



Seminar

JOHAN HEILBRON

Director of Research, Centre européen de sociologie et de science politique de la Sorbonne (CESSP), Paris.
Professor of Sociology, Erasmus University, Rotterdam

Transnational Cultural Exchange and Globalization

Thursday, 25 January, 11:15 a.m.

In the Thunberg Lecture Hall
SCAS, Linneanum, Thunbergsvägen 2, Uppsala
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S W E D I S H
C O L L E G I U M
for ADVANCED STUDY

ABOUT JOHAN HEILBRON

Johan Heilbron is a distinguished researcher in the field of the social and intellectual history of the social sciences. He is Director of Research at the Centre européen de sociologie et de science politique de la Sorbonne (CESSP), teaches at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS) and is also Professor of Sociology at the Erasmus University, Rotterdam.

He is the author of *Het ontstaan van de sociologie* that was mainly written when Johan Heilbron was a Fellow at SCAS in 1988-89. It first appeared in 1990, while an English translation appeared as *The Rise of Social Theory* in 1995 and a French edition as *Naissance de la Sociologie* in 2006. His monograph *French Sociology* was published in 2015.

Heilbron is co-editor, together with Björn Wittrock and Lars Magnusson, of *The Rise of Social Sciences and the Formation of Modernity: Conceptual Change in Context, 1750-1850* (1998). In addition, he is co-editor of *Pour une histoire des sciences sociales. Hommage à Pierre Bourdieu* (2004) and of the Collected Works of Norbert Elias (which appeared in 19 volumes at Suhrkamp Verlag).

Over the years, Johan Heilbron has kept an affiliation with SCAS and was in the years 2006-2009 a member of an EU-funded project on transnational collaboration in the social sciences and humanities (Global SSH, coordinated by Björn Wittrock). In 2014, Johan Heilbron was awarded the Sarton Medal by the University of Ghent. This academic year he is a Member of the School of Social Sciences at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton.

On 26 January, 2018, Johan Heilbron will be awarded an honorary doctorate at Uppsala University.

ABSTRACT

Books, movies, television programmes and other cultural goods increasingly cross national and linguistic borders. Transnational cultural exchange has in many areas acquired a global dimension, warranting the recognition of cultural globalization and the formation of global cultural fields. In my presentation I will consider the surprisingly varied ways in which national cultures are embedded in these emerging global structures. The significance of foreign cultural goods, for example, ranges from relatively low levels in certain countries to very high ones in others. How can we account for such differences? Can we identify general principles that can account for the asymmetries of transnational cultural exchanges and their outcomes on the global level?