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# Dietary choices, instructions, and precepts – A multidisciplinary approach

#### Conference organized by the Institut Européen d’Histoire et des Cultures de l’Alimentation

#### Tours (France) - December 2-4, 2021

#### Call for papers (au 17/05/2020)

People’s diets, in addition to being governed by the capacity of ecosystems, are shaped by economic, social, cultural, religious, health, and medical norms, among others. Human food practices are thus necessarily framed by limits and opportunities, which may be internalized, deliberately taken up, or imposed. In which case, does it make sense to speak of choice?

What type of rules inform these usages? Are they instructions, precepts, or just advice? Are they imposed inherently, and, if not, who are the authorities laying them down? To what extent do time, place, and wider geographical context influence how they are elaborated? In the globalized world of the 21st-century, in which the abundance and shortage of food both pose a threat to people’s lives, how and in what hierarchy do individual’s food needs transpire within this broader framework?

These instructions and precepts determining our dietary choices are depicted, particularly in literature and the arts, and these representations reveal how they are perceived, partaking in turn in their dissemination and elaboration.

This conference, which, it is hoped, will be attended by participants from all horizons and different disciplines in the social sciences, humanities, life sciences, and biomedicine, proposes to analyze this non-exclusive set of questions and considerations.

For further details about the lines of enquiry we hope to explore, please visit the IEHCA website.

For further information please contact Loïc Bienassis: [loic.bienassis@iehca.eu](mailto:loic.bienassis@iehca.eu)

Papers may be presented in either French or English.

Proposals shall include:

* the title of the paper
* a 250-word abstract
* a brief cv

They are to be sent to Loïc Bienassis [loic.bienassis@iehca.eu](mailto:loic.bienassis@iehca.eu) and Françoise Sabban [francoise.sabban@ehess.fr](mailto:francoise.sabban@ehess.fr) before November 15, 2020.

**Scientific committee for the conference:**

Catherine Beaumont (INRA, Tours, France)

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