Eighth European Congress on World and Global History

Critical Global Histories: Methodological Reflections and Thematic Expansions

Växjö, Sweden, 10–12 September 2025

POSTER PRESENTATION

MOVED APART: Communicating Separation

Join us for a Global Letter Database

LUND UNIVERSITY

About the Project

Global historical studies have long focused on mobility, and on the encounters and connections it led to. We do the reverse: distance in time and space meant separation between people. We follow those who remained, who longed, and who wrote about it, also allowing for more attention to women and non-travellers. As part of that work, we are building a global letter database: do take part!



Emotions and their Communication

We study how the experience of separation was communicated, particularly in Korea, Japan, Scandinavia, and Britain during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The project thus ties together global studies of emotions, epistolarity, communication practices and gender.

A Global Letter Database

As part of our project, we create an open-access database. In order to make this as inclusive as possible, we warmly invite all to contribute. To find out more, visit movedapart.org.

This database contains references to letters that are:
1) Handwritten
2) Written between 1500 and 1700
3) To and from individuals
4) In any language or script, but we particularly welcome **Japanese, Korean,** and **the Scandinavian languages**

Thank you for helping us show the way to the early modern global archives!



Information in short

Moved Apart is financed by the Swedish Research Council, and runs between 2023 and 2030. It is a joint project of Lund University, University of Plymouth, and Australian Catholic University.

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Images: Gerard ter Borch, *Woman Writing a Letter*, 1655, Mauritshuis, The Hague, inv. no. 797; Kubo Shunman, *Young Woman Writing Calligraphy*, themetmuseum.org

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