



**V Encuentro**  
*jóvenes*  
*investigadores*  
*en*  
*historia*  
*contemporánea*

*5th Meeting of Young Researchers in Contemporary History*  
*Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), Barcelona, 15 - 17 July 2015*

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## **INTELLECTUAL MANIFESTO OF THE 5th MEETING OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS OF THE AHC**

As the Organising Committee of the 5th Meeting of Young Researchers, we have considered necessary to head the first call for panellists of this new historiographical challenge with a manifesto which attempts to synthesise the spirit and proposals that lie behind our motivation. Facing the ceaseless and relentless attack of the neoliberal policies directed against culture, public education, research and, more specifically, Social Sciences, the present Meeting of Young Researchers of the Contemporary History Association (AHC), represents to us, as the future of our society and the historiographical community, a moral responsibility and a clear expression of our quotidian struggle for dignity.

Despite the multiple difficulties we face in our profession and in our society, seven years of uninterrupted biannual congresses mean a reason to congratulate ourselves, as they constitute a challenge in front of those who try to deprive our personal and collective future. In fact, the previous and forthcoming Meetings are a proof of the increasing ascendancy of the historiography in Spain and, in particular, of its youngest representatives as: a natural generational shift; the bearers of new perspectives and researching experiences, which are the only guarantee of the continuity of the ongoing work and interpretations; and, also, the contributors to the improvement of the debates which will condition the future of our discipline. Therefore, our aim is no other than that of supporting all those young researchers who begin their first steps in the increasingly more difficult path of post-graduate research. So, we defend the need and the historiographical value of our meetings, which represent a space of trust and mutual exchange made by and for young researchers but, as it could not be otherwise, opened to the general historiographical community and society as a whole.

In this sense, the young researchers from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)

claim the legacy of the former editions of this event and defend the need to:

1. Instate the Meetings of Young Researchers as a part of our immaterial heritage as a historiographical community.
2. Give continuity to the Meetings of Young Researchers as a space to deepen the process of historiographical renewal, the exchange of ideas and the nurturing of a critical conscience.
3. Open and make the historiographical production available to the entire society, claiming and stating the usefulness of our work and offering a whole series of tools for a critical knowledge of our present reality.
4. Promote solidarity, debate and horizontal collaboration, teamwork and the defence of our collective interests as a model to face the present challenges and to succeed in our research.
5. Find contact points and to ease the convergence between the most diverse approaches, interpretations, methodologies and points of view.
6. Directly oppose to old-fashioned models of “debate” clearly unproductive, being able to ask ourselves for seeking links with other views and the explanation of our knowledge and research.
7. Promote novel and ambitious reflections in theoretical, methodological and conceptual terms as a shared aspect of any valuable historiographical project and the main value of our discipline.
8. Deepen in the use of comparative, transnational and multidisciplinary perspectives, defending at any time the inherent complexity of the past and fomenting the dialogue with other areas of knowledge and culture.
9. Project our work and thoughts at international level, helping and intensifying the exchange of ideas with other intellectual traditions and historiographical schools, being aware of it as the only path to drive forward our respective research.
10. Give impulse to the talent, ambition and value of young researchers.

Barcelona, 24 February 2014.

**The Organising Committee of the 5th Meeting of Young Researchers of the AHC:**

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