

# SOCIETY FOR ROMANIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER



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The Society for Romanian Studies

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## in this issue...

President's Message.....	1
2022 SRS Conference.....	2
Member News.....	4
SRS Book Prize.....	4
SRS Graduate Student Essay Prize.....	5
Journal of Romanian Studies.....	6
Soundbite from Romania: Alianța pentru Unirea Românilor.....	8
Soundbite from Romania: COVID-19.....	11
Institute for Ecumenical Research Sibiu.....	13
Interview with Mariana Hausleitner.....	14
SRS Polirom Book Series.....	17
Featured Books.....	20
H-Romania.....	23
SRS Membership.....	24
About SRS.....	24



### President's Message

With this issue of the Newsletter the Society for Romanian Studies proudly announces its next [international conference](#), which will be held at the Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara on 15-17 June 2022. The theme of the conference is “Borders and Transfers,” and Professors Maria Bucur and Adriana Babeți have kindly agreed to give our keynote speeches. For more details see the Call for Papers elsewhere in this newsletter. Many thanks to Anca Șincan and the rest of the conference organising committee for all their work putting this event together. [Competitions](#) for both the Sixth SRS Book Prize and the Thirteenth SRS Graduate Student Essay Prize are well underway. If you have not yet sent in your entries now is the time to do so. The standard for both competitions is increasingly high, reflecting the flourishing nature of the field. The SRS is also planning to launch a Biennial Dissertation Prize named in honour of the late Professor Keith Hitchins next year. We will be soliciting donations in order to pay for the prize and details on how to donate will be available shortly.

Coming as it does after a surreal year of online teaching and learning, with conferences increasingly moving online and libraries and archives closed, this summer will be an unusual one for many of us. Travel restrictions remain in place to and from a number of countries and many people will struggle to do research that they had planned for this summer under these circumstances. It is during times such as these that I am particularly grateful for an organisation such as the Society for Romanian Studies. SRS networks, social media, and friendships developed through and within the organisation make it possible to stay in touch with what is happening in Romania, Moldova, and their diasporas in a way that would have been impossible only a short time ago. If you don't already do so, please make use of this time to reach out to other members through the [mentoring scheme](#) or to put together a panel for next year's conference. If you're intrigued about new books in the field, have a look at the recordings of the first series of book talks run by Iuliu Rațiu on behalf of the [Journal of Romanian Studies](#), in which he brought together authors and reviewers to discuss books that have been reviewed in the journal. These are available on the journal's [Facebook](#) page and its [Youtube](#) channel. As usual, also have a look at some of the exciting new titles highlighted in this issue of the Newsletter. Just because we haven't seen each other for a while doesn't mean that we have to be disconnected from the vibrant world of Romanian Studies.

*Roland Clark*  
*University of Liverpool*  
*SRS President*

# 2022 SRS Conference

## Call for Papers: Borders and Transfers

15-17 June 2022

Society for Romanian Studies

Hosted by Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara

*The Banat is “a reality, and at the same time a myth, situated at the place where borders meet.” Adriana Babeți (2007)*

Adriana Babeți, “Le Banat: Un paradis aux confins,” in Adriana Babeți and Cécile Kovacshazy eds., *Le Banat: Un Eldorado aux confins* (Paris: Centre Interdisciplinaire de Recherches Centre-Européennes, Université Paris IV Sorbonne, 2007), 27.

The Society for Romanian Studies invites you to Timișoara in June 2022, where the soup is sweet and it is bad luck to serve chicken on New Year’s Day. Timișoara, and the Banat more generally, has been shaped by the borders of empires and nation-states, by ethnic, religious, cultural, and economic transfers, and by the cultures flowing along the Mureș, Danube, and Tisza rivers. A melting-pot whose local realities reflect transnational influences, Timișoara is an ideal place for us to reflect on how borders and transfers – both real and imagined – shape the culture and society of the diverse peoples connected to Romania and Moldova. Raising and crossing borders is becoming more contentious than ever, and new boundaries are being thrown up around and within communities, both in the region and in its diaspora, yet the transfer of goods and information continues at an unprecedented rate.

### Keynote speakers:

Professor Maria Bucur (Indiana University, Bloomington)

Professor Adriana Babeți (Universitatea de Vest, Timișoara)

The conference is concerned with the following topics:

- How borders and transfers facilitate group formation; what they exclude and whose interests they protect and reinforce.
- How borders are imagined, made real, and enforced.
- The impact of the pandemic on travel and crossing borders.
- The difference between spoken and unspoken borders and transfers.
- Liminal spaces in literature, art and film.
- Transfers, influences and connections between texts.
- Borders as limits on beliefs and imagination.
- Rites of passage, liminality and blockages in space or time. This might involve ageing, travel, career progression, or metaphysics.
- The contestation of boundaries and restrictions. When are transfers liberating and when are they perilous?
- Political and military borders in time and space.
- Corruption as the transgression of regulations and the function of discourses about legal, economic, and behavioral boundaries.
- Borders and transfers as they relate to the social and cultural performance of gender and sexuality.
- Interdisciplinarity as a goal and a challenge. The value and limits of disciplinary borders.
- Border-making as governmentality versus borders that are constructed and challenged from below.
- Processes of marginalisation, division, and solidarity.
- Linguistic borders, multilingualism and its social and political implications.
- Refugees, migration, population exchanges, and ethnic cleansing.

# 2022 SRS Conference

The official language of the conference is English, but papers, panels, roundtables, and discussions may also be delivered in Romanian. Each panel or roundtable will have only one language (English or Romanian), which will be printed on the official program.

At present we are planning to hold the conference face to face, with no hybrid option. If the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic makes this unfeasible we will communicate alternatives as soon as possible.

Proposals for individual papers, panels, roundtables, book or movie presentations, and art installations should be sent by **October 25, 2021**, to [srs2022conference@gmail.com](mailto:srs2022conference@gmail.com). Participants will be notified of the acceptance of their proposal at the latest by **January 25, 2022**. Proposals should be written in the language you wish to present in:

- Individual paper proposals should include a title, a brief abstract of up to 500 words, a one-page c.v. (one page), and contact information of the presenter.
- Proposals for panels including 3-4 papers, one chair, and 1-2 discussants should provide a title and description of the panel topic, abstracts of all papers, a one-page c.v., and contact information for all participants. Panel participants should be drawn from at least two different universities/ research institutes.
- Roundtable proposals of 3-5 participants should include a title and description of the topic, a one-page c.v., and contact information for all participants.
- In addition, the conference organizers will accept proposals for presentations of books, movies and art installations; proposals should include a title, a description, a one-page C.V., and contact information.

## Conference registration fees:

- Individuals earning more than the equivalent of over \$15,000 (USD) per year have a choice of:
  - \$120 (USD): This includes an Individual Membership to the SRS for 2022 and an electronic subscription to the *Journal of Romanian Studies* for 2022.
  - \$100 (USD): This includes a Discount Membership\* to the SRS for 2022.
- For individuals earning less than the equivalent of under \$15,000 (USD) per year: \$30 (USD). This includes a Discount Membership\* to the SRS for 2022.
- For life members and individuals who have already taken out three-year memberships: \$20 (USD).
- For students: \$15 (USD).

\*NB. Discount Members do not receive a subscription to the *Journal of Romanian Studies*.

There is a limited number of fee waivers for people with modest incomes sponsored by the PLURAL Forum for Interdisciplinary Studies, Moldova. Please contact the conference organizers for details. The conference website can be found [here](#).

# Member News

**Roland Clark's** chapter entitled “The Romanian Right: Images of Crisis, the Press, and the Rise of Fascism” was published in *Conservatives and Right Radicals in Interwar Europe*, edited by Marco Bresciani (Routledge, 2021).

**Ruxandra Trandafoiu's** chapter entitled “Cluj-Napoca, Romania: Electronic Dance Music and Local Policy (2015–2020)” was published in *Electronic Cities. Music, Policies and Space*, edited by Sébastien Darchen, Damien Charrieras and John Willsteed (Palgrave 2021).

# Book Prize

## Sixth Biennial SRS Book Prize

SRS invites nominations for the Sixth Biennial SRS Book Prize awarded for the best scholarly book published in English in the humanities or social sciences, on any subject relating to Romania or Moldova and their diasporas. To be eligible, books must have been published between 1 January 2019 and 31 December 2020 as indicated by the copyright date. Books may be in any academic field, with a predominant focus on Romanian or Moldovan subject matter (including subjects relating to the activities of non-Romanian ethnic groups on Romanian or Moldovan territory). Edited books, translations, reprints or new editions of works published before 2019, and non-scholarly books are not eligible.

The prize carries with it an award of \$800. Either authors or publishers of books may make submissions. Submissions should be sent to the SRS prize committee by 1 June 2021.

Three copies of each submitted book should be sent by mail, one copy directly to each committee member at the addresses below. Questions or inquiries can be sent to the committee chair, Dragoş Petrescu, via email at [dragos.petrescu@fspub.unibuc.ro](mailto:dragos.petrescu@fspub.unibuc.ro) The award will be announced in October 2021.

## SRS Book Prize Committee Members:

**Ruxandra Trandafoiu**  
Reader in Communication  
Department of Creative Arts  
Edge Hill University  
St Helen's Road, Ormskirk  
L39 4QP, UK

**Michael Stewart**  
Senior Lecturer in  
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E15 1LZ, UK

**Dragoş Petrescu (Chair)**  
Professor of Comparative Politics  
Department of Political Science  
University of Bucharest  
Mailing address:  
Str. Şipotul Fântânilor Nr. 2, Sc. A, Ap.  
22 Sector 1, 010157 Bucharest.  
ROMANIA

## About the SRS Book Prize:

For details of the Prize and past winners please see:  
<https://society4romanianstudies.org/awards-prizes/>

# Graduate Student Essay Prize

## Thirteenth Annual Graduate Student Essay Prize

SRS is pleased to announce the Thirteenth Annual Graduate Student Essay Prize competition for an outstanding unpublished essay or thesis chapter. The submitted single-author work must be written in English by a graduate student in any social science or humanities discipline on a Romanian or Moldovan subject, broadly and inclusively understood.

The 2021 prize consists of \$250 plus an individual, one-year membership to SRS that includes a subscription to the journal, valued at \$75. The second-place award of honorable mention includes a one-year subscription to the journal.

The competition is open to current MA and doctoral students or to those who defended dissertations in the academic year 2020–2021. The submitted work should have been completed within the last two academic years and should not have been published yet. If the essay is a dissertation chapter, it should be accompanied by the dissertation abstract and table of contents. Expanded versions of conference papers are also acceptable if accompanied by a description of the panel and the candidate's conference paper proposal. Candidates should clearly indicate the format of the essay submitted. Essays/chapters should be up to 10,000 words double-spaced, including citations.

Candidates should clearly indicate their institutional affiliation. Include as well your current e-mail and postal addresses so that you may be contacted. Questions can be directed to the chair of the committee, Narcis Tulbure, at [narcis.tulbure@gmail.com](mailto:narcis.tulbure@gmail.com). Please send a copy of the essay, any accompanying documentation (as both Word and PDF please) and an updated CV to [narcis.tulbure@gmail.com](mailto:narcis.tulbure@gmail.com)

Applicants are not required to be members of SRS in order to apply.

Deadline for submissions is 15 July 2021. The winners will be announced on 1 November 2021.

### SRS Essay Prize Committee:

#### **Corina Dobos**

The Research Institute of the University of Bucharest (ICUB),

University of Bucharest

[corina.dobos@istorie.unibuc.ro](mailto:corina.dobos@istorie.unibuc.ro)

#### **Simona Livescu**

Academic Advancement Program

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#### **Narcis Tulbure (chair)**

Department of Finance

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# Journal of Romanian Studies

The Journal of Romanian Studies is pleased to announce the release of its spring 2021 edition. In this issue, Roland Clark examines narratives of interwar Romanian history. Lucian Turcescu and Lavinia Stan investigate the post-Communist financial dealings of the Romanian Orthodox Church. Valeska Bopp-Filimonov also considers on the post-Communist era, discussing generational memory amongst Romanian families from a variety of backgrounds. Amelia Miholca conducts an analysis of cubism in the avant-garde magazines *Contimporanul* and *Integral* and Radu Pârvulescu introduces the open-source Romanian Judicial Professions Database. This issue also includes book reviews by Mara Mărginean, Francesco Magno, and Petru Negură. Members receive a complimentary electronic subscription to the journal. If you are interested in taking out an individual or institutional subscription, please write to the publisher at [subscription@ibidem.eu](mailto:subscription@ibidem.eu).

Editors: Peter Gross ([pgross@utk.edu](mailto:pgross@utk.edu))  
and Diane Vancea ([economics@ovidius-university.net](mailto:economics@ovidius-university.net))  
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Editorial Assistant: Claudia Lonkin ([claudia.lonkin@gmail.com](mailto:claudia.lonkin@gmail.com))

## CALL FOR PAPERS

**The Journal of Romanian Studies seeks submissions for future issues.** The editors will consider:

- original research articles (of up to 10,000 words, including bibliography)
- review articles (of up to 3,000 words, commenting on 2-3 books on a common theme)
- book reviews (of up to 1,000 words)

Please include a title, a 200-word abstract, the text of the article, and a bibliography. Double space your article and abstract, and do not include your name and affiliation anywhere. Note that we will NOT consider manuscripts that are under review elsewhere or manuscripts that have been previously published (in English or Romanian). To this effect, your email should clearly state that your manuscript is not under review with other journals and has not been previously published. Please send all submissions to [romanian.studies.journal@gmail.com](mailto:romanian.studies.journal@gmail.com). All other articles will be considered on a rolling basis for future publication.

## Journal of

# Romanian Studies

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*ibidem*

The biannual, peer-reviewed *Journal of Romanian Studies*, jointly developed by The Society for Romanian Studies and ibidem Press, examines critical issues in Romanian studies, linking work in that field to wider theoretical debates and issues of current relevance, and serving as a forum for junior and senior scholars. The journal also presents articles that connect Romania and Moldova comparatively with other states and their ethnic majorities and minorities, and with other groups by investigating the challenges of migration and globalization and the impact of the European Union.

# Journal of Romanian Studies

## BOOK TALK SERIES

The editors of the Journal of Romanian Studies (JRS) recently inaugurated a virtual book talk series in which authors or editors of the books presented in the journal are joined by the scholars who reviewed their work.

These events, moderated by Iuliu Rațiu, the Reviews Editor of the JRS, promote conversations about issues pertinent to the field of Romanian Studies from an international perspective. So far, the panels gathered an impressive lineup of scholars who discussed books written in Romanian, English, and French:

- On January 28, 2021, Peter Gross, coeditor of the JRS, interviewed Marian Voicu, author of *Matrioșka mincinoșilor: Fake news, manipulare, populism* [*The Matrioshka of the Liars: Fake news, Manipulation, Populism*] (Humanitas, 2018)
- On February 25, 2021, Francesco Magno met with Sabrina P. Ramet and Roland Clark to discuss *Interwar East Central Europe, 1918-1941: The Failure of Democracy-building, the Fate of Minorities* (Routledge, 2020)
- On March 31, 2021, Petru Negură interviewed Dorina Roșca about her book *Le grand tournant de la société moldave. «Intellectuels» et capital social dans la transformation post-socialiste* [*The Grand Turning Point of Moldovan Society: 'Intellectuals' and Social Capital in the Post-Socialist Transformation*] (Presse de l'INALCO, 2019).

The Journal of Romanian Studies Book Talk Series  
January 28, 2021 @ 7 pm (GMT + 2)  
Peter Gross & Marian Voicu

MARIAN VOICU  
MATRIOȘKA MINCINOȘILOR  
FAKE NEWS,  
MANIPULARE,  
POPULISM

February 25, 2021 @ 7 pm (GMT + 2):  
Sabrina P. Ramet, Roland Clark, & Francesco Magno  
*Interwar East Central Europe, 1918-1941*, Routledge, 2020

March 2021 (TBA):  
Dorina Roșca & Petru Negură  
*Le grand tournant de la société moldave. «Intellectuels» et capital social dans la transformation post-socialiste*, INALCO Press, 2019

Recordings of these talks are available on the journal's [YouTube page](#) and the tentative schedule for the next series of events will be announced on the journal's [Facebook page](#) by late August 2021.

# Soundbite from Romania

*Petru Clej is the London correspondent for Radio France Internationale and G4Media.*

## **Alliance for The Union of Romanians (AUR) – political fool's gold?**

*"Arthur the bear represents all the Romanian industries, banks and minds stolen by foreigners. Like Arthur, some were unique in Europe, they were fat and beautiful. But they stood in their way. The murder of Arthur, the largest Romanian Carpathian bear, has a much greater significance than it seems. Besides being a crime against nature, this barbarism is a perfect parable for the way things have happened in our country in the last 30 years."*



This statement, which echoes what many Romanians felt about the story of Arthur, who was shot by an Austrian prince and hotelier granted a hunting licence in Romania, a story splashed all over the social media, is itself a Facebook post belonging to George Simion, co-leader of the Alliance for The Union of Romanians (AUR) and member of the Chamber of Deputies.

George Simion is, in fact, one of the founders of AUR ("aur" means gold in Romanian) and its most prominent public figure. He is not an intellectual like the other AUR co-leader, Claudiu Târziu, or its chief ideologue, Sorin Lavric, but he is an expert at harnessing social media platforms to promote the party.



**George Simion is AUR's co-leader (foto: [www.partidulaur.ro](http://www.partidulaur.ro))**

AUR, founded in September 2019, owes its success mainly to Facebook. Throughout 2020 it has inundated the platform with its message, taking advantage of the various lockdowns and restrictions imposed by the authorities which created an immense sense of frustration among many Romanians. And the investment, cheap in financial terms but sustained in terms of efforts from the activists, has paid handsomely: coming out of nowhere, AUR polled 9% in Romania's parliamentary election on 6 December 2020, becoming the fourth largest party with 13 senators and 31 deputies.

## **The Legionary Movement connection**

So what does AUR stand for? "AUR is the result of the unification of the Romanian political forces that take into account the interests of the Romanian people," states the party's constitution.



# Soundbite from Romania

Simple enough, but what does this mean in practice? Well, this is the starting point for the claims that AUR is the sole representative of the genuine interests of the Romanian people which has elicited comparisons with the Iron Guard, also known as the Legionary Movement, a fascist movement in Romania between 1927 and 1941.

AUR has a keen interest, like the Legionary Movement, in religion, especially Orthodox Christianity, the nominal religion for the majority of Romanians, and poses as their great defender against its persecutors, i.e. the officialdom which restricts the right to worship during lockdown.



Senator Sorin Lavric is AUR's chief ideologue  
(photo: Sorin Lavric Facebook)

And AUR's defence of Orthodoxy goes hand in hand with nationalism, some say of the extremist variety. But whereas the legionnaires of the interwar period were obsessed with antisemitism, AUR's nationalism is geared mainly towards xenophobia, especially against the Hungarian minority and its political party, UDMR, currently part of the ruling coalition in Romania.

Which is not to say that antisemitism has disappeared from AUR's public discourse. It reappears indirectly when leaders like Târziu, a former editor of ROST magazine and publishing house, and especially Lavric speak in glowing terms about figures of the Legionary Movement.

Lavric, a doctor by training and a philosopher by retraining, has used his position as a senator to praise former legionnaires like Valeriu Gafencu and Radu Gyr, and members of the fascist government of Ion Antonescu (1940 – 1944) like Mircea Vulcănescu. After the war, Gyr and Vulcănescu were sentenced for crimes against humanity involving their persecution of the Jews. According to Romanian law, praising such figures is a criminal offence.

But Lavric invoked parliamentary immunity and even dismissed criticism from Silviu Vexler, the deputy representing the Jewish minority, bluntly telling him: "We are not in Palestine" and alluding to the role of the Jews in imposing communist rule in Romania after 1944, a well-known antisemitic trope.

## Far-Right party?

So does this make AUR a far-right, or even neo-fascist, movement as some of its opponents claim?

Until now efforts to pin the far-right label on a party in Romania have been largely unsuccessful. The closest one was Greater Romania Party (PRM), which was basically a one man band led by Corneliu Vadim Tudor (who died in 2015), but that was more a conversion of national-communist remnants of the Nicolae Ceaușescu regime pre-1989.

# Soundbite from Romania

AUR has no links to the former communist regime; in fact it is staunchly anti-communist and its fan base is much younger. It won a quarter of the votes in the Romanian diaspora among people living in advanced democracies.

A brief visit to AUR supporter groups on Facebook – some of them boasting well over 100,000 members – reveals ultra-nationalist feelings, tinged sometimes with vile xenophobia, racism, homophobia and antisemitism.

The main hate figure for AUR supporters is Raed Arafat, a respected doctor of Palestinian origins, who has lived in Romania for the past 40 years and is blamed in his capacity as secretary of state in the Health Ministry for imposing draconian pandemic restrictions.

In fact, Coronavirus denialism and anti-vaccinism are features of many AUR supporters encouraged by the ambiguous attitude of the party leaders. The main figure who fronted this campaign, Senator Diana Șoșoacă, branded a vulgar busybody by many in the media and the political establishment, was expelled from the party in February 2021, proving too much even for AUR leaders who were fed-up with the constant upheaval she raised in the media, which threatened to damage the veneer of respectability of the party.

So back to the question: is AUR a far-right, or even fascist, party?

*“AUR is on the far-right through the three strata: traditional, reactionary and neo-fascist. However, it drew lessons from the failures of the far right in France and Italy and is pro-Europe financially,”* says the French-Romanian historian Traian Sandu who wrote a book about the Legionary Movement and compares AUR with PiS in Poland and Fidesz in Hungary.



**AUR uses national symbols in abundance (photo: AUR Facebook)**

Recently, AUR has climbed to third in public opinion polls and has announced it will compete in elections in the Republic of Moldova on 11 July, true to its name and in support the reunion of that country with Romania. The party claims it will win majority support in 2024 parliamentary elections and govern Romania on its own. The equivalent of turning AUR to political gold. Its opponents hope, though, that this will be political fool's gold and AUR will fade into insignificance like other far-right movements in Eastern Europe.

# Soundbite from Romania

*Marius Wamsiedel is a medical sociologist at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University.*

## The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Vulnerable Groups

The Covid-19 pandemic did not come out of the blue. Globalization, urbanization, and rapid economic development in many parts of the world created the conditions of possibility for emerging infectious diseases to occur and spread globally. The recent Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) epidemics were warning signs that new zoonotic diseases could emerge and pose substantial population health risks. However, the Covid-19 pandemic caught the world off guard, affecting economies and disrupting everyday life. I will focus here on a couple of issues: the amplification of socioeconomic inequalities and the need to collect ethnic data in health care.



Health is not only biological but also social. Age, sex, race, or genetic make-up matter, but equally important are the broader determinants of health, such as socioeconomic status, education, and access to quality health care. The pandemic impinged more on people holding menial jobs and those making a living in the informal economy. They were more likely to contract the virus and more likely to suffer economically from the public health measures to contain its spread, such as prolonged lockdown, curfews and shorter business hours, bans on indoor public gatherings, and travel restrictions. Measures to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 on the most economically hit sectors provided some relief to workers in the formal economy. However, survey data indicate that over a third of employees in Romania were either fired or forced to work fewer hours, the rate going up to 90% for those in the tourism and travel sectors.<sup>1</sup> While many middle-class individuals had the opportunity to work from home, this flexibility was not an option for most working-class people. The shift to online teaching disproportionately affected children lacking the infrastructure to access distance learning (internet connection, computers, or tablets) and parental support. These dynamics augmented the economic inequalities in the Romanian society, increasing the short- and long-term health risks of the economically vulnerable segments of the population.

In this context, the situation of Roma warrants particular attention. The current policies prohibit the collection of ethnic data in health care, and there are strong historical arguments to support this interdiction. At the same time, the absence of ethnic data does not offer an accurate representation of the health impact of Covid-19 on the Roma. There are strong reasons to suspect, but limited means to prove, that morbidity and mortality were higher among the Roma minority as compared to the general population. First, structural conditions in Roma communities made physical isolation difficult to put into practice. Endemic poverty<sup>2</sup> and limited social protection compelled many Roma to take health risks that people in better economic situations could avoid.

1. The survey was conducted by the Boston Consulting Group (Chirileasa 2021).

2. 4 out of 5 Roma in Romania are at risk of poverty, the rate being 3.5 times higher than the national average (FRA 2016:35).

# Soundbite from Romania

Overcrowding<sup>3</sup> compounded the problem of poverty, impeding physical isolation. Second, the prevalence of risk factors for severe Covid-19 disease and mortality, such as diabetes and chronic respiratory disease, is higher among the Roma in Romania than in the general population.<sup>4</sup> Third, difficulties in accessing primary care and the widespread ethnic discrimination in the health care system deterred many Roma from seeking help when experiencing symptoms. The lack of ethnic data prevented the development of public health measures to protect the Roma population and kept the public attention away from the challenges faced by the second largest ethnic group in the country.

The current pandemic goes beyond health, and sociology is in a privileged position to examine the wider social transformations it entails. Some topics worth exploring include structural inequalities and the production of health vulnerability; the lived experience of Covid-19 along class, gender, and ethnic lines; the rise of authoritarianism and extreme right-wing movements and discourses; the transformation of work conditions; the reverse brain drain; and the redefinition of the social contract.

3. On average, in Romanian Roma communities, six persons live in a household, with only 13.5 square meters per household member (Perić 2012:35-36).

4. The ischemic coronary disease rate is 21.5% among Roma vs. 12.3% for non-Roma, whereas the prevalence of diabetes is 23% for Roma as compared to 15.4% for non-Roma (IOM 2014:26)

## Sources:

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IOM. 2014. *Implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategy and Other National Commitments in the Field of Health: Romania*. Available online: [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/nris\\_romania.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/nris_romania.pdf) (retrieved May 17)

Perić, Tatjana. 2012. *The Housing Situation of Roma Communities: Regional Roma Survey 2011*. Roma Inclusion Working Papers. Bratislava: United Nations Development Programme.

# Institute for Ecumenical Research Sibiu

[The Institute for Ecumenical Research](#) of

Sibiu/Hermannstadt, Romania, is a joint initiative between the Faculty of Orthodox Theology and the Faculty of Protestant Theology of the Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (ULBS), with a mandate for ecumenical studies through publications, conferences, research projects.

The Institute uses Romanian, German and English in its work, indicative of the rich cultural, linguistic and confessional heritage of Transylvania as well as its international outlook. Along with a tradition of joint co-directorship between two senior representatives of each theological faculty, the Institute also employs researchers from backgrounds in not only theological studies but a range of humanities so that it may foster genuine interdisciplinary approaches to theology and religious studies.



[The Review of Ecumenical Studies](#) (RES), the scientific journal of the Institute, is published three times a year and features double-blind peer review articles on topics relevant to ecumenical studies. Contributions are published in English or German and it is presently indexed through ERIH PLUS, ATLA Religion Database/RDB, EBSCO Academic Search Complete. At the latest evaluation of scientific journals in Romania, the RES received the highest ranking (A) from the National Council for Scientific Research, one of two theological studies publications to presently hold this distinction. Recent editions have included *Ecumenism at the Turn of the Decade* (RES 1/2020), *The Ecumenism of the Mystics* (RES 2/2020), and *An Intellectual of the Church: Remembering Father André Scrima (1925-2000)* (RES 3/2020). Upcoming issues will include *Contemporary World and Post-Conciliar Orthodoxy* (RES 1/2021), *Sacred Spaces in Motion* (RES 2/2021), and *Religious Identities in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages: Strategies for the Construction and Representation of the Religious Self* (RES 3/2021).

Since 2017, the Institute offers short-term research bursaries for young Romanian researchers at an early stage of their careers. The [André Scrima Fellowship](#) program aims at encouraging researchers who address topics from the field of theology, but also from the broader scope of humanities, such as history, philosophy, or religious studies. The Fellows present their research at the annual two-day workshop and publish their research results in the Review of Ecumenical Studies.

The [Dan Slușanschi School for Classical and Oriental Languages](#), presently beginning its fifth cycle of courses, was founded with the express intent to provide access to source languages that are necessary for research in theology and religious studies, and also to support classical studies in Romania. Dedicated to the memory of the late classicist Dan Slușanschi, it presently offers online courses in Latin, Ancient Greek, Old Slavonic and Biblical Hebrew through intensive summer courses and extensive autumn to spring courses.

The Institute team is engaged in several research projects, two of which have recently won substantial funding through the EES and Norway Grants program and the ULBS-run Hasso-Plattner Fund. The project [Mystical Theology in Islamic-Christian Dialogue: Chiara Lubich, Andre Scrima and Classical Authors in Persian and Arabic Culture](#) strives to bring into light mystics whose radical religious experiences lead to genuine openness to the *other*, rather than to the radicalization of their discourse. The project [The Role of Romanian Orthodox Church in the Social Integration of Roma: Towards a Participatory Approach](#) maps the possibilities that the Orthodox Church can actualize for the betterment of Roma communities by identifying and attempting to implement grass-roots solutions to the various issues that hinder social development of Roma communities. Both these projects have been initiated and are coordinated by project director Prof. Stefan Tobler, co-director of the Institute.

Contact [ccesiofh@gmail.com](mailto:ccesiofh@gmail.com) to be put on our Institute mailing list and follow us on [Facebook](#).

# Interview with Mariana Hausleitner

*Historian Mariana Hausleitner (Free University of Berlin) discusses Romanian studies in Germany and the current historiography of the Holocaust in Romania.*

**Please tell us about your academic background and career in Romanian studies.**

I grew up in a German family in Bucharest; my father was a Transylvanian Saxon. After his death, my mother applied to leave to be with her relatives. My grandmother's brother, as a baptized Jew, was subject to forced labor in the Sudetenland during the war years and was nevertheless expelled to Germany in 1945. At the age of 16, I came to West Germany, but I stayed connected to Romania through friends and relatives. Ceaușescu's national communism was mostly portrayed positively in the FRG until about 1987, given that the German minority was allowed to leave in exchange for bounties.



Beginning in 1972, I studied history, political science and Russian studies in West Berlin. As a leftist, I was initially interested in the labor movement and wrote a thesis on Austro-Marxists concepts of nationality. Next, I examined the myths behind the claim, frequently heard in Romania, that the socialists had aspired to Greater Romania. In 1979, thanks to a grant, I was able to inspect the original documents myself in the party archive in Bucharest. In my dissertation, I demonstrated that the multinational social democracy before 1918 was not aimed at the enlargement of the nation state but instead envisioned a Balkan federation.

I worked as a teacher at the grammar school and, in my spare time, spent ten years co-editing *Osteuropa-Info*, in which we published texts by dissidents. During the Perestroika years, I worked at the *Institut für Konfliktforschung* in Frankfurt studying the upheavals in Eastern Europe. During a six month research stay in Moscow in 1989, I got in touch with the "Memorial" group and was able to raise money from the German Green Party for the first exhibition on the Hitler-Stalin Pact. After completing a book on the *Osteuropapolitik* of the Soviet Union, I chose Romanization as the subject of my habilitation these. I wanted to take a stand against the idealization of the interwar period that had been customary in Romania since 1990.

**Your work has focused on minority populations as well as questions of identity in the Romanian lands. You have written about the 'Romanianization' of Bukovina, the Banat Swabians, Germans and Jews in Bessarabia, and, most recently, resistance during the Holocaust in Transnistria, Northern Transylvania, and Romania. Where does your interest in these subjects originate?**

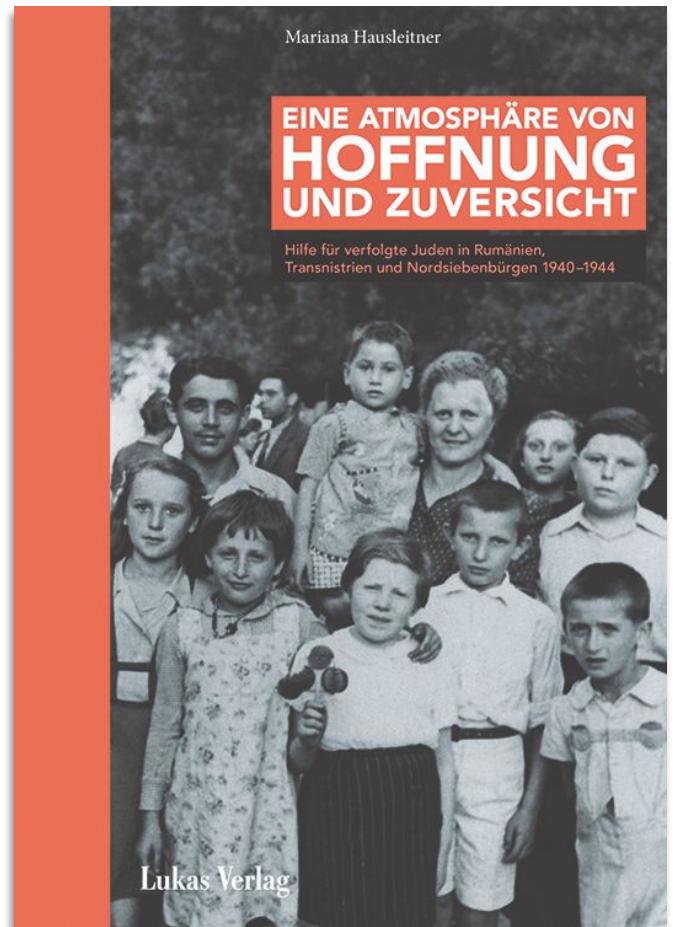
No research had been carried out in Romania on Bukovina and Bessarabia before 1990. Afterwards, we primarily saw works by nationalists from the interwar period such as Ion Nistor, who in his *History of Bukovina* had portrayed non-Romanians as irritating foreign bodies. At that time, many Romanian politicians described non-Romanians in Bukovina and Bessarabia as immigrants who would hinder the envisaged connection of these areas to Romania. After the bloody conflict of 1991 in the Republic of Moldova and in view of the war in Yugoslavia, it was important to me to challenge historians who called for national homogenization of the population.

# Interview with Mariana Hausleitner

Between 1990 and 2004, the cult of Ion Antonescu was very strong: he was honored in the Senate in Bucharest in 1991 and again in 1999. In 1999, I organized a conference with others at the Berliner Zentrum für Antisemitismusforschung, where we brought together the few researchers from Romania who were working on the Romanian Holocaust with those from the FRG, Israel, and the USA. After that I was involved in several international projects related to the Second World War. Beginning in 2003, I spent five years in Munich at an institute researching German minorities. I wrote a book about the situation of the Germans and Jews in Bessarabia, sharpening our understanding by comparing the situation of two groups. Between 2009 and 2011, I was the curator of a large exhibition in Berlin on the police in Nazi Germany. After that, I was familiar enough with the subject to work on a project examining Nazi influence among the Danube Swabians in Romania and Serbia. The next book, was about the the resettlements of 1940 and the uprooting of Germans from Bukovina through plans for the Germanization of the occupied territories. At the same time, I was involved in a long-term project of editing sources on the persecution and murder of European Jews, for which I worked on the Romanian case. In 2020, I published a book (right) about supporters of the Jews in Romania during the Second World War and my synthesis book, *Selbstbehauptung gegen staatliche Zwangsmassnahmen: Juden und Deutsche in Rumänien seit 1830* (Frank & Timme, 2021), was just published.

**How would you describe the historiography of the Holocaust in Romania at present? What new questions are being asked? What do the Romanian, Moldovan, or Transnistrian cases help us to understand about the Holocaust more generally?**

Compared to the situation in the 1990s, the historiography in Romania has developed positively since the work of the International Commission on the Holocaust in Romania, established in 2003. Those who deny the mass murders now face legal prosecution. With grants from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, some young Romanians are writing dissertations on this subject. Often, however, they aren't able to get jobs in Romania afterwards and therefore subsequently find work abroad on other issues. Unfortunately, there is too little cooperation between historians from Romania and the Republic of Moldova who are not nationally oriented. The generations after me in Romania had no Russian lessons and do not find it appealing to work in the archives of Chişinău or Chernivtsi. It is important to make the specifics of anti-Semitism in Romania clear. It differed from region to region and only led to the Holocaust in the northeast. Since Romania was an ally of Nazi Germany and not an occupied country, Antonescu was able to stop the planned extradition of Jews in 1942 and, in 1944, permitted ships with Jewish refugees to leave for Palestine. Documents have been published in recent years about the deportations of Roma and religiously motivated conscientious objectors to Transnistria. In contrast, the history of Soviet prisoners of war in Romania has hardly been dealt with.



# Interview with Mariana Hausleitner

**You have been a member of the German academic community in Romanian Studies for several decades and have seen the field evolve and change. How would you describe the current status of Romanian Studies in Germany? What challenges do researchers writing in German or studying and publishing in Germany face with regard to Romanian Studies?**

Linguists and literary scholars also included as part of Romanian Studies, but I can only comment on the few historians currently working in the FRG. Armin Heinen in Aachen and Hans-Christian Maner in Mainz also work on Romanian topics; otherwise the profession's focus is primarily on Russia or Eastern Europe. As a visiting professor in Berlin, Munich, Klagenfurt, and Cluj, I offered some things in Romanian history, among other topics, but I advised doctoral students to cover a wider field. The articles and books published in German are mostly only noticed by the limited circle of experts in the FRG and Austria. In Romania, hardly anyone reads German-language works and in Germany, very few read books in Romanian. For many years I have been trying to publish reviews of Romanian books in specialist journals, but the editorial staffs have seldom been interested.

**What archival collections, libraries, institutions or other resources in Romania have been most helpful in your research? Are there particular repositories or resources in Germany that SRS members might benefit from exploring?**

In Romania, I found it useful to follow which social and political conflicts at the regional level garnered attention from the security authorities and which were passed on to the ministries in Bucharest. The latter reports are in the National Archives and, for those from the communist period, in the CNSAS. Almost all newspapers and magazines published in Romania can be viewed in the Romanian Academy Library in Bucharest. In Berlin, a lot of important information about relations between Romania and Germany can be found in the Political Archives of the Foreign Office (*Politisches Archiv des Auswärtigen Amtes*).

I published more information about my archival research in Romania, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in an essay in *Spiegelungen*. This magazine is published by the Institut für deutsche Kultur und Geschichte Südosteuropas in Munich. This institute has many unevaluated sources and newspapers pertaining to the German minorities. Since the directors there no longer come from *Landsmannschaften*, topics that have been neglected for a long time, such as the dominance of former National Socialists in the *Landsmannschaften* after 1945, have also been studied in recent years. The Bukowina-Institut in Augsburg has also had a team of young critical researchers for several years, as the latest issue of *Danubiana Carpathica* attests. The *Jahrbuch of the Kommission für Geschichte und Kultur der Deutschen in Südosteuropa* is alternately published by the Institut für Donauschwäbische Geschichte und Landeskunde in Tübingen and the the aforementioned institute in Munich. Collected material about the Danube Swabians from Romania, Hungary and Serbia, is available there. The three institutes have organized many conferences on intercultural relations together in collaboration with researchers from Romania, Hungary, Serbia, Ukraine and Moldova. Often the results have appeared in anthologies. A research project on the resettlements in 1940 is currently being carried out by the Bundesinstitut für Kultur und Geschichte der Deutschen im östlichen Europa in Oldenburg. For such projects, funding can be requested from the Beauftragter der Bundesregierung für Kultur und Medien. They also support events with students, such as those regularly organized by Akademie Mitteleuropa in Bad Kissingen.



# SRS-Polirom Book Series

## SRS-POLIROM BOOK SERIES

Studii Românești - Romanian Studies - Études Roumaines - Rumänische Studien

Series Editors: Irina Livezeanu ([irinal@pitt.edu](mailto:irinal@pitt.edu)) and Lavinia Stan ([lstan@stfx.ca](mailto:lstan@stfx.ca))

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The series publishes scholarly books in Romanian authored or edited by SRS members. The Editors will consider three types of manuscripts: 1) Romanian translations of scholarly monographs already published in a foreign language; 2) original scholarly monographs written in Romanian; and 3) edited collections of essays dealing with a Romanian Studies theme.

Books in the SRS Romanian Studies series are about Romania and/or Moldova and the populations living on these territories, or with the Romanian and Moldovan diasporas and cultures. Manuscripts should have primarily an academic profile, and a disciplinary, interdisciplinary, or multidisciplinary focus, drawing on history, political science, sociology, anthropology, law, economics, linguistics, literature, art history, or other fields. They should be based on sound and rigorous scholarly analysis, and include references and bibliography. We prefer contributions that are free of jargon and thus more likely to appeal to a wide audience. All proposals, manuscripts, and books offered for translation will be carefully reviewed for publication in the series.

### Titles published in the series to date in reverse chronological order are:

- Maria Bucur, *Eroi și victime. România și memoria celor două războaie mondiale* (2019)
- Diana Dumitru, *Vecini în vremuri de restriște. Stat, antisemitism și Holocaust în Basarabia și Transnistria* (2019)
- Cristina Vățulescu, *Cultură și poliție secretă în comunism* (2018)
- Lavinia Stan și Diane Vancea, coord., *România postcomunistă: trecut, prezent, viitor* (2017)
- Alex Drace-Francis, *Geneza culturii române moderne. Instituțiile scrisului și dezvoltarea identității naționale, 1700-1900* (2016)
- Vladimir Solonari, *Purificarea națiunii: dislocări forțate de populație și epurări etnice în România lui Ion Antonescu, 1940-1944* (2015)
- Roland Clark, *Sfântă tinerețe legionară. Activismul fascist în România interbelică* (2015)  
WINNER OF THE 2017 SRS BOOK AWARD



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The Society for Romanian Studies



# SRS-Polirom Book Series



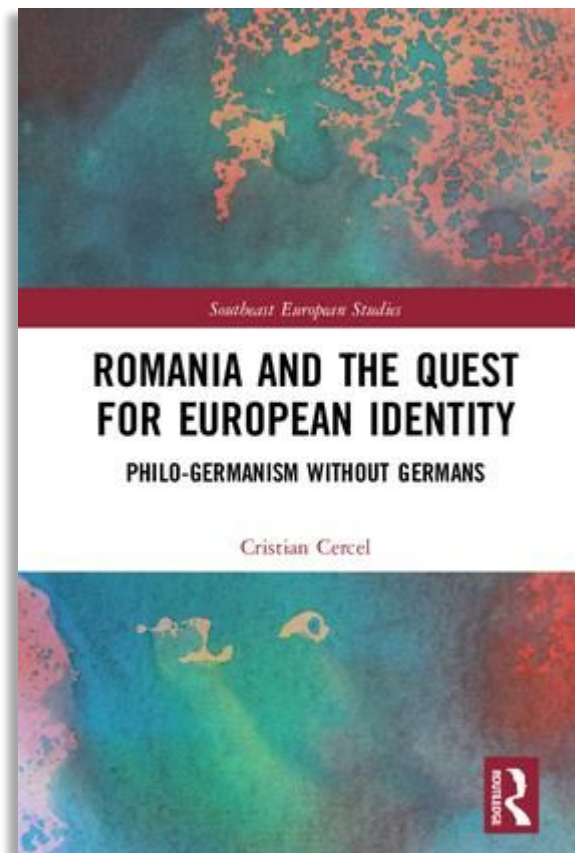
## FORTHCOMING

Cristian Cercel's *Romania and the Quest for European Identity: Philo-Germanism without Germans* (Routledge, 2019) is being translated into Romanian by the author and will appear in our series later this year.

## WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT IT

"*Romania and the Quest for European Identity: Philo-Germanism without Germans* is one of the most important scholarly contributions to the investigation of Romanian identity in the last couple of decades, and will hopefully spur scientific debate and a more reflexive approach to the processes, inter-ethnic-and class relations, and democracy and politics whose main driving forces it tries to deconstruct." (Tibor Toró, *Intersections: East European Journal of Society and Politics*, 2020)

"This book [...] marks an important step forward in understanding complex processes such as Europeanization, cultural interaction, and social change. Beginning with the subtitle, Cercel put[s] forward a puzzling problem when it comes to explaining ethnic relations, imagined communities, and electoral behavior, namely philo-Germanism without Germans in Romania[....] Cercel attempts to grasp a very broad perspective by moving from the peculiar electoral curiosity of ethnic Romanians electing a German candidate in a medium-size town in Transylvania, to the way westernization and Europeanization concur in shaping Romanian identity. The preference for an ethnic German candidate in a city almost deserted by its German-speaking citizens sheds light on the broader phenomenon of intimate self-colonization[....] The current philo-Germanism without Germans is strongly connected with Romanian aspirations toward Europeanization, an effort to overcome cultural, social, and political dilemmas of being caught between east and west." (Dragoș Dragoman, *Slavic Review*, 2020)



# SRS-Polirom Book Series

“Cristian Cercel introduces extremely accurate observations about a widespread and widely known phenomenon in Romania, namely, philo-Germanism without Germans. The title chosen by Cercel is both confusing and revealing. It is confusing for any scholar in the field preparing to go through this book, since no previous work has openly and systemically approached the given phenomenon as an expression of the Romanian quest for European identity. The title becomes revealing from the first chapter and continues to remain so until the last one. The author’s arguments take us back to the key moments in Romanians’ modern and contemporary history that have generated emulation of Western European cultural and civilizational patterns, particularly of the German one.”  
(Andreea Zamfira, *Nationalities Papers*, ASN 2020)

”The volume informs [...] readers about the German–Romanian relationship in the turbulent postsocialist years. The richness of detail and their careful contextualization helps readers to form an accurate image of these relationships.[...] Cercel argues that it was the treatment under communist rule that led Germans to acquire an exaggerated sense of victimhood, which after 1990 became the driving force of their ‘exodus’ from Romania. Deserted Saxon and Swabian villages in Southern Transylvania are proof of this, as is the acute nostalgia expressed in the media by many ethnic Romanian intellectuals. The latter is interpreted by Cercel, throughout the volume, using the theoretical framework of ‘self-orientalization.’ With this concept Cercel aims to explain the intellectuals’ deep admiration for the Western model of modernization during the 19th and 20th centuries. This idolization then led, he maintains, to their rejecting any model that might have ultimately proven to be better suited to describe Romania’s society.” (Stelu Șerban, *Südosteuropa. Journal of Politics and Society* 2020)

Find a presentation of the book on the SRS [website](#):

**Christian Cercel** is currently a researcher with the Institute for Social Movements at Ruhr University Bochum. He has a BA in European Studies (University of Bucharest), an MA in Nationalism Studies (Central European University), and a PhD in Politics (Durham University). Before his current appointment, he held research positions and fellowships at several institutions, including New Europe College (Bucharest), the Centre for Contemporary German Culture at Swansea University, and the Centre for Advanced Study (Sofia). He has published in refereed academic journals such as *Nationalities Papers*, *East European Politics and Societies and Cultures*, *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*, and *History and Memory*. He is also active as a translator from German and Italian into Romanian.



## PROSPECTIVE AUTHORS

If you plan to submit a manuscript for the SRS-Polirom book series, or if you have a general interest in the series, we encourage you to contact the editors.

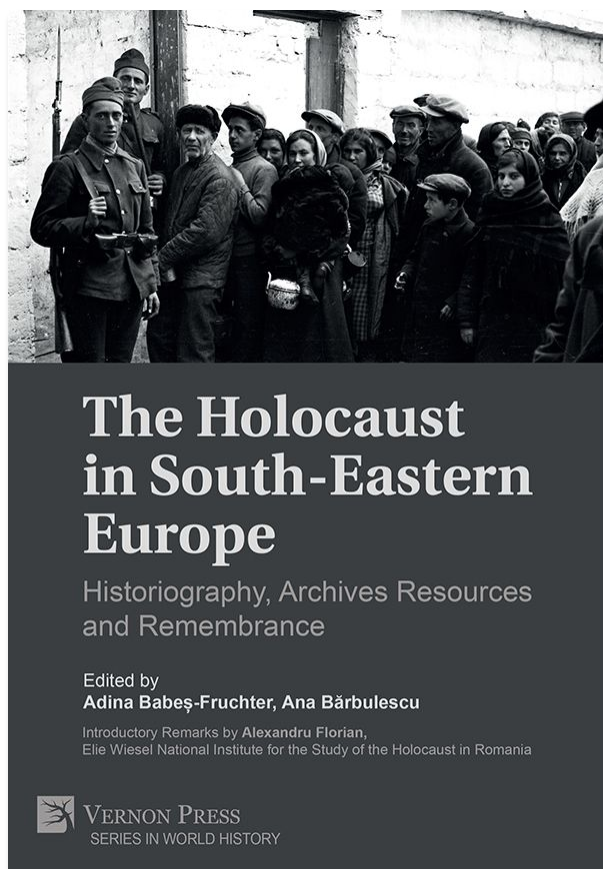
# Featured Books

**Ioana Vrăbiescu, *Deporting Europeans: The Racialized Mobility of Romanians in France* (Lexington Books, 2021)**

In *Deporting Europeans*, Ioana Vrăbiescu examines how states within the European Union (EU) collaborate in the policing and deportation of EU citizens within EU territory. Vrăbiescu argues that the deportation of EU citizens reifies existing inequalities between central states, like France, and peripheral states, like Romania. By highlighting the massive deportation of Romanians from France, Vrăbiescu showcases these inequalities and the intricacies of EU geopolitics.

**Adina Babeș-Fruchter, Ana Bărbulescu (eds.), *The Holocaust in South-Eastern Europe: Historiography, Archives Resources and Remembrance* (Vernon Press, 2021)**

For many decades, the Holocaust in South-Eastern Europe lacked the required introspection, research and study, and most importantly, access to archives and documentation. Only in recent years and with the significant help of an emerging generation of local scholars, the Holocaust from this region became the focus of many studies. In 2018, under the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure umbrella, the Elie Wiesel National Institute for the Study of the Holocaust in Romania organized a workshop dedicated to Holocaust research, education and remembrance in South-Eastern Europe. The present volume is a natural continuation of the above-mentioned workshop with the aim of introducing the current state of Holocaust research in the region to different categories of scholars in the field of Holocaust studies, to students and—why not—to the general public. Our scope, not an exhaustive one, is to present a historical contextualization using archival resources, to display the variety of recordings of discrimination, destruction and rescue efforts, and to introduce the remembrance initiatives and processes developed in the region in the aftermath of the Holocaust.



# Featured Books

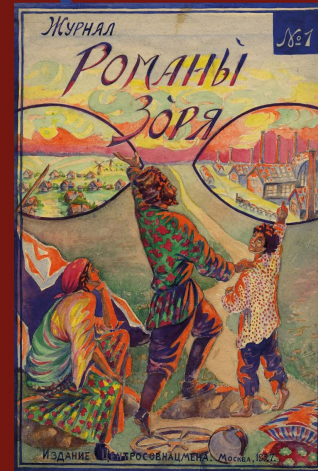
**Elena Marushiakova and Vesselin Popov (eds.),  
*Roma Voices in History: A Sourcebook* (Brill, 2021)**

This ground-breaking book is an impressively extensive collection of primary historical sources in various languages that reflect the history of the Roma (formerly referred to as 'Gypsies' in local languages). The selection of the included materials reflects the authentic voice of the Roma themselves, and presents their visions and the specific goals pursued by the Roma civic emancipation movement. The source materials are published in original and translated in English, and are accompanied by explanatory notes and summarising comments discussing the specific historical realities and their interrelation to the Romani emancipatory movement in Central and Eastern Europe, thus presenting a comprehensive picture of the historical processes.

**Roma Voices in History**

*A Sourcebook*

Edited by  
Elena Marushiakova & Vesselin Popov



BRILL | Ferdinand Schöningh



Roland Clark

**SECTARIANISM  
AND RENEWAL  
IN 1920s  
ROMANIA**

*The Limits of Orthodoxy  
and Nation Building*

BLOOMSBURY

**Roland Clark, *Sectarianism and Renewal in 1920s Romania The Limits of Orthodoxy and Nation-Building* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2021)**

Bringing the history of the Orthodox Church into dialogue with sectarianism, heresy, grassroots religious organization and nation-building, Roland Clark explores how competing religious groups in interwar Romania responded to and emerged out of similar catalysts, including rising literacy rates, new religious practices and a newly empowered laity inspired by universal male suffrage and a growing civil society who took control of community organizing. Situated at the intersection of transnational history, religious history and the history of reading, *Sectarianism and Renewal in 1920s Romania* challenges us to rethink the one-sided narratives about modernity and religious conflict in interwar Eastern Europe.

# Featured Books

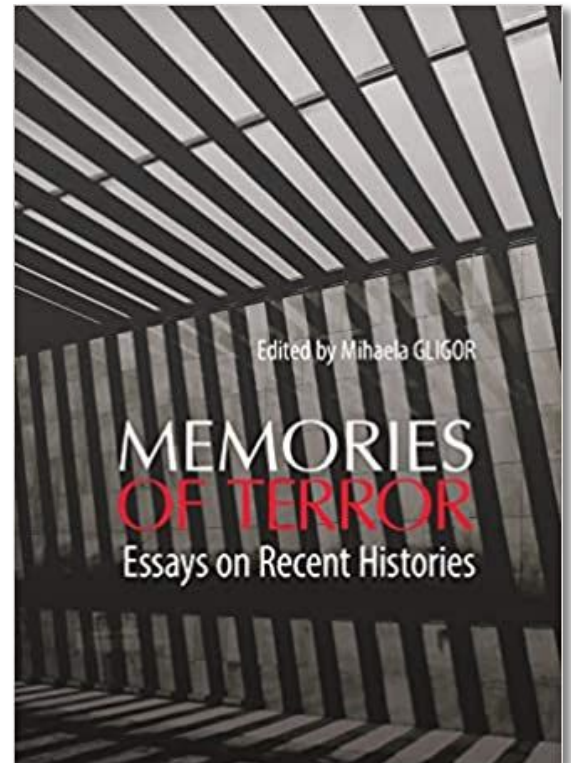
## Mihaela Gligor, *Memories of Terror: Essays on Recent Histories* (CEEOL Press, 2021)

This volume, focusing on the recovery of some forgotten facts about a very painful period of our history, addresses major concerns and problems. Stories dealing with life of surviving Jews after Holocaust are as important as the stories of the Holocaust itself. These are the stories of surviving Jews after the Holocaust, living memories of fear and strength, personal and interior battles, (in)tolerance and finding a place in a new world, but also acceptance of the pain of joy and hope for a better future.

## Mariana Hausleitner, *Selbstbehauptung gegen staatliche Zwangsmaßnahmen: Juden und Deutsche in Rumänien seit 1830* (Frank & Timme, 2021)

Juden und Deutsche in Rumänien - das ist eine wechselvolle Geschichte. Warum wurde sie so lange kaum erforscht? Wie begann die Aufarbeitung im In- und Ausland? Und welche Rolle spielten die Landsmannschaften?

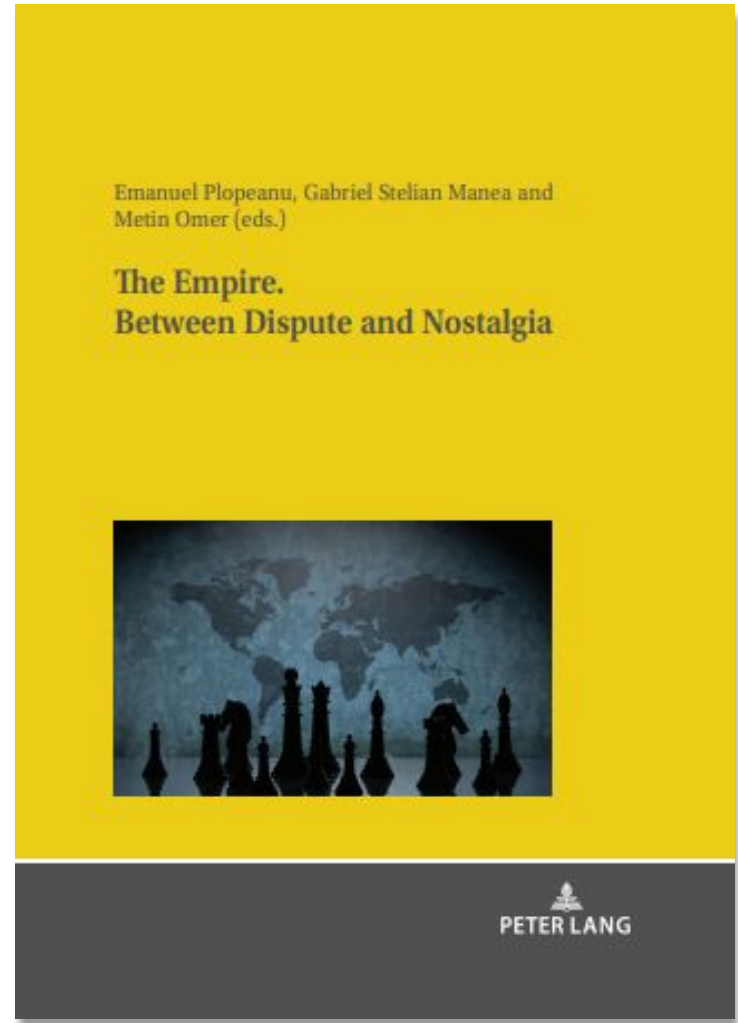
Mariana Hausleitner zeichnet die Geschichte der Juden und der Deutschen in Rumänien seit 1830 nach. Sie identifiziert die Netzwerke der verschiedenen politischen Strömungen in unterschiedlichen Regionen und rekonstruiert die geschichtswissenschaftliche Aufarbeitung der wechselvollen Minderheitenpolitik. Die Geschichte der Juden und Deutschen in Rumänien reicht von kompletter Rechtlosigkeit für die rumänischen Juden bis 1919 bei gleichzeitigem königlichen Schutz für die Deutschen über die erfolgreiche gemeinsame Verteidigung kultureller Autonomie in der Zwischenkriegszeit bis zu Rumänisierung, Genozid (im Falle der Juden), kollektiver Bestrafung und Auswanderung. Mariana Hausleitner dokumentiert die historische Entwicklung und die ihr zugrunde liegende Politik sowie deren historiografische Aufarbeitung.



# Featured Books

Emanuel Plopeanu, Gabriel Stelian Manea and Metin Omer, *The Empire: Between Dispute and Nostalgia* (Peter Lang, 2021)

The book examines how different imperial models of diplomacy, administration, economics, and cultural and religious policies were challenged or, on the contrary, defended during and after the collapse of the Empires that promoted them. It provides an overview from multiple perspectives of the imperial phenomenon in all its dimensions, and the studies published in this volume address broad chronological segments and geographical areas relevant to the imperial idea.



# H-Romania



**H-Romania** is currently looking for a new group of editors to take over the running of the list management and book reviews. H-Romania is now in its seventh year of operation, with nearly 400 subscribers to the network. We publish book reviews in all social science and humanities fields related to Romanian Studies, operate a discussion forum, host links to research and teaching

resources, and disseminate a variety of announcements and calls for papers/applications. While we are happy with our progress thus far, we still have room to grow and improve. We want to encourage SRS members to join H-Romania and publicize the network across the broad field of Romanian Studies. Please feel free to contribute postings and announcements, notify us of any recently published books and calls for papers/applications in your field, and volunteer to review books and report on conferences. And please follow us @HNet\_Romania on Twitter. Please contact Chris Davis at [R.Chris.Davis@LoneStar.edu](mailto:R.Chris.Davis@LoneStar.edu) if you are interested in joining the H-Romania editorial team.

# SRS Membership

SRS uses member dues to help with monetary prizes for outstanding publications and to budget and pay for the cost of future conferences. In addition, members play a vital role in the Society by supporting our membership program, submitting manuscripts for the new scholarly Journal of Romanian Studies, proposing nominations for the prizes, and voting for officers and Board members.



Contributions from lifetime members are most welcome. In addition, organizational sponsors and patrons may be approved by the Board on a case by case basis. Member organizations do not have a vote but their support will be acknowledged by SRS, including linking to organizational web sites.

You may renew your membership or join SRS via Paypal or credit card on our [website](#).

We also accept dues via mail. Please send mailed dues and/or donations directly by check (made out to The Society for Romanian Studies) to:

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**Trevor Colbourn Hall 319**  
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## About SRS

The Society for Romanian Studies is an international interdisciplinary academic organization based in the US and dedicated to promoting research and critical studies on all aspects of the culture and society of the diverse peoples connected to Romania and Moldova. The SRS is generally recognized as the major professional organization for North American scholars concerned with Romania and Moldova. It is affiliated with the South East European Studies Association (SEESA); the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES); the American Political Science Association (APSA); the American Historical Association (AHA); the Balkan History Association (BHA); and the Romanian Studies Association of America (RSAA). More information about the SRS, including current officers, the national board, and membership information, can be found on the SRS website. If you have any recent activities to report (publications, conferences organized, etc.) please email such information to the Newsletter Editor, Leah Valtin-Erwin ([lvaltin@iu.edu](mailto:lvaltin@iu.edu)).