

# WHO 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Global Health Histories Seminars

LUNCHTIME SEMINAR,  
Thursday 27 March 2008  
12.30 – 14.00, Library Meeting Room

## UNRRA and 'the world task in public health' after the Second World War



In the opening seminar of this new series, Dr Jessica Reinisch, School of History, Classics and Archaeology, Birkbeck College, University of London, discusses how public health emerged as a fundamental component of the survival and recovery of populations across Europe after 1945. Millions of refugees and displaced persons across the continent were in extremely poor health, malnourished and psychologically scarred. This lecture examines the significance of the public health initiatives of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) - one of the first international agencies established during the war to manage the transition from war to peace, and a predecessor to the World Health Organization.

Co-organized with The Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine, University College, London

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