



CARIBBEAN MUNDUS

Power, History, (Post)-Slavery, Environment
and Global Sustainable Futures

23-25th May 2024

Martinique, Schœlcher Campus

Coordinating Institutions

The PHEEAC Research Laboratory (Pouvoir, Histoire, Esclavages, Environnement, Atlantique, Caraïbe) (Formerly LC2S), **Université des Antilles (UA)** and **the National Scientific Research Center (CNRS)**.

The Institute of History of the CSIC (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas), Madrid.

The CTM (Collective Territorial Authorities of Martinique) through its Research and Innovation and Territorial Diplomacy Units (Partnership to be confirmed)

The UWI-UH Center for the Sustainable Development of the Caribbean, The University of the West Indies and Universidad de la Habana (Partnership to be confirmed)

Universities Caribbean, The Consortium of Caribbean Universities and Research Institutes

The OCL (Office de la Culture du Lamentin), Martinique. (Partnership to be confirmed)

Organizers

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Dr Myriam Moïse, Associate Professor, PHEEAC, Université des Antilles, ConnecCaribbean

Scientific Committee

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-Pr Fred Constant, Professor, Université des Antilles, PHEEAC

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-Pr Mu-Kien Adriana Sang, Professor, Centro de Estudios Caribeños, Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra, PUCMM, Santo Domingo.

-Dr Lucia Stecher, Associate Professor, Universidad de Chile.



CONCEPT NOTE

The Caribbean is a vibrant and multifaceted region that must be explored within the intricate tapestry of its socio-political and historical power dynamics, its particular environmental challenges as well as the diversity of its multicultural forces. Within the ConneCaribbean research framework, the Wider Caribbean is defined as the geographical area comprising insular territories of the Caribbean as well as the coastal zones of countries surrounding the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico, including Central America, the Northern region of South America and the Guianas. The researchers of the EU-funded ConneCaribbean programme seek to explore the transnational, translingual and transcultural forces of the region which they see as the origin of the modern world. The Caribbean is indeed the origin of the global world as it is an open laboratory enabling a better understanding of the globalization process through its intermingling postcolonial identities, its specific environmental challenges, its intricate relations with Europe and Latin America and the overall complexity of the forever evolving power dynamics of the region.

The international symposium *Caribbean Mundus* conceives the Wider Caribbean as an elastic and borderless space, a transversal and world-scale perspective which is reflected in the scholarly collection *Border Transgression and Reconfiguration of Caribbean Spaces* edited within the framework of ConneCaribbean and exploring the constant staggering between historical borderlessness and enforced political borders in the Caribbean. (Moïse & Réno, Palgrave MacMillan 2020). The discussions emerging from the *Caribbean Mundus* conference will tackle the Wider Caribbean region through the diversity of its geography, history, culture and peoples and the constantly hybridizing particularities of the Caribbean as a *Whole-World* region through its creolisation processes and its *Poetics of Relation* as theorised by Martinican intellectual Édouard Glissant.

An active member of the “ConneCaribbean” research consortium since 2019, the recently rebranded PHEEAC (formerly LC2S) research laboratory of the Université des Antilles will host the *Caribbean Mundus* international symposium with a two-fold objective : Disseminate the research results of the EU-funded Horizon 2020 ConneCaribbean research and innovation programme; explore new transdisciplinary collaborative research paths for a better understanding of power dynamics, history, (post)-slavery and environmental matters in the diverse and plurilingual Caribbean context. Through research and innovation dialogues between Europe and the Americas, ConneCaribbean researchers have indeed benefited from invaluable opportunities to connect their visions and engage in untangling the complexities of the Caribbean region. Their research and networking activities have constantly aimed at embracing the diversity of the region: their investigations have touched upon the insular and continental Caribbean, the socio-political dynamics in sovereign and non-sovereign territories, the main urban centres as much as the least represented rural communities and indigenous peoples. Through research and innovation, power dynamics can be deconstructed, national borders and colonially inherited linguistic and cultural divides can be overcome.

Caribbean Mundus will take place on 23-25th May 2024 in the context of the month of slavery abolitions in Martinique and Guadeloupe, hence the historical dimension will remain central to the discussions, in particular in the post-slavery, post-colonial and decolonial contexts. Scholars are invited to deliver papers, workshops or fully constituted panels that tackle the main thematic axis of the symposium, power, history, (post)-slavery and environment, which are interconnected in the Caribbean where the traumatic history still has vivid consequences on race, gender and class relations across the region and where judicial, identity and political mobilizations often intermingle.



Suggested topics for papers, panels and workshops include but are not limited to:

- Shifting the Geographies of Power, Centring Historically Marginalized Communities
- Migrations, Diasporas, Borders and Caribbean (Dis)connections
- Race, Racialization and Ethnicity in the Wider Caribbean
- Slaveries, Post-Slaveries and Reparations in the Wider Caribbean
- Caribbean Afro-Futurisms
- Decolonial Ecologies in the Wider Caribbean
- Decolonial Feminisms, Environmental Feminisms, Queer Feminisms, Caribbean Feminisms - Gender Justice, Social Justice, Environmental Justice and the Intersections of Judicial Systems
- Alternative Histories, Traumas and Subaltern Voices across the Caribbean and Europe
- Créolité, Creolization, Creole Aesthetics and the Global World
- Decolonizing Caribbean Institutions (Universities, Schools, Museums, Art centres, other institutional spaces)
- Internationalizing Research and Higher Education for Global Sustainable Caribbean Futures
- Solution-based Research and Innovation to the Benefit of Caribbean Development
- The Evolution of Political Leadership and Ethics in the Wider Caribbean
- The Strategic Integration of the Caribbean and Latin America
- The EU-CELAC Relations and the Role of the European Territories of the Caribbean
- Innovation and Territorial Diplomacy in the Wider Caribbean

Caribbean Mundus will stand as an invaluable opportunity to capitalize on the research and innovation effort implemented through ConnecCaribbean, hence facilitating more opportunities for scientific events, collaborations and solution-based research projects towards building global sustainable futures across the Caribbean and Europe. The symposium will gather scholars, practitioners and experts in Caribbean Studies across the globe, including a number of researchers affiliated to the ConnecCaribbean programme. Keynotes, thematic conferences, roundtables, interactive workshops, doctoral seminars and open science dialogues at the university and within the community spaces in Martinique will contribute to demonstrating the extent to which productive synergies can emerge from within the Caribbean and allow new transdisciplinary research perspectives. *Caribbean Mundus* will truly open diverse dialogues and reflections based on the research findings of the ConnecCaribbean programme and will offer opportunities to use these findings so as to foster community engagement in the region and boost collaborative paths that will involve governments, civil society organizations as well as development agencies so as to link research results to political actions and practical solutions for improved sustainable Caribbean futures.

Abstracts (350 words maximum) and brief biography (150 words maximum) must be submitted before the 1st February 2024 to: caribbeanmundus@gmail.com

We welcome proposals from academics specializing in Caribbean Studies and we also invite emerging scholars, doctoral students, practitioners and creative artists to submit proposals. Conference papers and workshops can be delivered in Spanish, English, French or Creole. A selection of papers will be published in the conference proceedings and as well as in an international scholarly journal issue.

Notifications of Acceptance will be sent on 29th February.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU IN MARTINIQUE IN MAY 2024