

ABOUT:

Bordering on Britishness is an ESRC funded oral history project on Gibraltarian identity which will present its findings in a final conference at the Gibraltar Garrison Library on the 24th and 25th of February 2017. The project has conducted close to 400 interviews with people living in Gibraltar and across the border, in the Spanish neighbouring town of La Línea de la Concepción. By giving voice to locals from diverse ethnic, religious, and national backgrounds, our findings explore the ways in which the inhabitants of Gibraltar – today a British Overseas Territory – have developed an explicitly British Gibraltarian national identity over the last century. We thus attempt to deconstruct the complex political, social and cultural processes through which a distinct Gibraltarianness arose as a national identity different from that of the Spanish neighbours – and, partly, from that of the United Kingdom. By concentrating on the physical and less tangible borders structuring social life in this small territory, we explore, from an interdisciplinary perspective, how a multilingual community became, over time, an almost monolingual one – as Gibraltarians have progressively abandoned the use of Spanish over the last half century. Questions are also posed on how the closure of the border that both connects and separates Gibraltar from Spain (as enforced between 1969 and 1985), helped to generate a move towards Gibraltarians imagining themselves as 'more British than the British'.

The purpose of this conference is to present our findings and discuss these with scholars who have carried out research not only on Gibraltar, but also with international experts who have worked on similar areas of study.

ACERCA DE:

Bordering on Britishness (Al límite de lo británico) es un proyecto de historia oral sobre la identidad gibraltareña, financiado por el Economic and Social Research Council. Los resultados de nuestra investigación serán presentados en un congreso de clausura del proyecto que se celebrará en la Garrison Library (Gibraltar) los días 24 y 25 de febrero de 2017. El proyecto de investigación ha realizado cerca de 400 entrevistas con habitantes tanto de Gibraltar como de la vecina ciudad de La Línea de la Concepción (España). Al dar voz a personas de distintas religiones, etnias y nacionalidades, hemos podido estudiar cómo los habitantes de Gibraltar – que actualmente es un Territorio Británico de Ultramar – han desarrollado explícitamente una identidad británica y

gibraltareña durante el siglo pasado. Aspiramos a deconstruir los complejos procesos políticos, sociales y culturales a través de los cuales la identidad local gibraltareña se ha convertido en una idea nacional que difiere de la de sus vecinos españoles – así como, en parte, de la representada por el Reino Unido. Al atender a las fronteras, tanto físicas como intangibles, que estructuran la vida social de este pequeño enclave mediterráneo, analizamos desde una perspectiva interdisciplinar cómo una comunidad multilingüe está convirtiéndose en monolingüe – ya que los gibraltareños han abandonado progresivamente el uso del español desde la segunda mitad del siglo XX. También, nos preguntamos cómo el cierre de la frontera entre Gibraltar y España – que ocurrió entre 1969 y 1985 – ayudó a los gibraltareños a imaginarse a sí mismos como una comunidad 'más británica que los propios británicos'.

El propósito de este congreso es cotejar los resultados de nuestra investigación con esos que otros especialistas han obtenido en sus investigaciones sobre Gibraltar, así como ampliar la discusión académica mediante la comparación con otros casos similares que expertos internacionales han estudiado.

Further information: <http://borderingonbritishness.net/>

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

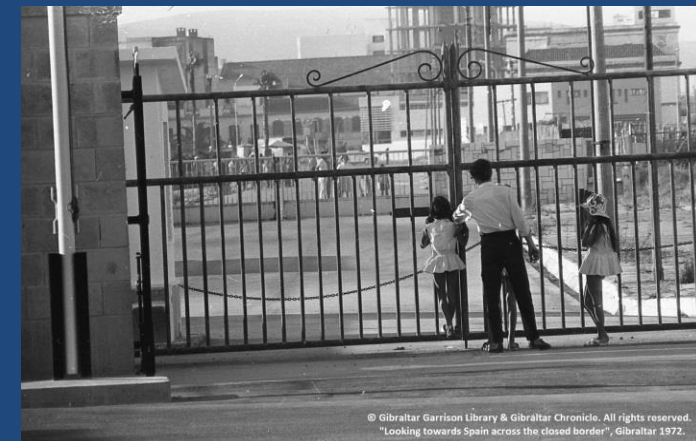
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International Conference

Borders and Identities *Languages and Ethnicities in Gibraltar and* *the Mediterranean World* *in the 20th Century*



The Gibraltar Garrison Library
Gibraltar, 24th and 25th of February, 2017

ORGANISED BY:

**BORDERING ON
BRITISHNESS**
AN ORAL HISTORY STUDY OF 20TH CENTURY GIBRALTAR



Friday, 24th FEBRUARY 2017

OFFICIAL OPENING

9:30 - 10:15

The Hon Dr Joseph Garcia MP (Deputy Chief Minister of Gibraltar)

Professor Andrew Canessa (University of Essex)

Dr Jennifer Ballantine Perera (Gibraltar Garrison Library / University of Gibraltar)

Panel I. NATIONALISM AND ETHNICITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

10:30 - 13:00

Dr Brian Campbell (Max Planck Institute): "How far apart did Hercules push those Pillars, really?" Nationalism, coexistence and hospitality in a multicultural Spanish enclave in Morocco.

Lianne Tripp (University of Toronto Scarborough): A Question of Identity and Permanency: The Hindu Community of Gibraltar.

COFFEE BREAK (11:30 - 12:00)

Professor Stuart James Ward (University of Copenhagen): British we are and British we stay: The global resonance of Besieged Britishness.

Dr Luis G. Martínez del Campo (University of Essex): Multicultural Gibraltar. An Example to the World?

LUNCH (13:00 - 14:30)

Panel II. LANGUAGE SHIFT AND BILINGUALISM

14:30 - 17:00

Dr David Levey (Universidad de Cádiz): English and Spanish in Gibraltar before and after Brexit.

Dr Edward Nicholas Picardo (Independent Researcher): Borders, Language Shift and Colonialism in Gibraltar, 1940 - 1985.

TEA BREAK (15:30 - 16:00)

Dr Phillip M. Carter (Florida International University): The Miami Border in Perceptual Context: Tracking Perceptions of English, Spanish, and Spanish Language Variation in South Florida.

Professor Andrew Canessa (University of Essex): The role of language in ethnic differentiation between Gibraltarians and Spaniards across the 20th Century.

Saturday, 25th FEBRUARY 2017

Panel III. TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE BORDERS: IDENTITIES, BORDERLANDS AND BORDER COMMUNITIES

10:00 - 12:00

Professor Heidrun Friese (Chemnitz University of Technology): Bordering and Representing the Other.

Dr Doris H. Gray (AI Akhawayn University): Imagining New Identities: Borderlands, Border Communities.

COFFEE BREAK (11:00 - 11:30)

Dr Giacomo Orsini (University of Essex): Gibraltar as a gated community.

LUNCH (12:00 - 14:00)

Panel IV. COLONIALISM, POSTCOLONIALISM & POSTCOLONIALITY

14:00 - 15:30

Dr Gareth Stockey (University of Nottingham): Us and Them: British and Gibraltarian colonialism in the Campo de Gibraltar.

Professor Larry Sawchuk & Lianne Tripp (University of Toronto Scarborough): The Rock Apes and Britishness.

Dr Jennifer Ballantine Perera (Gibraltar Garrison Library / University of Gibraltar): An Overseas Territory in Europe - what's that about? : Gibraltar as a test case for discussing (post) colonialism in this 21st Century.

TEA BREAK (15:30 - 16:00)

Panel V. A VIEW THROUGH THE GATES: GIBRALTAR AND SPAIN IN THE 20TH CENTURY

16:00 - 17:30

Dr Julio Ponce Alberca (Universidad de Sevilla): Gibraltar, España y el Mediterráneo Occidental (1936-1945).

Beatriz Díaz (Independent Researcher): Taller Grupal "La Historia de mi Vida" en La Línea (2010). Una Mirada a la Comunidad Transfronteriza desde la Memoria Oral.

Dr Francisco Oda (Universidad Rey Juan Carlos): La belleza de lo inexplicado: historia compartida de dos ciudades hermanas.

CONCLUSIONS

17:30 - 18:00

Professor Andrew Canessa (University of Essex)

Dr Jennifer Ballantine Perera (Gibraltar Garrison Library / University of Gibraltar)