

## INTRODUCTION

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Perpetual Secretary of the Académie des sciences d'outre-mer

The Académie des sciences d'outre-mer is delighted to host this preparatory conference for the session, a project coordinated by Efthymios Nicolaidis (IAHS, Greece), Sun Xiaochun (IAHS, CSHST, China), and Dominique Barjot (ASOM, France). It is a joint project of the International Academy of the History of Science (IAHS), the International Academic Union (UAI/IUA), the International Science Council. Regional Focal Point for Asia and the Pacific (ISC), the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH), the Chinese Association for Science and Technology (CAST), the Académie des Sciences d'Outre-Mer (Paris), the Australian Academy of Sciences, the Royal Society Te Aparangi (New Zealand) and the African Academy of Languages (Acalan).

The Académie des sciences d'outre-mer was founded in 1922 in Paris on the initiative of three founders: Paul Bourdarie (1864-1950), explorer and journalist, who was behind the creation of the Grand Mosque of Paris, for example; Alfred Martineau (1859-1945), archivist-paleographer, governor of the colonies and professor at the Collège de France; Maurice Delafosse (1870-1926), secretary general of the general government of French West Africa, who passed through Langues O'. They then received the support of major figures from the political world (Albert Sarraut, then Minister of Colonies, Paul Doumer, Gaston Doumergue and Albert Lebrun, three future Presidents of the French Republic), including its first president, the French historian and academician Gabriel Hanotaux (1853-1944), and military figures (Marshal Franchet d'Espéret, Marshal Joffre, Marshal Lyautey, General Gouraud, General Giraud, etc.). Initially called the Academy of Colonial Sciences, it took the name of the Academy of Overseas Sciences in 1957.

Today, it has 275 academicians, 200 of whom belong to 5 major sections:

- 1 - historical, geographical, ethnological and linguistic sciences;
- 2 - political and administrative sciences;
- 3 - legal, economic and social sciences;
- 4 - physical, natural and biological sciences and their applications;
- 5 - education, literature, archaeology and fine arts.

Each has 20 full members and 20 corresponding members. There are also 25 non-resident members (23 seats occupied) and 50 associate members (39 seats occupied), including personalities such as Abdou Diouf, Abdoulaye Wade, Macky Sall, all former Presidents of the Republic of Senegal, Alassane Ouattara, former President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Fernando Cardoso, former President of the Republic of Brazil, as well as leading French-speaking writers (Alexandre Najjar and Boualem Sansal, for example).

It organizes official sessions one Friday a month around a theme defined each year: for example, in 2025, the “Reconfiguration of the international order”, monthly current affairs sessions, one Thursday a month, numerous academic events (symposia and round tables, book presentations, exhibitions, etc.). That is why we are hosting today's workshop. This will be a hybrid event

(face-to-face and videoconference) and will be held in 3 sessions, each ending with a discussion:

1 - “The Far East”, from 9:40 to 10:50 a.m., with 7 online presentations of 10 minutes each. These are by:

- Shujian Zhang (Institute of Acupuncture and Moxibustion, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences): *The Body and Nature in the Huangdi Neijing: A Knowledge-Based Perspective*.
- Ni Genjin, Wei Luling (South China Agricultural University) Liu Anhao (Nanjing Agricultural University), *The Usage of Wild Silkworms in South China——mainly on the Attacus atlas*,
- Liu Yang (University of Chinese Academy of Sciences) : *Gnomon Shadow Measurement and Construction of Cosmological Models in Ancient China*.
- Wang Guangchao (University of Chinese Academy of Sciences): *An Analysis of the GaiTian Star Chart in the Astronomy Treatise of the New Tang Book*,
- Yuanhe Yang (Nanjing Agricultural University): *Ancient people's ecological wisdom about tea planting in China*,
- Hao Wu (University of Chinese Academy of Sciences): *Communication between Central Plains and Western Regions by the Recording Route in SongYunXingJi——in order to Shanshan, Zuomo City, Mo City as an example*,

2 - Round table “Reassessing the notion of industrial era: society, nature and modernization”, from 11:00 to 11:45 with 3 interventions (online), those of:

- Kostas Skordoulis (Department of Education, University of Athens)
- Kostas Tampakis (National Hellenic Research Foundation)
- George Vlahakis (Hellenic Open University)

3 - Round table “Towards an interdisciplinary network for the study of representations of nature in pre-industrial cultures”, from 1.45 to 3.45 pm with 9 speakers:

- Dominique Barjot
- Efthymios Nicolaidis
- Michela Blay (philosopher of science, emeritus research director, CNRS)
- Chantal Grell (historian)
- Nathalie Lemarchand (President of the International Geographical Union (IGU), University of Paris 8 (Vincennes - St-Denis), Ladyss Laboratory (UMR 7533)
- Luiz Oosterbeek (President of the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences - CIPSH)
- Bruno Delmas (Full member of section 1 of ASOM, former President of the Académie des sciences d'outre-mer in 2015, online)
- Virginie Tilot de Grissac (ASOM correspondent, section 4, full member of the Académie Royale des Sciences d'Outre-Mer, online)
- Josette Rivallain (ASOM correspondent, section 5, and lecturer at the National Museum of Natural History, in person)

The organization will involve a general discussion from 3:20 to 4:00 p.m. In addition, members attending in person will be able to have lunch at the Aero Club, very close to the Académie des Sciences d'Outre-Mer, from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m., for €38.