

OCTOBER 22-23, 2025

AMERICA AND THE WORLD IN THE SIXTIES

MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON AMERICAN FOREIGN RELATIONS
DURING THE KENNEDY AND JOHNSON ADMINISTRATIONS (1961-1969)



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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WITH THE SUPPORT OF:



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Centre de Recherche en Histoire, Culture et Sociétés
Université de Versailles-Saint-Quentin

UVSQ Institut d'Etudes Culturelles
et Internationales
Centre de Recherche en Histoire, Culture et Sociétés

université PARIS-SACLAY GRADUATE SCHOOL
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PROGRAMME

**AMERICA AND THE WORLD IN THE SIXTIES:
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DAY 1 – Wednesday, 22 October 2025

9h00-9h15	Welcoming of participants
9h15-9h30	Opening remarks
9h30-10h15	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Pierre Asselin, San Diego State University Title: "Global Vietnam: How Hanoi internationalized –and won– the American War" Introduction by Lori Maguire, Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne
10h15-12h15	PANEL 1 - "Unrealized power:" The Vietnam War Moderator: Alexandra Boudet-Brugal, UVSQ • Ted Hammett (author) & David Starr (CMT) – "Harvard's Vietnam: 'The Choices We Made'" • Lori Maguire (Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne) – "Perceiving North Vietnam: The Kennedy Administration Looks at the Democratic Republic of Vietnam" • Stephen Whitfield (Brandeis University) – "John P. Roche's Vietnam War" • Luke Stewart (CY Cergy Paris Université) – "The Paranoid Style of Lyndon Johnson: The President, the National Security State and the Anti-Vietnam War Movement"
12h15-13h30	LUNCH (room 524, Vauban building, 5 th floor)
13h30-15h00	PANEL 2 - Great power competition: America and friends Moderator: Sandrine Ferré-Rode (UVSQ) • Adrien Rodd (UVSQ) – "New Zealand's interests and priorities as a US ally in the 1960s" • Christopher Kirkey (SUNY Plattsburgh)– "Bipolarity and the International Political System: Theoretical Influences and the Direction and Exercise of Canadian Foreign Policy in the 1960s." • Davide Sili (Università Roma Tre) – "<i>Silent Spring</i> by Rachel Carson and Green Diplomacy during the Kennedy Presidency"
15h00-15h15	Coffee break
15h15-16h45	PANEL 3 - Public & Cultural diplomacy Moderator: Darius Wainwright (University of Bristol) • Manuel Dorion-Soulié (Ecole Polytechnique IP Paris): – "Car Culture and American Soft Power in 1960s France" • Laura MacDonald (Michigan State University) – "Unlikely ambassadors: American student USO musical theatre tours in Asia in the 1960s" • Vincent Chenille (UVSQ) – "1965-1966: the wave of the American audiovisual spy series"

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DAY 2 – Thursday, 23 October 2025

9h00-9h15	Welcoming of participants
9h15-10h00	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Pierre MELANDRI , Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris Title: « Une amitié ombrageuse : la France et les Etats-Unis de 1961 à 1969 » Introduction by Stephen Whitfield (Brandeis University)
10h00-11h30	PANEL 4 - Expanding influence (1): The United States and Africa Moderator: Taoufik Djebali (Université de Caen Normandie) • Babere K. Chacha (Laikipia University) – “J. F. Kennedy and the Tom Mboya airlifts and the Making of Kenya-US bilateral Relations in the 1960s” • Ray Arsenault (University of South Florida) – “The evolution of American foreign policy: Africa as a Cold War battleground” • Rev. Fr. Dr Peterson Kabugi (Laikipia University) – “Diplomatic Dissonance: Jomo Kenyatta, the Congo crisis, and US-Kenya relations in the Cold War Era”
11h30-13h00	LUNCH (Room 524 – Vauban building, 5 th floor)
13h00-14h30	PANEL 5 - Expanding influence (2): The United States and the Middle East Moderator: Christopher Kirkey (SUNY) • David Painter (Georgetown University) – “Oil and the Six-Day War: An International History” • Taoufik Djebali (Université de Caen Normandie) – “An Unexpected Ally: John F. Kennedy and the Independence of Algeria and Tunisia” • Darius Wainwright (University of Bristol) – “Taking the American Cultural Cold War to the Middle East: New York City and the 1964-1965 World's Fair”
14h30-14h45	Closing remarks
15h00	Departure for Versailles by public transit bus
16h00-18h00	Guided tour of Ancien Hôtel de la Marine et des Affaires Etrangères, Bibliothèque Municipale, rue de l'Indépendance américaine, 78000 Versailles

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