



Health Inequality Searchathon

with

Archives Portal Europe

GREAT

LEAP

Tim Riswick (Radboud University)

Challenges

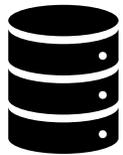
1. Lack of accurate and comparable data
2. Research in the historical background of human health and life expectancy is fragmented and firmly set within disciplinary boundaries
3. Uneven access between countries to digital research innovations concerning sources, data, and analytical strategies

Objectives

Great Leap takes a unique, multidisciplinary approach from a **historical perspective** to gain a greater understanding of the **roots and drivers of health inequalities** across regions and countries in Europe and beyond.

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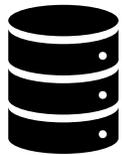
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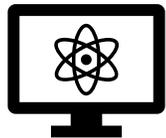
1. The first international comparable dataset of **individual-level historical cause of death** data

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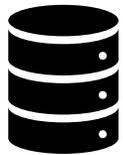
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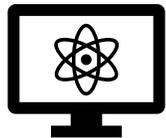
2. Innovative analytical **tools** to analyse it

Objectives

Great Leap takes a unique, multidisciplinary approach from a historical perspective to gain a greater understanding of the roots and drivers of health inequalities across regions and countries in Europe and beyond.



1. The first international comparable dataset of individual-level historical cause of death data



2. Innovative analytical tools to analyse it



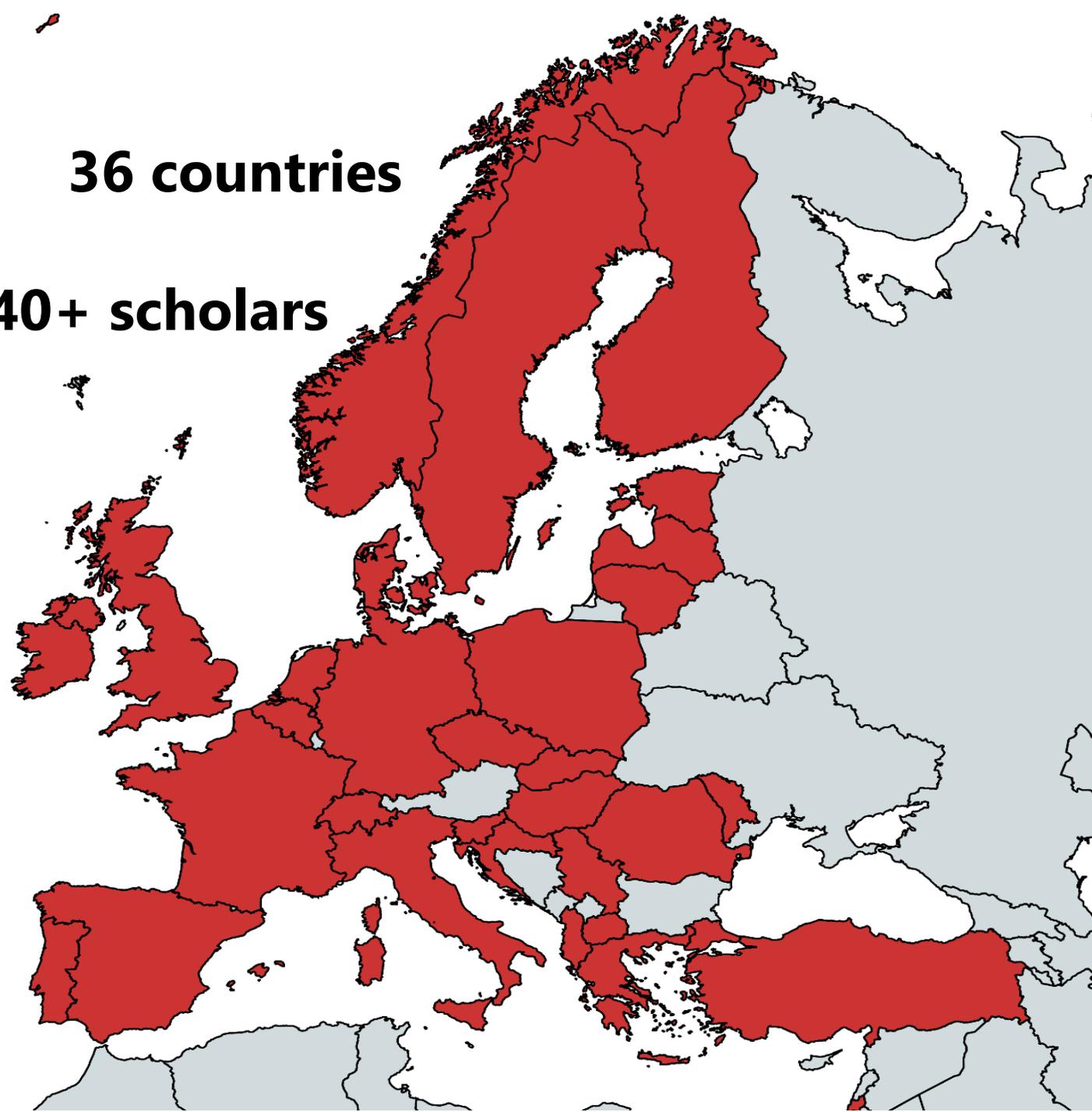
3. Insights into how this information can be used in **current public health policy and practice.**

Members

The network includes a wide range of academic expertise in history, social sciences, life sciences and epidemiology and involves university-, research-, government- and (international) health institutes and organizations, including statistical offices and national archives.

36 countries

340+ scholars



Working Groups

WG 1

Inventorizing cause of death sources and research questions

WG 2

Methods and tools for standardisation, coding and classifying causes of death

WG 3

Creation analytical tools: computational and visualisation tools

Working Groups

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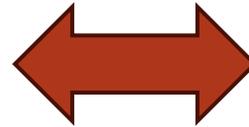
WG 2

Methods and tools for standardisation, coding and classifying causes of death



WG 3

Creation analytical tools: computational and visualisation tools



WG 4

Coordination of training program and STSMs for YRIs

WG 5

Communication & Dissemination

Working Group 1

WG 1

Inventorying cause of death sources and research questions



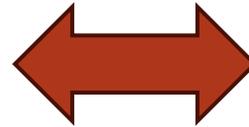
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Methods and tools for standardisation, coding and classifying causes of death



WG 3

Creation analytical tools: computational and visualisation tools



WG 4

Coordination of training program and STSMs for YRIs

WG 5

Communication & Dissemination

Individual Level Causes of Death

Special issue of *Historical Life Course Studies* (open access and Q1 journal) to provide an overview of sources and databases that record individual-level causes of death from 1800 to 1950.

Structure Papers

1. Introduction: (National) context of the development of cause-of-death statistics
2. Description of cause-of-death source(s)
3. Development of the database: construction and description
4. Recent research using the sources/databases
5. Future research and/ or potential uses of the sources/databases



Individual-level data questionnaire responses

STATUM VAN OVERLIJDEN.	WOONPLAATS.	IN, ONDER OF BOVEN.	HUISNUMMER.	MANNELIJK. VROUWELIJK.	STAAT.	OUDERDOM.	Beroep.	OORZAAK DES DOODS.
April 7 ^e	Anthe Crestwee	J	104	"	24	24		Varicelae Confluentes
"	Anthe Crestwee	B	170	"	"	"		WZ
<u>Mei</u>	Anthe Crestwee	J	311	"	21	21	Meester	Tinum Cereus
22	Verwerstraat	N	478	"	24	48	Meester	Varicelae Verae
"	Mumquens	B	488	"	20	26	Meester	Churasmus
<u>Juni</u>	Verwerstraat	B	422	"	"	11		Febrihica
1	Anthe Crestwee	J	46	"	"	5/12		Bellottelle
7	Opentamweg	"	22	"	30	62		Luxurians
8	Anthe Crestwee	"	214	"	"	5/12		Varicelae
<u>9</u>	Keamwee	B	138	"	"	11/12		parren
11	Verwerstraat	B	422	"	21	21		Varicelae Verae

Home Create External Data Database Tools Help Table Fields Table Tell me what you want to do

Clipboard: Paste, Copy, Format Painter, Cut

Sort & Filter: Filter, Ascending, Descending, Remove Sort, Toggle Filter

Records: Refresh, New, Save, Delete, More

Find: Find, Replace, Go To, Select

Text Formatting: Calibri, 11, Bold, Italic, Underline, Text Color, Background Color, Bullets, Numbering, Indentation, Table

DATA_1854_1940

tblPersoonl	tblPersoonDoodsoorzaak	DOopgeschoond	omsDO1	codeID	ICD10h1	hiscat1	ICD10level1	ICD10eng1
205384	Tuberculosis pulm: feb hectica	tuberculosis pulmonum / febris hectica	tuberculosis pulmonum	11336	A16.200	Tuberculosis	Respiratory tuberculosis, not confirmed	Tuberculosis of lung
205385	phthisis	phthisis	phthisis	3032	A16.901	Tuberculosis	Respiratory tuberculosis, not confirmed	phthisis
205386	Apoplexia	apoplexia	apoplexia	161	I64.001	Circulatory	Stroke, not specified as haemorrhage or	apoplexy
141813	tuberculosis pulmonus	tuberculosis pulmonum	tuberculosis pulmonum	3676	A16.200	Tuberculosis	Respiratory tuberculosis, not confirmed	Tuberculosis of lung
141814	Morbus Vesical /Stricture?/	vesicae strictura	vesicae strictura	7984	N35.900	Genitourinary	Urethral stricture Urethral stricture, un	urethral stricture
141815	Carcinoma	carcinoma	carcinoma	625	C80.901	Neoplasms	Malignant neoplasm without specificat	cancer, unspecified
141816	Atrophie	atrophia	atrophia	259	R64.003	Debility	Cachexia Cachexia	atrophy
205349	Tuberculosis pulm:	tuberculosis pulmonum	tuberculosis pulmonum	3676	A16.200	Tuberculosis	Respiratory tuberculosis, not confirmed	Tuberculosis of lung
205350	Diarrhoea	diarrhoea	diarrhoea	973	A09.002	Diarrhoea	Other gastroenteritis and colitis of infe	diarrhoea
205351	paedatrophia	paedatrophia	paedatrophia	2914	P96.904	Perinatal	Other conditions originating in the peri	infantile atrophy
205352	Bronch: chronica, Oedema pulm:	bronchitis chronica / oedema pulmonum	bronchitis chronica	536	J42.000	Respiratory	Unspecified chronic bronchitis Unspeci	bronchitis, chronic
141817	Diarrhoea inf	diarrhoea inflammatoria	diarrhoea inflammatoria	1022	A09.002	Diarrhoea	Other gastroenteritis and colitis of infe	diarrhoea
392174	Ambustio Corporis total	combustio corporis	combustio corporis	17138	T29.000	Violence	Burns and corrosions of multiple body r	
392175	Bronchitis chron: ten gevolge van;Em	bronchitis chronica ten gevolge van emphysema pulmonum / collapsus	bronchitis chronica	15411	J42.000	Respiratory	Unspecified chronic bronchitis Unspeci	bronchitis, chronic
205374	Convulsiones	convulsiones	convulsiones	859	R56.800	Ill defined	Convulsions, not elsewhere classified	convulsions
205375	Marasmus Senilis	marasmus senilis	marasmus senilis	2578	R54.001	Old age	Senility Senility	senile debility
205376	onbekend Stervende opgenomen in	stervend opgenomen	stervend opgenomen	3532	R99.001	Ill defined	Other ill-defined and unspecified cause	unknown
205377	Ulcera Laryngis, oedema glottidis	ulcera laryngis / oedema glottidis	ulcera laryngis	29935	J38.701	Respiratory	Diseases of vocal cords and larynx, not	ulcer of larynx
392176	pylephlebitis et Hepatitis, pyaemie	pylephlebitis et hepatitis / pyaemia	pylephlebitis	24935	K75.100	Digestive	Other inflammatory liver diseases Phle	
392177	Kliertering	kliertering	kliertering	2266	A18.203	Tuberculosis	Tuberculosis of other organs Tuberculo	tuberculosis glands
392178	Carcinoma Ventriculi	carcinoma ventriculi	carcinoma ventriculi	686	C16.901	Neoplasms	Malignant neoplasm of stomach Stoma	cancer, stomach
392179	DZ N NL	dodgeboren zoon	dodgeboren zoon	1270	P95.000	Perinatal	Foetal death of unspecified cause Foet	stillbirth
205370	ZG / Stuipe	stuipe	stuipe	3552	R56.800	Ill defined	Convulsions, not elsewhere classified	convulsions
205371	Scrophulosis	scrophulosis	scrophulosis	1141	A18.201	Tuberculosis	Tuberculosis of other organs Tuberculo	scrofula
205372	Bronchitis	bronchitis	bronchitis	478	J40.009	Respiratory	Bronchitis, not specified as acute or chr	bronchitis, unspecified no age or dur
205373	Carcinoma linguid & febris lectica	carcinoma linguae & febris hectica	carcinoma linguae	15819	C02.901	Neoplasms	Malignant neoplasm of other and unsp	cancer, tongue
392180	Pneumonia	pneumonia	pneumonia	1134	J18.900	Respiratory	Pneumonia, organism unspecified Pne	pneumonia
392181	pneumonia crouposa	pneumonia crouposa	pneumonia crouposa	7716	J18.100	Respiratory	Pneumonia, organism unspecified Lob	lobar pneumonia
392182	phthisis pulmonalis	phthisis pulmonalis	phthisis pulmonalis	3070	A16.903	Tuberculosis	Respiratory tuberculosis, not confirmed	pulmonary phthisis
392183	Ddr NL	dodgeboren dochter	dodgeboren dochter	1267	P95.000	Perinatal	Foetal death of unspecified cause Foet	stillbirth
392184	ZG/ paedatrophia	paedatrophia	paedatrophia	2914	P96.904	Perinatal	Other conditions originating in the peri	infantile atrophy
392185	Sarcoma uteri	sarcoma uteri	sarcoma uteri	27618	C55.003	Neoplasms	Malignant neoplasm of uterus, part uns	sarcoma, uterus
205412	Pneumonia Notha , paral: pulm:	pneumonia notha / paralysis pulmonum	pneumonia notha	10814	J18.900	Respiratory	Pneumonia, organism unspecified Pne	pneumonia
205413	phthisis pulm:	phthisis pulmonalis	phthisis pulmonalis	3070	A16.903	Tuberculosis	Respiratory tuberculosis, not confirmed	pulmonary phthisis
205391	Enteritis acuta	enteritis acuta	enteritis acuta	1363	A09.009	Diarrhoea	Other gastroenteritis and colitis of infe	enteritis
205392	Catarrh: gastro-duoderaris; Atrophie	catarrhus gastro intestinalis / atrophie ahepatis	catarrhus gastro intestinalis	16450	A09.004	Diarrhoea	Other gastroenteritis and colitis of infe	gastric catarrh
141812	Cirrhosis hepatis	cirrhosis hepatis	cirrhosis hepatis	813	K74.600	Digestive	Fibrosis and cirrhosis of liver Other anc	cirrhosis of liver, unspecified
396029	Broncho pneumonie	bronchopneumonia	bronchopneumonia	579	J18.000	Respiratory	Pneumonia, organism unspecified Bro	bronchopneumonia
396030	febris intermitt Convulsiones	febris intermittens / convulsiones	febris intermittens	1531	B54.002	Infectious	Fever of unknown origin Fever intermi	intermittent fever, unspecified

What are we looking for

During the Searchathon, participants will search for and identify archival sources (both digitized and in physical form) that contain any of the following types of information:

- Registers of deaths (parish, civil, or municipal) that include **causes of death** or related annotations.
- Hospital and infirmary records, such as **patient admission logs, treatment records**, and mortality registers.
- **Public health reports** issued by local or national authorities, including **mortality statistics or outbreak reports**.
- Medical officer reports or epidemiological surveys documenting **disease prevalence** or causes of mortality.
- Military health and casualty records containing **medical diagnoses** or **death causes**.
- Burial and cemetery registers with **cause-of-death references**.
- Specialized databases or digitized collections that **aggregate** such records from specific regions or periods.

Some examples from the Netherlands

WOONPLAATS	No. van de inwoners	No. van de huizen	No. van de huizen met een woonkamer	No. van de huizen met een woonkamer en een slaapkamer	No. van de huizen met een woonkamer, een slaapkamer en een badkamer	DATUM VAN		NAAM	AARD	Aantal gevallen	Aantal gestorven	Aantal genezen	Aantal herstelde	Aantal overleden
						aanvang	afloop							
Brouwerij	10	5	3	2	1	1894	1894	van der Meer	1	1	0	0	0	0

Register of contagious diseases

STAAT G.
LIJST der ingeschreven in het sterfregister

No.	DAG, MAAND EN JAAR VAN HET OVERLEDEN.	LEVENSDUUR	WETIG OF NIET WETIG		BESCHRIJVING VAN DE OORZAKEN			BESCHRIJVING VAN DE TOEGESTANDE			PLAATS VAN HET OVERLEDEN.
			W.	N.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	
34	1894	3/1	W.	N.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	Rotterdam

Death register (with cause of death)

Den 1^{sten} April 1894 is aan de straat in
 n°. overleden
 oud 1 jaar 6 maand, beroep
 De primaire oorzaak des doods was
 de secundaire
 NIJMEGEN, den 2^{den} April 1894
 De Geneesheer,
 Dr. Van der Meer

Death notices

URGENT.	OPGEK.	OSTRAGES	OVERL.	WOONPLAAT
	1894	3/1		Rotterdam
	1894	5/1		Rotterdam
	1894	10/1		Rotterdam

Patient register children hospital

Objective Searchaton

The goal of this Searchaton is to **identify and locate** historical archival sources that **document causes of death and disease-related information across Europe**. By bringing together archivists, researchers, and data specialists, we aim to map out the wealth of materials preserved in European archives that can shed light on public health patterns, medical practices, and mortality trends from the past two centuries.

The Searchaton will focus on uncovering collections that contain **systematically recorded health information**, both in textual and tabular forms, and that could potentially be used for research on the history of medicine, demography, and epidemiology.

Expected outcomes

The results of the Searchaton will contribute to a **data paper** to be submitted to Open Research Europe as part of the special collection “Multidisciplinary approaches to historical health inequalities, 1800–2022”. All participants that contribute findings are encouraged to contribute as co-authors to this paper.

Furthermore, a summary and synthesis of the findings will be included in the **introduction** to a special issue of Historical Life Course Studies on sources and databases for the study of historical populations.



Action Details

 CSO approval date	 Start date	 End date
12/05/2023	19/09/2023	18/09/2027

How can I participate?

- Read the Project Description [MoU](#)
- Inform the Main Proposer/Chair of your Interest ([email](#))
- [Apply](#) to Join your Working Groups of Interest
- Please note, Management Committee nominations are carried out through the [COST National Contact Points](#)

Express your interest to join any of the working groups by applying below.

It is required to have an e-COST profile to submit your application. If needed, [create](#) it first and then click 'Apply'

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