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News Networks in Early Modern Europe
(What is news and is it a network?)

A LECTURE BY

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In the nineteenth and twentieth centuries the history of newspapers was written from national perspectives, reflecting national concerns. In the twentieth-first historians have broadened their scope, recognising the interplay between newspapers and other media, and recognising the importance of international flow of news. But once we broaden our scope, how can we possibly manage the quantities of evidence available in order to move beyond case studies to a new story. Is a new bigger picture possible? In this lecture I will propose the advantages of – and problems involved in – rethinking and analysing the information community of early modern Europe as a complex, self-organising network.