



SEMESTRIAL REPORT SPRING – SUMMER 2022

**New Europe College –
Institute for Advanced Study**

www.nec.ro



Cover Photo:

TRIO, Cameral Concert on the occasion of the event which marked 12 years of research support from VolkswagenStiftung at the New Europe College, Saturday June 11, 2022

Musicians:

Simina CROITORU (violin), Iuliana ALECU (piano), Ciprian MELENTE (clarinet)

Programme:

Igor Stravinski, *L'Histoire du soldat (The Soldier's Tale)*, Trio version for violin, clarinet, and piano
Alexander Arutiunian, Suite trio for clarinet, violin and piano

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A Word to Our Readers, and in particular, to Our Fellows: Make a Gift

*We have offered contemporary Romanian research a profile
which enables it to play its part with honour in the concert of world research
– and that, in so doing, we have respected the defining condition of genuine patriotism:
to give more than you receive. – Andrei PLEȘU*

While he was a fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin in 1992, Andrei Pleșu had the idea of founding a similar Institute for Advanced Study in Romania, a country which had just opened up to freedom and Europe. The status of humanities and social sciences and the difficulties facing researchers, who were continually forced to look for a suitable working environment outside their home country concerned him. The *New Europe Prize for Higher Education and Research*, an award fund designed to support research in post-communist countries, was created with the contribution of six American and European Institutes for Advanced Studies, and Andrei Pleșu was one of the first personalities to receive it. He founded New Europe College in 1994, creating a breathing space in which researchers could exercise their curiosity and intellectual freedom, unconstrained by official research plans and budgets. NEC became a lively institute, independent from political interference, open to multidisciplinary dialogue, welcoming new generations of researchers every year. As Valentina Sandu-Dediu, NEC fellow 1996 – 1997 and Rector of the institute since 2014, mentioned during her talk at the institute's 20 years anniversary, NEC has grown *from a “chamber” into a “symphony” college. It started with five and then ten humanities scholarships for Romanians, and now it has reached almost forty (half-yearly or yearly) scholarships a year, awarded to young researchers from all over the world.* After almost 30 years of existence, New Europe College has consolidated its reputation as a prestigious institution, not only in Romania but also abroad. The community of scholars that was then emerging has meanwhile grown to around 1000 members. This is a significant milestone that we would like to acknowledge. Also, an opportunity to reflect on the trajectory of this institution.



Wednesday Seminar in the garden, 1994

The idea of founding New Europe College developed from a necessity that the Romanian academic milieu had back in the early 90s. The institute succeeded in adapting to a quickly developing society, while always remaining true to its core values: research excellence, integrity, civic engagement and critical thinking. It does so also today, encouraging the existence of a large variety of topics and projects, not least also exploring the impact of new technologies and digital transformations on humanities and social sciences. Alumni are encouraged to return to NEC with projects won in Romanian and international competitions, also to establish research groups. In 2014 an Alumni Club was formally created, followed by the launching of an Association of Friends and Supporters in 2017. It has become evident meanwhile that a 5- or 10-month Fellowship at NEC means much more than just receiving a stipend for a certain period of time. Every single fellow shapes this place – and vice versa. Being a fellow means being part of a community of valuable researchers, shaping not only that particular community, but also an important part of the society. NEC – often compared to an “island of normality”, a “bridge” or a “hub” between fields of studies, researchers and cultures – has grown into the institution it is today thanks to you all: to the

fellows and the many visionary people who invested more than they received in trust, time, finances, but also their love for research, for humanities and humanity.

Looking back with immense gratitude on almost three decades of existence, New Europe College would like to strengthen and extend the Network of NEC Friends, inviting you to concretely involve in maintaining this institution's core values and activity. Back in the early 90s, NEC offered 10 fellowships free of any thematical constraints. Most of the fellowships NEC has been granting in the last years, however, are linked to a certain program, a preset topic or a financing scheme. What we strive to re-create is the possibility to offer, alongside all these valuable programs, also those 10 fellowships that used to be called the "NEC core program". It is nowadays fashionably called "Blue Sky Research". If we can somehow anecdotally say that the NEC success story began under the blue sky, in a garden, 28 years ago, we now endeavor to clear the clouds of a tumultuous period of time, that obviously leaves its marks on education and research, by creating a space where research can still be free of any interferences. If each of NEC's 1000 alumni (not to mention friends and supporters) would contribute with 100 EUR, this could be achieved. In striving to continuously respect the defining condition of genuine patriotism, your commitment would not mean a financial contribution only. We strongly believe that generosity and togetherness are the key to shaping values and supporting excellence.



Andrei Pleșu and Valentina Sandu-Dediu,
January 26, 2019, NEC's 25 Years Anniversary

Would you like to get involved?

Please visit www.nec.ro to find out how you can **make a gift**.

Thank you!



Workshop in the garden, 2014

Current Fellowship Programs and Research Projects

Fellowship Programs

NEC Fellowships (since 1994)

At its foundation in 1994 NEC was offering up to ten Fellowships to young Romanian scholars. This program represented its core and still does, while developing in time two branches, which have distinct sources of funding: The **International Fellowships**, enjoying the financial support of NEC's institutional sponsors, complemented through funds resulting from an award granted for the first time in 2016 by the Romanian *Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation*, the **UEFISCDI Award Program**; and the **Ștefan Odobleja Fellowships** (since 2008), targeting young Romanian researchers, supported also by UEFISCDI. The Fellows are chosen by the NEC international Academic Advisory Board for the duration of one academic year or one term. They gather for weekly seminars to discuss the progress of their research and participate in all the scientific events organised by NEC. The Fellows receive a monthly stipend and are given the opportunity of a research trip abroad, at a university or research institute of their choice. At the end of their stay, the Fellows submit papers representing the results of their research, to be published in the New Europe College Yearbooks.

Pontica Magna Fellowships (since 2015)

This program, supported by the VolkswagenStiftung (Germany), invites young researchers, media professionals, writers and artists from the countries around the Black Sea, but also beyond it (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine), for a stay of one or two terms at the New Europe College. Besides hosting Fellows, NEC organizes within this program workshops and symposia on topics relevant to the history, present, and prospects of this region. In the framework of this program, NEC offers Alumni of the *Black Sea Link* and *Pontica Magna* Fellowship programs the opportunity to apply for a research stay of one or two months in Bucharest. The stay should enable successful applicants to refresh their research experience at NEC, to reconnect with former contacts, and to establish new connections with current Fellows.

Gerda Henkel Fellowships (since 2017)

This program, developed with the support of Gerda Henkel Stiftung (Germany), invites young researchers and academics working in the fields of humanities and social sciences (in particular archaeology, art history, historical islamic studies, history, history of law, history of science, prehistory and early history) from Afghanistan, Belarus, China (only Tibet and Xinjiang Autonomous Regions), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan, for a stay of one or two terms at the New Europe College, during which they have the opportunity to work on projects of their choice.

Spiru Haret Fellowships (since 2017)

The *Spiru Haret* Fellowship Program, sponsored through a UEFISCDI grant, targets young Romanian researchers/academics in the humanities and social sciences whose projects address questions relating to migration, displacement, diaspora. Candidates are expected to focus on Romanian cases seen in a larger historical, geographical and political context, in thus broadening our understanding of contemporary developments. Such aspects as transnational mobility, the development of communication technologies and of digitization, public policies on migration, ways of employing transnational communities, migrant routes, the migrants' remittances and entrepreneurial capital could be taken into account. NEC also welcomes projects which look at cultural phenomena (in literature, visual arts, music etc.) related to migration and diaspora.

Lapedatu Fellowships (since 2018)

According to its Statute, the Lapedatu Foundation supports research activities on 'the life and work of Lapedatu family members and the socio-cultural and political context' during which they lived. Thanks to a generous financial contribution from the Lapedatu Foundation, NEC invites to Bucharest a foreign researcher specialized in the field of Romanian Studies, who is currently conducting research in one of the world's top universities. On this occasion, he will spend a month in Romania and work with a young Romanian researcher to organize an academic event hosted by the NEC. At this colloquy, the Lapedatu fellows and their guests will present scientific papers and initiate debates on a theme that covers important topics of the Romanian and Southeastern European history in both modern and contemporary epochs.

Porticus N+N Fellowships (since 2020)

The *Nations and Nationalisms* (N+N) program, developed with financial support from the Porticus Foundation, aims to approach one of the main challenges faced by societies around the globe, but mostly in Central and Eastern Europe: a growing tension between nationalizing and globalizing forces in a world dominated by migration, entanglement, digitization and automation. The N+N Fellowships are open to international researchers working in all fields of the humanities and social sciences with an interest in the study of nations, varieties of nationalism and/or populism, and the effects of globalization on national identities. Fellowship criteria are aligned with those in the other programs hosted by the institute. NEC aims to use the expertise of the N+N Fellows to encourage scholarship and critical thinking among targeted groups of students in Romania and the region.

Ameropa Fellowships (since 2020)

Organized with financial support from Ameropa and its subsidiaries in Romania, and with academic support from the Centre for Government and Culture at the University of St. Gallen, this program aims to investigate the conditions and prerequisites for democratic stability and economic prosperity in Romania and the neighbouring region. The Ameropa Fellowship Program is open to early career Romanian researchers in history, anthropology, political science, economics or sociology. Their projects should focus on aspects relevant for the challenges to democratic consolidation, economic development and strengthening of civil society in Romania and the region. Each year, an annual workshop will be organized in the framework of the Ameropa Program.

DigiHum Fellowships (since 2021)

The 'Relevance of the Humanities in the Digital Age' Fellowship Program, proposed jointly by the Centre for Advanced Study Sofia and the New Europe College Bucharest and developed with the financial support of the Porticus Foundation, aims to underscore the cognitive functions of the Humanities and their potential as critical disciplines by opening them up to issues relevant in/for the contemporary digital world – issues that are "practical", but also epistemological, ethical, philosophical, etc. The program is intended to accommodate a broadest range of themes pertaining to Humanities and Social Science disciplines provided that they link up to contemporary debates about or major challenges to the human condition stemming from the technological advances and 'digital modernity'. The program is guided by the belief that there is a considerable added value for Humanities scholars across the academe, whatever their field, to be encouraged to rethink their topics in terms of their broader contemporary relevance (be it political, ethical, religious or academic), yet necessarily of significance for the world we are living in. The program addresses international scholars.

Landis & Gyr Fellowships (since 2000)

These Fellowships are awarded under the umbrella of the studio program for artists, writers and cultural critics in London, Zug, Budapest, Bucharest and Sofia, offered by Landis & Gyr Stiftung, Zug (Switzerland). Landis & Gyr Foundation (one of the main supporters of NEC since its inception) has the use of one of the apartments on the NEC premises, where recipients of a grant offered by the Foundation are hosted. They work on their own projects, give presentations of their current work and are welcome to take part in all NEC activities.

Research Projects

Citizen Science for Environmental Citizenship: Backyard Birding and the Potential for Cultivating Green Engagement (EnviroCitizen)

Horizon 2020 (2020-2024)

The EnviroCitizen project brings together seven partners in Norway, Sweden, Estonia, Netherlands, Romania, Spain, and Cyprus to uncover the processes by which citizen scientists working in environmental-based activities can strengthen their environmental citizenship. The team of researchers has selected to study birding activities because they hold great potential for developing environmental citizenship. The project received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Program. One of the team's members, **Ștefan Dorondel**, is a NEC Alumnus and Senior Researcher at the "Francisc I. Rainer" Anthropology Institute of the Romanian Academy in Bucharest. The researchers aim to (1) assess the evolution of citizen involvement in citizen science birding activities; (2) evaluate how citizens learn about and enact environmental citizenship through their citizen science birding activities; and (3) develop innovative community interventions designed to complement existing citizen science birding programs in order to cultivate environmental citizenship in the future.

Networks of Devotion: The selection of saints as marker of religious identity in Post-Byzantine Moldavian representations (wall-paintings and texts) (NoDeS)

UEFISCDI Young Research Teams (2020-2022)

The project proposes a case study of a delimited corpus: the iconic portrait of saints in Moldavian monuments, cca. 1490-cca. 1530, with a view at elaborating a methodology for the study of South-Eastern European cultural transfers. Its aim is to investigate the peculiar selection of saints, contextualizing it within the Moldavian monastic culture and spirituality during the late 15th and early 16th c. and within the already inventoried Late and Post-Byzantine pictorial tradition. The devotional peculiarities, the interplay between written evidence and artistic practice, the theological culture, and its relevance for the study of cultural heritage, are still rarely addressed topics in local scholarship. For the study of these issues, we will make use of recent approaches in the history of art: the geography of art, cultural transfers, and hybridization. We intend to assess the peculiar Moldavian sanctoral, either as a result of specific devotions of the monastic milieu, or as a consequence of integrating workshop traditions from the Post-Byzantine Balkans.

The research project is coordinated by **Vlad Bedros**, NEC Alumnus, Researcher within the Department for Medieval Art and Architecture of the "G. Oprescu" Art History Institute in Bucharest and Assistant Professor at the National University of Arts in Bucharest. It is developed with the financial support of the *Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation* (UEFISCDI) of the Ministry of Education in Romania, within the Young Research Teams PN-III-P1-1.1-TE-2019-1909.

Yiddish Culture in Greater Romania (1918-1940): in the Aftermath of the Empires and Challenged by the New National State (YIDCULT)

UEFISCDI Exploratory Research (2021-2023)

The project aims to investigate one of the most prolific periods in the history of Yiddish culture in Romania, starting from the fact that, after the creation of Greater Romania, old traditional Yiddish centers such as Tshernovits/Czernowitz, Satmar/Szatmar or Keshenev/Kishinev, but also Yos/Jassy had to reconfigure their position within the Yiddish-speaking Eastern European world as a consequence of the fall of empires and construction of new nation states such as Greater Romania. In this context of peripheralization of old centers within the new state, the activity of the traditional Yiddish centers declined as local activists and intellectuals started to migrate to Jassy or Bucharest, looking for better professional opportunities and visibility and, as a consequence, new centers of Yiddish culture flourished in regions without a previous strong tradition (Bucharest), while communication and synchronization

with reputed centers such as Vilna/Vilnius or Varshe/Warsaw increased. The project aims to investigate what were the socio-cultural mechanisms responsible for restructuring Yiddish cultural life after the changes brought by the end of World War I and by the creation of Greater Romania, and how this process occurred by tracing relevant individuals, institutions and projects until the first laws and decrees of the political regimes forbid the activity of Yiddish theatres, press and, eventually, the usage of Yiddish, thus making cultural life impossible.

The research project is coordinated by **Camelia Crăciun**, NEC Alumna and Associate Professor in Jewish Studies, Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures, University of Bucharest. It is developed with the financial support of the *Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation* (UEFISCDI) of the Ministry of Education in Romania, within the Exploratory Research PN-III-P4-ID-PCE-2020-0317.

The Oldest Romanian Manuscript and Printed Versions of the Akathistos Hymn (17th C). The History of a Liturgical Masterpiece Between Text and Image (AKATHYMN) UEFISCDI Exploratory Research (2021-2023)

The interdisciplinary team involved in this project intends to study a most influential liturgical piece dedicated to the Virgin Mary, the Akathistos Hymn, from a philological and historical perspective. They will focus on the multilingual textual tradition (Greek, Slavonic and Romanian) of the Akathistos Hymn which develops simultaneously in the Romanian-speaking regions in the 17th century, and on the flourishing iconography of the Akathistos cycle, present in mural representations and in illuminations. The first Romanian versions of the Akathistos Hymn appear as manuscripts and printed texts in the 17th century. These important documents for the history of old Romanian and for the history of liturgy in Romanian remained unstudied, although two metropolitans, key-figures of the old Romanian literature, Dosoftei and Antim, printed the Akathistos Hymn in 1673 and 1698 respectively. The relation of the Romanian tradition with the contemporary Slavonic texts, from which it originates, has never been studied, nor have been its connections with the Greek illuminated manuscripts of the Akathistos Hymn which high Greek clergymen executed in Wallachia in the first half of the 17th century. The present project attempts to evaluate the dynamics of this multilingual 17th-century tradition of the Akathistos Hymn, to edit the oldest manuscript and printed Romanian versions, and to assess the relation between the textual and the iconographic traditions.

The NEC Alumna **Emanuela Cristina Timotin**, Senior Researcher at the “Iorgu Iordan – Al. Rosetti” Institute of Linguistics of the Romanian Academy in Bucharest, is coordinating this research project. It is developed with the financial support of the *Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation* (UEFISCDI) of the Ministry of Education in Romania, within the Exploratory Research PN-III-P4-ID-PCE-2020-0995.

Rocking under the Hammer and the Sickle: Popular Music in Socialist Romania between Ideology and Entertainment (1948-1989) UEFISCDI Postdoctoral Research (2022-2024)

The proposed project aims to examine the history of popular music in socialist Romania, from 1948 until 1989, focusing, in particular, on the genres of jazz, rock, and light music and on their role in performing communist and nationalist ideologies, as well as in addressing demands of cultural consumption for various audiences. The project takes an interdisciplinary approach, as it brings together instruments of analysis from cultural and social history, cultural anthropology, and musicology. The research project construes the popular music genres of jazz, rock, and light music as spaces of interaction/negotiation between audiences and musicians, musicians and cultural activists/representatives of political authority, as well as between musicians themselves, depending on their social background, musical education and influences, and administrative authority/ies. While it focuses on the Romanian national context, the project also relies on an asymmetrical historical comparison with other national case studies of popular music behind the Iron Curtain (Hungary, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, and the Soviet Union).

The research project is coordinated by the NEC Alumnus **Claudiu Oancea**, under the mentorship of **Valentina Sandu-Dediu**, Rector of the New Europe College, Professor at the National University of Music in Bucharest. It is developed with the financial support of the *Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation* (UEFISCDI) of the Ministry of Education in Romania, within the Postdoctoral Research PN-III-P1-1.1-PD-2021-0244.

Colonial Anxieties, Corruption Scandals and Xenophobia in Nineteenth-Century Infrastructure Development in Romania (CanCor)

UEFISCDI Exploratory Research (2022-2024)

The CanCor project examines the surprising historical relevance of rail and fluvial-maritime transportation infrastructure for the self-imaginings of nation-building and the narratives of modernization in the Romanian Principalities/Romania, from the 1840s to 1914. Given the dual nature of such transportation infrastructures, imagined as both “progressive” and “disruptive”, their construction brought immense pressure upon local decision-makers. The project has three main goals: First, it will examine anxieties over the possibility that the Principalities/Romania would be subject to economic and even demographic colonization, fears generated by the asymmetrical political and economic interactions with Europe’s Great Powers and neighbouring empires. Second, it will examine the corruption scandals surrounding infrastructure construction that generated and constantly reshaped colonial anxieties in the process of nation-state-building, when faced with Great Powers and their imperial and colonial-like aspirations of political and economic influence. Third, the project will historicize the semantic usages of “colonialism” and “corruption” and their inherently political uses in nation-building in Romania and in the process of infrastructure construction, arguing that, on both accounts, reflexively situating their meanings is necessary as a way of disentangling them from the ex-post analytical vocabulary normatively employed by (contemporary) scholars.

The research project is coordinated by the NEC Alumna **Silvia Marton**, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Political Science of the University of Bucharest. It is developed with the financial support of the *Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation* (UEFISCDI) of the Ministry of Education in Romania, within the Exploratory Research PN-III-P4-PCE-2021-0399.

Entangled Histories of the Danubian Quarantine System (1774–1914) (DaQuaS)

UEFISCDI Exploratory Research (2022-2024)

This project aims to investigate – from an entangled and global histories perspective and in connection with recent developments in the transdisciplinary field of quarantine studies – the various functions of the quarantine system established in the eighteenth century and institutionalized after 1829 along the Lower Danube. A special focus will fall on the period stretching between 1829 and 1853, the climax of the Danubian preventive system, but it will also document quarantine arrangements made, in the second half of the nineteenth and in early twentieth centuries, by an international organization, the European Commission of the Danube, and by riparian states (Serbia, Bulgaria, and Romania).

The project will bring empirical and theoretical insight to the burgeoning field of quarantine studies, turned mainstream in the context of the current COVID-19 pandemic. Empirically, it will showcase the Danubian quarantine system as a hybrid version of the Russian, Austrian and Mediterranean models and will reveal how transnational sanitary cooperation looks like from the vista of small states. Lazarettos will be turned into paradigmatic hubs for the transfer of knowledge, technology and human resources in peripheral societies. Theoretically, the project aims to devise a model for how sanitary crises fuel modernization, based on a polynomial function that considers geopolitical, political, economic, societal, and sanitary factors.

The research project is coordinated by the NEC Alumnus and Permanent Fellow **Constantin Ardeleanu**, Professor at the “Lower Danube” University of Galați and researcher at the Institute for South-East European History in Bucharest. It is developed with the financial support of the *Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation* (UEFISCDI) of the Ministry of Education in Romania, within the Exploratory Research PN-III-P4-PCE-2021-1374.

Rule of Law at the European Periphery: (Dis)incentive Structures and Conceptual Shifts (ROLPERIPHERAL)

UEFISCDI Exploratory Research (2022-2024)

The project deals with the way in which evolving rule of law conditionalities and associated institutional discourses influence the operation of national constitutions of the EU member states and, conversely, contribute to the shaping of European constitutionalism at the interface between legal orders. The rule of law is the dominant contemporary constitutional discourse, both at the national and supra/international level. However, the mechanics of its unfolding, the determinations contributing to it, and the complexity of the conceptual and contextual strands intertwined in legal practices are largely ignored and understudied. The project focuses on systemic interactions at (related to) the “periphery”, since the growth of rule of law instruments at the level of the European Union and its sister organization, the Council of Europe, is directly correlated with developments related to the liminal, Central and Eastern European, jurisdictions, i.e., the new member states and the current candidates in the so-called Western Balkans (as well as, more recently, Ukraine and Moldova).

The NEC Alumnus **Bogdan Iancu**, Associate Professor at the University of Bucharest, Faculty of Political Science, is coordinating this research project. It is developed with the financial support of the *Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation* (UEFISCDI) of the Ministry of Education in Romania, within the Exploratory Research PN-III-P4-PCE-2021-0319.

The (Im)possible Alliance: Romania as Initiator and Beneficiary of the Humanitarian Aid (1970-1989) (RoHumAid)

UEFISCDI Young Research Teams (2022-2024)

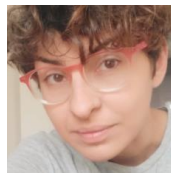
RoHumAid analyses the participation of Central and East European countries in the humanitarian aid effort, both as initiator and beneficiary, using as case study Romania, between 1970 and 2004. The project focuses on three major axes/objectives. A first objective is to identify the principal characteristics of Romania – considered a Second world country – as provider and beneficiary of the human aid, and how the fall of the communist regimes, by modifying the geographic imaginary of Global North and Global South, dramatically changed the general discourse towards the region and subsequently the role as humanitarian aid actor. A second objective is to identify and to compare the Romania’s humanitarian grassroots actions, both as initiator and beneficiary, before and after 1989. A third objective is to identify and catalogue the most important transnational humanitarian networks that worked in Romania/for Romania.

The research project is coordinated by the NEC Alumna **Luciana Jinga**, Researcher at the Institute for the Investigation of Communist Crimes and the Memory of the Romanian Exile and Associate Lecturer at the University of Bucharest, Faculty of History. It is developed with the financial support of the *Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation* (UEFISCDI) of the Ministry of Education in Romania, within the Young Research Teams TE-PN-III-P1-1.1-TE-2021-0778.

2021 – 2022 Fellows



Constantin
ARDELEANU
(Romania)



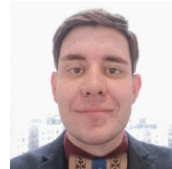
Galyna
BABAK
(Ukraine)



Alexandra
BARDAN
(Romania)



Georgios
CHATZELIS
(Greece)



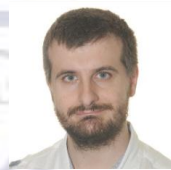
Oleksii
CHEBOTAROV
(Ukraine)



Andru
CHIOREAN
(Romania)



Kirill
CHUNIKHIN
(Russia)



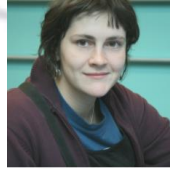
Ettore
COSTA
(Italy)



Augusta
DIMOU
(Greece/ Germany)



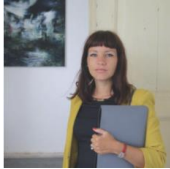
David
DO PAÇO
(France)



Corina-Maria
DOBOȘ
(Romania)



Victoria
FOMINA
(Russia)



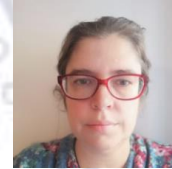
Ana
GRGIĆ
(Croatia)



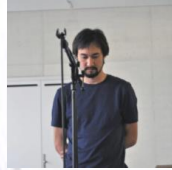
Yurii
KAPARULIN
(Ukraine)



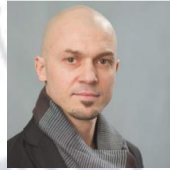
Tamás
KISS
(Romania)



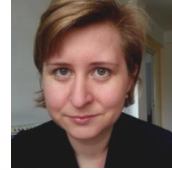
Irina
KOTKINA
(Russia)



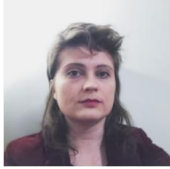
Cyrill
LIM
(Switzerland)



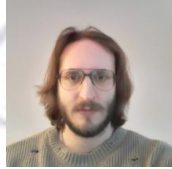
Iulius-Cezar
MACARIE
(Romania)



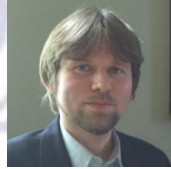
Mara
MĂRGINEAN
(Romania)



Adina
MARINCEA
(Romania)



Mihnea
Alexandru
MIHAIL
(Romania)



Sergei
MUDROV
(Belarus)



Viktoriya
MYRONYUK
(Ukraine)



Iulia
NIȚESCU
(Romania)



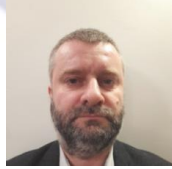
Alexander
PANAYOTOV
(Bulgaria)



Alexandru
PĂTRUȚI
(Romania)



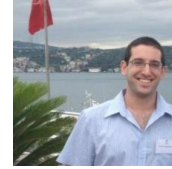
Benjamin
PÉCOUD
(Switzerland)



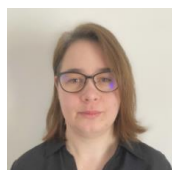
Bogdan
POPA
(Romania)



Andriy
POSUNKO
(Ukraine)



Nadav
SOLOMONOVICH
(Israel)



Andrea
TALABÉR
(Hungary)



Hajnalka
TAMÁS
(Romania)



Barbara
THERIAULT
(Canada)



**BETWEEN SOVIET MODERNIZATION AND THE
HOLOCAUST: JEWISH AGRARIAN
SETTLEMENTS IN THE SOUTHERN UKRAINE
(1924-1947)**

Yurii KAPARULIN

(Ukraine)

October 2021 – July 2022

Gerda Henkel Fellow

Director, Raphael Lemkin Center for Genocide
Studies; Associate Professor, Department of
National, International Law and Law Enforcement,
Kherson State University, Ukraine

Presentation on March 2, 2022

This project focuses on the social history of the Jewish agrarian settlements in the Southern Ukraine during 1924-1947.

Utilizing a micro-historical approach, I consider the history of the Jewish agrarian settlements of the Kherson region as a part of a unique socio-cultural phenomenon, which was formed on these territories of beginning from 19 and early 20 century and was completely destroyed during World War II and Holocaust.

**RISK AND RESPIRATORS:
THE HAZARDOUS TRAJECTORIES
OF SOVIET OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY**

Kirill CHUNIKHIN

(Russia)

March 2022

Pontica Magna Returning Fellow

Lecturer, Department of History,
National Research University Higher School of
Economics, St. Petersburg, Russia

Presentation on March 16, 2022

Based on unpublished material from Russian archives, and on interviews with engineers and workers, this article explores, for the first time, the history of Soviet respiratory protective equipment (RPE). I argue that a distinct Soviet policy of occupational care emerged after World War II, when Soviet industry invented an array of original RPE devices. The annual production of millions of devices highlighted the development of a complex Soviet trans-institutional system for insuring safe occupational breathing. Tracing key premises of respiratory safety policies in the activities of Soviet organizations, such as the All-Union Commission against Silicosis, discloses a biopolitical shift that I characterize as a move from mortality to vitality. By filling a major gap in the global technological history of occupational safety, this paper sheds new light on the nature of Soviet modernity through the unique lens industrial respiratory care from the late 1940s to the 1980s.





THE ADVENTURE OF A LEFT-HANDED HAIRDRESSER. THE AESTHETIC DIMENSION OF THE SOCIAL IN A GERMAN CITY

Barbara THERIAULT
(Canada)

Selected as a *DigiHum* Fellow
for the timeframe March – July 2022,
Barbara Theriault, Professor of Sociology
at the University of Montreal,
decided to accept another fellowship,
at the Max Weber Center for Advanced Cultural
and Social Studies in Germany,
where she is currently conducting research
for her research project.
However, she delivered a presentation
for one of the NEC seminars.

Presentation on March 23, 2022

Starting from the medium aesthetic or the regular haircut, I propose a research from the point of view of the sociologist, but also as a hairdresser - a profession of observation, if there is one - of which I am an apprentice. It is in the sociable and confidential environment of salons that I conduct interviews and observations in a German city. Following a first study on the middle classes, this time I focus on the aesthetic dimension of the social.

THREE YEARS AFTER THE TOMOS OF AUTOCEPHALY: THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ORTHODOX CHURCHES AND SOCIETY IN UKRAINE AND THE GLOBAL INTER-ORTHODOX RELATIONS

Sergei MUDROV
(Belarus)
March 2022

Pontica Magna Returning Fellow
Associate Professor, Polotsk State University, Belarus

Presentation on March 30, 2022

The proposed research project aims to analyze the role played by identity issues and religion in the recent crisis in Ukraine, which led to the ousting of President Yanukovich, the secession of Crimea and the outbreak of civil war, resulting in a huge number of refugees in the neighbouring countries (Russia and Belarus) and in the European Union, including Romania.

Current academic publications have mainly considered economic and political factors in this conflict, and the interference of external factors, such as the EU, Russia, and USA. However, the principal reasons why the tragic events in Ukraine became possible may in fact be hidden in the deep divisions affecting this country and its population. These divisions are related to the peculiarities of identity construction in Ukraine, mainly in the post-Soviet era.

In this research, we shall consider identity factors in the religious divisions in Ukraine, especially between the Orthodox and Greek Catholics (Uniates).





**INTERNAL MIGRATION, DIFFERENTIAL
FERTILITY AND SOCIAL STRATIFICATION:
STUDYING SOCIAL DYNAMICS IN LATE
SOCIALIST ROMANIA**

Corina DOBOȘ
(Romania)

November 2021 – September 2022

Spiru Haret Fellow

Researcher and Associate Lecturer, University of
Bucharest; Researcher, Imre Kertész Kolleg,
University of Jena, Germany

Presentation on April 13, 2022

My project revisits the question of internal migration studies in Romania in connection with social mobility and social differentiation research, exploring them under the specific conditions of social knowledge production existing in socialist Romania after de-Stalinization. The research hypothesis is that the studies on internal migration undertaken in Romania during the 1970s and 1980s came to represent a critical way of discussing the social inequalities and inequities created through socialist planning and development, especially during the 1980s. They evolved from the mainly quantitative research subsumed to the concept of migration as spatial mobility of the 1960s to the qualitative research of the 1970s and 1980s subsumed to the concept of migration as both spatial and social mobility. The internal migration studies and methodological tools used by Romanian social researchers will be analyzed in a transnational context of knowledge production and exchange.

**BUREAUCRATIC GAPS IN ROMANIA
DURING THE 1980s: DIASPORAS,
TRANSNATIONAL SOLIDARITY NETWORKS,
AND THE SECOND ECONOMY**

Alexandra BARDAN
(Romania)

November 2021 – September 2022

Spiru Haret Fellow

Lecturer, Faculty of Journalism and Communication
Studies, University of Bucharest

Presentation on April 27, 2022

My project interrogates the transnational solidarity networks delivering aid to Romania during the 1980s as a de-territorialized pluri-functional and polycentric system of interconnected actors, a model fostering an alternative reading of the second economy. Working on a broad range of sources and within a framework nuancing Cold War binaries, my proposal contributes to local and international scholarship assessing less visible patterns of economic and social change during late socialism. Building on current scholarship on “social remittances”, my study adds a historical and sociological understanding of the role of diasporas in maintaining transnational ties, in the material culture of migration, as well as in the processes of the emergent globalized world of economic, technological, and cultural flows.





**THE GOVERNANCE OF
A TRANS-IMPERIAL CITY:
TRIESTE IN THE 18TH CENTURY**

David DO PAÇO
(France)

March – July 2022

Porticus N+NFellow
István Deák Visiting Assistant Professor,
Chair of East-Central European Studies
Eccles Visiting Fellow

Presentation on May 4, 2022

My book project is located at the crossroads between urban history, the trade diaspora studies, and the sociology of migration. It explores the rapid expansion and diversification of Trieste in the 18th century. It analyzes the association of different actors in the city's government and the urban and social fabrique. It promotes a global micro-history and explores a diversity of archival collections scattered between Trieste, Vienna and the US. By shifting the focus from the history of diasporas to the city, my project contributes to a better understanding of our contemporary increasingly diverse societies.

**SOVIET INDUSTRIALIZATION AND
RESIDUES OF PLANNED URBANISM IN RUSSIA'S
FAR EAST**

Victoria FOMINA
(Russia)

April – July 2022

Pontica Magna Fellow
Independent Scholar / Postdoctoral fellow, The
Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna

Presentation on May 11, 2022

My project explores responses to deindustrialization and the emerging social movements in Komsomolsk-na-Amure, a former closed military-industrial base in the Russian Far East. Drawing on mixed methodology, I analyse how the socialist values of the Soviet period intertwine with the informal ethics of the Gulag's criminal subculture in shaping the regional identities and political imaginaries of local activists.

The project seeks to contribute to the rapidly developing literature on anti-systemic movements in Russia by challenging the popular stereotype of "silent provinces" as the base of Putin's support.





**STRATAGEMS AND THE BYZANTINE
CULTURE OF WAR: THEORY, PRACTICE,
REPORT AND RECEPTION IN BYZANTINE
HISTORIOGRAPHY AND BEYOND
(c. 800-1204)**

Georgios CHATZELIS
(Greece)
March – July 2022

NEC International Fellow
Independent Scholar

Presentation on May 18, 2022

The project studies stratagems and the Byzantine culture of war (c.800-1204). It focuses on Byzantine attitudes towards stratagems in warfare and the report and reception of the latter in Byzantine historiography. The examination also sheds light on the use and readership of military treatises (classical or Byzantine) in the Middle Ages and applies interdisciplinary and intertextual approaches by examining cases studies in which identical stratagems occur in both Arab and Byzantine literature.

**ROADIES: INEQUALITIES AMONG FOOD
COURIERS IN BUCHAREST (ROMANIA), CORK
(IRELAND) AND LONDON (UK)**

Iulius-Cezar MACARIE
(Romania)

October 2021 – July 2022

Ștefan Odobleja Fellow
Researcher, Inequalities Workgroup, Democracy
Institute, Central European University

Presentation on May 25, 2022

This research proposes to investigate emerging and/or deepening urban inequalities through a focus on the lived experiences of evening- and night-shift workers in manual low-paid sectors that support Romania's fast expanding Information Technology Industry (ITI).

In this vein, the research experiments with a mixed methodology, combining classic anthropological fieldwork and innovative night ethnography with the digital ethnographic methods that are appropriate in a time of social distancing.





**CELEBRATING THE NATION:
THE POLITICS OF NATIONAL CELEBRATIONS IN
POST ATATÜRK TURKEY
1938-2020**

Nadav SOLOMONOVICH
(Israel)

October 2021 – July 2022

Porticus N+NFellow
Postdoctoral fellow, University of Haifa

Presentation on June 15, 2022

Focusing on 20th century Turkey, this research investigates the role of national celebrations in redefining Turkish identity and statehood. It uses two case studies of Turkish national holidays, investigating the rationale for their introduction and the ensuing contestation of their meaning and practice by different societal actors, to illuminate a thus-far under-researched dimension of Turkish nationalism.

**ALL DIRECTIONS,
NOVEL PROJECT IN FRENCH**

Benjamin PÉCOUD
(Switzerland)
April – July 2022

Landis & Gyr Fellow
Freelance writer and translator based in Lausanne,
Switzerland

Presentation on June 29, 2022

The topic of this novel project is disappearance: a man leaves, as the expression goes, "without leaving an address", he only remembers his relatives through postcards from the communist era. All directions approach the disappearance as a mysterious and collective event, it tells about the one who leaves and those who remain. The postcard is the last vestige of their relationship, it is also the setting in which the main character fades away.



Fellows in the 2021–2022 Academic Year: Citizenship

Belarus	1	Hungary	1
Bulgaria	1	Israel	1
Canada	1	Italy	1
Croatia	1	Romania	13
France	1	Russia	3
Greece	1	Switzerland	2
Greece / Germany	1	Ukraine	5

Total: 33

Citizen Science for Environmental Citizenship: Backyard Birding and the Potential for Cultivating Green Engagement (EnviroCitizen)

Report on activities by **Ágota Ábrán**
Horizon 2020 Project, 2020–2024

From February 2022, we started working mainly on the educational package (or work package 3) of the project *Citizen Science for Environmental Citizenship: Backyard Birding and the Potential for Cultivating Green Engagement* (acronym EnviroCitizen, proposal no 872557) funded under Horizon 2020. An educational brochure for teachers and an activity sheet for students were put together by the whole project team and then translated by each member country. We found an open and enthusiastic rural school in Romuli village, Bistrița-Năsăud County, which will implement with my help the educational package of the project with the attendance of several professors and elementary school classes. They will have activities such as bird counting, making fieldnotes, observing bird habitats, making and putting up bird feeders, getting to know local birds, and thinking about various ways of making places more habitable for birds.

Printed educational
brochure in Romanian:
*Citizens matter.
Cultivating environmental
responsibility among
young people through bird
watching and
citizen science.*



We also started to work on the so-called stakeholder events of work package 3. For this I have researched archival materials about Romanian ornithologists and hunters in the first part of the 20th century, focusing on a fascinating female ornithologist from Sibiu, Silvia Stein von Spiess, and her and other ornithologists' writings in the 'Carpații' hunting journal comparing it to modern day amateur birdwatching and citizen science. In partnership with the Library of the 'Lucian Blaga' University of Sibiu we made an exhibition entitled 'The ornithologist Silvia Stein von Spiess from Sibiu and hunters as early citizen scientists in the first part of the 20th century', consisting of nine A0 sized boards with text and pictures and a catalogue with an introduction and selected texts from the 'Carpații' hunting journal. This is accompanied by an exhibition of bird photography borrowed from the Natural History Museum of Sibiu. The exhibition will be open at the Library between the 30th of September and the 30th of November and can be also viewed online (<http://digital-library.ulbsibiu.ro/jspui/handle/123456789/3333>).



The opening of the exhibition was timed for the European Researcher's Night at the Library and consisted of my description of the Envirocitizen project and that of the exhibition. This was followed by a discussion with staff from the Romanian Ornithology Society and amateur birdwatchers from Sibiu about what does birdwatching mean, how does it help ornithologists, and how it opens the world up for people. The birdwatchers were enthusiastic both about the existence of the exhibition and its topic as well. They mentioned not knowing much about Silvia Stein von Spiess and how great it is to know more about her. We also had interesting discussions about how birdwatching can open one's world up and the role amateurs play in ornithology as a science. There was quite a local journalistic interest in the topic, especially about Silvia Stein von Spiess and I also got to talk to her daughter, who often visits from Germany, about the exhibition. We gave away lots of catalogues of the exhibition so we need to print more. We were also asked to itinerate the exhibition from the Natural Science Museum of Galați, who will exhibit it between January and April 2023.

Exhibition poster

The set-up exhibition in the Library of the 'Lucian Blaga' University, Sibiu



Exhibition pages in the catalogue

Participants:

University of Stavanger
(Coordinator)
The Estonian Academy of
Sciences
Cyprus Center for
Environmental Research
and Education
New Europe College
Radboud University
University of Extremadura
Swedish University of
Agricultural Sciences

Researchers:

Finn Arne Jørgensen
Elle-Mari Talivee
Andreas Hadjichambis
Ștefan Dorondel
Ágota Ábrán
R. J. G. (Riyan) van
den Born
Diana Villanueva
Romero
René van der Wal

Networks of Devotion: The Selection of Saints as Marker of Religious Identity in Post-Byzantine Moldavian Representations (Wall-Paintings and Texts) (NoDeS)

Report on activities by **Vlad Bedros**, Project Leader
UEFISCDI Young Research Teams (2020–2022)

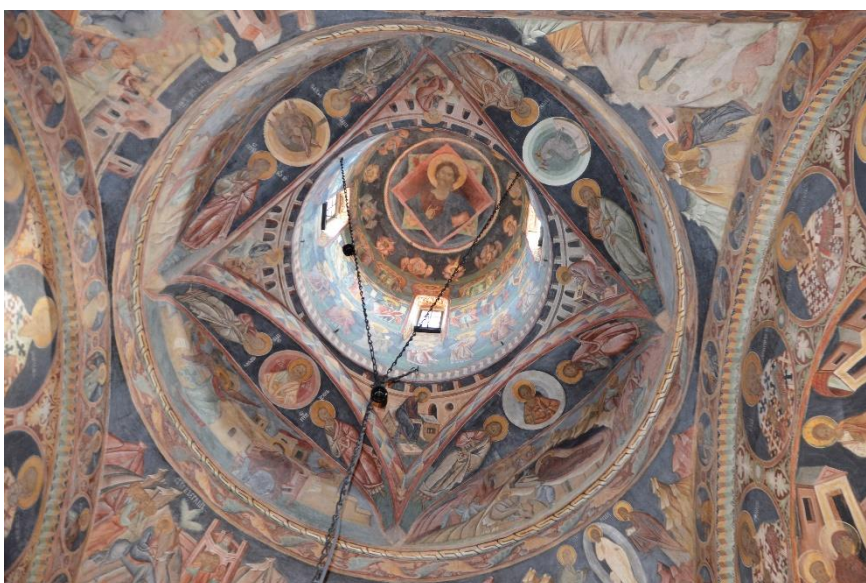


Romanian Academy Library,
Ms. Sl. 49 fol 1r, detail

From March to July 2022, the research team focused on the main objectives: the inventory of the hagiographic material – painted or written –, the evaluation of its role for generating a corporative identity of the monastic communities, and the tracing of cultural transfers in the circulation of visual and textual motifs. The coordination of the research activities continued to be carried out in online meetings, in the aftermath of the COVID 19 pandemic. The foundation for specific inquiry consisted in the inventory of the iconic portraits depicted in the lower tier of the iconographic programs of the churches decorated in the last decade of the fifteenth century and in the first quarter of the following one. Individual research themes were selected by the team members, tackling the issues raised by the circulation of iconographic models, the princely and ecclesiastic patronage, and the administrative links of the local Church with the south-eastern spiritual centers.

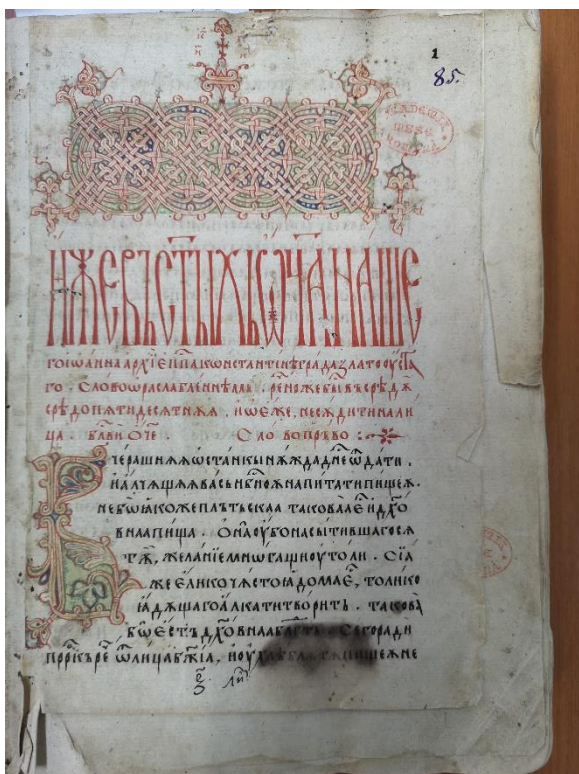
The epigraphic material offered by the frescoes and the relevant sources identified in locally produced manuscripts were researched by our colleague specialized in Old Church Slavonic.

The dedicated web page, <http://networks-of-devotion.eu/>, harbors the main output of our research activity. At the completion of our project, we intend to provide through this website an open-access repository of iconographic lists and high-resolution images, alongside research materials that were completed within the framework of our project.



St. Elijah near Suceava,
nave, dome

The dissemination of the research outputs was equally oriented towards the academic community, through publications and papers. In April, Vlad Bedros presented at the Yearly Symposium of the Institute of Art History the paper *The Ancient of Days in Moldavian Iconography (15th-16th c.): Trinitarian Connotations*. In May, Vlad Bedros and Andrei Dumitrescu participated at a panel sponsored by the



Romanian Academy Library,
Ms. Sl. 49 fol 1r

International Center for Medieval Art at the 57th International Congress of Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, with the papers *The Prophet Elijah and the Theme of Spiritual Filiation in Moldavian Iconography, ca. 1480–1530*, and *Narrative Strategies and Sacramental Meanings: Picturing Elijah's Story in the Thirteenth-Century Frescoes at Morača Monastery*. In June, following the panel from Kalamazoo, an online seminar was organized at the Newman Institute (Uppsala), in which alongside Vlad Bedros and Andrei Dumitrescu also took part Ștefania Dumbravă, with the paper *Depictions of the Prophet Elijah on Post-Byzantine Vita Icons*. The papers presented at Uppsala are intended for publication in a thematic volume at Brill Publishing. Last but not least, in July, Vlad Bedros and Andrei Dumitrescu participated at the yearly symposium organized by Putna Monastery, *Putna Colloquia*. On this occasion, they also consulted fifteenth-century manuscripts from the library of Putna, and visited the newly restored church of the prophet Elijah on the outskirts of Suceava.



St. Elijah near Suceava,
nave, southwards

Team members

Project Leader:

Vlad BEDROS, PhD, Assistant Professor at the Department of History and Theory of Art, National University of Arts, Bucharest; Senior Researcher at “G. Oprescu” Institute of Art History

Postdoctoral Researchers:

Mihail-George HÂNCU, PhD, Scientific Researcher at the Institute for South-East European Studies of the Romanian Academy

Oana IACUBOVSCI, PhD, Senior Researcher at the Institute for South-East European Studies of the Romanian Academy

PhD Student:

Ștefania DUMBRAVĂ, National University of Arts in Bucharest

Affiliated Researcher:

Andrei DUMITRESCU, MA Student in History of Art, CEU, Vienna

Yiddish Culture in Greater Romania (1918-1940): In the Aftermath of the Empires and Challenged by the New National State (YIDCULT)

Report on activities by **Camelia Crăciun**, Project Leader
UEFISCDI Exploratory Research (2021-2023)

The During these months, the team focused on several activities within the project, such as:

I. Dissemination by conference participation with full panels dedicated to the project in which all team members were involved. The conferences were the following:

a) The 26th Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) (4-7 May 2022, *online*) where we presented a full panel dedicated to YIDCULT project:

- Valentin Săndulescu, *The Jewish Community in Interwar Romania and Yiddish Culture: Context and Challenges*
- Irina Matei, *Institutional Actors and Yiddish life in Greater Romania (1918-1940)*
- Francisca Solomon, *Choosing Yiddish: Ideological Debates Concerning the Language Reflected in the German – and Yiddish – Language Press of the Bukovinian Jewry*
- Camelia Crăciun, *Jacob Gropper as a “National Poet” and Yiddish activist: a case study on the reception of his work in interwar Romania*

b) Society for Romanian Studies (SRS) Annual Conference „Borders and Transfers” (15-17 June 2022, Universitatea de Vest Timișoara, *in person*) where we presented a full panel dedicated to YIDCULT project, *Yiddish Culture in Greater Romania (1918-1940)*:

- Valentin Săndulescu, *Yiddish Culture as Threat: A Look at a Less Explored Dimension of Antisemitism in Interwar Romania*
- Irina Matei, *The Issue of Yiddish Schooling in Greater Romania (1918-1940)*
- Francisca Solomon, *Shaping Yiddish Cultural Identity in Interwar Romania – Discourses in the Yiddish Press*
- Camelia Crăciun, *Jacob Sternberg – Revolutionizing Yiddish Theatre in Romania*



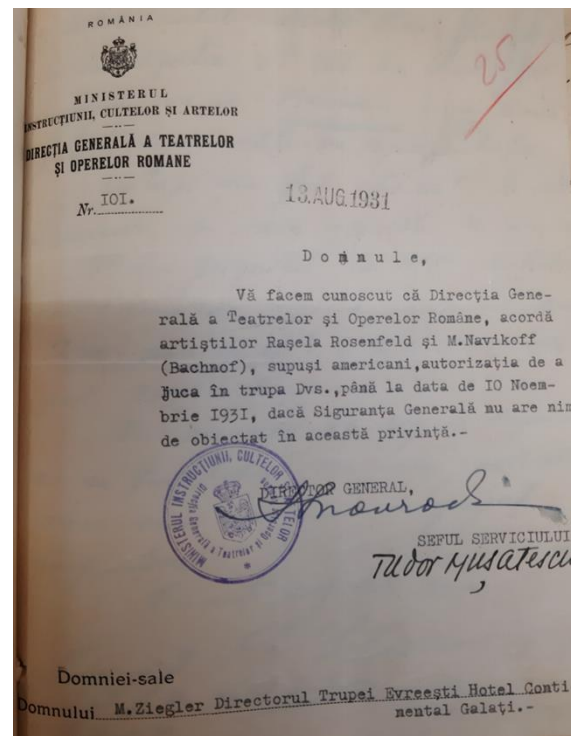
c) We had also individual participation in conferences which were thematically connected to our individual topics of research such as conference “Sound and Mass Politics in Europe – 1900-1945”, organized by University of Granada and Royal Society of Edinburgh, June 2022, where Camelia Crăciun presented the paper *Language and Mass (Cultural) Politics: Yiddish Theatre as a Transnational, Transregional and Transcultural Phenomenon in Interwar Eastern Europe*.

II. During this period, the whole team continued the documentation in various archives and libraries (Romanian Academy Library, Arhiva Centrului pentru Studiul Istoriei Evreilor din România (CSIER), National Archives) in Romania and abroad, in person and online (Columbia University Library,

Leo Baeck Institute). During 9-19 May 2022, Irina Matei spent a research period at New York, Center for Jewish History New York, especially at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research and at the Leo Baeck archives. Also, Camelia Crăciun spent a short research period in Madrid and Granada (Centro Sefarad, Madrid and Museo Sefardi, Granada), while participating in the aforementioned conference. The research was necessary also for starting the preparation process for the volumes planned.

III. In preparation for our planned publications, we started discussing with several academic journals and publishing houses the options for publishing our research results. For the volume of documents, we agreed with the best university publishing house in Romania, EUAIC, to include our volume in a reputed series of historical studies. In terms of journals, we discussed with one of the best ranked international journals in Jewish history, SHOFAR, to host a special issue with our texts resulting from the project research. Eventually, we plan to have our volume of studies published by a reputed academic publisher; the negotiations are still in process. In terms of preparation for publication, we have already started selecting and organizing the material for the volume of documents, which is the priority now.

Approval Letter issued by the Romanian Theatres and Operas Administration for every Yiddish actor travelling and performing in Romania



IV. Administratively, the project involved a significant amount of work in order to secure the following of the timeline proposed from the very beginning. Thus, the team has monthly general meetings, but the colleagues maintain permanent individual communication related to their specific research interests and discussing particular research problems, documentary overlapping and writing coordination are on ongoing bases. Concerning the general project management, the research periods, their financial and logistic organization, the periodical reports and drafting applications for conferences, publishers or academic journals, the administrative work within the project represents a significant part of our activity.

Team members

Project Leader:

Camelia CRĂCIUN, PhD, Associate Professor in Jewish Studies,
Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures, University of Bucharest

Experienced Researchers:

Irina NASTASĂ-MATEI, PhD, Lecturer, Faculty of Political Science, University of Bucharest

Francisca SOLOMON, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Letters,
“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University, Iași

Valentin SĂNDULESCU, PhD, Assistant Professor in Jewish Studies,
Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures, University of Bucharest

The Oldest Romanian Manuscript and Printed Versions of the Akathistos Hymn (17th C). The History of a Liturgical Masterpiece Between Text and Image (AKATHYMN)

Report on activities by **Emanuela Cristina Timotin**, Project Leader
UEFISCDI Exploratory Research (2021-2023)

The project focuses on one of the most influential liturgical pieces dedicated to Virgin Mary, the *Akathistos Hymn*, a text which was composed in the fifth century and was included in the liturgy of the Orthodox Church not before the ninth century. Its 24 stanzas represent the source of the iconographic theme known as the ‘Akathistos cycle’ since late thirteenth century – beginning of the fourteenth century.

The researchers involved in the project are philologists (Emanuela Timotin, principal investigator; Cristina-Ioana Dima, Mihail Hâncu, Daniar Mutałâp), historians (Lidia Cotovanu; Ovidiu-Victor Olar, affiliated researcher) and art historians (Oana Iacubovschi). They endeavour to edit the oldest Romanian versions of the Akathistos Hymn and to describe the literary, theological and artistic context in which they emerged.

Some of the team members focused on the dissemination of the preliminary research results and took part in international conferences.

Emanuela Timotin (PI) presented the paper ‘Deux manuscrits roumains du milieu du XVII^e siècle. Problèmes d’édition de l’Hymne acathiste’ within the Session Philologie linguistique of the 30th *Congrès International de Linguistique et Philologie Romane* (Laguna University, 4 – 9 July 2022, under the aegis of the Société de Linguistique Romane). Her presentation focused on the oldest Romanian witnesses to the Akathistos Hymn: MSS 170 and 540 of the Romanian Academy Library in Bucharest, dating to the first half of the 17th century. These manuscripts, of monastic origin, display a rare feature: they include numerous double or triple readings. These multiple readings are words, turns of phrase or sentences. They are scattered throughout the texts (and not written in the margins), and are separated from the previous readings by figures 2 and 3 (see fig. 1.: MS 170, I underlined the beginning of the second reading). The presentation inquired whether the repetitive structure of the Marian hymn contributed to the standardization of the multiple readings and revealed the reasons of the use of multiple readings, in order to establish a proper methodology for editing such manuscripts.

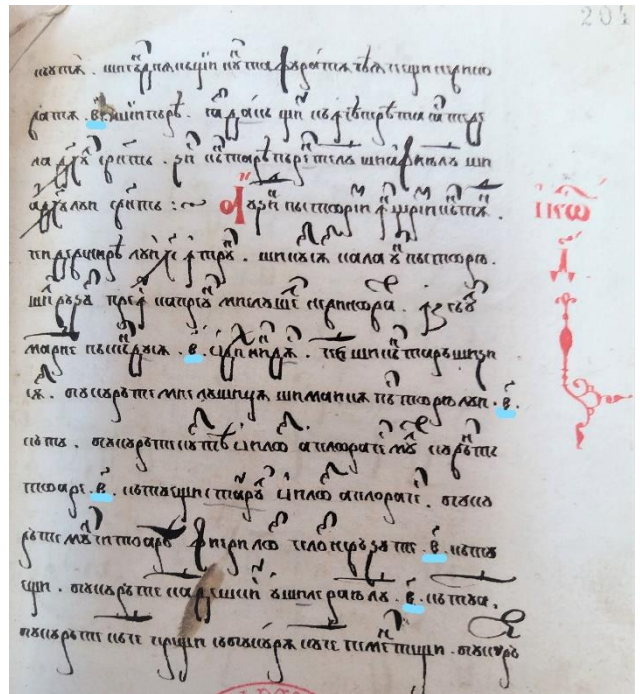


Fig. 1: MS 170, ca 1650; the beginning of the second reading, introduced by ‘2’, is underlined.

Cristina-Ioana Dima presented a paper about the designations of the names of the Virgin, with a particular focus on the Akathistos Hymn, within the conference *Transizioni e variazioni mariane dal Medioevo ai giorni nostri* (Università degli Studi di Torino, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Turin, 25 - 28 May, 2022). Her research was based on Dosoftei’s printed version of the Akathistos Hymn (Uniev, 1973). The text was attached to a versified Psalter meant for private use. While translating the Akathistos Hymn, Dosoftei, who was metropolitan of Moldavia, paid special attention to the metaphorical meaning

of the words designating the Virgin. Cristina-Ioana Dima compared the Akathistos Hymn in Dosoftei's translation with the amulet "The 72 names of the Holy Mother of God", which was translated into Romanian in almost the same period. In a very simple form, this amulet also transmitted a symbolical vocabulary regarding the Virgin, which was very similar to the one of the Hymn. The comparison between the designations of the Virgin in the two texts gave an interesting insight into the 17th-century beliefs regarding Mary.



Fig. 2: The Akathistos Hymn, kontakion 9 "All the ranks of angels marveled at the great work of Thine Incarnation", Sucevița Monastery, southern façade, photo by Oana Iacubovschi

Oana Iacubovschi took part in the conference *Sung, Written and Painted. The Akathistos Hymnos and Intermedial Compositional Processes in Later Byzantium* (Göttingen, 2 - 3 June, 2022) and presented the paper 'From liturgy to private piety. The Akathistos Hymn in Moldavia at the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries'. She focused on the pictorial cycle of the Akathistos, which effectively enabled a devotion to the Virgin through the Akathistos hymn, and which spread to the various strata of the Moldavian society at the end of the 16th century. Her presentation paid special attention to the patronage of the ruling family of Moldavia and Metropolitan Gheorghe Movilă, who took a particular interest in the Akathistos hymn, which they associated with various *ktetorial* endeavours. Following a local tradition dating back to the 16th century, a complete representation of the liturgical hymn was displayed on the outer façade of the katholikon of Sucevița Monastery (fig. 2).

Furthermore, a unique, abbreviated version of the pictorial cycle can be found on the soffit of the triumphal arch of the katholikon dedicated to the Holy Trinity (fig. 3), which closely resembles the embroidered one on the liturgical stole donated to Sucevița in 1599 by prince Ieremia Movilă and his wife, lady Elisabeta (fig. 4). The same year the epitachelion decorated with scenes from the Akathistos Hymn, which is now preserved in the Kracow, entered the treasury of the monastery, the family restored a hermitage dedicated to the *Akathistos of the Most Holy Mother of God* at the foot of the Ceahlău mountains.



Fig. 3: The Akathistos Hymn, kontakion 9 "All the ranks of angels marveled at the great work of Thine Incarnation", Sucevița Monastery, katholikon, sanctuary, ante 1599, photo by Oana Iacubovschi

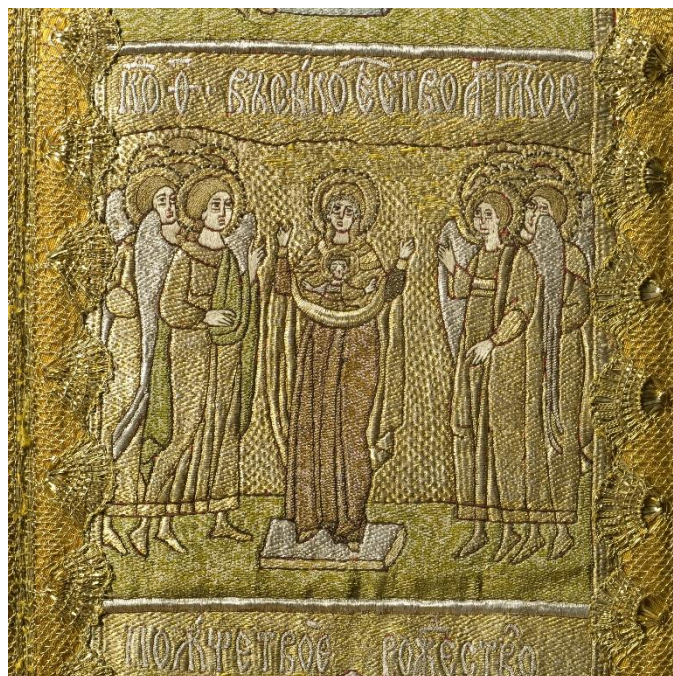


Fig. 4: The Akathistos Hymn, kontakion 9
“All the ranks of angels marveled at the great work of Thine Incarnation”,
epitrachelion of Ieremia Movilă, ante 1599,
photo by Oana Iacubovschi

Team members

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Affiliated Researcher:

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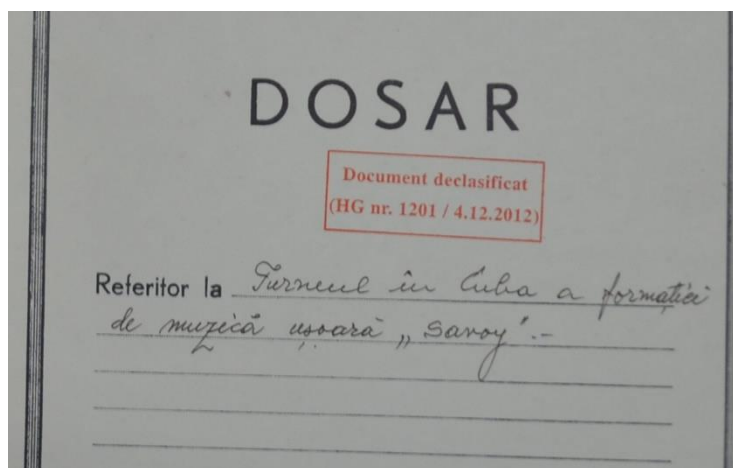
Rocking under the Hammer and the Sickle: Popular Music in Socialist Romania between Ideology and Entertainment (1948-1989) (POPCOM)

Report on activities by **Claudiu Oancea**, Project Leader
UEFISCDI Postdoctoral Research (2022-2024)

The proposed project aims to examine the history of popular music in socialist Romania, from 1948 until 1989, focusing, in particular, on the genres of jazz, rock, and light music and on their role in performing communist and nationalist ideologies, as well as in addressing demands of cultural consumption for various audiences. The project takes an interdisciplinary approach, as it brings together instruments of analysis from cultural and social history, cultural anthropology, and musicology. The research project construes the popular music genres of jazz, rock, and light music as spaces of interaction/negotiation between audiences and musicians, musicians and cultural activists/representatives of political authority, as well as between musicians themselves, depending on their social background, musical education and influences, and administrative authority/ies. While it focuses on the Romanian national context, the project also relies on an asymmetrical historical comparison with other national case studies of popular music behind the Iron Curtain (Hungary, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, and the Soviet Union).

For the first four months of the project, I presented a series of papers at several international workshops and conferences. Thus, in April, I presented a paper called “Over the Top, Behind the Bloc: Technological Transfers and Popular Music in Socialist Romania (1960s-1980s)” at an online workshop, “Unpacking the Bloc: Circulation of Knowledge, Resources, and Practices in Eastern Europe and Beyond”. The paper focused on the history of electric and electronic instruments in socialist Romania, as an integral part of the history of Romanian popular music during the Cold War. It paid particular attention to the formation and development of networks of technological transfers, in the context of international economic and political relations established by the Romanian communist government with other socialist regimes, or states from the Global South.

In May, I presented a paper called “Rocking Out, Giving In: Rock Music in Socialist Romania between Everyday Life, Ideology, and Entertainment”, at the conference “Everyday Life in State Socialist Societies”. The paper focused on cultural consumerist practices at the level of everyday life, regarding rock musicians and fans. In June, I presented two papers. The first one was called “Closed Borders and Open Access: Black Markets and Popular Music in Socialist Romania during the 1970s and 1980s”. I presented



Archival Photo

this paper at the Conference “Borders and Transfers”, organized in Timișoara, by the Society for Romanian Studies. The paper paid attention to informal economy and illicit transfers and transactions, which allowed Romanian musicians and fans alike to have access to musical instruments and information (namely records and music magazines). I presented an updated version of the paper “Over the Top, Behind the Bloc: Technological Transfers and Popular Music in Socialist Romania (1960s-1980s)” at the “Baltic Connections” Conference, organized by the University of Jyväskylä, in Finland.

Apart from that, I conducted research in several libraries in Bucharest, namely the University Central Library, The National Library, and the Library of the Academy, focusing on several collections of Romanian cultural magazines from the socialist era, which also devoted publishing space to the then

emerging pop music phenomenon. I have also conducted research in several archives: in June I started conducting research in the Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, looking for files of Romanian pop bands, which went on international tours during the communist period. In the same month, I visited the County Archives of Timiș, in search of several case studies, linked with the blossoming pop music scene from Timișoara, during the 1970s and 1980s.

In June and July I finished writing the final version of book chapter, called “Music on the Turntables when the Tables are Turning: A History (and Some Stories) of Record Stores in Romania from Late Socialism until Present”, which will be published with Bloomsbury Academic, in an edited volume on record stores around the world.

Furthermore, as part of the entrepreneurial side of my postdoctoral project, in July I organized two concerts for guitarist Valentin Farcaș, a prominent musician of the rock, jazz, and classical music scenes of the 1970s and 1980s. In July I also conducted several oral history interviews with Farcaș, totaling almost 10 hours.

I should stress that my work for this project during this time, whether research, writing, or entrepreneurial, was facilitated significantly by the promptness and efficiency of the New Europe College academic and administrative staff.



Călin Pop (*Celelalte Cuvinte*) in concert, 1988

Team members

Mentor:

Valentina SANDU-DEDIU, Rector, New Europe College,
Professor, National University of Music, Bucharest

Project Leader:

Claudiu OANCEA, PhD, NEC Alumnus

Reflections on the Political and Social History of the 18th and 19th Centuries (GRiPs)

Research Group, 2009 – present

Since 2009, several scholars meet at NEC to discuss topics on the political, social and cultural history of the 18th and 19th centuries from various theoretical and disciplinary perspectives. The members of this group and their guests are historians, political scientists, sociologists etc. who conduct research on different themes related to transformations and modernizations in the Romanian area or the Balkans. GRiPs' ambition is to establish a wider European and regional scientific network as well. GRiPs is coordinated by NEC Alumnae **Constanța Vintilă** and **Silvia Marton**.

On March 28, 2022, **Chris Aliprantis**, *Marie Curie* postdoctoral fellow at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, gave a lecture entitled *Policing Subversion in post-Napoleonic Europe: Austria and the Greek Revolution of 1821-30*. His talk examines the position of the Habsburg Empire vis-à-vis the Greek revolution of 1821-30 with special regard to policing. It suggests that the Greek revolution with its undeniable transnational significance and perceived threat against the status quo after 1815, pushed the Austrian state to enforce a variety of police measures to contain this alleged threat. These measures ranged from passport and border control directed towards moving Philhellenes, to monitoring Greek refugees and exiles, and using unofficial agents and consuls abroad to gather information on the rebellious Greeks. The article uses the Austrian police policies towards the Greeks as a vehicle to understand more widely how nineteenth century policing functioned. Based on policing, the paper thus adds to the intellectual and administrative history of modern statehood.



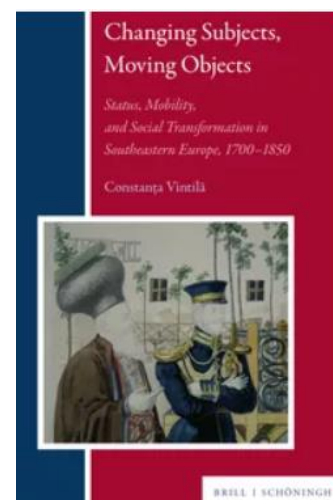
Wikipedia: Meeting of General Maison and Ibrahim Pasha at Navarino in September 1828 (by Jean-Charles Langlois)



Christos Aliprantis holds a PhD in modern European history from the University of Cambridge and he has been a *Max Weber* fellow at the EUI in Florence. His research interests deal with the history of state formation, policing, and intelligence services in nineteenth century Europe with a special focus on central, east-central and southern Europe.

On June 2, 2022, **Constantin Ardeleanu**, **Alex Drace-Francis**, **Silvia Marton** and **Constanța Vintilă** invited to a discussion about **Constanța Vintilă's** latest book: *Changing Subjects, Moving Objects. Status, Mobility, and Social Transformation in Southeastern Europe, 1700–1850*. The book was published in May

2022 at Brill Publishing House: “This is a book about people caught between home and abroad, crossing imperial boundaries in southeastern Europe at the beginning of the modern age. Through a series of life stories, which the author reconstructs with the aid of many new sources, readers discover how certain men and women defined and adapted their loyalties and affiliations, how they fashioned their identities, how they enrolled their linguistic, political, economic, and social resources to build a family and a career. Travelling between Istanbul, Vienna, Trieste, Moscow, Bucharest, or Iași, individuals of different backgrounds built their networks across borders, linking people and objects and facilitating cultural transfer and material and social change.” (<https://brill.com>)



The Group for Anthropological Research and Debates (GARD)

Research Group, 2019 – present

This research group focuses on contemporary anthropological research and theories, in taking into consideration their larger relevance within the humanities and social sciences. Building on the continuous support for anthropology during NEC's existence through fellowships, workshops and conferences, this research group aims at offering a space for exchanges, debates, projects of anthropological relevance for all scholars interested in anthropological research on/in Romania and beyond. Benefiting from the multidisciplinary and international profile of NEC, inter-disciplinary exchange between anthropologists and other social scientists is strongly encouraged and anticipated.

Viorel Anăstăsoaie, NEC alumnus, librarian and researcher at NEC, founded this research group in 2019 as an expression of his great passion for Anthropology. In a short timeframe he organized no less than seven scientific events, all included in previous reports (one had to be canceled due to the pandemic outbreak in March 2020). After his untimely demise in August 2021 it took some time to find a way to continue this ambitious project, following his initiatives and ideas. The members of this research group started organizing monthly meetings, which will continue to adopt a variety of formats including public talks, discussion of pre-circulated papers, film screenings, debates, and roundtable exchanges on newly published relevant books. The group's range of topics and themes of interest is programmatically left as open as possible. Further thematic and topical threads of discussion and research are expected to emerge through conversations between the participants.

Coordinators:

László Foszto, PhD, Researcher,
The Institute for Research on National
Minorities, Cluj-Napoca

Giuseppe Tateo, PhD, NEC Alumnus,
Senior Research Fellow (06/2021–05/2022),
University of Leipzig

Cătălina Tesăr, PhD, NEC Alumna,
Lecturer, The Faculty of Sociology and
Social Work, University of Bucharest;
Researcher, National Museum of the
Romanian Peasant



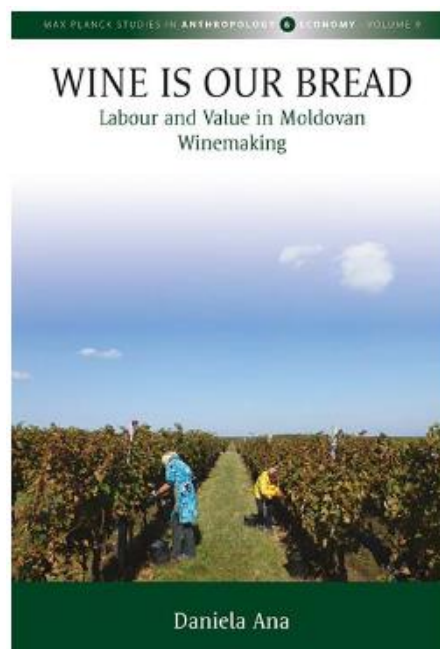
On March 24, 2022, **Ana Chirițoiu**, editor of the *Anthropology Matters Journal* who holds a PhD from the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology of the Central European University, presented a paper entitled *An Ethnography of Outsmarting in a Southern Romanian Mahala*. She analyzed the practices that the Rom Čor describe as ‘outsmarting’ beyond the explanations of economic necessity and methodological moralism that typically frame them. She argues that outsmarting is driven by a relational logic, whereby the Rom seek not only to fend for themselves but also to demonstrate their ‘capability’ and to pursue good lives and possibly virtue. Moving beyond the criminalization of theft and its interpretation as an antisocial practice, she shows that, by enacting the stigma projected onto them by wider society, outsmarting enables the Rom Čor to assert their belonging to the social body by virtue of what they call their ‘talent’ to outsmart others.



Personal archive. Faces of interlocutors were blurred to keep their anonymity.

A further event within this research group was organized on April 29, 2022: **Daniela Ana**, Consultant on labour rights issues for Romanian-speaking migrant workers in Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany, completed her PhD at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Halle/Saale) in 2019 with a project focusing on socio-economic transformations in a winemaking village in the Republic of Moldova. She previously studied at the Central European University in Budapest for an MA degree in Sociology and Social Anthropology, researching seed sovereignty and agrobiodiversity conservation in Romania. Her research interests include food and wine anthropology, human-environment relations, labour studies and migration. The event, *‘Wine is our Bread’: Labour and Value in Moldovan Winemaking*, bears the title of Daniela Ana’s forthcoming book, that will be published in May 2022 at Berghahn Publishing House (New York, Oxford).

Winemaking has been one of the most significant socio-economic activities in the Republic of Moldova, and its wine sector was marked by successive crises in the last few decades. This book is an ethnographic study of a Moldovan winemaking village, following how workers’ livelihoods and winemaking practices have changed in the post-Soviet years, especially after the loss of the Russian market in the mid-2000s and the country’s subsequent entry into the global wine markets. It focuses on the changing politics of value seen through stories of labour, transnational quality standards, geopolitics, science and terroir. Drawing on critical political economy approaches and theories of globalization, the book depicts how competitive Moldovan wines take their value from production relations both in the winery and in the households of the workers, from advertising work as well as from monopoly claims on parts of nature. Moreover, it argues that prestige in winemaking is not merely a matter of culture or the environment but equally of historical, economic inequalities that are played out regionally and globally.



On July 1, 2022, **Simion Pop**, PhD Candidate (ABD) in Sociology and Social Anthropology at the Central European University in Budapest/Vienna, gave a lecture entitled *Theopolitical Imagination, Ritual and Politics in Romanian Orthodox Christianity*. The talk approached the theo-political imagination of screening (revealing and concealing) embedded in the Orthodox rituals and aesthetic formations and its role in the constitution of layered religious publics. More specifically, as a case study, he is interested in the theo-political significance of the grandiose iconostasis (icon-screen) of the newly consecrated Romanian National Cathedral (2018) – a controversial ecclesiastical endeavour that has for years polarized the Romanian public sphere. He argues that, apart from being a ritual device confined to the ritual space, the iconostasis as aesthetic form reveals (and performs) certain theo-political potentialities and limitations within the Orthodox tradition and, perhaps unexpectedly, underlies a complex space of religious and political mobilizations.

Simion Pop is a PhD Candidate (ABD) in Sociology and Social Anthropology (Central European University, Budapest/Vienna). He is finishing a thesis on the Orthodox revival/reform movements and the intersection of ritual and ethical practices in contemporary Romania. His recent publications include the book chapters “Orthodox Revivals: Prayer, Charisma and Liturgical Religion” in the edited volume *Praying with the Senses: Contemporary Eastern Orthodox Spirituality in Practice* (2018, ed. Sonja Luehrmann, Indiana Univ. Press) and “‘I’ve tempted the saint with my prayer!’ Prayer, Charisma and Ethics in Romanian Eastern Orthodox Christianity” in the edited volume *The Social Life of Prayer: Anthropological Engagements with Christian Practice* (2021, ed. Andreas Bandak, Routledge).



Photo: Vadim Ghirda

European NetIAS Lectures Series: Knowledge in the Digital Age

Every last Thursday of the month, at 5 PM (CET), via Zoom

New Europe College launched a series of conferences organized in collaboration with NetIAS, the Network of European Institutes for Advanced Study. Researchers from different fields and from various European centres invite us – every last Thursday of the month – to reflect on knowledge in a digital age.



Addressing the Challenge of Human-Technology Partnership in the Digital Era: A Human-Centered Information Space Approach

James D. Hollan

Distinguished Professor of Cognitive Science and Computer Science
at the University of California, San Diego
2021/2022 Fellow at the Paris IAS
March 31, 2022

“The computer desktop was an amazing design for its time, but does not reflect the complexity, flexibility, and sociality of human activity... Eventually we will have to reorganize the desktop to reflect the complex mix of activities users engage in and move beyond the rigidity of separate applications and files-and-folders.” – Bonnie Nardi, Acting with Technology: Activity Theory and Interaction Design, 2009.

For far too long we have conceived of thinking as something that happens exclusively in the head. Thinking happens in the world as well as the head. We think with things, with our bodies, with marks on surfaces, and with other people. Increasingly, we think with computers, often the one we carry with us everywhere. Computers are now ubiquitous and embedded in virtually every new device and system, ranging from the omnipresent cellphone to the complex web of socio-technical systems that pervade and shape modern life. They connect our activities to ever-expanding information resources with previously unimaginable computational power. Yet with all the increases in capacity, speed, and connectivity, computer-mediated information activities remain fragmented and frustrating.

Designing the future of work at the human-technology frontier is one of the ten long-term science and engineering challenges identified by the U.S. National Science Foundation. In this presentation, I argue that a core aspect of this challenge arises from an unquestioned view of information systems as collections of separate passive tools rather than active partners. The scale of information available and the sophisticated cognition demanded by contemporary information work has outpaced innovation in user interfaces. In modern computing systems, information is encapsulated in silos, leaving users to shuttle files between applications, cobbling together workflows, requiring troublesome context switching and increasing attentional demands. In short, we lack a human-centered information work space, a cognitively supportive visual space for intellectual work.

A *human-centered information space* is both an idea, and a computational environment. It is the idea of a spatial cognitive workspace – a desktop for intellectual activity – reified as a computational environment that actively supports the coordination of information activities. It should develop awareness of the history and structure of a user's action: how she accomplishes activities through discrete tasks across devices, programs, and working sessions. Through use, each representation in the linked computational environment accumulates structure and context: not only who accessed it and when, but relationships to concurrent and other semantically related information and activities. This context and history of activity should drive the *behavior* of information representations. To the user, her information should seem *alive*, have awareness, know where it came from, how it got there, what it means – and *behave* accordingly. These dynamic representations will in turn guide the user's future action, providing a supportive personalized information context. It is important to emphasize that the human-centered information space will *not replace the user's ecosystem of documents and applications, but be a separate space linked to them*, acting as a home, a control center, a multi-modal but fundamentally 'spatial workshop' where information across applications will converge augmented with visual features and active behaviors to support the user in not only completing her tasks, but accomplishing long-term overarching activities.



James Hollan is Distinguished Professor of Cognitive Science and Computer Science at the University of California, San Diego. He received the ACM SIGCHI Lifetime Research Award and is founding co-director of the Design Lab and the Distributed Cognition and HCI Lab. His research explores the cognitive consequences of computational media and addresses questions of importance for today's increasingly technological society: How does technology shape our minds? How should what we know about our minds shape technology?

This presentation benefitted from a FIAS fellowship at the Paris Institute for Advanced Study (France). It has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 945408, and from the French State programme "Investissements d'avenir", managed by the *Agence Nationale de la Recherche* (ANR-11-LABX-0027-01 Labex RFIEA+)

Filter Clashes and Democracy: The Dissemination of Information via Social Media and its Impact on Freedom

Nadine Sutmöller

Postdoctoral Researcher, Center for Interdisciplinary Research, Bielefeld University

Coordinator, Research Group *Economic and Legal Challenges in the Advent of Smart Products* (2021/22)

April 28, 2022

Media and, increasingly, social media play a key role in democratic societies by disseminating information. However, the new instruments and their dynamics are fundamentally changing this game: As often explained the new media are characterized in particular by the algorithmically controlled curation of content based on collected data. To avoid information overload, the filtering approach makes perfect sense. However, at the same time, this procedure raises questions that strike at the heart of a democratically ordered society: What impact do these activities have on individual freedom? What does this mean for shaping social coexistence? And what consequences do these developments have for the democratic system?

The claim to grant citizens equal freedoms is an essential component of democracy. This enables people to work together, since everyone can assume that they do not have to fear for their place in society. Social networks and their dynamics are increasingly calling this essential requirement into question: The user-specific presentation of content creates different horizons of experience. The phenomenon of the filter bubble is referred to with concern in this context. The term describes the situation in which users no longer participate in the opinions and experiences of others and thus distance themselves from one another. Another fear is that when these different horizons of experience collide, members of society no longer succeed in exchanging ideas with one another. Rather, a deep irritation and speechlessness is to be expected (filter clash). That this is not a bad premonition was evident at the beginning of 2021, when increasingly hardened fronts could be observed in disputes in the wake of the 2020 U.S. election, with participants facing each other aggressively. This development poses a threat to freedom in that members of society are increasingly given the feeling that they have to fight for and defend their own views and opinions. This can be impressively demonstrated not least by the storming of the Capitol on January 6. In this situation, it was no longer possible to exchange views and develop common solutions based on fundamentally shared knowledge. This ultimately endangers the democratic order, since social connectedness is increasingly lacking and thus trust that cooperation is possible cannot be readily assumed.

To consider the issues raised, Nadine Suttmöller links different disciplines (including computer science, media studies) and, in particular, illuminates the situation from the perspective of political philosophy – especially in the context of John Rawls’ theory.



Nadine SUTTMÖLLER

Including or Excluding Context – from the Information Crisis to Natural Language Processing

Roar Høstaker

Professor of Sociology, Department of Organisation, Leadership and Management,
Faculty of Social Science, Lillehammer (Norway)
May 26, 2022



A common thread in the debates over the digital age, since its inception in the 1940s, is the question whether information must have a meaning or not. Or, whether a text depends on its context or not. Both meaning and context are at times kept away from being relevant topics in these debates, but they somehow come back again. From the controversies between librarians and documentarists in the 1950s, to mass-digitization of books and the contemporary controversy over the sources for the datasets in Natural Language Processing (NLP). The talk shall look into some of these debates in order to show how and why the question of context and meaning tends to return.

Roar Høstaker is Professor of Sociology at the Department of Organization and Management, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences. Specialising in sociological theory, his recent publications include the book 'A Different Society Altogether: What Sociology Can Learn from Deleuze, Guattari, and Latour' (2014). His current research interests include the foundational questions of the social sciences, biopolitics and the study of the 'machinic' in societies.

Decolonizing Knowledge Production through Linked Open Data

Jennifer Guiliano

Associate Professor, Department of History, Indiana University–Purdue University
Indianapolis, USA

2022 Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh

June 30, 2022

A hallmark of the North American colonial process was the production and dissemination of knowledge about Indigenous peoples through the journals and records of colonizers. The violent, and virulent, practices that led to widespread disease, genocide, trauma, and displacement in the Americas were bolstered by data collection and distribution that relied upon physical death and cultural destruction of Indigenous peoples. Equally as damaging were 20th century preservation efforts by non-Indigenous peoples that form the core of most cultural heritage collections. Analog archival collections about Native American, First Nations, and Indigenous peoples were constructed through “salvage” ethnography which sought to document “disappearing” peoples. Collectors, anthropologists, and historians embarked on decades-long collecting efforts that led to the extraction (forcibly and otherwise) of cultural objects, knowledge, and even physical bodies from Native communities. They created the data culture that most historians operate within as they work with indigenous materials. Historians are struggling to connect data and decolonize data practices so that they align with indigenous communities and their ways of knowing. This becomes further complicated by the fact that an overwhelming amount of historical data is held by colonial repositories and not Native communities who have different epistemological and cultural priorities.

There are general ethical and epistemological issues that researchers need to be attentive to when exposing historical materials (esp. photographs, documents, and artifacts) authored by and about indigenous peoples. First and foremost, there is the issue of identity politics: who has the right to speak for/about whom and what role should non-members play in articulating a community’s history, authority, or beliefs? Significantly, in colonial-centric collections, only legal access is required and/or commonly completed. Every community, every tribe, and even a single family might differ in their sense of what is appropriate for research or reuse and dissemination. When national borders divide those families, the question of research ethics becomes more complex. Can linked open data account for any of these issues or does it rely on colonial systems of knowledge production that cannot be teased apart from issues of rights and access? This presentation will highlight preliminary answers to these questions while seeking to present a vision of what a collaborative, shared authority model of Indigenous digital humanities and digital history would look like.

Jennifer Guiliano currently holds a position as Associate Professor in the Department of History and affiliated faculty in both Native American and Indigenous Studies and American Studies at IUPUI in Indianapolis, Indiana. She completed her Ph.D. in History at the University of Illinois (2010) and has served as a Post-Doctoral Research Assistant and Program Manager at the Institute for Computing in Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (2008-2010) and as Associate Director of the Center for Digital Humanities (2010-2011) and Research Assistant Professor in the Department of History at the University of South Carolina. She most recently held a position as Assistant Director at the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities at the University of Maryland where she also served as an adjunct instructor in the Department of History and the Digital Cultures program in the Honor’s College.



Common Rites and Different Liturgies at the Holy Sepulchre: A Historical Glimpse

Renata Salvarani

Professor of History of Christianity, European University of Rome

April 14, 2022

From the end of 4th century the Christian groups celebrating in the area of the Tomb of Jesus and around the Calvary differentiated gradually their rites. Cultural models, linguistic uses, theological sensitivities and theological differences marked distinguished liturgical praxis. This process has been accentuated by intentional decisions and symbolic changes acted by clergy, patriarchs and sovereigns. Along a historical century-old pathway the Holy Sepulcher has mirrored the life of the Christianity: the definition of different Churches, the transformation of uses and prayers, the divisions in the Christian *oicumene*. The multilayered space of the area was divided according to a complex system of rules later defined as *status quo*, becoming an example of regulation of the differences in a common perspective of coexistence.



Church of the Holy Sepulchre (Wikipedia)

Each church and each community celebrates its own liturgies following its calendar and liturgical books, in different times, using specific altars and spaces. Main memorial places, the Aedicula and the Golgotha are shared, sometimes in a problematic way. This does not prevent Christian worshippers from performing common rites. Along the centuries (till today) pilgrims, monks, nuns, lay faithful gather to celebrate some specific memorial liturgies: some processions, the Palms Sunday feast, as well as devotional gestures acted at the Stone of Anointing and into the Sepulcher demonstrate that Christian people are deeply conscious of their unity. Historical documents and liturgical sources testify that a specific dialectic between unity and diversity took form in touch with the stones of Jerusalem, a model of “living together and living apart” the same common faith.



Renata SALVARANI

Renata Salvarani is Professor of History of Christianity and Medieval History at the European University of Rome, member of *Poenitentiaria Apostolica Vaticana* Scientific Committee and consultant of the Pontifical Council for Culture. She holds a PhD in Medieval History at the Catholic University of Sacred Heart in Milan. She is a professional journalist engaged in divulgation of cultural and historical items and a writer of historical and geographical essays and educational articles.

Local Archaeologies and Their Interdisciplinary Practices (Second Spring School)

A workshop organized in the framework of the international research program *The Construction of Knowledge in Archaeology and Art History in Southeastern Europe*, coordinated by the Centre for Advanced Study Sofia and funded by the Getty Foundation as part of the *Connecting Art Histories Initiative*
May 9-13, 2022

The Program is structured through a series of Conferences and Spring Schools taking place in three different capital cities in the region (Sofia, Bucharest, and Athens) over three years. The overall structure has been envisaged as an opportunity for new synergies between scholars working across the region; given the current state of the discipline in the region (an overbearing “Western” bias associated with the neglect of intra-regional collaboration), it is not uncommon for archaeologists and art historians working across a national border from one another to never have interacted in the framework of a common academic research project. The two Conferences and the three Spring Schools proposed by our Program are designed as a way of deploying new academic networks – cross-national and cross-generational – across the region.

The Program is coordinated by the Centre for Advanced Study (CAS), in collaboration with Dr. **Gheorghe Alexandru Niculescu** (Vasile Pârvan Institute of Archaeology, Bucharest and NEC Alumnus) and Prof. **Dimitris Plantzos** (Department of History and Archaeology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens) who act as the Program’s co-directors.

With this Program, we plan to investigate how archaeology creates knowledge in Southeastern Europe (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Cyprus, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, and the Turkish province of East Thrace), taking into account the particularities of the local research traditions and their connections with research traditions of other disciplines, especially art history. We hope to better understand why the culture-historical way of thinking about the past remains dominant in our region and



encourage diversity and pluralism, generated by examining the ideas in which our research practices are grounded, their history, and what keeps them in place. We also seek to examine how we determine what is a useful novelty – an examination that has better chances of success if conducted by constantly comparing what we do with what is done in other traditions of archaeological research.

For more details please visit: <https://cas.bg/en/programme/the-construction-of-knowledge-in-archaeology-and-art-history-in-southeastern-europe/>

Convener:

Gheorghe Alexandru NICULESCU

Participants:

Nadire ASLAN, Amanda BALL, Adrian CURRIE, Whitney DAVIS, Chris GOSDEN,
Elvira IBRAGIMOVA, Ulf ICKERODT, Dimitra MAZARAKI, Shane MCCAUSLAND,
Andra MENEGANZIN, Andrew MEIRION JONES, Lisa NEVETT, Vasile OPRÎȘ,
Gökçe Kuzey ÖZDEMİR, Nona PALINCAȘ, Dimitris PLANTZOS, Alex RODRIGUEZ SUAREZ,
Jakub STEJSKAL, Alina Oana STREINU, Adrian ȘERBĂNESCU, Kyriaki TSIRTZI, Ana VELIČKOVIĆ

International Musicological Symposium: Musical Creation and Exegesis

National University of Music in Bucharest (Constantin Silvestri Hall) & Zoom
May 27-28, 2022

This symposium is organized within the framework of the *International Week of New Music 2022* (founding director: Ștefan NICULESCU; artistic director: Dan DEDIU), with the support of the following institutions: the Romanian Ministry of Culture, the Union of Romanian Composers and Musicologists, the National University of Music in Bucharest, the National Museum "George Enescu", the Alexandru Tzigara Samurçaș Foundation, New Europe College, Radio Romania, Actualitatea muzicală and the Romanian Music Information Center.

New Music Section

Convener:
Olguța LUPU

Participants:
Loredana BALTAZAR, Adrian BORZA,
Carmen CHELARU, Cătălin CREȚU,
Ana DIACONU, Corneliu Dan GEORGESCU,
Olguța LUPU, Petruța MĂNIUȚ-COROIU,
Florin NEAGOE,
Carmen POPA, Diana ROTARU

In memoriam Speranța Rădulescu Section

Convener:
Costin MOISIL

Participants:
Laurent AUBERT, Margaret BEISSINGER,
Filippo BONINI BARALDI,
Walter Zev FELDMAN,
Cécile FOLSCHWEILLER, Ioan HAPLEA,
Zuzana JURKOVÁ, Bernard LORTAT-JACOB,
Carmen A. MATEIESCU,
Victor A. STOICHIȚĂ



Black Sea Symposium: Looking back on 12 years of targeted research support from VolkswagenStiftung at the New Europe College

June 10-11, 2022

In 2010, the New Europe College started, with funding from the VolkswagenStiftung and academic support from the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, a fellowship program called *Black Sea Link* (BSL) for scholars from Moldova, Ukraine, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, as well as from other countries around the Black Sea. Young researchers in the humanities and social sciences were invited to NEC for a stay of one or two terms, during which they had the opportunity to work on projects of their choice. In the course of the next five years, 34 scholars took advantage of this opportunity, enlarging and diversifying the community of NEC fellows, turning NEC into a lively and stimulating academic platform for scholars from West and East, North and South. Annual workshops were organized on topics relevant to the history and the present, problems and prospects of the Black Sea region, bringing together young specialists and renowned experts on the questions addressed.

In 2015, the VolkswagenStiftung generously granted a prolongation and extension of the program: The new *Pontica Magna* (PoM) fellowships were offered also to Turkish scholars and to media professionals, writers and artists from the Black Sea region, enriching even more the NEC community. An additional, highly appreciated element of *Pontica Magna* was the opportunity for alumnae and alumni of both Black Sea fellowship programs to apply for short 'freshen-up' stays at NEC. By this module, channels of communication and academic cooperation were created and oiled within the wide network of researchers that NEC has built. In the past six years, 43 new PoM fellows and 20 PoM returning fellows have lived and worked at the institute in Bucharest and have contributed to establishing NEC as a radiating and respected center for research in the histories, cultures and societies of the wider Black Sea area.



As the PoM program comes to an end in summer 2022, New Europe College brought together those who were involved in the course of the years, to take a look back and reflect on what has been achieved. On June 10, 2022 representatives from the VolkswagenStiftung met with alumni and fellows of the *Black Sea Link* and *Pontica Magna* Programs, while on June 11, 2022 the Symposium took place. On this occasion New Europe College was honored to welcome Dr. Georg Schütte, President of the VolkswagenStiftung, Dr. Hanna Denecke, Head of Team Exploration and Dr. Annabella Hüfler-Fick, Program Director. The presentations and discussions were followed by a cameral concert with pieces by composers from the countries around the Black Sea: Igor Stravinski, *L'Histoire du soldat* (*The Soldier's Tale*), Trio version for violin, clarinet, and piano, and Alexander Arutiunian, Suite trio for clarinet, violin and piano.



Periodization in the History of Art and its Conundrums. How to tackle them in East-Central Europe

A program supported by the Getty Foundation as part of its
Connecting Art Histories initiative,
June 16-23, 2022



This program, supported by the Getty Foundation as part of its *Connecting Art Histories* initiative, consisted of a series of three research seminars of one-week duration each, discussing periodization and related issues in the history of art. The first seminar was organized in May 2019, the second in November 2019. According to the original schedule, the third should have been held in May 2020 however, due to the Covid pandemic this has proved impossible.

In agreement with the Getty Foundation the third seminar has been postponed until all participants could meet in person at New Europe College. On this occasion six public lectures were organized, as follows.

Against the Canon. Contemporary Art in a World without a Center

Andrea Giunta

Principal Researcher at CONICET, Argentina;
Professor of Art History at the Universidad
de Buenos Aires
June 16, 2022



The history of modern art has been written from what has been happening in just a few cities in Europe and the United States. Even though contemporary art offers a more global perspective than the history of modern art, still artists outside of the traditional centers occasionally intervene in the great scenarios of art. They appear in biennials, in exhibitions, but they practically fail to establish themselves in international collections or to be inserted in the studies of artistic contemporaneity.

Instead of using the notions of 'periphery', 'margins', or 'decentralization' that has been activated to differentiate the art of the centers and of other geographies (peripheral modernity; decentralized conceptualism; margins of avant-garde), we propose the notion of "simultaneous avant-garde" to think about simultaneous cultural and artistic processes. This is a concept we will compare with that of "horizontal art history" proposed by Polish art historian Piotr Piotrowski. If art history is built on the notions of originality and innovation, those of 'periphery' or 'decentralization' involve the notions of copying or imitation. Strategic copies, whose concepts are reversed, but which, however, start from the originals.

The history of art is a reduced history, guided by the idea of progress, which is a notion defined from the West. From such a perspective, the history of other, simultaneous proposed images, is obscured, sometimes invisible.

The selection process of art history is also a white and masculine one. It eliminates what is done outside the North American-Euro axis, eliminates the art of women, and eliminates the work done by Afro-descendants and indigenous people in Latin America – as well, we can add, the work made by Saami people in the region of Lapland, in Finland, Norway, Sweden and Russia.

Can we articulate different art stories than those that have given rise to a modern and contemporary art canon? What alternative concepts to those of style, evolution, progress, allow us to think about artistic culture? Is it possible to avoid notions such as originality and hierarchy, measured from central spaces, to think about the art world? What reading frames would be useful for thinking about art outside the ideas of productive centers and receptive spaces?

We consider that thinking the processes of images from new frames helps to discard the idea of central and peripheral spaces. Universalizing the artistic processes that occur in cities or central circuits generates the idea of outdated peripheries or dependent on the rhythms of the centers. This discussion also involves the ideology of the notion of “quality” in art. Can we interrogate notions that establish hierarchies and centers in the modern and contemporary art?

Affective Time (Socialist Futures and Post-socialist Pasts)

Cristian Nae

Associate Professor in the Department of Art History and Theory, Faculty of Visual Arts, George Enescu National University of Arts, Iași, Romania

June 17, 2022



Although 1989 became for many the threshold for the emergence of “contemporary art” as a global phenomenon, art history focused on Central and Eastern Europe also used multiple markers of discontinuity such as 1945, 1956, 1968 and 1989, which shape mainly the social and political context of artistic production and reception. Thus, concepts such as “socialism” and “post-socialism” became keywords in periodizing art from Central and Eastern Europe.

Nevertheless, these umbrella concepts are not only describing a plurality of “constellational modernities”, relating to different heterogeneous temporalities and narratives across the bloc, but they are also affectively charged. On the one hand, affects shape the understanding of certain neo-avant-gardes from the perspective of the present. On the other hand, they were explored by contemporary artists that used images to store, expand and reflect on the notion of durational time after 1989.

In my presentation, I investigate what Dieter Roelstraete called “art as historiography”, which describes the way contemporary artists materialize, imagine and visualize the past through poetic means. By taking a closer look at time-based art projects from the region, I identify a series of key poetic strategies meant to destabilize the linear conception of time, such as critical nostalgia, alongside a fictional projection of a dystopian future. Thus, I argue that these artists propose what could be conceptualized as “affective time”, which might be taken into account when writing an “affective art history” as suggested by Luiza Nader. According to them, contemporaneity is being understood as a field of possibilities, as a co-existence of simultaneously divergent narratives of modernization, and as a multiplicity of different speeds and durations. If contemporary artist’s anachronic temporality is to be accepted by art historical writing, its affective undertones define the art object as an image in a state of perpetual becoming, and expose the entanglement between past and present as an effect of the artwork’s participation to multiple temporalities at once.

Preposterous! Towards a Mutuality Between Thinking and Artmaking

Mieke Bal

Professor of Theory of Literature and founding director of the Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis (ASCA), University of Amsterdam
June 20, 2022



This lecture is devoted to a practice that counters a dogmatic historicism as well as the hierarchical and linear implications of the currently popular idea of “artistic research”. With “countering” I don’t mean rejecting. The nuanced difference between “counter-” and “anti-” lies therein, that countering recognizes and engages history critically, while opposing it and simply rejecting it would be a case of throwing away the baby with the bathwater. Instead, I will bring up and discuss a number of issues in which the temporality we deploy when making or visiting exhibitions becomes a crucial tool to change the experience. I will allege the example of my recent video *It’s About Time! Reflections on Urgency*, in which I deploy through the figure of Cassandra both the idea of “image-Thinking” and the mutuality between past and present I have called “pre-posterous” with a self-ironic wink.

Does Realism Interfere with Periodization Schemas?

Christopher Wood

Professor and Chair, Department of German, New York University (Affiliated Faculty, Department of Comparative Literature and Institute of Fine Arts)
June 21, 2022



Scholars of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Western art have the most doubts about the significance of the historical period they study. Medievalists know that their object of study is remote; modernists know that their object of study is nearby. But how close to us is Renaissance and Baroque or so-called “early modern” art? This paper will suggest that there is a structural reason why Renaissance and Baroque art creates difficulties for periodization.

The reason is that Renaissance and Baroque art is essentially realist. Realism is a cultural project which modern philosophies of history have had trouble assimilating. This is because periodization schemas since the nineteenth century are all teleological, that is, they assess the past on the basis of its directedness towards the present. They ask: does an historical phenomenon point toward the world we know, or not?

I would argue that realism—the attempt to depict the way things are—is always a bad fit within philosophies of history which attempt to bestow meaning, especially redemptive meaning, on history. This is because realism as a project has its own internal, convergent momentum which transcends particular cultures, which cannot so easily be recruited to self-serving modernisms, and which finally has no meaning.

Whose Memory is Commemorated in the Newly Erected Memorial of National Alliance in Budapest?

Edit András

Senior Research Member at the Institute of Art History,
Centre for the Humanities of the Hungarian Academy of
Sciences, Budapest

Visiting Professor at the History Department, CEU

June 22, 2022



The memorial nearby the Hungarian parliament, inaugurated at the hundredth anniversary of the Trianon Peace Treaty stirred a heated debate mostly among historians. The main question was whether it is really about the national unity spanning beyond borders, as it is communicated by its name, or the historical Hungary is commemorated in it, as claimed by a cohort of acknowledged historians. Or is it rather a hidden Trianon monument, as some critics voiced? The debate centered around the meaning of the use of the Kingdom's geographic listing of 13,000 cities and towns that made up the Kingdom of Hungary in 1913, that were carved on both sides of the granite wall of the sloping memorial. Concerning the visual formation of the new memorial, even the critical voices were appreciative, asserting that at least this one is not a conservative, traditional and figurative monument cast in bronze or carved stone, but a "contemporary" one. The well-informed journalists referred to Maya Lin's *Vietnam Veteran Memorial* in Washington DC, as a prefiguration or model of the edifice (if not a blatant plagiarism).

The art historical interpretation starts where the historical ends and wishes to uncover what the visuality and spatiality of the monument communicates and what the role of the mythical elements that are incorporated is. In this regard, in comparison with Maya Lin's memorial the differences are much more telling than the similarities. The close reading of the edifice poses the question: what kind of hidden meaning is advocated by the architectural archetypes that are utilized in the construction, and what kind of sensory experience is the beholder exposed to and for what purpose? And finally, who is the mastermind behind this controversial memorial and who benefits from it?

The analysis wishes to demonstrate that one cannot underestimate the power of images when it comes to the nationalistic propaganda machine, despite it being materialized in a contemporary form and paired with an alternative official narrative.

On horizontal and not-so-horizontal cuts

Magdalena Radomska

Assistant Professor, Art History Institute, Adam Mickiewicz
University, Founder and Head of the Piotr Piotrowski
Center for Research on East-Central European Art

June 23, 2022



The lecture will discuss the notion of horizontal art history coined by Piotr Piotrowski as it is examined in the book *Horizontal Art History and Beyond. Revising Peripheral Critical Practices*, that is about to be published by Routledge, edited by Magdalena Radomska and Agata Jakubowska. The book is a critical examination of horizontal art history, which provokes a discussion on the original concept, possible methods to extend it, and its weakest points. It is a collection of essays written by international

scholars (such as Edit András, Mathilde Arnoux, Anthony Gardner, Terry Smith, Béatrice Joyeux-Prunel, Jérôme Bazin or Andrea Giunta) who either critically practice horizontal art history, or propose theoretical revisions of the concept. The presentation aims at the critical reexamination of the concept and its aftermath, namely the idea of alterglobalist art history elaborated by Piotrowski in his last book, *A Global Approach to the Art of Eastern Europe* (trans. Anna Brzyski, with afterword by Magdalena Radomska), which is about to be published in English by Igor Zabel Association for Culture and Theory. It offers a clear concept of periodization of global art history in the form of horizontal cuts that crosscut the hierarchy of the center and peripheries.

The lecture will provide a Marxist approach both to the concept of horizontal/alterglobalist art history and its tools (horizontal cuts), asking about possible alternative adaptations of the notion of horizontality understood as a domain of global class solidarity that leads to the abolishment of class division interrelated with the division of labour, sustaining a seemingly elitist status of art that weakens its subversive potential. Such a framework authorizes the acknowledgment of the primacy of the base over superstructural analysis. It also criticizes horizontal art history for its neglect of the notion of class, which undermines its horizontal status and thus the horizontal character of the periodization proposed by Piotrowski in his last book.

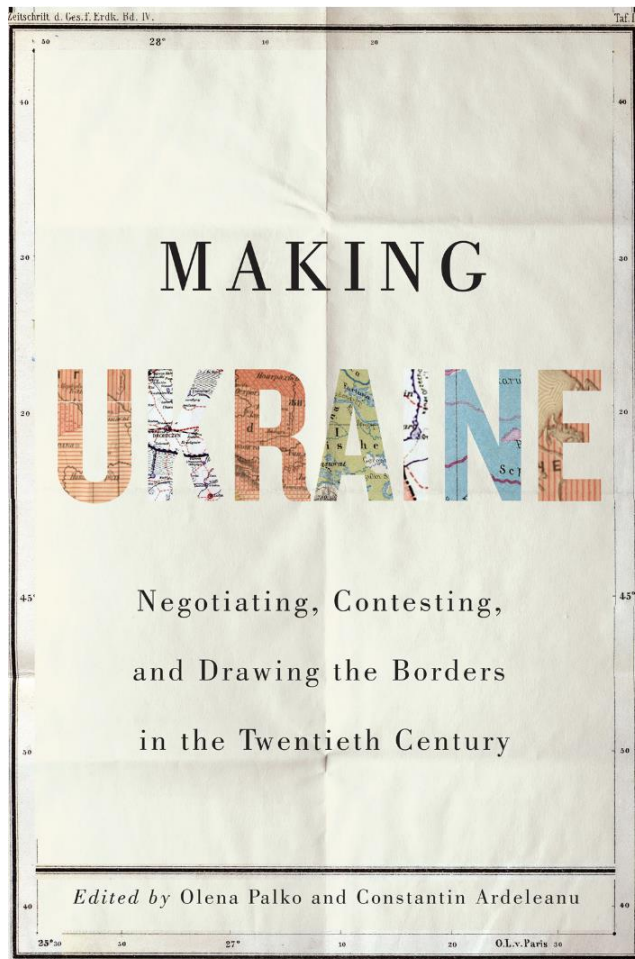


Making Ukraine. Negotiating, Contesting, and Drawing the Borders in the Twentieth Century

Edited by **Olena Palko** and **Constantin Ardeleanu**

McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, 2022

May 24, 2022



Conveners:

Constantin ARDELEANU,
Olena PALKO, Ulrich SCHMID

Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea in 2014 and the ongoing war in eastern Ukraine have brought scholarly and public attention to Ukraine's borders. *Making Ukraine* aims to investigate the various processes of negotiation, delineation, and contestation that have shaped the country's borders throughout the past century.

Essays by contributors from various historical fields consider how, when, and under what conditions the borders that historically define the country were agreed upon. A diverse set of national and transnational contexts are explored, with a primary focus on the critical period between 1917 and 1954. Chapters are organized around three main themes: the interstate treaties that brought about the new international order in Eastern Europe in the aftermath of the world wars, the formation of the internal boundaries between Ukraine and other Soviet republics, and the delineation of Ukraine's borders with its western neighbours. Investigating the process of bordering

Ukraine in the post-Soviet era, contributors also pay close attention to the competing visions of future relations between Ukraine and Russia.

Through its broad geographic and thematic coverage, *Making Ukraine* illustrates that the dynamics of contemporary border formation cannot be fully understood through the lens of a sole state, frontier, or ideology and sheds light on the shared history of territory and state formation in Europe and the wider modern world.

This book, published by McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, 2022, is the result of an international workshop organized with the financial support of the Center for Governance and Culture in Europe (University of St. Gallen) in December 2019: *Making the Borders of Contemporary Ukraine*. The volume is edited by Dr Olena Palko and Prof. Constantin Ardeleanu and contains a foreword by Prof. Ulrich Schmid.

Elogiul moderației [In Praise of Moderation]

Aurelian Crăiuțu

A revised and enlarged edition published by *Spandugino* Publishing House

Book presentation, June 7, 2022

Aurelian Crăiuțu presents a series of captivating intellectual portraits of moderate thinkers who did not fall prey to radical ideological currents. This does not mean, however, that these thinkers were dispassionate, indifferent or indecisive. Rather, they stood out as staunch defenders of political and cultural values that seemed to have lost their appeal and relevance in the whirlwind of cultural conflicts and civil wars. The book guides us through different national and intellectual contexts, from France, the United States and Great Britain to Italy, Poland and Romania, and shows us that these authors, despite differences in temperament, political beliefs and intellectual socialization, shared a great respect for the virtue of moderation, a virtue animated both by a spirit of dialogue, curiosity and epistemological pluralism, and by a willingness to defend unpopular ideas in order to strengthen the foundations of democratic politics. Balázs Trencsényi (Central European University)

Aurelian Crăiuțu is Professor in the Department of Political Science at Indiana University, Bloomington, and Adjunct Professor in the American Studies Program and the Lilly Family School of Philanthropic Studies at IUPUI, Indianapolis. His doctoral dissertation at Princeton University on the political thought of the French Doctrinaires (François Guizot, Pierre Royer-Collard, Charles de Rémusat, etc.) won the American Political Science Association's *Leo Strauss* Award for the best paper in the field of political philosophy in North America in 2000. His research interests include French political and social thought (Montesquieu, Tocqueville, Constant, Madame de Staël, Guizot, Aron), political ideologies (liberalism, conservatism), comparative political theory and democratic consolidation (mostly Central and Eastern Europe). *Elogiul moderației* [In Praise of Moderation] was first published in 2006, at Polirom Publishing House, where Aurelian Crăiuțu had published another book in 1998, *In Praise of Liberty: Essays in Political Philosophy*.

He is the author and editor of several books on modern political thought. His first monograph, *Liberalism under Siege: The Political Thought of the French Doctrinaires* (Rowman & Littlefield/Lexington Books, 2003), won a 2004 CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title Award. It was also translated into French in a revised and enlarged edition as *Le centre introuvable: la pensée politique des doctrinaires sous la Restauration* (Plon, 2006). His two most recent books are *A Virtue for Courageous Minds: Moderation in French Political Thought, 1748-1830* (Princeton University Press, 2012) and *Faces of Moderation: The Art of Balance in an Age of Extremes* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017).



AURELIAN CRĂIUȚU

ELOGIUL MODERAȚIEI



Participantș:

Raluca ALEXANDRESCU, Cătălin AVRAMESCU, Aurelian CRĂIUȚU, Camil PÂRVU,
Cristian PREDA, Ioan STANOMIR, Miruna TĂTARU-CAZABAN

Moderator:

Cristian PĂTRĂȘCONIU

“A New Ecological Order. Development and the Transformation of Nature in Eastern Europe”

Edited by Ștefan Dorondel and Stelu Șerban

University of Pittsburgh Press, 2022

June 29, 2022

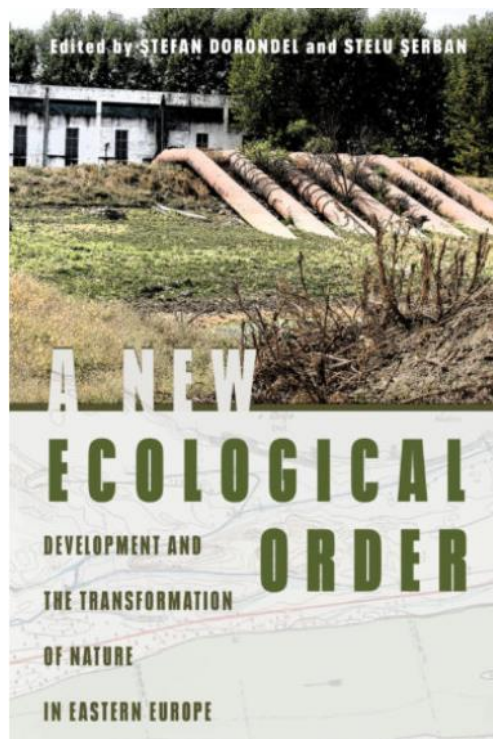
The rise of industrial capitalism in the nineteenth century forged a new ecological order in North American and Western European states, radically transforming the environment through science and technology in the name of human progress. Far less known are the dramatic environmental changes experienced by Eastern Europe, in many ways a terra incognita for environmental historians and anthropologists. *A New Ecological Order* explores, from a historical and ethnographic perspective, the role of state planners, bureaucrats, and experts – engineers, agricultural engineers, geographers, biologists, foresters, and architects—as agents of change in the natural world of Eastern Europe from 1870 to the early twenty-first century.

Contributors consider territories engulfed by empires, from the Habsburg to the Ottoman to tsarist Russia; territories belonging to disintegrating empires; and countries in the Balkan Peninsula, Central and Eastern Europe, and Eurasia. Together, they follow a rhetoric of “correcting nature,” a desire to exploit the natural environment and put its resources to work for the sake of developing the economies and infrastructures of modern states. They reveal an eagerness among newly established nation-states, after centuries of imperial economic and political impositions, to import scientific knowledge and new technologies from Western Europe that would aid in their economic development, and how those imports and ideas about nature ultimately shaped local projects and policies.

This event is organized in collaboration with the Institute for South-Eastern European Studies of the Romanian Academy.

Conveners:

Ștefan DORONDEL and Stelu ȘERBAN



“*A New Ecological Order* provides a new perspective on the ways nature was mobilized by the developmental policies of Eastern Europe’s nation-states in their struggle to escape the periphery. Analyzing environmental changes and the way new ideas and new actors have been involved in this complex process, it offers an exceptional contribution to the history and anthropology of the government of nature.”

— Marc Abélès, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris

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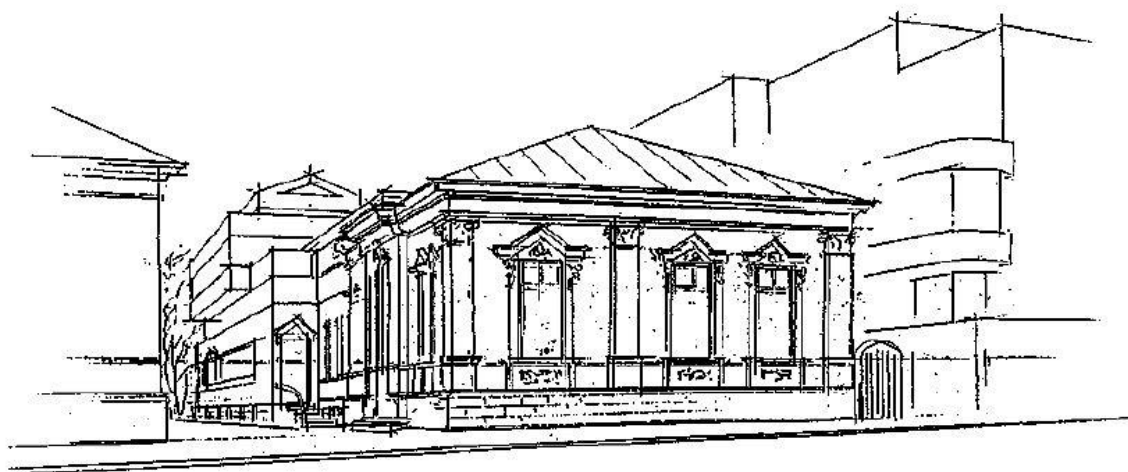
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