

Nantes Institute for Advanced Study is supported by :

Nantes Métropole
Région Pays de la Loire
Université de Nantes
Réseau français des IEA
Veolia Eau
Suez environnement
Harmonie mutualité
FNMI
Ministère du Travail
Union Européenne

Conference

The authority of the past in Common Law

Anthropological notations

Tuesday March 13th 2012

At 6 :00 pm

Amphitheater SIMONE WEIL
5 allée Jacques Berque
Nantes

By Louis Assier Andrieu,
Research director CNRS (CEE,
Sciences Po), professor et *l'Ecole de
Droit de Sciences Po, Paris* and
fellow at Centre for Advanced
Studies *Recht als Kultur* of Bonn.

Biographical elements

Louis Assier-Andrieu is research director at CNRS (EEC, Sciences Po), professor at the School of Law, Sciences Po, Paris and Fellow at the Centre for Advanced Studies Recht als Kultur in Bonn.

Studies of Anthropology in Canada (Laval) and the United States (Cornell)

Studied law in France (Montpellier, Toulouse)

Ph.D. in social anthropology and history, Paris, EHESS

Doctor of Law (Legal History), Toulouse

Doctor of Humanities, Paris, EHESS

Field's work in Alaska, Louisiane and South Europe.

Former research assistant of Godelier and C. Levi-Strauss at the College de France

Fellow, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Western Societies Program, Cornell University

Visiting professor of anthropology of law at Cambridge University and Tulane University School of Law

Among his publications:

Le peuple et la loi, Paris, LGDJ, 1987, préface de Paul Ourliac

Une France coutumière, Paris, éditions du CNRS, 1990

Le droit dans les sociétés humaines, Paris, Nathan, coll. Essais & Recherches, 1996

Les avocats. Identité, culture et devenir, Paris, Lextenso, 2011

L'autorité du passé. Essai anthropologique sur la Common Law, Paris, Dalloz, coll. Les sens du droit, 2011

L'indépendance des avocats, Paris, Lextenso, parution 2012 (avec C. Jamin)

Les grandes étapes de la pensée anthropologique sur le droit, Paris, Presses de Sciences Po, coll. Droit, parution 2012

Theme of the conference

« Why do the past have on us that influence which invites us to follow its example?

One has to consider the particular link that some cultures have with history, a link that encourages them to follow the "tradition" rather than break up with it. Included with these, the Anglo-Saxon common law claims highly its more than a millennial character and its assumed longevity takes shape in a specific realization of culture which is Law.

The medieval conception made the past the source of all legitimacy in the closed world of Christendom. With the Renaissance begins a process of opening to the world accompanied by tradition to continue for the momentum that has never stopped. The discovery of America and the need to deal with the Indians have raised controversies where "civilization" appeals to "nations" and "tribes" to recognize and to subordinate them; in the same way, sciences such as anthropology will be subordinate to the goals of Law, for they might have thwart them.

We will nevertheless have anthropological approach on that authority of the past considered as a representation open to analysis and interpretation.»

Louis Assier-Andrieu