

Proposal for a collective book on

**MIGRANTS AND THEIR DOCUMENTS THROUGHOUT HISTORY.
Theoretical and Methodological Reflections on the Use of Personal and
Private Sources for the Study of Human Mobility.**

Dear colleagues:

First of all, let us present ourselves. We are Oscar Alvarez-Gila and Alberto Angulo Morales, professors of History of America and History of Early Modern Arge, respectively, at the University of the Basque Country, Spain. We are both researchers on the field of migratory movements and immigrant communities, specialized in the study of Basque migration to other territories in Europe and America from the 16th to the 20th centuries.

The main reason for getting in touch with you is that we want to invite you to participate in a collective book on the issue of the use of personal and private sources for the study of migration in history, whose edition we are now preparing. For this purpose we have done a preliminary arrangement with the publishing service of our university to bring it out during the next year 2013; however, we will also try to send the proposal to other international publishing companies in the meantime.

The book will be published in English.

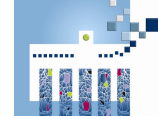
This monograph would be focus on providing the way for a theoretical and methodological reflection on the diverse uses of personal and private sources in the field of historical research during the last decades, and also looking at the future. By "personal and private sources" we mean a long array of documentary types that may include, among others, letters and correspondence, autobiographies, travel diaries, photographs, and so on. We do not aim to do a collection of case studies or new researchs based on this kind of sources, but to offer a place to discuss and think about the achievements, weaknesses and expected potentialities derived from their use.

The time scope of the reflections would include a long-durée perspective, so we would like to include specialists both on the Early Modern and Contemporary migrations, starting by the times of the first Atlantic expansion and finishing as close to the current times as possible. We would also like to have a geographically wide perspective of the issue, including authors from different countries of Europe, as well as the Americas.

This is the non-exhaustive list of the possible topics that may/must be included in the book, among others:

- Migration, personal writings and social networks.
- Migration, gender and personal sources.
- Autobiographies.
- Letters and correspondence.
- Iconographic sources (paintings, engravings, photographs).
- Traveler's writings.
- ...

At the end of this letter, we include the list of the proposed authors and topics for the book.



Deadlines:

1.- If you accept our proposal, we would like you to send us as soon as you can, before April, 30th: the title and an abstract (about 2,000 words) of the content and main arguments of your article, as well as a short CV of yours, in order to prepare the complete of the book that will be presented to the publishing companies.

If you prefer not to participate in this proposal, we would be very grateful to you if you can suggest us the names of other potential authors.

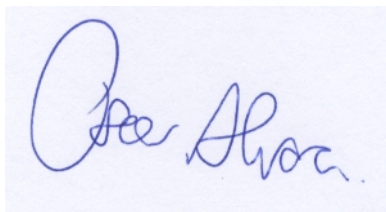
2.- Afterwards, we would contact you to inform about the actual content of the book, the definitive list of chapters and authors that will comprise it, as well as the technical specifications (length of your article, citation style..) and other relevant information about the process of publishing.

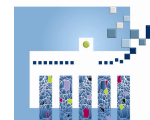
3.- We are calculating that the final deadline for submitting the papers will be December 31st, 2012, in order to fasten the publication of the book during 2013. Nonetheless, this may vary according to the final arrangements with the publishing company.

4.- We are thinking about the convenience of organize a meeting by the first half of December, in order to present, discuss and coment the chapters between us. However, this possibility depends on the avaiability of funds we will have by that moment.

If you have any question about this proposal, do not hesitate to get in touch with us. We would be very glad to answer any doubt or accept any suggestion from yours.

Looking forward to your response.





Name	Affiliation	Proposed topic
Adolfo I. Arbelo	University of La Laguna, ES	Correspondence of European migrants from the Southern Atlantic, 18th century
Gur Alroey	University of Haifa, IL	Correspondence of migrants, 19th-20th centuries.
Sigrid Wadauer	Universität Wien, AT	Autobiographies, 18th century.
Xosé Manoel Núñez Seixas	University of Santiago de Compostela, ES	Autobiographies, 19th-20th centuries.
Juan Félix Pimentel	CSIC, ES	Diaries of scientific travelers, 18th century
Carlos Sanhueza	University of Talca, CL	Diaries of travelers, 19th century
Steve Murdoch	University of St. Andrews, UK	Experiences and documents for the study of networks
Xabier Lamikiz	Autonomous University of Madrid, ES	Theoretical and empirical approaches to the study of trust in Early Modern trade.
Kate Chedgzoy	Newcastle University, UK	Women's writing in the Atlantic World
Jens Jaeger	University of Cologne, DE	Iconography, images and photographs for the study of human mobility
Alberto Angulo Morales	University of the Basque Country, ES	Letters, memory and images from abroad on the Basque Country, 18th century.
Oscar Alvarez Gila	University of the Basque Country, ES	Images of America on the personal documentation of Basque emigrants, 19th-20th centuries.