project's title paraphrases Thompson's article, but also shows that we are in a different historiographic context in which we should think about these changes again. It is not just about bringing to the table the need to discuss the idea of social class, although we will be required to do so in our proposal, but to vindicate the contemplation of social differences and inequalities and, therefore, of the different social groups (regardless of their potential fit with traditional concepts of class) in the analysis of all the social changes that occur in history. The team is aware that presenting this need, accepted by a long historiographic tradition, as a vindication may seem rather surprising. Yet, if it is seen as a novelty now, it is because not only classes but also social groups have ceased to be considered the main object of study of much research, and we have to accept that one of the main reasons for this probably lies in the abuse and ineffectiveness of many social classifications in the past.

The research experience, both in the analysis of social change and in the application of information technologies, acquired in previous projects allows us to face the challenge of the approach presented in this Project. It will be developed into two main areas of work, coordinated by the two principal researchers: Rosa Congost (area of work 1) and Enric Sagner (area of work 2).

Area of work 1: Analysing the evolution of specific groups and their interrelation with other groups considering their typological diversity and also the myriad factors that may intervene in setting off social change.

There is broad historiographical consensus that the transformations we are referring to may be due to different types of factors. On the one hand, those that can generally be considered endogenous, corresponding closely to those that can be explained by social dynamics, and on the other, those classified as exogenous, as a consequence of elements external to these dynamics. Thus, in the field of demography, changes in marriage, birth and fertility rates, and even the factors that attract inhabitants to a region or expel them, would be considered endogenous. In contrast, exogenous changes would include demographic changes as a result of serious epidemics or certain medical advances, such as vaccination since the 19th century. In agriculture, changes in crops that would appear to comply with the interests at stake of the stakeholders would be endogenous, while those caused by plant diseases, climate variations or the post-Columbian exchange of species, would be exogenous. In the field of social inequalities, the changes considered endogenous are those that have tended to develop in conditions of social stability and demographic growth, in which social differences are increased, either due to the poor's increasing difficulty in accessing resources concentrated in the hands of a few, or to the return on capital at a rate higher than that of economic growth, with the capacity that this gives the elites to accumulate wealth (from Malthus to Piketty). On the other hand, we can highlight the equalising effect of certain external factors, such as the world wars (Piketty, 2013), the most important pandemics, which altered the relationship between population and resources, the 20th-century social revolutions, or episodes in the past in which the political structures collapsed (Scheidel, 2018). Also, it should not be forgotten that the interaction of external and internal factors has

led not only to opposite results in societies with different institutions but to different impacts on their social conflicts, such as the consequences of the Black Death in Eastern and Western Europe (Brenner, 1976).

Therefore, the incidence of endogenous and exogenous effects will be considered in developing this Project. A Seminar will be dedicated to each type in the second and third year, respectively, and the research team members will take into account the need to consider them jointly in their research. The central position of social groups or sub-groups as focal points of the research will facilitate this task.

In addition, the need has arisen in discussions within the group to differentiate between two main types of social transformation, according to the emphasis placed on the changes: 1) at the global level of goods and resources of all kinds available in a society, and 2) on ways to gain access to and distribute goods and resources. For many years, historiography, especially contemporary historiography, has given greater importance to the former, which were the central subject of economic history debates on economic growth and the Industrial Revolution. In contrast, the latter have tended to go unnoticed, either seen in contemporary history as a consequence of the former, or in previous ages, as irrelevant. However, in recent years, the need to study the second type of transformation to better understand the first has been brought to the fore. Thus, until a few decades ago, debates on the standard of living of the popular classes in the final stages of the Ancien Regime had focused mainly on the assumed process of peasant expropriation that had led to proletarianisation. In contrast, recent historiographic debate on the idea of an “industrious revolution” points to the need to study all the opportunities that, in certain contexts, might favour the “enrichment” of ordinary households.

Although social transformations can be analysed separately, they should also be contemplated collectively. Focusing our attention on the collective trajectories of social groups, whatever their period of study, facilitates and guarantees this methodological option. The Project researchers will pay special attention to the transformations of social groups or sub-groups as a consequence of new opportunities, or new difficulties, created by significant changes in the global levels of available resources in a society. But they will also focus on transformations related to significant changes in the forms – or level – of access to resources by individuals of a given social group. These are often a result of collective actions, capable of introducing relevant transformations in the structure of social groups, without it being strictly necessary for important changes in global levels of resource production to have taken place.

Area of work 2: The new technologies: need and opportunity.

Thus, in a way, the major challenge facing the study of social change consists of relating and integrating the different types of transformations and overcoming certain ideas that for many years have dominated the interpretation of the role of social groups. Among the more deep-rooted ideas, since they are shared and common to the main currents in historiography, we could mention those that attribute a determining role to the elites as drivers of historical development and economic growth. In a way, this idea has been reinforced by the need to work from the documentary collections that have been preserved, among which the data related to the elites are undoubtedly overrepresented. It is not easy to study the living conditions and standard of living of the humblest groups in historical societies since little trace can be found of them in documentary sources. Yet, it is also true that the new technologies enable us to make significant progress in mass data handling and the research team are looking forward to this challenge.

In addition to advancing in the comprehensive handling of data from different sources collected by the researchers with the help of computer tools, special attention will be paid in the Project to the automatic transcription of manuscripts. Since 2016, the group has been participating as MoU Partner in the European READ Project and five members of the team obtained a BBVA grant for research in Digital Humanities in 2017. This project, carried out in collaboration with the Historical Archive of Girona, has allowed us to apply advanced methods in this field to a specific source covering the period 1768-1862 – the books of the Registry of Deeds (*Registro de Hipotecas*)– which in the case of Catalonia, bring together a

vast amount of information related to society as a whole; that is, to all the individuals and institutions that are part of it and act in it. This will enable us to analyse numerous individual and collective trajectories related to the different social groups and sub-groups. This factor is especially relevant for the Project, since the only sources on which it has been possible to carry out a similar exercise so far – private archives – are mostly restricted to the dominant classes. For some time, five members of the research team have been working on automatically transcribing the information contained in these books, as well as on data processing. Over the course of the Project, this will culminate in applying data mining methods to record processes of social change that are difficult to detect with conventional methods. All the researchers can benefit from the results.

National and international groups working on the theme of the Project, or related matters.

Group members have participated actively and regularly in national and international Seminars and Conferences in which the topics and lines of research of the Project are periodically discussed. The fact that some researchers are involved in other projects is further proof of the multiple relationships that the applicant group has with other national groups. In addition, the Centre for Rural History Research at the University of Girona, where the research will be conducted, has been the headquarters of the *Sociedad Española de Historia Agraria* (Spanish Agricultural History Society) for 16 years, which has facilitated contact with researchers interested in the same subjects and stimulated a comparative approach. The presence of foreign collaborators in the work plan also reflects the stable relationships we have with the laboratories and institutions to which they belong. In 2005, the group's internationalisation was an important step forward with participation in the COST Action A35 *Program for the Study of European Rural Societies*. Gerard Béaur, collaborator in this Project, and Rosa Congost, principal researcher, were president and vice-president of COST, respectively. Between 2005 and 2009, representatives from more than 20 countries periodically gathered to discuss rural history issues under the aegis of the Action. COST Action led to founding the European Rural History Organisation (EURHO) in 2010, with Richard Hoyle as president and Rosa Congost once again as vice-president until 2015, when, coinciding with hosting the conference in Girona, she took up the presidency until 2017. In both the COST Action workshops and in all the biannual EURHO conferences, our team has presented sessions related to the Project with researchers from different countries taking part. In addition, since 2005 the group has collaborated on a regular basis with the CNRS *Groupe de Recherches on Sociétés Rurales Européennes*, directed by Gerard Béaur and Laurent Herment, and has participated in the GDR international research network (CRICEC, in 2010-2015, and AAA, since 2016) led by this group and funded by the CNRS. In the current AAA network (*Agriculture, Alimentation, Approvisionnement*), in which 8 research teams are participating, Rosa Congost is the principal researcher for one of the four central themes; namely, forms of social reproduction.

Outside Europe, strong links exist with research networks in Latin America. Rosa Congost has taken part in different conferences organised by universities in Argentina (the Universities of Buenos Aires, Tandil and Jujuy), Brazil (the University of Porto Alegre and Federal University of Rio de Janeiro), Mexico (Colegio de México and Universidad Veracruzana) and Uruguay (University of the Republic).

Regarding the technological methodologies (area of work 2), the Group has participated as MoU Partner in the European READ Project since 2016. The main objective of this project is to develop a platform for automatically recognising and indexing large volumes of archive documentation. Since 2016, the group has also been working with the *Pattern Recognition and Human Language Technology* group of the Polytechnic University of Valencia on the assisted transcription of the Girona Registry of Deeds books. In addition, the group benefits from having Massimiliano Grava, an expert in digital mapping from the University of Pisa, among its collaborators.

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In relation to the challenges posed by both new information and data analysis technologies for historical studies, and optical character recognition applied to manuscripts, since 1998 it has been interesting to follow closely the activities of the Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations (ADHO). Among the most recent journals is *Big Data and Society*, founded in 2014. We can also mention, among many others, the following contributions:

- Cohen, D. J. & R. Rosenzweig (2006) *Digital History: A Guide to Gathering, Preserving, and Presenting the Past on the Web*, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.
- Manning, Patrick (2013) *Big Data in History*, London, Palgrave
- Weller, Tony (2013) *History in the Digital Age*, Oxford, Routledge.

1.2. Initial hypothesis and general objectives

Our starting hypothesis can be formulated as follows: the historical analysis of social changes requires studying and contextualizing the set of social dynamics and, where appropriate, exogenous elements, that intervenes in the formation, reproduction and transformation of social groups. New technologies are opening up new possibilities to overcome the difficulties inherent to this analysis and ensure it is done successfully.

The initial hypothesis is based on three ideas adopted by the research team in previous projects: 1) The standard of living and welfare conditions of the members of the same social group can vary significantly over time and sometimes in an unexpected way; that is, in a way not hitherto contemplated in traditional studies on social groups or economic inequalities. 2) The changes experienced collectively by members of some social groups or sub-groups affect individuals from other social groups. It is in this sense that we use the “relational” concept. 3) Applying new technologies is necessary and indispensable to making progress with regard to both ideas.

1.2 General objectives.

Area of work 1 (Principal researcher: Rosa Congost)

- (1) To discuss the methodological issues that defining social groups in different historical contexts presents.
- (2) To discuss the methodological issues that detecting processes of social change, especially those that are not so easily visible, presents.

Area of work 2 (Principal researcher: Enric Saguer)

- (3) To develop (and expand) databases that facilitate the analysis of social changes and the comparison of results from various studies.
- (4) To explore the possibilities and potential of new technologies, especially with regard to handling massive amount of historical data.

Common to both work areas

- (5) To promote and ensure complementarity between empirical research and theoretical reflections.
- (6) To participate in internationally important scientific forums raise awareness of the need to promote and experiment with the new methodologies that are explored here in other historical contexts.

1.3. Specific objectives

Area of work 1 (Principal researcher: Rosa Congost)

- (1) To analyse the long-term trajectory of specific social groups, emphasising processes of change that have an impact on social structures. The selected social groups are described in detail in Block 1 of the Work Plan.
- (2) To expand on the relational perspective in the study of social groups and social change based on specific issues, which are described in detail in Block 3 of the Work Plan.
- (3) To advance in integrating actors that are often analysed in isolation, such as women or the poor, in social change issues.

Area of work 2 (Principal researcher: Enric Saguer)

- (1) To develop procedures for assisted or semi-automatic transcription of documentary sources.
- (2) To complete the reconstitution of families for three specific parishes and interrelate the data with other databases to observe and interpret the existence of different patterns of demographic behaviour.
- (3) To advance in the use of digital mapping techniques for spatially reproducing the facts and social issues analysed.

1.4. Methodology and Work Plan for the research team (and collaborating researchers)

The research teams' work plan has been organised into three large blocks, the first and third of which correspond to area of work 1 (analysis of social changes and their triggering

factors), and the second, to area of work 2 (applying new technologies). Within each block, the basic lines of work, the methodology that will be used (sources and applied technologies) and the researchers involved, are specified.

			Area 2			
			Block 2: Development of extraction procedures and mass data analysis			
			Semi-automatic transcription procedures	Generation of structured data (DB)	Family reconstruction	Cartographic representation
Area 1	Block 1 analysis of social trajectories	remença peasants				
		Nobility and rentiers				
		Masovers and tenant farmers				
		Day labourers, small holders and the poor				
		Craftspeople and workers				
	Block 3: relational perspective	Meaning of social labels				
		Social mobility				
		Demographic patterns				
		Exogenous factors				
		Property rights and collective actions				

Note: grey indicates a greater intensity in the use of extraction techniques and mass data analysis

Block 1: Monitoring specific social trajectories

The medium or long-term trajectory of specific social groups will be analysed, emphasising processes of change that have an impact on social structures. We will also try to consider the role of women in these processes, paying special attention to their contributions to the family economy, their role in demographic dynamics and in mechanisms of social reproduction in general. The social groups that will be the subject of study are explained in detail below, indicating the sources, methodology and researchers involved in each case:

- (1) **“Remença” peasants (serfs)**: We will analyse how this servile group had a divergent trajectory from the Early Middle Ages, which was accentuated in the Modern Era, giving rise, on the one hand, to the emergence of a stratum of landlords, who would eventually become the dominant class in many areas of Catalonia at the end of the 18th century and, on the other, to the group of tenant farmers.

Methodology and sources: Based on notarial databases and private sources accumulated in previous projects, which we plan to expand on in the next few years. Research for the 18th century will benefit from new text recognition technologies and data mining applied to the books of the Registry of Deeds (Area of work 2).

Researchers: **Lluch** (Middle Ages), **Mikes** (Modern Era) and **Congost** (Contemporary Era). Research collaborators: **Gifre** (Modern Era).

- (2) **Nobility and rentiers**: The transformation of the economic foundations of the nobility of feudal origin after the liberal revolution will be studied, paying attention to the evolution of different rents and the impact of some specific legislative measures. Concrete cases will be analysed, such as marquis of La Romana and the Counts of Peralada (in Archive of the Kingdom of Majorca), to study how their patrimony was rebuilt after the liberal revolution and how they redirected their activities towards finances and manufacturing businesses. Processes that were relevant for Catalonia, Majorca and the whole of Spain will also be analysed, including the evolution of the censuses and the impact of disentanglement measures. With the help of the new search engines for big databases that new technologies provide, we expect to further develop the analysis of the role of large landowners, with or without noble origins, in the process of consolidating capitalism in Spain in the second half of the 19th century.

Sources: patrimonial documents; Property Registry books; large documentary databases.

Researchers: **Congost** (evolution of the seigneurial *censos* in Spain), **Morey** (evolution of the nobility in the Balearic Islands) and **Saguer** (the Counts of Peralada). Research collaborators: **García Orallo** (application of search tools in big data documentary databases on Spanish rentiers), **Bosch** (evolution of Catalan rentiers).

- (3) **Masovers (sharecroppers), leaseholders and *laboureurs*:** In relation to these groups, the analysis will focus on the Catalan *masovers*, and the leaseholders of *possessions* in Majorca and in the French regions of Brie and La Beauce. In the first case, we will study the trajectory and, where applicable, the social mobility of Catalan *masovers* from their emergence as a social group in the Modern Era to their virtual disappearance in the mid-20th century. Special attention will be paid to the process of transformation of the *cortalers* (tenant farmers) of the Alt Empordà region. In the case of Majorca, first we will analyse the rise and consolidation of a stratum of leaseholders in the main agrarian sector of the island - producing and exporting olive oil – during the 18th century. Second, we will try to discover to what extent this social group benefited from the increase in the product per inhabitant in relation to landowners, merchants and day labourers. The municipal districts of Esporles and Puigpunyent, where the main olive groves belonging to the noble houses we are studying are located, will be an ideal “laboratory” to study a long-term social change revolving around a specific crop, and to evaluate the processes of social mobility surrounding it. In the case of the two French regions mentioned, the research will focus on the *laboureurs*.

Methodology and sources: Based on notarial databases, Registry of Deeds books (*Centième Denier* in France), private and fiscal sources and, in the case of Majorca, merchant accounts books. Databases will be created that integrate individual information contained in different census and fiscal sources. Research will also benefit from new text recognition and data mining technologies applied to the Registry of Deeds books from the region of Girona (Area of work 2).

Researchers: **Congost, Ros and Saguer** (tenant farmers and *cortalers*, 18th-20th century); **Jover and Morey** (leaseholders in Esporles and Puigpunyent in Mallorca). Research collaborators: **Gifre** (*masovers*, Modern Era), **Béaur** (Brie and La Beauce *laboureurs*, 17th and 18th centuries).

- (4) **Day labourers, smallholders, and the poor:** Detecting and exploring social transformations in relation to humble social groups – less visible than those affecting the elites and middling social groups – in Catalonia throughout the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Among these groups, special attention will be paid to the *rabassaires* (vine-growers) in different areas of Catalonia and to the *treballadors* (literally workers) in the region of Girona. Notarial, fiscal and registry sources will be used both for generating different serial indicators (wages, access to land, availability of consumer goods) and for prosopographically reconstructing work, social and economic trajectories. Another subject of analysis will revolve around poverty, the study of which will aim to integrate both the multi-faceted poor relief institutions and the social dynamics that could determine either falling into poverty or not. In both cases, possible changes, perhaps in the form of small victories in women’s rights and economic autonomy, will be considered.

Sources: Analysis of notarial, fiscal, court and registry documents: archive collections belonging to charitable institutions.

Researchers: **Congost, Ros and Saguer** (region of Girona), **López Estudillo** (*rabassaires* in the Vallès region, 19th and 20th centuries), **Moreno** (*rabassaires* and women peasants in the Penedès region, 18th century).

Research collaborators: **Barquer** (*treballadors* and French immigrants, 17th century), **Díaz** (*treballadors*, 18th and 19th centuries) **Mancilla** (day labourers in Catalonia, 19th century), **Noguer** (*treballadors* and *rabassaires* in the Ampurdán, 18th century), **Mateo** (Catalonia, women peasants and servants, 18th century), **Béaur** (*journaliers* and *vignerons*, Brie and La Beauce, 17th to 19th centuries), **Marfany** and **Mutos** (poor relief institutions and workhouses, Catalonia, 18th and 19th centuries).

- (5) **Craftspeople and workers:** The trajectory of various craft groups and manufacturing workers will be studied. Activities carried out by women as well as trades related to construction (from the Modern Era on) and the cork industry, will be the subject of

special study. In the case of construction, the evolution of wages and the wealth of skilled and unskilled workers will be analysed. In the case of the cork industry, the origin of the cork stopper makers and how cork making became established as a trade for skilled men will be studied, as well as the changes that took place at the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century with the increasing feminisation of this manufacture.

Sources: Various document collections will be consulted: municipal and company records and notarial archives.

Researchers: **Ros** (cork stopper makers), **Congost, Ros and Saguer** (craft trades in the region of Girona in general, and building trades, in particular).

Research collaborators: **Barquer** (craftspeople in the 16th and 17th centuries), **Mateo** (Catalonia, the role of women in different craft trades, 18th century), **Marfany** (artisan work in Igualada), **Mutos** (artisan work in workhouses), and **Torra** (artisan work in Barcelona and Sabadell).

Block 2. Developing extraction procedures and analysing massive amounts of data from historical documentary sources.

One of the biggest challenges facing historical research nowadays is how to make the most of the interesting potential of the information technologies developed in the last decade (data mining, big data, optical recognition and so on) for obtaining, handling and analysing large amounts of data from historical sources. Using these technologies opens up not only the possibility of recovering the *longue durée* perspective in a potentially more robust way than many previous approaches (Guldi & Armitage, 2016), but also the chance to not limit the analysis to relatively simple quantitative counts, which are important but never sufficient.

This Project plans to use some of the currently available computing technologies to move forward with handling massive historical data. More specifically, the intention is to work at three levels: (1) semi-automatic treatment of documentary series; (2) family reconstitution for demographic analysis; (3) using realistic digital mapping representations.

- (1) The biggest challenge is developing assisted, or semi-automatic, procedures to analyse documentary sources. This line of work complements another project funded by the BBVA Foundation that is currently underway in collaboration with a group of computer engineers from the Universidad Politécnica de Valencia (the group PRHLT, Pattern Recognition and Human Language Technology), consisting of preparing optical recognition technologies for manuscripts to carry out an assisted transcription of a series of books from the Girona Registry of Deeds Office from between 1768 y 1805. The desired outcome of this joint project with PRHLT is to obtain a huge plain text file (labelled in xml) with the continuous transcription of thousands of entries contained in the Registry of Deeds Office books together with the geometric reference of each line within the digital image of the original. The challenge posed by this material once the transcription phase is successfully completed is deciding which techniques can be employed to analyse the content of these registers. This will be the main cornerstone of the work in area 2. Having a database specialist on the team will mean we can develop a set of applications that process the transcriptions and convert them into usable structured data by means of relational database programs, in this case MySQL. A parallel aim is to develop applications that will allow us to perform automatic searches on large documentary bases (public newspaper and bibliographic collections) to obtain information about previously defined groups of people: (agrarian owners, bankers, industrial stakeholders and so).

Researchers: **Regincós, Saguer, Congost, Ros.** Research collaborator: **Garcia Orallo**

- (2) **Family reconstitution techniques** have been well-known since they were proposed many years ago by L. Henry (1956) and they were the most reliable methodology to analyse the demographic behaviour of populations until well into the twentieth century. The main obstacle to family reconstitution is its elevated cost and the local nature of the data, which may be why the number of reconstitutions carried out in Spain is quite limited. Their benefits, however, are significant, especially for analysing fertility, and if a

large enough sample is available they even allow for studying differential patterns according to social groups. We propose taking advantage of the work collecting data from parish registers generously done by some erudite locals to restructure this information in order to reconstitute families using nominal record linkage algorithms, and to selectively complete the information only for the files that can be closed. This procedure substantially reduces costs and hopefully gives a large sample group of closed files. The availability of the coetaneous nominative data contained in already existing databases will enrich the information we already have enormously with data about dowries, financial situations and property: **Saguer, Ros and Congost**.

- (3) Last, we suggest using **digital mapping techniques** to spatially represent the social occurrences analysed. What we mainly hope to achieve is a collection of mapping templates that represent the administrative and territorial organization during the different historical periods studied. Surprisingly, there are currently no mapping templates that reproduce the outer limits of dioceses, *corregimientos* and local entities prior to the nineteenth century. The shapefiles created will be openly available on the group's website. Researchers: **Saguer**.
Research collaborators: **Garcia Orallo, Grava, Reixach**.

Block 3: Analysing specific problems of social change from a relational perspective.

The main task in block 1 is to follow the trajectories of specific groups. Block 2 focuses on the technical aspects designed to facilitate the deeper analysis of the relational aspect in the study of social groups and social change, which is one of the main aims of the project. To reinforce this perspective, a last block was considered necessary dedicated to addressing some specific problems that make considering the social groups in an interrelated way necessary. What follows is a description of the problems the team will address. Unlike for blocks 1 and 2, the researchers involved in each task will not be specifically named, except in point (3) which deals with family reconstitution. This is because these tasks will be the object of attention and, to differing degrees, of analysis of **all the members of the team** mentioned in block 1, in addition to **Gilles Postel-Vinay**, who has been a regular member of the working team on previous projects and has expressed his eagerness and interest in joining this project in view of his own research on social inequalities in France and his experience of handling massive information.

- To capture and explain both changes in the **meaning of the social labels** that appear in the documentation, and also the appearance of new labels and the disappearance of others.
- Many works about economic inequalities, or about social and political conflicts, have taken the labels of individual as they appear in historical sources as a reference, but were social labels the same in different areas? Did they evolve in the same way? How do we interpret the appearance of new labels? In which sources did they appear? And if there were no changes to the way social groups were identified, does that mean that the individuals that comprised them did not undergo any evolution?
- Sources: notarial, census, registry, legal, etc. The massive, systematic handling of the data contained in the Registry of Deeds Office books (area 2) would be particularly useful.
- To capture and interpret specific **social mobility processes**, both at a micro and a macro level. The aim would be to relate the upward and downward mobility processes detected with fluctuations in the economic conjuncture and distributive changes. To give an example, were the upward mobility processes detected in the eighteenth century simply due to the effect of a conjuncture of growth, or was it the opposite, that they were the outcome of the relative or absolute deterioration of the income of other groups?
- Sources: At a micro level, the accounts books and reports from private sources, which allow us to study the relationships between upward social mobility and introducing new techniques. At a macro level, it would be useful to exploit the Registry of Deeds books and fiscal sources from which serial data related to standard of living and wealth and the distribution of the income of different social groups could be obtained and interrelated. This would allow us to follow the specific trajectories of individuals, families and

institutions by interrelating the different types of operations they registered before notaries. Analysing the universe of individual trajectories will be a significant, innovative step forward in understanding social dynamics, the processes of impoverishment or enrichment and the emergence of new social groups.

- To observe and interpret the existence of **differential patterns of demographic behaviour** among the different social groups (especially in terms of fertility, marriage and life expectancy) to assess their influence on the standard of living of the different groups and the possibility of accumulation/decumulation in the medium and long term. Sources: Registers from three parishes (Santa Eugènia de Vila-romà, Santa Maria de Palamós and Sant Martí de Palafrugell), whose data will be cross-referenced with fiscal data and other sources about standards of living. Researchers: **Congost, Ros and Saguer**
- To analyse how certain **critical episodes or exogenous factors** (epidemics, wars, climate changes) impacted differently on the various social groups and the relationships between them. The composition of the research group will allow us to approach this aspect in very different historical contexts. To give an example, the impact of the Black Death in the Catalan countryside, the impact of phylloxera on viticulture production at the end of the nineteenth century, and the consequences of the civil war in terms of the relationship between landowners and leaseholders again in the Catalan countryside. The sources that will have allowed us to follow the trajectory of the social groups in block 1 will also provide us with information about these aspects, which can be analysed in a new way using the methodology of massive data treatment developed in block 2. Moreover, the advances in digital mapping achieved in this block will allow us to capture and give greater importance to the places where some of the detected changes originated.
- To analyse the evolution of **property rights and the role of collective actions** in transforming them and to interpret in a more general way the changes in relationships (not necessarily conflictive) among the different social groups and in their relative socioeconomic positions. By means of example, the serial handling of agrarian contracts and the credit operations registered in the Registry of Deeds books can provide interesting data about ways of empowerment, including property acquisition, among the humbler social classes. Moreover, in some cases other sources such as Court documentation will be added, which are especially useful for capturing social conflict.
- The sources that will have allowed us to follow the trajectories of the social groups in block 1 will provide serial and massive data about these aspects which, thanks to the work carried out in block 2, will then be analysed in a new way.

Information about the research collaborators mentioned in the Work Plan

Among the research collaborators whose work plans have been detailed, we must distinguish between the senior researchers who collaborate on the Project and the PhD students who fully participate in it with their doctoral theses.

In relation to the first group:

- The currently retired French historians **Gerard Béaur** and **Gilles Postel-Vinay** and the British historian **Julie Marfany**, professor at the University of Durham, who have regularly collaborated with the research team for many years, allowing us to foment the comparative perspective and internationalise the group.
- The research of the **Pere Gifre, Mònica Bosch** and **Lídia Torra**, who have likewise formed part of the working groups in previous projects and have university teaching experience but do not fulfil the requirements to be a research team member, allows us to address aspects of the research that make it more coherent as a whole. Lídia Torra's work is about consumption and commerce and the area of Barcelona, while Pere Gifre's research is about the modern era. Included in the work plan to reinforce this period is **Arnau Barquer**, the PhD student on the previous project, who has just handed in his already finished doctoral thesis on the emergence of *treballadors* in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

- The participation of **Ricard García Orallo**, who had always formed part of the research team but on this occasion, despite continuing to pursue academic activities at the UdG, did not fulfil the requisites, is essential for two reasons; for his research trajectory in the group of rentiers (work area 1) and for his experience and expertise in new technologies (work area 2).
- There are two new additions to reinforce area 2. The first is doctor **Massimiliano Grava**, expert in digital mapping, who gained his doctorate in History and Computing from the University of Bologna co-tutored by the University of Girona, and who is currently working as a technician in the Department of History of the University of Pisa. The second is the Dr **Albert Reixach**, who from October 2018 will join the Centre for Rural History Research of the UdG as a technician for a period of 18 months to foment the use of new technologies in the research carried out there.

The second group is comprised of 5 **PhD students** who will write their **doctoral thesis** within the framework of the research project: **Eduard Díaz** (former FPI, Ministry), **Brenda Noguera** (FPU 2017 Ministry), **Guillem Mancilla** (Becario FI 2018, Government of Catalonia), **Dignoris Mateo** (FPU 2018, Ministry) and **Céline Mutos** (BR2018, University of Girona).

The research work of the two solicited scholars, whose topic which will be concreted according to the candidates' profile, will reinforce some research lines of the project, as well as contribute to the exploitation of the databases generated within its framework.

1.5. Material resources, infrastructures and specific equipment.

The Institute of Historical Research (IHR) is located on the Barri Vell campus of the University of Girona. It is housed in the Sant Domènec complex along with the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Tourism and the offices of the teachers of four departments: History and History of Art, Geography, Philosophy, and Philosophy and Communication. The Barri Vell Library can also be found there.

The IHR is equipped with different material including three computers each with a double screen, two printers (one of which in colour), a scanner and six notebook-type laptops available to be used by researchers and PhD students. Moreover, there is a voice recorder, two video cameras with different resolutions and three tripods. The room is equipped with a projector (light canon) and a computer.

Researchers can also use the three computer rooms in the Faculty of Arts, which have 25 computers in each, two of them equipped with PCs and the other with IMacs. These rooms are available for use whenever they are not being used for classes or practical sessions.

All the common spaces in the Faculty, including the library and the study room, have access to internet through Wi-Fi.

Library and Cartographic Library

The IHR has a library and a newspaper and periodicals library specialised in Rural History, which includes fifty local and international journals such as "Rural History: Economy, Society, Culture", "Histoire & Sociétés Rurales", "Etudes Rurales" and "Environment and History", among others. This library is integrated into the Barri Vell Campus Library in the Faculty of Arts building and provides an excellent service to the university. The library has wide opening hours and is also open on Sundays and holidays. It occupies two buildings on different levels with a total of 2,818 m², offering work places for 553 users at any one time. It has 100 computers (between fixed and laptops) with Internet access throughout through Wi-Fi.

Most of the sources are free access and locatable in the library catalogue. There is also access to CCBUC (the Collective Catalogue of the University Libraries of Catalonia) and the catalogues of libraries all over the world. The university's digital library contains 8,300 electronic journals, 37 databases and 8,000 electronic books. These sources can be consulted from any computer connected to the university network.

There is also a 28-person capacity mapping library equipped with two fixed computers with specialist software, a laptop (optional) and a fixed projector. It also has table lamps and a TV with a video and DVD player.

Apart from this equipment, the research team can use the self-learning spaces to study, carry our research (four seminary-type classes in the Resources Centre of the library designed for audiovisual projections) and teach workshops, seminars or courses that require computers, group work, and so on. There is also a computer room with space for 20 PCs.

Checking and maintaining the infrastructure and equipment

To ensure that the infrastructure, installations, materials and services are regularly checked and maintained, the University of Girona has its own Technical and Maintenance Office (SOTIM) with a team of seven technicians, and an administrative service that organises and supervises preventive and corrective maintenance.

There are also two computer technicians that belong to the Faculty of Arts itself who are responsible for maintaining the computers, printers and the computer network.

Resources related to digital humanities

The research infrastructure traditionally required by historians was basically archives and libraries that allowed access to relevant documentary collections and pertinent bibliography. However, over the last decades the development of digital humanities and new research, storage and data handling technologies has opened up new possibilities of work that requires other resources. To this effect, the group also has different documentary collections in digital image format that come mainly from notarial sources, and various datasets that comprise an enormously interesting capital accumulated in previous projects. Among the main ones, all of which are relevant to the Project we are presenting here, are:

- Set of databases from partially emptying the Girona and Figueres Registry of Deeds Offices, 1769-1862
- Post-mortem inventory database. Includes 716 inventories from the eighteenth century corresponding mainly to *treballadors*, craftsmen and peasants. The abundance of inventories for the lower social strata on a Spanish and European scale is exceptional.
- Database of marriage dispensations of the diocese of Girona containing a 9-year sample from the period 1676-1805, with 9,093 registry entries for marriages that asked for dispensation from banns.
- Database of emphyteutic establishments, with 31,608 entries corresponding to the region of Girona between 1700 and 1905
- Database of marriage contracts, with 2,290 entries corresponding to the region of Girona between 1769 and 1844

1.6 Chronogram

To guarantee that the project unfolds smoothly, the activities of each member of the group have been planned in conjunction in three clearly different phases. It is assumed that the Project will begin in January 2019:

	Year 1 (2019)				Year 2 (2020)				Year 3 (2021)				Year 4 (2022)			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Area 1	Selective collecting of documentary sources												Writing articles and academic texts			
	Identification of social changes				Data analysis and result presentation											
Area 2	Developing tools and exploring technological possibilities				Massive collecting of documentary sources and generation of structured data								Generating graphic and mapping representations of the data			
Group seminars	seminar I				seminar II				seminar III				seminar IV			
	Phase 1				Phase 2				Phase 3				Phase 4			

Phase 1: January-December 2019. Identifying the social changes object of this study and exploring the new technological possibilities to analyse them. A wide range of new technologies applicable to social history will be presented at the first annual RECSNET seminar in which all the members of the group will take part, to be held in June or July 2019 within the framework of the *XXX Social and Economic History Seminar*. The most suitable type of technologies to handle the data and what type of tasks each person involved in the project will carry out will be decided at this meeting.

Phase 2: January 2020- December 2020. Collecting documentary sources for analysing the social changes selected, which will allow us to obtain some preliminary results. Some of these, those related to incorporating women and children into the studies about social change, will be presented at the second annual RECSNETS seminar, which will be held in June or July 2020. At the end of this meeting the group's strategies for cross-referencing the information obtained, proceeding with the research and preparing the next seminar will be decided.

Phase 3: January 2021-December 2021. Continuing collecting documentary sources and compiling the results specifically related to work areas 1 and 2. The results related to the social changes produced by exogenous causes will be presented at the third annual RECSNETS seminar, which will be held in June or July 2021. At the end of this meeting, the strategic lines of phase 4 will be decided.

Phase 4: January 2022-December 2022. Writing articles and texts to be published in scientific journals and in one or more monographs. The fourth RECSNETS seminar will take place in June or July 2022, which is where the main results obtained will be presented and the renewal of the project prepared.

1.7. Justification of the need to contract staff

It is absolutely essential to contract staff to achieve the goals of this project:

- To prepare comprehensive databases to be able to interrelate different variables related to the specific cases of the social and socio-professional groups studied.
- Technical assistance and support for preparing and presenting results, especially those derived from applying new technologies.

It is foreseen that a large part of the budget for staff will be destined for collecting documentary sources. Although these sources will be decided at the team's first meeting, priority will most likely to be given to sources related to Catalonia as in previous projects, not only because this region is especially rich in archive sources, but also because efforts need to be concentrated on a specific area when automatically transcribing manuscripts. Moreover, a more thorough knowledge of the social dynamics and processes of social change in this area, in which most of the members of the research team work, will also positively assist researchers' work in other regions.

A more specific aim, apart from the work mentioned concerning the Registry of Deeds books, is serially collecting documentation from some specific sources:

- a) Notarial sources particularly relevant to studying the evolution of social groups: marriage contracts and post-mortem inventories. The amount of information related to this type of documentation for different areas and periods will be increased.
- b) Notarial sources particularly relevant to studying the opportunities open to the different social groups: land transactions, emphyteutic practices and credit operations.
- c) Parish registers: the aim is to reconstitute the families of the parishes of Palamós, Santa Eugènia de Vila-romà and Palafrugell. To this effect, as mentioned previously, a large knowledge gap will be filled that will allow us to interpret some of the social changes more effectively and relate the family reconstitution method with the question of social change.
- d) Other complementary sources: court documents, patrimonial, etc.

2. EXPECTED IMPACT OF RESULTS

2.1 Plan to disseminate and internationalise the results.

The members of the research team commit to taking part in the annual meetings in the form of seminars that will take place during the period. As is traditional for the international seminars organised by the Centre for Rural History Research, the sessions are open to the entire academic community. The annual seminars of the project will correspond to the XXX, XXXI, XXXII and XXXIII Social and Economic History Seminars. As indicated in the description of the chronogram, the results must be periodically presented and discussed in these seminars. For each line of investigation or each area of analysis, partial meeting can be held but each of the described phases will culminate in annual seminars we will call RECSNETS. Four annual meetings are therefore planned, each of which will condition and direct the work of the researchers. This type of organisation and work dynamic has been successfully implemented in the projects DISCAHSOR and EMPYRIQUAL I and II and will increase the Centre's reputation and disseminate the Project results. Moreover, the members of the group commit to presenting their research at other prestigious scientific forums.

Scientific conferences at which the results of the research will likely be presented:

- World Economic History Congress (2020, 2022)
- XIII and XIV European Social Science History Conference (Leiden, 2020; 2022)
- III and IV Rural History Conference (Paris, 2019; Upsala, 2021)
- XVII and XVIII *Congreso de Historia Agraria* (2020, 2022)
- XII *Congreso de la Asociación Española de Historia Económica* (2020)
- *Congreso de la Asociación de Demografía Histórica* (2020)
- Portuguese Association of Economic and Social History Conference

Apart from taking part in the above conferences, the members of the team will also collaborate on organising seminars abroad and international conference sessions.

Publications

The group intends to strike a balance between publishing in unquestionably prestigious international journals and books and in the Centre for Rural History Research's own publications, with the aim of both promoting the group's excellence and contributing to the research centre's good reputation. The following journals are considered as especially relevant among the most important journals in the area of rural, social and economic history: *Agricultural History Review*; *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*; *Continuity and Change*; *Economic History Review*; *Estudis d'Història Agrària*; *Hispania*; *Histoire et Sociétés Rurales*; *Historia Agraria*; *Historia Social*; *Investigaciones de Historia Económica*; *Recerques*; *Revista de Historia Económica*; *Journal of Agrarian Change*.

Furthermore, the results of the Project must serve to boost the impact of the *Biblioteca d'Història Rural* (Rural History Library), a collection of specialised publications organised in three series (Monographs, Sources, Documents), and the journal *Estudis d'Història Agrària*, coedited by the Centre for Rural History Research where the Project will be carried out.

Last, one or more of the monographs related to the Project are forecast to be published (one of which will likely be in English).

Website

As part of the plan to diffuse the results, the research team can publish information about the Project, its activities and the publications generated by it on the *Centre for Rural History Research's* website. Some of the databases that may be of interest to the general public will also be made available.

2.2. Transference of results

The knowledge transfer actions have traditionally been mediated through the immediate social environment. The basic instrument in these actions has been the *Rural History Association* (AHR), which was created by the group itself in 1999 and currently has 160 members, and is an important point of contact between the university and the world of archives, museums, secondary education and the local and county study centres. Collaboration between this association and the research group will continue to be strengthened by the following lines of action:

- a) Editing the aforementioned *Biblioteca d'Història Rural* (Rural History Library).
- b) Editing and publishing the bulletin *Mestall*: The members of the group will diffuse their activity through this bi-annual bulletin, which can be found on the web (<http://www.ddgi.cat/historiarural/>). This widely disseminated bulletin spreads the group's activities and invites the reader to participate in them.
- c) Organising the *Jornades d'Història Rural* (Rural History Workshops), which serve to diffuse knowledge and research instruments for rural history through the perspective of different specialists.
- d) Carrying out collective research. Since 2010, the Association has been promoting a research programme entitled *Memòria d'un món rural en transformació* (Memoirs of a rural world in transformation), which has already included two collective research works in oral history (funded by the Government of Catalonia through the *Ethnological Heritage Inventory of Catalonia*) that have allowed a large number of researchers that are not members of the group to become involved as interviewers, transcribers and writers of two monographs.
- e) *Premi Mestall* call, addressed to research projects by high school students.
- f) Collaborating with study centres in Catalonia, which has been fostered by integrating the AHR into the coordinating committee for *Coordinadora de Centres d'Estudis de Parla Catalana* (Catalan-speaking Study Centres).
- g) Regularly collaborating with other entities. Apart from regularly collaborating with the region's archives, we can also highlight the joint work carried out with the *Associació Masos de Torroella de Montgrí i l'Estartit* (Farm's Association of Torroella de Montgrí and l'Estartit).

Apart from the actions mediated through the AHR, the research group has also carried out other activities with economic and social institutions in Girona such as: the Cork Museum of Palafrugell (Museum of Science and Technology of Catalonia), the Veterinary Professional Association of Girona and the Flour-Ecomuseu of Castelló d'Empúries.

3. TRAINING CAPACITY

3.1. Planned training programme

The team making this application has the capacity to receive and train scholars. The five objective reasons that follow are testament to this affirmation:

- a) The large number of PhDs in the group and the diversity of thematic lines and areas of study that can be included in it, which ensures the critical mass required to develop quality research and a presence in international forums.
- b) The explicit recognition of the "History of rural societies" as a line of research of the Doctoral programme in Human Sciences and Culture of the UdG, which has earned a quality award from the Spanish Ministry of Education.
- c) The environment and infrastructure of the *Centre for Rural History Research*, equipped with an excellent library and a collection of specialised journals.

- d) The fact that in the last five years different doctoral and post-doctoral researchers have joined the team from the University of Bologna, the University of Buenos Aires, and the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil).

The scholars that will join the Project will be able to start their training as researchers by doing the official master's in Humanities Research of the University of Girona. If they already have a master's degree related to the thematic area of the Project, then they can enter the doctorate programme in Human Sciences, Heritage and Culture of the UdG (with a quality award from the Spanish Ministry of Education).

During the first year of the scholarship efforts will focus on defining the specific theme of each scholarship student's thesis within the areas of the Project, on reading the relevant specialised bibliography and on designing the databases needed for later collecting and analysing data.

The first results of the scholars' research are planned to be discussed both within the scope of the annual seminars organised by the research team and at some of the international conferences at which the group will present their work.

3. 2. List of completed PhD and those currently underway (last 10 years), indicating the name of the doctoral student, the title of the thesis and the date the PhD was obtained, or the date set for presenting the thesis.

a) Doctoral theses read in the last 10 years by collaborators of the research team in the work plan:

- 2009: Ricard Garcia Orallo: *Crisis, endeudamiento y desposesión en el mundo rural catalán de finales del siglo XIX*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost
- 2009: Pere Gifre: *En la prehistòria dels hisendats. De senyors útils a propietaris (vegueria de Girona, 1486-1730)*. Supervisor: Eva Serra
- 2011: Masimiliano Grava: *Fonti cartografiche di Toscana e Catalogna di eta' moderna e contemporanea. Ricostruire con il gis, comunicare con webgis*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost, co-tutored by the University of Bologna.

b) Doctoral theses supervised by members of the team over the last 10 years:

- 2011: Eulàlia Esteve Torras: *Homes, terres, cases i masos del Baix Empordà. Estudi de les transformacions socials als segles XVIII i XIX*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost
- 2012: Manuel José Vial Dumas: *Derecho, muerte y matrimonio: la familia matrimonial en el Mediterráneo cristiano, desde la Antigüedad al final de la Edad Media*. Supervisor: José M. Pérez Collados & Tünde Mikes
- 2015: Lluís Serrano: *Tancament de terres a la Catalunya del segle XIX*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost
- 2015: Margarita Aguiló: *Una aproximación a la empresa familiar a partir del estudio de un conjunto de familias pertenecientes al colectivo judeo-converso (Mallorca 1800-1950)*. (Mallorca 1800-1950). Directora: Antònia Morey
- 2016: Albert Serramontmany Hugas: *Nivells de vida, dinàmiques socials i canvi històric. L'àrea de Besalú, 1750-1850*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost
- 2017: Antoni Garcia Moreno: *Història de la indústria làctia a les comarques gironines: la Central Lletera Municipal de Girona i La Lactaria Española de Vidreres, entre d'altres*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost
- 2018: Mònica Bosch, *La conformació dels hisendats com a classe dominant i dirigent de la regió de Girona en els segles XVIII i XIX. El patrimoni de Casa Carles*. Directora: Rosa Congost. She has recently completed her doctoral thesis and will have defended it before the end of the year.
- 2018: Arnau Barquer. *"Visch de mon treball i seguint los amos". Francesos i treballadors a la Catalunya de mas (Bisbat de Girona, ss.XVI i XVII)*. He has recently completed his doctoral thesis and will have defended it before the end of the year.

3) Doctoral theses currently underway supervised by members of the research team:

- Eduard Díaz: *Canvi històric i dinàmiques socials a Llagostera. Suro, urbanisme i creixement econòmic (s. XVIII i XIX)*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost

- Guillem Mancilla: *Trabajadores rurales y mercado laboral agrario en Cataluña (1850-1950)*. Supervisor: Enric Saguer
- Josep Mas: *Cambios y continuidades en la comarca de la Selva. Una mirada a través de la historia social (1750.1855)*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost
- Dignoris Mateo: *El trabajo femenino en el campo catalán en el siglo XVIII*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost.
- Céline Mutos: *Asistencia y beneficencia en Girona (1760-1849). La Casa de la Misericordia y el Real Hospicio*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost
- Brenda Nogué: *Enfiteusis y cambio social en el Alt Empordà (1768-1805): la tesis de una revolución industrial*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost
- Sebastián Villalón, *Els notaris i la publicitat de la informació notarial, segles XVIII i XIX*. Supervisor: Rosa Congost

3.3. Brief description of the scientific and professional development of the PhDs graduated from the research team.

- Ricard Garcia Orallo. Obtained his PhD in 2009 and is currently an adjunct lecturer at the University of Girona and ESADE. He received the Joan Mercader award (2010) for his work *La terra a subhasta. Crèdit, endeutament i desposseïció en el món rural català a finals del segle XIX* (published in 2014). He has also published in journals with an international impact such as *Investigaciones de Historia Económica*, *Revista de Historia Industrial* (2018), *Annales du Midi* (2013) and *Historia agraria* (2009). He has been granted for the project *De la tierra al capital. La transformación de las élites rentistas en una coyuntura de crisis (España, 1875-1905)* (HAR2015-74601-JIN).
- Masimiliano Grava. Obtained his PhD in 2011. Since then he has participated in the Mappa Project of the University of Pisa and in the research "Synchronic and diachronic study of the Tuscan toponymy and creation of a digital archive with GIS applications" (Centro IRTA Leonardo). He is working as technician in the Civilization and Forms of Knowledge Department of Università di Pisa.
- Eulalia Esteve Torras. Obtained his PhD in 2011. Professionally, she is teaching primary school, which she was already doing in parallel with her doctorate studies. She has recently published the article 'L'évolution du niveau de vie des auvres. La petite paysannerie de la région de Gerone (1750-1800)' in *Revue d'Histoire Moderne et Contemporaine*, 2017, vol. 64, no. 4, p. 84-104 with Rosa Congost and Albert Serramontmany.
- Manuel José Vial Dumas. He obtained his PhD in 2012 with a European mention. He is *profesor* in the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and Academic Secretary of the Chair in Legal Culture at the University of Girona.
- Lluís Serrano Jiménez. Obtained his PhD in 2015. He has published various articles, chapters and books. In 2016, he published his thesis entitled *Tancar la Terra. pràctiques de propietat i dinàmiques socials (Catalunya, 1850-1910)* in the Monograph collection of the *Biblioteca d'Història Rural*. During the last four years (2014-2018), he has worked as a technician in the Centre for Rural History Research, contracted by ICREA Academy Award to carry out tasks related to applying new technologies to historical research. He is a secondary school teacher and during the academic year 2018-2019 he will be working as an adjunct lecturer of the University of Girona.
- Margarita Aguiló Femenias. She obtained his PhD in 2015. She is *Profesor Titular* of Accounting in the Universitat de les Illes Balears.
- Albert Serramontmany Hugas. He obtained his PhD in 2016 with a European mention. He is currently working in a secondary school. He has published several articles in academic journals and book chapters related to his doctoral thesis. His most recent publication was 'L'évolution du niveau de vie des auvres. La petite paysannerie de la région de Gerone (1750-1800)' in *Revue d'Histoire Moderne et Contemporaine*, 2017, vol. 64, núm. 4, p. 84-104 with Rosa Congost and Eulàlia Esteve. He is currently preparing to publish his doctoral thesis.
- Antoni García Moreno. He obtained his PhD in 2017. He is currently preparing to publish some academic articles related to his doctoral thesis.



4. ETHICAL AND/OR BIOSAFETY IMPLICATIONS

The project has no relevant ethical or biosafety implications.