

More than ever, Governments, associations and individuals call for solidarity. Most of the time, the term is not explained, as there seems to be a very general understanding of it, namely as a way of thinking and acting for others. In this context, it is fascinating to reflect on the concept of solidarity and to explore how it differs from other forms of dedication such as devotion, emergency aid, altruism, humanitarianism, philanthropy, etc. This investigation is all the more important given that, curiously, even in scholarly research these terms are often considered self-evident and are, therefore, little explained.

Consequently, the purpose of this *Concepta* workshop is to explore concepts related to dedication. It is not only a matter of distinguishing the terms which refer to the idea of dedication, but of tracking their respective evolutions, both in terms of content and of semantic exchanges or mutations. The aim of the workshop is to clarify the situation, and above all, to define the special place occupied by the concept of solidarity among all the concepts referring to help to others. This workshop should not only offer a more solid conceptual basis for work in this field, but also shed a new light on relevant practices and ambitions surrounding values often considered as universal and absolute – especially nowadays.

**Organization:** Prof. Irène Herrmann, Dr. Renata Latała, Francois Courvoisier, University of Geneva

**FNS Project:**

<https://www.unige.ch/lettres/istge/solidarites-plurielles/>

## Workshop “Concepts of Dedication” University of Geneva - Webinar November 27, 2020

Link for registration – Friday, November, 27:

[https://unige.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_CUq7Y7KqTWi8scu8IKIMMQ](https://unige.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CUq7Y7KqTWi8scu8IKIMMQ)

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Concepta

UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE

FNS  
FONDS NATIONAL SUISSE  
SCHWEIZERISCHER NATIONALFONDS  
FONDO NAZIONALE SVIZZERO  
SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

9h00-9h10

*Irène Herrmann – Welcome*

9h10-9h40

**OPENING CONFERENCE**

« Le siècle des dévouements aveugles et des vertus instinctives » (Tocqueville)

*Olivier Christin, University of Neuchâtel*

9h40-9h50 Break



9h50-10h15

Legitimist Charity: public suscriptions, royal donations and individual engagements with early Carlism (1833-1845)

*Andrés María Vicent Fanconi, European University Institute (Florence)*

Commentator: *Olivier Lamon (Paris and Geneva)*

10h15-10h20 Break

10h20-10h45

Moral accounting in the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century: When educating oneself becomes a dedication to society

*Virgil Wibaut--Le Pallac, Centre Walras-Pareto - University of Lausanne*

Commentator: *Harro Maas (Lausanne)*

10h45-10h50 Break

10h50-11h15

‘Social solidarity’ in the 1930s authoritarian Estonia and its complex intellectual roots

*Liisi Karjus, University of Glasgow*

Commentator: *François Courvoisier (Geneva)*

11h15-11h30 Break

11h30-12h00

**CONFERENCE**

Conceptual Imperialism? Solidarity in Humanitarian Switzerland (mid 19<sup>th</sup> century to mid 20<sup>th</sup> century)

*Irène Herrmann, University of Geneva*

12h00 - 14h Lunch



14h00 -14h25

*Amitié politique ? Réflexions autour de l'idée de solidarité dans le mouvement polonais Solidarność*

*Renata Latała, University of Geneva*

Commentator: *Edward Swiderski (Fribourg)*

14h25-14h30 Break

14h30-14h55

*Solidarity Rights: a Pan-African Conception of Human Rights?*

*François Courvoisier, University of Geneva*

Commentator: *Alexander Keese (Geneva)*

14h55-15h00 Break

15h00- 15h25

The emotional side of ‘colour revolutions’: solidarity and beyond

*Alexander Svyetlov, “Memorial” Museum of Soviet Occupation (Kiev)*

Commentator: *Jean-François Delangre (Geneva)*

15h25-15h45 Break

15h45-16h10

‘To Action for Full Participation and Equality’: Reframing International Solidarity in 1980s Nordic Disability Rights Activism

*Anna Derksen, Leiden University*

Commentator: *Renata Latała (Geneva)*

16h10-16h15 Break

16h15 – 16h40

Octroyer une « contribution de solidarité » aux victimes de mesures de coercition à des fins d’assistance en Suisse. Les enjeux d’un choix lexical

*Sandrine Maulini, University of Geneva*

Commentator: *Irène Herrmann (Geneva)*

16h40-17h00 Break



17h00-17h30

**CLOSING CONFERENCE**

Solidarity or *Realpolitik*? Western Political Reactions toward the Solidarity Movement (1980-1981)

*Patryk Pleskot, Institute of National Remembrance (Warsaw)*

17h30- 18h00

Discussion and Conclusion