



## Early theories on tornado formation in Europe

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Motivated by Peterson (1992) remark that tornado research in Europe before the Second World War was probably more widespread than in the United States, we analysed in their historical context the major theories explaining the formation of tornadoes from Aristotle's *Meteorologica* (356–330 BC) to Pletier's *Météorologie* (1840). To better understand the evolution of these theories a collection of tornado and waterspout drawings from the 16th–19th Century is presented.