



VolkswagenStiftung



Center for Governance and
Culture in Europe

University of St. Gallen



International Workshop

In-Between, Across, Within: Thinking Borders in the Black Sea Region



**New Europe College, Bucharest
5-7 July 2018**

www.nec.ro

The workshop is organized within the framework of the
Pontica Magna Fellowship Programme
in partnership with the
**Center for Governance and Culture in Europe
(University of St. Gallen)**
and is supported by the
VolkswagenStiftung

IN-BETWEEN, ACROSS, WITHIN: THINKING BORDERS IN THE BLACK SEA REGION

A century after the end of World War One and almost three decades since the collapse of communism and the dissolution of the Soviet Union, borders remain a key topic for countries in Eastern Europe and the larger Black Sea region. In recent years, increasing security concerns and global economic mobility have forced the border issue back on political agendas and in public discourses across Europe. But for countries on the Eastern fringes of the European Union and in its immediate neighborhood, the importance of borders has rarely dwindled throughout their short independent history, given their many conflicting historical legacies and multi-layered geopolitical divisions. While some borders seem to have almost vanished, others have gained acute visibility; they have become frontlines backed by violence, loaded with high security risks, and protected by military power.



But borders are not just realities in geographical space, neither are they purely symbolic. They mark differences in cultures, customs, languages, eating habits. They delineate mentalities, circumscribe empires of thought, define national canons and arouse emotions. How do they come into existence, how are they organized to become effective, how do they persist, how do they change? How and when are they ‘softened’ to peaceful and productive contact zones? And what about their future: Will they not dissolve and disappear, eventually, given the technologies and forces of globalization? During the past decades civic engagement underwent remarkable changes throughout the world. Activism is today a versatile and dynamic phenomenon, continuously adapting to the challenges of the digital age and fueled by social media, and it can be productively analyzed by political scientists, sociologists, anthropologists, psychologists or communication experts.

THURSDAY, 5 July

14.15–14.30

Welcome remarks

Valentina SANDU–DEDIU

Dirk LEHMKUHL

Constantin ARDELEANU

14.30–17.10

Section 1

THINKING SOCIAL AND CULTURAL BORDERS IN A HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Chair: Katharina BIEGGER, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin

Barbara HENNING, Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg

Concepts of Social Boundaries in (Trans-)Ottoman Contexts: Circulation of Knowledge in the Black Sea Region, 16th–19th Centuries

Anastasia FELCHER, Independent scholar, Chişinău

*Overcoming Borders: 1899 Pushkin Centenary
and the Invention of Russianness in the Periphery*

Olga GONTARSKA, Polish Academy of Science, The Tadeusz Manteuffel Institute of History,
Warsaw

*Between the Border and the Contact Zone: the Crimean Khanate and Crimean Tatars in the
Historical Narrative – the Ukrainian Case Study*

Alexander MISHNEV, University of St. Gallen

The Borders of the Russkij Mir

17.10–17.30

Coffee break

17.30–18.30

Chair: Constantin ARDELEANU, NEC / University of Galaţi / Utrecht University

Keynote speaker: Dace DZENOVSKA, University of Oxford

Repression and Redemption: The Tensions of Rebordering Europe

FRIDAY, 6 July

10.00–12.00

Panel 2

BORDER POLITICS AND POLICIES

Chair: Carmen SCHEIDE, University of Bern

Dovile JAKNIUNAITE, Institute of International Relations and Political Science Vilnius University

The Power of Habits in International Relations, or How Borders Create de Facto States

Olga DOROKHINA, Georgian Technical University and Caucasus International University, Tbilisi

Borders and Border Policy in Georgia: from First Democratic Republic to Modern Days

Giorgi CHEISHVILI, University of Bergen

Trapped Between Two Countries: Mobility and Temporality in the Georgian-Turkish Borderland

12.00–12.30

Coffee break

12.30–13.30

Chair: Dirk LEHMKUHL, University of St. Gallen

Keynote speaker: Pietro BORTONE, University of Oxford

A Conceptual Framework of Mental and Linguistic Bordering

13.30–15.00

Lunch break

15.00–17.00

Panel 3

BORDER ENCOUNTERS

Chair: Anca OROVEANU, NEC

Constantin ARDELEANU, NEC / University of Galați / Utrecht University

Subjective Borders – The Making of an Inter-Imperial Borderland

in the Post–Crimean War Context

Ana LULEVA, Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum.

Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia

Border Matters in the Bulgarian Southern Black Sea Region

Tetiana OSTAPCHUK, “Petro Mohyla” Black Sea National University, Mykolayiv

Borderamnesia in the South of Ukraine: Causes and Outcomes

17.00–17.30

Conclusions

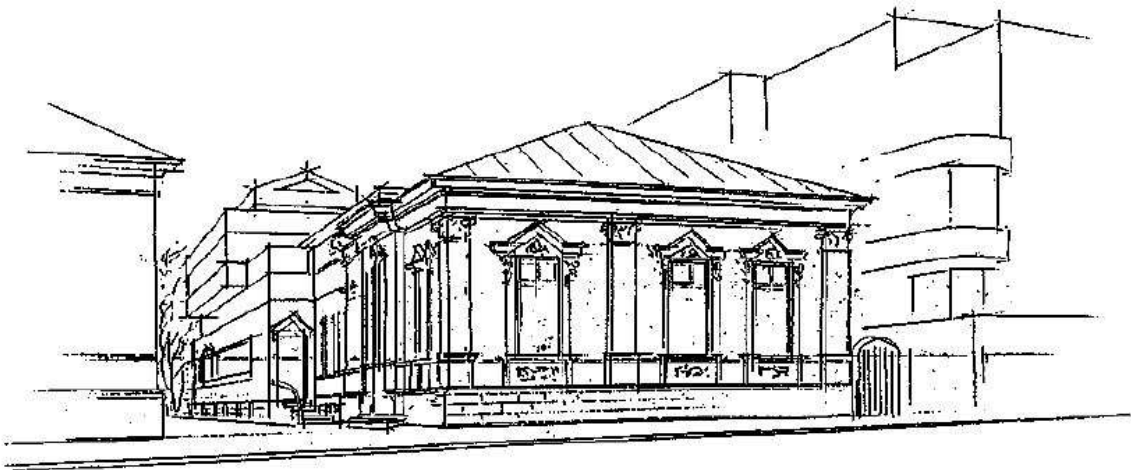
Dirk LEHMKUHL & Constantin ARDELEANU

SATURDAY, 7 July

09.45–18.00

The Present and Future of Secessionist Conflicts

The workshop is organized by the ‘Center for Governance and Culture in Europe’ of the University of St Gallen and the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies in Regensburg.



NEW EUROPE COLLEGE

Str. Plantelor 21, București 023971

Tel.: (+4) 021 307 99 10

Fax: (+4) 021 327 07 74

E-mail: nec@nec.ro

<http://www.nec.ro/>