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From the President, December 2023

The summer and autumn/fall have been a very busy time for the Society, with members of board beavering away behind the scenes. In the last newsletter I alluded to some 'consolidation' work that we needed to engage in with some urgency. I am delighted to report that we have succeeded in setting in motion the tasks we had set ourselves. Firstly, thanks to the sterling work of our Website Officer, Dan-Alexandru Săvoaia, we have migrated the Society for Romanian Studies website to a new domain and host, the site is now accessible at srstudies.org.



James Kapaló
 University College Cork
 SRS President

We prioritised this change in order to make our site more easily findable, and also to give us full control over the development of the site in the months and years ahead. One of things that this will enable us to do, amongst other things, is to better support the activities of our Working Groups by enhancing their web presence. The past months have seen a flurry of activity including book launches, roundtables, film screenings, and seminars organised under the auspices of the Cultural Studies, Holocaust and Second World War, Religious Studies, Democracy and Politics, Interwar History, and Gender Studies working groups, amongst others. Just to mention a couple of the wonderful events as examples of the diversity of activities and to entice those of you not already involved in one or more of the groups to join: we have had the online seminar "Mămăliga, Zacuscă, and their components: Gastronomic and linguistic myths in Romanian terminology and history of food" organised by the Cultural Studies Working Group; the Holocaust and Second World War working group held a film screening event featuring Olga Stefan's short documentary *Vapniarka: The Camp of Death* (2022) and her presentation on "Art of the Holocaust in Romania: Vapniarka as a Case Study"; and the virtual book launch of Svetlana Suveică's new monograph – *Post-imperial Encounters: Transnational Designs of Bessarabia in Paris and Elsewhere 1917-1922* — was organized jointly by the Democracy and Politics and Interwar History working groups.



President's Message

Another important way in which we will be supporting the Working Groups going forward is with the forthcoming election and appointment of a Membership and Working Groups Officer to the Committee, as well as a new Social Media Officer. In order to make these significant additions to the Committee (plus some other needed clarifications in terms of rules and roles) we held a vote in October on the necessary changes to the Bylaws. We were delighted with the high level of participation in the vote, and read this as testimony to the continued engagement and commitment of members. So, a big thank you from the Board to all who voted. We are in the process of forming a search committee and setting up the elections for these two positions. We will be sending out details of the two roles soon, so please keep your eyes on the website and social media, and in the meantime, if anyone is interested in standing for one of the two new posts, you can email Dana Trif or myself with an expression of interest.

There have also been some exciting changes in relation to the *Journal of Romanian Studies*. Since our last Newsletter, Narcis Tulbure has joined the editorial board as co-editor alongside Jill Massino. We wish Narcis all the very best in this important role. We are also delighted to announce that Liverpool University Press has acquired the rights to the back issues of the journal that were originally published by Ibidem. This means that the issues from 2019-2021 are now available to JRS subscribers and members as part of their subscription — check them out if you are new to the journal, as there are some really great articles in these back issues! By the time you are reading this, you will have already received the latest issue of the *Journal of Romanian Studies*, a special issue entitled [Rural Voices](#), by guest editors Iuliana Cindrea-Nagy and Roland Clark — an exploration of the diverse stories, sources and imaginaries that shape our view of peasants and rural communities. The final piece of news in relation to *JRS* is that from 2024, in the interests of reducing our ecological footprint, Liverpool University Press will now produce a double issue print version of the journal for subscribers once a year, rather than two single issues. This means that we nearly halve our emissions in relation to printing and distribution. The two digital online-format issues will continue as currently, and so frequency of publication and access are not affected.

The end of the year is of course Prize giving time, and we are delighted to announce that the Fifteenth Annual Graduate Student Essay Prize 2023 has been awarded to **Ecaterina Vlad**, MA, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, with the Honourable Mention going to **Emőke Gondos**, MA, Central European University (more details of their wonderful scholarship can be found on page 3). I hope you will all join me in congratulating the winners and thanking all those who submitted essays, the overall quality was outstanding! An enormous thank you to the Essay Prize panel which this year was chaired by Aleksandra Djurić Milovanović, with Valentina Glajar and Iemima Ploscariu.

I end this newsletter with a final thank you to Dana Trif, our secretary, who has been at the forefront of much of the reorganization and streamlining of the way we work. I was delighted to be able to snatch a short meeting with Dana in Cluj in June, where amongst other things we could briefly put our heads together regarding the 2025 SRS Conference — announcement to follow on this!

James Kapaló, President, Society for Romanian Studies
December 2023



Update: SRS website

Dear Friends,

We are delighted to announce that the Society for Romanian Studies website is now accessible at srstudies.org.

In an effort to make us more easily findable by peers, collaborators and future members, from October 10, 2023, the website migrated to this friendlier and easier to access address. In the coming months we will be adding new features to the website in order to advertise upcoming events and showcase the activities of our Working Groups, so please watch this space!

Alex (website officer), Dana Trif, and James Kapaló



Graduate Student Essay Prize

The **Fifteenth Annual Graduate Student Essay Prize 2023** is awarded to **Ecaterina Vlad**, MA, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, for her fascinating exploration of the work of artist Geta Brătescu in “Geta Brătescu: Subversive Practices.” In elegant prose, Vlad provides an insightful analysis of Brătescu's artistic production in the 1970s and 1980s, treating film and collage as primary sources that occupy a unique space between modernism and postmodernism. Vlad takes us on a journey to show how Brătescu uses the “visual language of both movements” to express shared experiences of repression and surveillance in Ceaușescu's Romania.

An Honorable Mention is awarded to **Emőke Gondos**, MA, Central European University, for the paper “Neoliberal techno-fantasies in a post-socialist city,” chapter one of her MA thesis titled “‘This job saved me!’ The Subjectivity and Imaginary of Cluj IT.” Her valuable contribution is based on empirical research on the IT sector in the city of Cluj-Napoca.

Aleksandra Djurić Milovanović
Iemima Ploscariu
Valentina Glajar

SRS Book Prize



Svetlana Suveica

Winner of the SRS Book Prize

The Book Prize Committee – Camelia Crăciun, Raluca Grosescu, and Cristian Cercel (chair) – agreed unanimously to award the SRS Book Prize to **Svetlana Suveica** for her *Post-Imperial Encounters: Transnational Designs of Bessarabia in Paris and Elsewhere 1917-1922* (De Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2022). Suveica's impressive monograph brings up new perspectives on the incorporation of Bessarabia to Romania at the end of the First World War, decidedly moving away from teleological accounts centred on the nationalist ideology underlying narratives about the formation of Greater Romania. Drawing on a meticulous research in archives in nine countries, Suveica brings to the fore previously unexplored stances and positions with respect to Bessarabia's future in the context of the demise of the Russian Empire. The scope of the theoretical

apparatus she employs is as broad as her engagement with primary and secondary sources in five languages. *Post-Imperial Encounters* does a great job in showing the contingent and situational character of belonging and of identities of ethno-political actors, in relationship with political processes unfolding in a time of radical uncertainty. In dealing at length with Russian and Bessarabian émigrés, Suveica implicitly invites the field of Romanian Studies to expand its own area of interest towards an engagement with previously neglected actors.

The committee has also decided to award two Honourable Mentions. One Honourable Mention goes to **Constanța Vintilă**, for her *Changing Subjects, Moving Objects: Status, Mobility, and Social Transformation in Southeastern Europe, 1700-1850* (Brill Schöningh 2022). A captivating and fascinating read, Vintilă's book masterfully reconstructs biographies and their trans-border trajectories. In doing this, she explores how eighteenth- and nineteenth-century people defined themselves and were defined by others as well as the place of material culture and consumption within such definitions. Her microhistories of mobility show the entanglements linking the Principalities of Moldova and Wallachia with the Ottoman, Russian, and Habsburg Empires.

Another Honourable Mention goes to **Grant T. Harward's** *Romania's Holy War: Soldiers, Motivation, and the Holocaust* (Cornell University Press, 2021). Harward's book provides a fresh and necessary perspective on Romanian participation in the Second World War and on the role played by soldiers in the Romanian Army in the Holocaust. He shows the soldiers' motivation to take part in anti-Jewish massacres to have been the result of a firm ideological ground consisting of antisemitism, anticommunism, nationalism, fascism, and religion. Thus, Harward links Romanian military history, a field overly parochial and in dire need to be shaken up, with Holocaust history, as well as with the emerging field of perpetrator studies. *Romania's Holy War* undoes long perpetuated myths about the Romanian Army and should lead to a serious and critical conversation about Romania's military in the past and in the present.

Journal of Romanian Studies

The [Journal of Romanian Studies](#) is pleased to announce the release of its fall 2023 edition. Volume 5, Number 2, 2023 continues the tradition of the journal to publish a special thematic issue, this time on the topic of Rural Voices. Guest editors Iuliana Cindrea-Nagy and Roland Clark bring together a group of multidisciplinary studies that reveal the "multifaceted, polyvocal and ambiguous" characteristics of the rural in Romania. Constantin Bărbulescu explores ethnologists Ovid Densusianu and Henri H. Stahl's work on peasants and rurality in his article "The Ignored Peasants of Romanian Ethnology." George Andrei gives voice to rural foresters and conflicts over social welfare in interwar Zlatna, Romania. Meanwhile, the peasantry's reaction to royal dictatorship in 1938 Northern Moldova is analyzed by Philippe Henri Blasen utilizing rare documents. Bringing the discussion to the present, Adriana Cupcea provides an anthropological analysis of the Turkish Muslim Roma in Medgidia (Mecidiye) as a double minority. The sources in this issue are translated by R. Chris Davis and comprise letters sent by Roman-Catholic communities in rural Moldavia (Csangos) to Romanian authorities from 1940 to 1945 in an attempt to prove their Romanian nationality. The issue includes book reviews by Irina Marin, Ioana Luca, Florin Anghel, and Dana S. Trif.



Announcement: From 2024, the print version of the Journal of Romanian Studies will be a single volume containing the two digital issues published during the year. This is part of Liverpool University Press' efforts to reduce environmental impact through a reduction in printing, paper, packaging, and transport. In this way, SRS members will be able to continue to access and enjoy reading the JRS in both digital and print formats, whilst also reducing our environmental footprint.

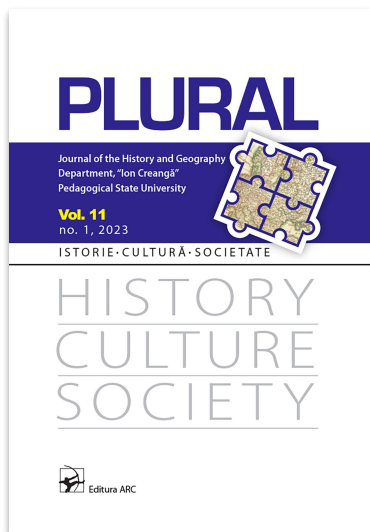
SRS members receive a complimentary subscription to the journal. If you are interested in taking out an individual or institutional subscription, please write to the publisher at subscriptions@liverpool.ac.uk.

The Journal of Romanian Studies seeks submissions for the spring 2025 issue. 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. **Authors interested in publishing with the JRS should send manuscripts (of 10,000 words or less) to the journal editors Jill Massino (jmaissino@charlotte.edu) and Narcis Tulbure (narcis.tulbure@fin.ase.ro).** Submissions are considered on a rolling basis.

The biannual, peer-reviewed *Journal of Romanian Studies*, jointly developed by The Society for Romanian Studies and Liverpool University 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.



PLURAL. History, Culture, Society

The PLURAL Forum of Interdisciplinary Studies is pleased to announce that the newest issue of *PLURAL. History, Culture, Society* (vol. 11, no. 1, 2023) is [available to read here](#).

This issue includes articles by Nicoleta Roman, Anca Glont, Nataliia Zalietok, Nino Chikovani, Sergiu Musteață, Ivane Tsereteli, Tõnis Saarts, Nikolai Kunitsõn, Raivo Vetik, and literature reviews of works by Catherine Durandin, Cécile Folschweiller, and Victor Moraru.

It also includes a report by PLURAL's newest fellow, **Jana Stöxen**, who was awarded a three-month research fellowship in Moldova. Her research report, *Transnational Migration in the Moldovan-German Context, or: My Totul va fi bine (Road)trip*, [can be read here](#).



Jana Stöxen
PLURAL Research Fellow, 2023

The PLURAL Chișinău Antisemitism Studies Prize

To commemorate 120 years since the Kishinev Easter pogrom of 1903, in 2023, the PLURAL Forum established the PLURAL Chișinău Antisemitism Studies Prize, to be awarded for original research articles relating to antisemitism studies or Jewish history in Moldova/Moldavia.

PLURAL is pleased to announce the first recipient of the prize, Maria Mădălina Irimia, for her article, [„Struma”: Destine ale tragediei. O perspectivă revizuită](#). The study reconstructs the events leading up to the sinking of the MV Struma in February 1942, which had sought to carry Jewish emigrants from Romania to Palestine. **The full article (in Romanian) may be read [here](#).**



Maria Irimia
Winner of the 2023 PLURAL
Chișinău Antisemitism Studies Prize

CfA: The PLURAL Local Archives & Collections Research Prize

PLURAL is a partner of SRS, co-hosts the Holocaust and Second World War Working Group, and currently offers two prizes. The **Local Archives & Collections Research Prize**, established in 2020, is to be awarded for original research articles based on archives or collections held in Moldova or in the neighbouring regions and counties in Ukraine and Romania. It is offered to one MA2-, PhD-, or postdoc-level student in the field of history, the social sciences, or other humanities, under 40 years of age, who is still enrolled in an MA2 or PhD program, or has defended their thesis in the past five years. The prize amounts to 300 EUR net. More information can be found [here](#).

Please send applications to prize@plural.md no later than **31 January 2024**.



Find PLURAL Forum at
plural.md

DiFMOE Digitisation Project

Report: DiFMOE digitisation project — Timișoara Collection

Since 1 November 2021, the Digital Forum Central and Eastern Europe (Digitales Forum Mittel- und Osteuropa, Munich, Germany) has been dedicated to the realisation of a digital collection of historical documents on the "European Capital of Culture Timisoara 2023", thus following up from the successfully-implemented „Digitalis“ projects (Kaschau/Košice 2013, Riga/Rīga 2014, Pilsen/Plzeň 2015, Breslau/Wrocław 2016) and the collections on Brno and Bratislava, which were later designed along the same lines. Like these, the Timișoara Collection project is funded by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media (BKM). The main goal is to bring the multi-ethnic history of Timișoara closer to a lay public interested in history, and to make important sources that have not been freely-accessible on the internet until now available to the international scientific community.

One main focus of the project, which is scheduled to last two years, is the digitisation, full-text recognition and publication of approx. 190,000 pages of the *Temesvarer Zeitung* (published 1852–1940, 1944–1949). According to Jörg Riecke, the periodical "is considered a politico-economically important information journal that was widely distributed in the Banat". Initially published by the Viennese government as the official gazette for the crown land of the Voivodeship of Serbia and the Temescher Banat, which was created as a result of the revolution of 1848/49, it was structurally-similar to the official Viennese newspaper until the end of 1860 and was also politically representative of the perspective of the central power in Vienna. After the dissolution of the crown land and the incorporation of its territory into the Kingdom of Hungary, the *Temesvarer Zeitung* was privatised in 1861. Its first owner became Carl Hirschfeld, who had already been entrusted with its management in an official capacity from 1857-1858. In 1864 he sold it to Martin Uhrmann, but remained part of the editorial staff until 1866, when the newspaper was taken over by Michael Niamesny and was now to be determined by the political direction of Hungarian equalisation and Magyarisation, embodied by Ferenc Deák's party. Until 1868 it held a monopoly position in Timișoara as a daily newspaper. The next major change came in 1912 with the merger of the *Temesvarer Zeitung* and the *Neue Temesvarer Zeitung* and the editorial takeover by the theatre critic Anton Lovas, as a result of which cultural topics became even more prominent. After the National Socialist seizure of power in Germany, the *Temesvarer Zeitung* supported different opponents and persecutees of the regime, and was banned between 1940 and 1944 due to its still mostly-liberal outlook. It was able to resume its activities in the same year, but only until the centralisation of the Romanian press in 1949.



DiFMOE Digitisation Project



The digitisation of Timișoara's most prominent national German-language newspaper is complemented by the completion of the Jewish weekly *Neue Zeit* (published 1922–1940). Its holdings (1923–1930), which are already available in the DiFMOE Digital Library, originate from the BKM-funded IOS project "Jewish German-language Periodicals from Eastern Europe. Digitisation and documentation of historical newspapers, popular calendars and pictorial representations of Eastern European Jews". According to the description of the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS), "the *Neue Zeit* [...] contains domestic news and from abroad on the issue of equality, the life of Jewish communities as well as essayistic texts". In addition to *Neue Zeit*, all other "old holdings" in the Digital Library of the DiFMOE with a direct connection to Timișoara will also be integrated into the new collection. Namely, these are the *Banater Deutsche Zeitung* (1925–1941), the cultural journal *Von der Heide* (1909–1937), the *Jüdische Woche* (*Zsidó Hét*, 1932), the *Israelitische Kalender* (1926–1930) and the *Jüdisches Jahrbuch* (1935/36).

Outside the BKM-funded measure, a self-financed contribution by the Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations (ifa/Stuttgart) completes the periodical part. The following newspapers from the holdings of the ifa library will thus become part of the Timișoara collection: *Arbeiterzeitung*, *Banater Tagblatt*, *Deutschungarischer Volksfreund*, *Eisenring*, *Extrapost*, *Der Landbote*, *Schwäbische Volkspresse*, *Der Volksfreund*, and *Volkswille*. The temporal focus is on the interwar period, whereby attempts will be made to close existing gaps as far as possible with the help of the holdings of other cooperation partners.

The Timișoara collection is supplemented by a selection of books, historical postcards, archival documents, photographs, maps and city plans as well as theatre posters. The focused period spans from the 17th century to the first half of the 20th century. In individual cases, objects beyond this period are also taken into account, provided that the copyright and usage rights issues have been clarified. The titles selected are mainly those that were printed in Timișoara itself. The research for bibliographically or archivally already indexed and further, less known or even unknown relevant sources is part of the project. This also includes works that were produced/published outside of Timișoara, but were written by Timișoara authors and/or have Timișoara as their subject. In the spirit of qualitative processing of material already available digitally on Timișoara, the

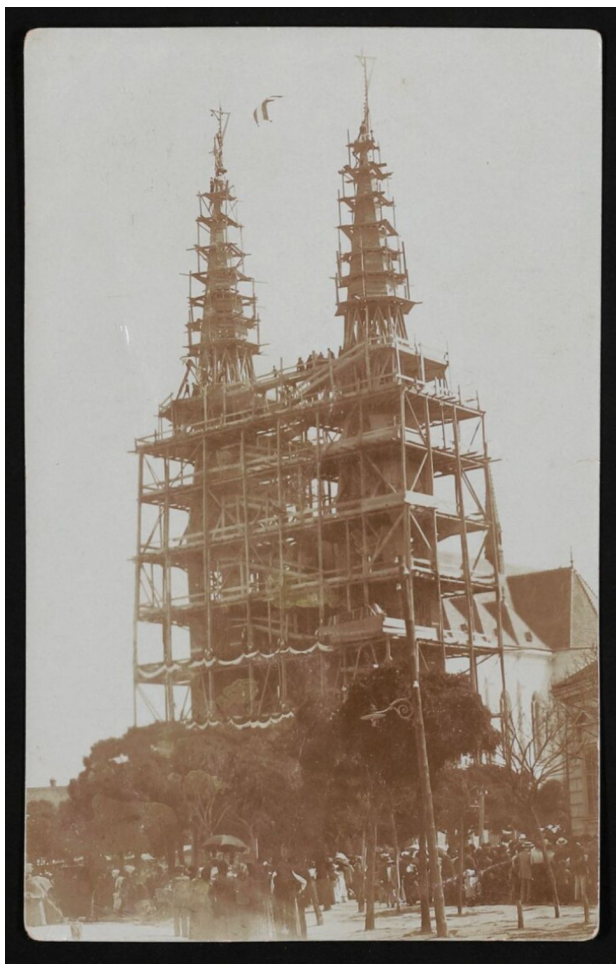


DiFMOE Digitisation Project

numerous advertisements from some of the volumes of the Jewish weekly *Neue Zeit* are also extracted and integrated into the Timișoara collection as independent documents. In this way, the user will be given an impression of the diverse Jewish business world in the interwar period.

Since May 2023, a map search co-developed by DiFMOE within the framework of the Kramerius Consortium has been available for geo-referenced image documents. As of mid-November 2023, [1.275 historical postcards and photographs](#) from the Timișoara Collection are already available.

A total of 240,000 pages are to be digitised as part of the BKM-funded measure. In addition, up to 40,000 newspaper pages will be provided by the Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations' own funds. Together with the 50,000 pages already created in the context of earlier projects, the Timișoara collection will have a total volume of about 330,000 pages.



The collection includes documents in German, Hungarian, Romanian, Hebrew, and Yiddish.

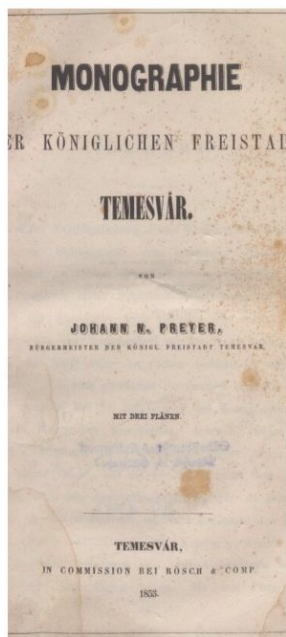
Partners for lending the templates for digitisation:

- Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations (Stuttgart/Germany)
- Institute for German Culture and History of Southeast Europe (Munich/Germany)
- Institute for Danube-Swabian History and Regional Studies (Tübingen/Germany)
- Cultural and Documentation Centre of the Homeland Association of Banat Swabians (Ulm/Germany)
- Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (Regensburg/Germany)
- Martin Opitz Library (Herne/Germany)

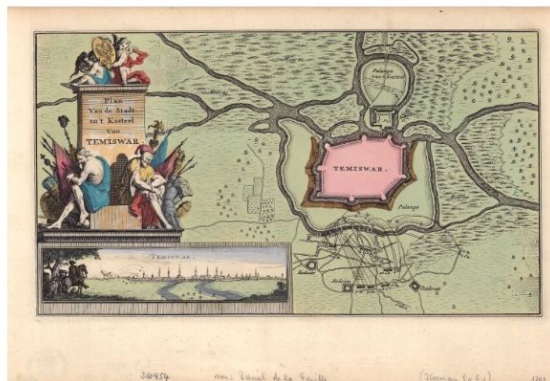
The project is funded by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and Media (Germany).

DiFMOE Digitisation Project

Ihre Annonce ist vom Erfolg gekrönt, wenn Sie in unserer Zeitung inserieren!



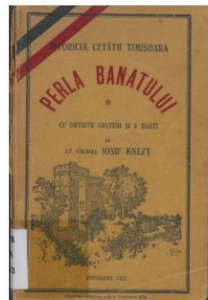
Wir Ferdinand der Erste,
von Gottes Gnaden Kaiser von Ungarn,
König von Böhmen, König von Dalmatien,
von Serbien, von Croatien, Herzog von Slavonien,
von Siebenbürgen, von Moldau, von Wallachei,
von Albanien, von Serbien, von Griechenland,
von Dalmatien, von Bosnien, von Herzegowina,
von Rumelien, von Bulgarien, von Serbien,
von Montenegro, von Albanien, von Griechenland,
von Dalmatien, von Bosnien, von Herzegowina,
von Rumelien, von Bulgarien, von Serbien,
von Montenegro, von Albanien, von Griechenland,



Brüder Löwinger
Essigessenzfabrik Akt.-Ges.
Grösste Essigessenzfabrik des Banats
und Siebenbürgens.
Spezialität: Flaschenessig
Marke „FAZAN“
Salzgrossverschleiss
Telephon: 182.
Gegründet: 1888.
Timișoara
Strada Stefan Cel Mare
(Fabrikhofgasse) No. 3



Die Bewohner des Banats haben 1. A. die Freiheit der Religion, 2. die Freiheit der Sprache, 3. die Freiheit der Nationalität, 4. die Freiheit der Wissenschaft, 5. die Freiheit der Kunst, 6. die Freiheit der Industrie, 7. die Freiheit der Landwirtschaft, 8. die Freiheit der Handelsgeschäfte, 9. die Freiheit der Gewerbe, 10. die Freiheit der öffentlichen Anstalten, 11. die Freiheit der Schulen, 12. die Freiheit der Universitäten, 13. die Freiheit der Bibliotheken, 14. die Freiheit der Museen, 15. die Freiheit der Theatere, 16. die Freiheit der Opern, 17. die Freiheit der Konzerte, 18. die Freiheit der Feste, 19. die Freiheit der Spiele, 20. die Freiheit der Vergnügungen, 21. die Freiheit der Reisen, 22. die Freiheit der Besuche, 23. die Freiheit der Besprechungen, 24. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 25. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 26. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 27. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 28. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 29. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 30. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 31. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 32. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 33. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 34. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 35. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 36. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 37. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 38. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 39. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 40. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 41. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 42. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 43. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 44. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 45. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 46. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 47. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 48. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 49. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 50. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 51. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 52. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 53. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 54. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 55. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 56. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 57. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 58. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 59. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 60. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 61. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 62. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 63. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 64. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 65. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 66. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 67. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 68. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 69. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 70. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 71. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 72. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 73. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 74. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 75. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 76. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 77. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 78. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 79. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 80. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 81. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 82. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 83. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 84. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 85. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 86. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 87. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 88. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 89. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 90. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 91. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 92. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 93. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 94. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 95. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 96. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 97. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 98. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 99. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen, 100. die Freiheit der Verhandlungen.



FRANZ JOSEF THEATER IN TEMESVAR
Heute Sonntag, den 19. Jänner 1879.
Der erste und einzige Tag:
Nischenbrödel,
Der gläserne Pantoffel.
Grosse Schalk-Apothek: „Das Reich der Frauen“
Gross-Druckerei: „Das Reich der Frauen“



NEUE ZEIT
UDISCHES WOCHEBLATT
UJ KOR
ZSIDO HETILAP
„DIANR sóboraxasz minden házán legyen.“



DiFMOE's Timișoara Collection can be accessed [HERE](#).

For more information about the project, please contact schrastetter@difmoe.info

Or visit difmoe.info

Interview: Vlasis Vlasidis



Vlasis Vlasidis
University of Macedonia
Thessaloniki, Greece

Vlasis Vlasidis is an Associate Professor at the Department of Balkan, Slavic & Oriental Studies at the University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki, Greece. His academic area is the contemporary Balkan History and the Media and Communication in the Balkans, while his research interests include: Balkan studies, Political Communication, Propaganda, Press Agencies, Media History, Religious Media, Military cemeteries and Teaching. In November 2023, he co-led the organisation of the International Conference “Greek-Romanian relations from the decline of the Ottoman Empire to the end of the Cold War era (1821-1989)”, which was held at Thessaloniki. His publications can be found at [academia.edu](https://www.academia.edu)

Please tell us a bit about your academic background.

I completed my graduate, post-graduate, and PhD studies at the Department of History and Archaeology at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. Prior to working at the University of Macedonia, I worked at the Research Center for Macedonian History and Documentation (KEMIT) at the Museum for the Macedonian Struggle, the Documentation Department of the Macedonian Press Agency, the Department for Balkan Studies of the University of Western Macedonia, and the Hellenic Open University. I also served as a communications advisor at the Republika Srpska Representation Office in Thessaloniki. Finally, I visited “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University in Iași, Romania within the framework of an Erasmus+ Mobility program, served a Sabbatical at the Institute of Balkan Studies of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in Sofia, Bulgaria, and was a Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Economics of the Saint Kliment Ohridski University in North Macedonia.

How do you situate your work in the field of Romanian studies, and in Balkan historiography more broadly?

My research focuses on different case studies within Balkan History, covering aspects related mainly to media, propaganda, and political power in the Balkans during the 19th and 20th centuries. I have also published several papers concerning the history of Romania and Romanian-Balkan relations, including:

- "The Other Front for the Rescue. Salonica Front and Entente Powers 1915-1918: Romanian Lands and International Crises: The Dynamics of the Military Occupations (1769-1918)"; presented at the "Spațiul românesc și crizele internaționale: Dinamica ocupațiilor militare (1769-1918)" conference in Iași, December 2021
- "Emigration of Koutsovlach Population from Greek Macedonia to Romania during Interwar Period" which was presented at the "State and Society in the Balkans" conference in Craiova in 2019



Interview: Vlasis Vlasidis

- "Entente, Greece and Romania during WWI", which was compiled from the Leanca (Spațiul românesc...) workshop
- and, with Diamantia Arvaniti, "The Day After Franz Ferdinand's Murder : Greece and Romania in Dilemma", from the "Royalty and Republic: Europe's Political Establishments in the Early 1920s Conference", Alba Iulia, 14–18 September 2022.

The following paper is also under review for publication:

- "Romania: The second motherland of the director Yannis Veakis".

Please tell us a bit about the state of Romanian and Balkan studies in Greece.

There are only a few University Departments on Balkan Studies in Greece. Apart from the Department of Balkan, Slavic & Oriental Studies of the University of Macedonia, there is the School of Languages, Literature, and Culture of Black Sea Countries of the University of Thrace, and the Department of Russian Language and Literature & Slavic Studies of the University of Athens.

These departments have to deal with multiple challenges, including understaffing and lack of state support. There are also the Institute of Balkan Studies, the Greek Section of the South-East European Studies, and the Society of Macedonia Studies, which have limited activities.

At the University of Macedonia, we are working in advancing research in Balkan studies in Greece. We are also focusing our efforts on building relations with Romanian and other Balkan Universities and academic societies. To this end, we collaborate with both Universities and academic institutions located in the capital, Bucharest, and in smaller cities, such as universities in Sibiu and Alba Iulia. But more is needed to be done, including increasing support to young researchers and the utilization of novel research methodologies, such as Digital History.

Do you have any advice for researchers or students interested in studying similar topics?

For young researchers and students in fields related to Romanian and Balkan studies, it is advisable to publish one's work in English, so as to have greater readership and recognition of their work. Apart from the attendance of international conferences, which would support network-building, researchers and students should also utilize other means to promote their work, such as documentaries, or the use of non-academic platforms. There are also good opportunities for employment in the fields of digitization and historical heritage. To this end, they could work in developing skills in related fields.



Zaharia Cușnir Archives



Zaharia Cușnir

in an undated self-portrait

Zaharia Cușnir (1912–1993) was an amateur photographer born in Roșietici village, Florești region, Moldova. He worked as a portrait photographer from 1955–1973, and left behind a collection of 6x6cm negatives, of which 3751 were discovered in his abandoned house in 2016. Cușnir's photographs portray group portraits, landscapes, and scenes from everyday life: work in the kolkhoz, weddings, funerals, and national celebrations.

Cușnir was the youngest child in a family of 16 children in Roșietici. His father was a Moldovan businessman (b. 1870), and his mother was of German origins (b. approx. 1870). At that time, Cușnir's native Bessarabia was part of the Russian Empire, though he was educated in Romania (Iași), and following WWII, he became a Soviet citizen. He attended school in neighbouring Rogojeni and later attended the pedagogical lyceum in Iași, Romania. He began teaching in Rogojeni before working in the kolkhoz, performing menial work like carrying stones, digging through the frozen earth, carrying loam, dismantling fences, and herding cows. Villagers also remember him working as a blacksmith. He had four children with his wife, Daria.

Zaharia learned photography from his nephew, a village photographer, who had recently returned from the army. The nephew's photography business was based in another village, so they decided to split the territory — Zaharia was responsible for Rogojeni and the surrounding villages: Cașunca, Țâra, Ghindești, Roșietici, and Cenușa.



Zaharia Cuşnir Archives



Cuşnir's first pictures were taken in 1955. At the time, he was mainly photographing portraits of neighbours and then selling the photos. He had a bicycle, which he was usually lending to people for a photograph, as well he had a black blanket, which he was using as a background when he was taking portraits. Up to 1973, he had taken around 4000 pictures of the medium format 6x6 cm. In 1993, after he died, the house was abandoned and the pictures were stocked in a suitcase and placed in the attic.

Cuşnir continued to take photos until the 1970s.



Discovery of the negatives

In the spring of 2016, Victor Galuşca, a student at the Academy of Arts in Chişinău, Moldova, arrived in Roşietici village to film a documentary for his bachelor's degree examinations. He entered Cuşnir's abandoned house and found several negatives scattered amongst trash on the floor. Galuşca inquired from the villagers whose house it had been and found Cuşnir's daughter, who was living in the neighbourhood. With her permission, over several days, he retrieved the house's contents, and together with his photography professor Nicolae Pojoga began cleaning and processing the collection of negatives.



Amongst the belongings left in the house, there were old documents, including a school admission application adjusted to the stilted language used at the time, an exercise table in Russian Cyrillic script, and elementary calculus tests designed for primary school students. Other documents and archival remnants reveal a struggle between life and death for the majority of the population: these included bread allowances and cheques listing debts.

Zaharia Cușnir Archives



Further Developments

Zaharia Cușnir's archive, since the discovery of the negatives, has been displayed in several exhibitions, including at:

- The Museum of Fine Arts of Moldova (curated by Nadejda Cervinscaia), Chișinău, 2019
- The Ethnographic Museum of Transylvania, Cluj-Napoca, 2019
- The Subterana Gallery of the House of Arts (Casa Artelor), Timișoara, 2019
- The Maramureș County Museum of Ethnography and Folk Art (Muzeul Județean de Etnografie și Artă Populară Maramureș), Baia Mare, 2019.
- The Romanian Peasant Museum (Muzeul Național al Țăranului Român), Bucharest, 2018

In 2017, the Moldovan publishing house CARTIER, based in Chișinău, published a photo album titled [Lumea lui Zaharia](#) ("Zaharia's World"), featuring Cușnir's photographs.

At the beginning of 2020, a [website](#) and [Facebook page](#) were launched, aiming to give open access to the Zaharia Cușnir archives. Updates can also be seen on [Instagram](#).

Find out more about Zaharia Cușnir's work:

[@ZahariaCusnir on Instagram](#)

[Zaharia Cușnir on Facebook](#)

[zaharia.md](#)

And in a report from [RFE/RL](#).

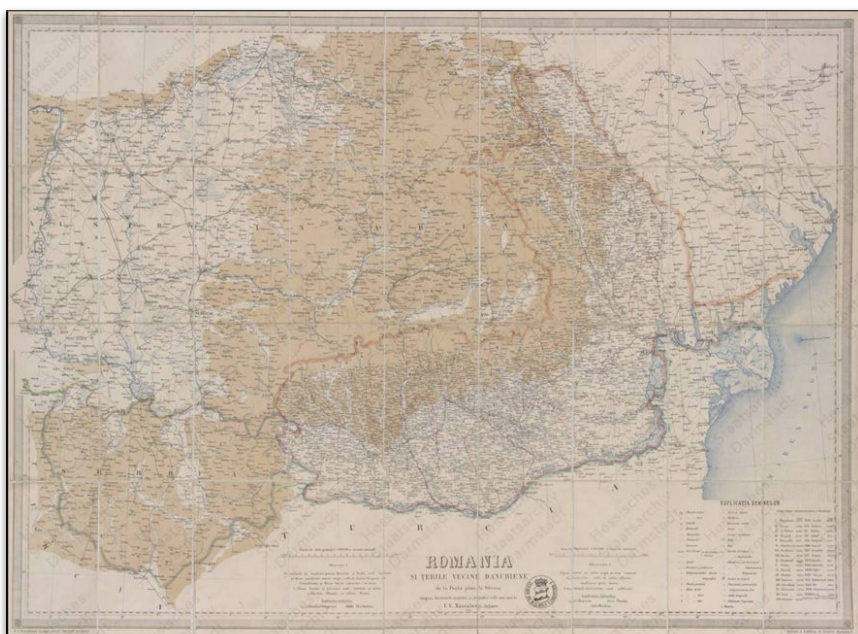
With thanks to Victor Galușca.

Report: Archives Portal Europe

Archives Portal Europe: an opportunity for Romanian history

The **largest space dedicated to the valorisation and protection of Europe's archival heritage** is now the **Archives Portal Europe**. Using both new technologies and traditional archival techniques, this project, launched in 2009 thanks to the collaboration of 12 European national archives, has succeeded in compiling documentation on the history of Europe and the world. Since its establishment, **it has obtained information from more than 7,000 archival institutions, covering records from more than 30 countries and presented in more than 20 languages.**

The Research Portal offers diverse opportunities to explore new perspectives on European history.



Map of Romania, 1875 (ref no. [P23_402](#))

All of this has been achieved thanks to the work of direct contributors, who can become part of the project simply by registering as an ambassador, a content provider, a country manager or a partner. Participation can range from individuals to large institutions. The most important thing is that the more people participate, the more documentary heritage is shared and made open so that anyone can learn about the history of Europe, thus contributing to knowledge and social awareness.

In the case of Romanian studies, the portal is a great opportunity to consult documentation from the national archives themselves, such as the Library of the National Archives and the National Central Historical Archive of Romania, as well as documentation from other European institutions. Thus, the portal's collection contains **approximately 2,705 documents related to the history of Romania and Moldova, with a total of 632 records available digitally.** In relation to the original collections where the documentation is located, there are currently **20 countries serving as providers of records that could be of great use for Romanian studies.**

All of these records demonstrate the great potential of the Archives Portal Europe as a tool for researchers wishing to develop their lines of research, as well as the opportunity to consult archival holdings from countries far away from Romania.

Report submitted by **Laura Partal Ortega**,
Archives Portal Europe Ambassador

Report: Hidden Galleries



The Afterlife of Research Projects

The *Hidden Galleries* research project examines the role of clandestine religions in the transformative processes of Central and Eastern European societies in the 20th century through the lenses of secret police archives in the region. The research re-examines and re-contextualizes the contents of the secret police archives in Romania, the Republic of Moldova, Hungary and Ukraine with the aim of drawing public attention to the alternative uses and meanings of the archives regarding the study of minority confessions.

The exhibition "**FAITH. TRUST. CLANDESTINITY. Images from the Files of the Secret Police**" ("Credință. Încredere. Clandestinitate: Imagini din Dosarele Securității") is the visual part of this extensive research project, and presents the actions of the Romanian secret police against religion from a visual and cultural perspective. Bringing together the work of historians, anthropologists, curators, and artists, the exhibition puts the visitor face-to-face with a difficult cultural heritage, consisting of images made or collected by the secret police from four countries: Romania, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. Sometimes violent or indiscreet, sometimes personal or with documentary value, the materials of the secret police support various interpretations and uses. In short, the exhibition invites a reconsideration of the relationship with the recent past.

The exhibition was carried out by an international team of researchers under the coordination of the principal investigator, James Kapalo, University of Cork, Ireland. The project's team of

Report: Hidden Galleries



researchers consists of Anca Şincan, Kinga Podevak, Agnes Hesz, Iuliana Cindrea-Nagy, Tatiana Vagramenko, Dumitru Lisnic, and Igor Caşu. Their efforts benefited from the support of curator Gabriela Nicolescu.

Hosted by University College Cork, *Hidden Galleries* was funded by the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's *Horizon 2020* research and innovation program (no. 677355) and has been running for four years.



The [Museum of the Horrors of Communism in Romania](#) (Muzeul Ororilor Comunismului în România), a newly-established public museum (founded 2021) made it possible to transfer the exhibit to Timișoara, and thus *Hidden Galleries* became part of the national cultural program "Timișoara – European Capital of Culture in 2023".



Funded through the “Grow Timișoara 2023” program, and implemented by the Center for Projects Timișoara, with funds allocated from the Romanian state budget (through the Ministry of Culture), the *Hidden Galleries* exhibition was hosted by the Memorial of the Romanian Revolution of 1989 (Memorial Revoluției din 1989) in Timișoara from 6 October – 3 November 2023. The images from the various secret police archives presented in "FAITH. TRUST. CLANDESTINITY." were seen by over 1500 visitors.

For more information about this project, please visit:

[The Digital Archive of the Hidden Galleries Project](#)

Interview: Ryan Voogt



Ryan Voogt

Lewis Honors College
Lexington, KY, USA

Ryan Voogt received his PhD in History from the University of Kentucky in 2017, and an MA in Russian and East European Studies from the University of Michigan in 2010. His main area of research concerns communist Romania and the Soviet Union, and his PhD thesis focused on the delineation of “acceptable” and “unacceptable” religiosity. He currently serves as the Director of Undergraduate Studies and as Lecturer in the Lewis Honors College at University of Kentucky. His recent work includes “Romanian Orthodox Clergy and Communist Opposition? What the Keston Archive Reveals” and “Reformation Church Culture and Church-State Battling in Communist Romania”.

Please tell us a bit about your academic background. What initially drew you to the history of religion in communist Romania?

My undergraduate degree was in environmental engineering, but right after college, prompted by a very good friend, we looked into volunteering opportunities. I happened to land in Transylvania, Romania and spent six months there working with local and international partners helping renovate a 17th century granary as an addiction rehabilitation center in a predominantly-Hungarian village. I had studied just a little Romanian and had no idea I'd be working primarily with Hungarians, but I got hooked — after I returned, the cubicle just did not hold the same fascination that it might have had I never been to Eastern Europe. I was captivated by the stories of villagers and leaders of this rehab organization about their experiences under communism. I was shocked to learn that religious life for most of them seemed to have had a dynamism under communism that had diminished now that religious freedom was greater, and this question stuck with me and formed the impetus for my dissertation research. In between, I got a Master's in Area Studies from the University of Michigan, which provided me with all-round regional expertise across a number of disciplines.

You use sources in a variety of languages (Romanian, Russian, Hungarian...) and from a variety of countries in your research. What has been your experience gathering sources in different countries? What kinds of sources have you usually found most insightful for your work? What are some unique challenges - and advantages - posed by working across such a wide geographical/linguistic area?

There is a steep learning curve for doing research anywhere due to the language abilities required, the specialized vocabulary, and the nuances of navigating archives, so for one's sanity, picking one language or country is certainly advisable. Moreover, even though people commonly celebrate transnational study, inter- or transdisciplinarity, it still seems that the gravitational weight favors avoiding such an approach because breadth always exposes one to the criticism of the lack of depth.



Interview: Ryan Voogt

It is easier to pick a narrower audience and limit one's methodology to reduce the variables. Yet I'm a big believer in the real value of comparative and interdisciplinary work because of the potential gains.

I have really enjoyed approaching primary research from two angles: the personal and the official. State archives can be really fascinating, if one can find the kinds of documents one is looking for (never a given in Eastern Europe, as we researchers know, and what is available is highly variable). But, I have found it extremely helpful, and also pleasurable, to make sure that I read accounts or have interviews with people who were directly involved—since it is still possible for my time period. The variety and different forms of evidence keep the research interesting and grounded.

I believe that the geographic spread is more of a challenge than the linguistic spread. Travelling across the region is never straightforward, fast, or cheap. For family reasons, it has become less possible to imagine doing research that takes me to multiple countries (not to mention the ongoing conflict). Languages are not easy and require maintenance, and becoming rusty in at least one of them is somewhat inevitable. But the ability to read across languages has not slid as much as I might have expected. That I have one Slavic language, one Romance language, and one Finno-Ugric language keeps me from blurring them too much when speaking. I've since spent time learning Croatian and French (don't ask!), and constantly struggle with them becoming blurred with Russian and Romanian.

Please tell us a bit about the state of Romanian and Eastern European studies in the United States.

I do not claim to be an expert on the state of the field in the U.S., but from my limited perspective, support for studying the region seems to have been on a steady decline. As time marches further from communism, the funding and viability of area expertise in Eastern Europe has diminished, it seems. Monetary interest in the region, sadly, seems to resurface when things are going poorly or when concerns arise, such as from Russian aggression or from leaders like Viktor Orbán in Hungary. At my university, the emphasis on teaching Europe at the university level severely declined, some of which was understandable as an effort to have more representative coverage of more regions of the world. When I came for a PhD, we had six or seven faculty teaching on Europe and Russia, and now we have one. Retired faculty doing work in Europe have not been replaced. I think student interest in the region is very strong, but not administrative motivation and funding. Students still want to take classes on Europe and Eastern Europe and go there for educational opportunities, as my recent experience taking students to Hungary and Croatia has shown. In a similar vein, one might struggle to appeal to universities if the research is in one small East European country. It has been to my advantage to have taken coursework across all of Europe and done research in more than one country. If I had self-defined as a "Romanianist," I guarantee my regional university would not have been as interested in me.



Interview: Ryan Voogt

Has your research brought you to any unexpected places? Have you reached any unanticipated conclusions, or made discoveries that changed the direction of your work?

Oh my goodness, yes! It seems the norm that doing research in this region of Eurasia takes us into some unexpected places or has us meet unexpected people—some of whom become very important in our lives. I believe the sense of adventure, as long as one finds friends and supportive people along the way, is what makes the research worth doing. For me, it's not the time looking at my computer screen or receiving difficult criticism of my research that motivates me, that's for sure! Although archives and the cities they are in are interesting in themselves, trying to connect with people for lived experiences has resulted in the most rewarding and memorable experiences. Meeting people for coffee or in their homes and hearing their stories is my favorite part of this. The travelling is also an adventure in itself, especially with family and children — missed planes, hitchhiking, nail-biting rides, train confusion, taxi scams... many of these are now fodder for the occasional nightmare, but maybe they keep me from becoming too rigid as I get older? At least, that's what I tell myself.

I'm not sure that my unexpected conclusions have changed the direction of my work. Perhaps for me, I see the conclusion as the thing that is not expected, which is why we do the research in the first place. In fact, if I don't find something a little bit surprising or counter-intuitive, then I'm not sure that I've satisfied what my objective is. I have been satisfied with the conclusions I've made and find them compelling, but like many researchers, the bigger problem is finding an audience that sees them similarly. There are many tidbits, that if I had the time, I would want to look into. Yet I would say that most of my trajectory, frankly, is determined by the bulk of my job, which is teaching, and of my life, which is trying to be a good caretaker in the family. I consider that quite okay. It seems to me that riding the waves of research success and recognition can be quite difficult and lead one to sometimes question whether it is all worthwhile.

Do you have any advice for researchers or students interested in studying similar topics?

I do have advice. There are elements of “luck” or coincidence that can greatly contribute to whether one finds considerable success or recognition in research. It is helpful to make sure that our sense of self-worth is not dependent on such things and that we continue to nurture a wide range of interests and successes. One of those things for me has been finding joy in teaching students and working with them over the course of several years. I also consider it worthwhile to become good enough at the languages to use them to talk with people. Getting to the point where I use Hungarian or Romanian instead of English made me feel more accepted and more in tune, in addition to making others trust me more and making it easier to welcome me. The common thread between these two pieces of advice, now that I notice it, is that the emphasis is on real, human-to-human, in-the-flesh interactions. I think psychology research shows that this is an essential aspect of well-being, so in doing our work in academia, we should certainly not overlook its importance!



SRS Thematic Working Groups

Beginning in spring 2022, SRS members have set up and run [thematic working groups](#). They are run by convenors, who bring together junior and senior researchers, and organise an online event once a year. The SRS currently has **16 functioning working groups**, of which one is jointly run by the SRS and its partner, the PLURAL Forum for Interdisciplinary Studies, and one by the SRS and Indiana University Bloomington. For further information, please visit the [SRS website](#). To join one or several groups, please contact the convenor(s). In order to become an active group member, you need an [SRS membership](#).

Anthropology

Convenor: [Gerard Weber](#); in search of new convenor. *Active members: 4. Events: underway.*

Art History

Convenor: Position empty. *Active members: 2. Events: underway.*

Business and Economics

Convenor: [Rodica-Milena Zaharia](#). *Active members: underway. Events: underway.*

Cultural Studies

Convenor: [Valeska Bopp-Filimonov](#). *Active members: 6.*

Events: Virtual book launch for Valentina Glajar's [The Secret Police Dossier of Herta Müller](#) (Nov. 2023); online discussion about "Mămăligă, zacuscă, and their components. Gastronomic and linguistic myths in Romanian terminology and history of food" (Oct. 2022).

Democracy and Politics

Convenor: [Dana Trif](#). *Active members: 5. Events: [Book launch](#) of Svetlana Suveică's [Post-Imperial Encounters. Transnational Designs of Bessarabia in Paris and Elsewhere \(1917–1922\)](#) (Oct. 2023, with Interwar History Working Group).*

Gender Studies

Convenor: [Maria Bucur](#) (Indiana University Bloomington). *Active members: 6.*

Events: Lecture: Liliana Ene, "Romii — Reprezentări în artă și pe marile ecrane — Stereotipuri și Prejudecăți" (November 2023); online workshop: "Fragilitatea și puterea femeii în societatea românească contemporană. Două demersuri" (April 2022); online talk: Maria Bucur, "When the Invalids Came Home: Disability in Romania after World War I" (March 2022).

Graduate Students and ECRs

Convenor: [Alexandra Ciocănel](#). *Active members: 8. Events: informal Facebook meetings.*

Holocaust and the Second World War

Convenors: [Diana Dumitru](#) (PLURAL) and [Grant Harward](#). *Active members: 14.*

Events: Talk on Romanian Military Archeology by Răzvan Bolba (Nov. 2023). Presentation by Dallas Michelbacher on Soviet POWs in Romania (Sept. 2023). Presentation by Olga Stefan on art of the Holocaust in Romania (June 2023). Roundtable on the 80th anniversary of the capitulation of Axis forces in Stalingrad, with presentations by Grant Harward, Nicolò Da Lio, and Ákos Fóris (Feb. 2023).



SRS Thematic Working Groups

Interwar History

Convenor: [Anca Filipovici](#). Active members: 8. Events: [Book launch](#) of Svetlana Suveică's *Post-Imperial Encounters. Transnational Designs of Bessarabia in Paris and Elsewhere (1917–1922)* (Oct. 2023, with Democracy and Politics Working Group).

Law, Memory and Justice

Convenor: [Monica Ciobanu](#) and [Mihaela Șerban](#). Active members: 12. Events: Upcoming volume TBA.

Literature

Convenor: [Marina Cap-Bun](#). Active members: 2.

Events: Talk by Amanda L. Andrei: "Graphite to the Bone: Writing the Generational Trauma of a Filipino Romanian Family" (October 2022); Discussion on the work of Mihai Eminescu, Matei Vișniec, and Prof. Christina Zarifopol-Illias (April 2022) — both in-person at Ovidius University of Constanța.

Minorities Studies

Convenor: [Gábor Egry](#) and [László Fosztó](#). Events: underway.

Postwar Politics, History, and Culture

Convenors: [Dragos Petrescu](#) and [Ruxandra Trandafoiu](#). Active members: 4.

Events: secured funding for organizing the second series of lectures in Romanian Studies during the academic year 2023/2024; previous series of lectures within the Master Program in Comparative Politics (MCP) at the University of Bucharest, including those by [Ruxandra Trandafoiu](#) and [Roland Clark](#) (Nov.2022 onwards).

Pre-1918 History

Convenors and active members: Currently vacant.

Events: [Online panel](#): "Ramificațiile darwinismului. Evoluționism și politici științifice în România, 1859-1918", discussing the popularization of Darwinist evolutionary theory in Romania between 1859-1918 (Dec. 2022).

Religious Studies

Convenor: [Roland Clark](#). Active members: 7.

Events: [online seminar](#): "the Archangel Michael in Romania", with presentations of papers from the upcoming volume, *The Archangel Michael Beyond Orthodoxies: Here – There – Everywhere* (ed. Alexandros Tsakos and Marie Steine von der Lippe) — papers presented included those by Roland Clark, James A. Kapaló, Ovidiu Olar, and Emanuela Timotin (Feb. 2023); showcase of Marc Loustau's book, *Hungarian Catholic Intellectuals in Contemporary Romania: Reforming Apostles, with further discussions* by Anca Șincan and Csongor Jánosi on religion in Transylvania (Nov. 2022).

Sociology

Convenor: [Mihai Rusu](#). Active members: 3. Events: underway.

New Books Network

The SRS welcomed the [New Books Network](#) (NBN) as an organisational partner in May 2022. The NBN is a network of 120 author interview podcasts focused on academic books. It currently publishes 75 new interviews every week, has published over 14,000 interviews, and it reaches approximately a million listeners a month. It has listeners in every country in the world save North Korea. NBN listeners download between three and five million interviews a month.

New Books Network

SRS members will be particularly interested in the [NBN Channel on Eastern European Studies](#), which is hosted by Roland Clark, Jill Massino, and Lavinia Stan, among others.

Some of the books featured on this channel in 2023 included:

- Stefan C. Ionescu, [Jewish Resistance to 'Romanianization', 1940-44](#) (2015)
- Simon Geissbühler (ed.), [Romania and the Holocaust: Events, Contexts, Aftermath](#) (2016)
- Marius Wamsiedel, [The Moral Evaluation of Emergency Department Patients. An Ethnography of Triage Work in Romania](#) (2023)
- Constantin Iordachi, [The Fascist Faith of the Legion 'Archangel Michael' in Romania, 1927-1941: Martyrdom and National Purification](#) (2023)
- Radu Ioanid, [The Holocaust in Romania, The Destruction of Jews and Roma Under the Antonescu Regime, 1940-1944](#) (2000)
- Alexandra Chiriac, [Performing Modernism: A Jewish Avant-Garde in Bucharest](#) (2022)

The NBN is actively recruiting new hosts.

If you are interested in becoming a host, you can find more details [here](#).

CfA: H-Romania Editor



[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 eighth 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 if you are interested in joining the H-Romania editorial team.**

SRS-Polirom Book Series

The SRS-Polirom Book Series

Studii Românești - Romanian Studies - Études Roumaines - Rumänische Studien

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

Assistant Editor: Narcis Tulbure (narcis.tulbure@gmail.com)

CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

We welcome proposals for new titles in our series! Nominate the work of a colleague or former student, whether already published or in manuscript form; or present us your own book already published abroad. You can find details about what needs to be included in a book proposal [here](#).

The series publishes scholarly books in Romanian **authored or edited by SRS members**. The Editors will consider mainly 1) translations of scholarly monographs already published in another language; 2) translations of edited collections dealing with a Romanian Studies theme. Authors and/or editors must be SRS members in good standing at the time when the manuscript or book is proposed and published.

Books in the SRS/Polirom Romanian Studies series engage with topics on Romania and/or Moldova and the populations living on these territories; or with the Romanian and Moldovan diasporas and their cultures. Manuscripts should have primarily an academic profile, and they may be disciplinary, interdisciplinary, or multidisciplinary in 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 peer reviewed for publication in the series.

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

- Emanuela Grama, *Centrul Vechi din București. Politică și patrimoniu* (2023) *****WINNER OF THE 2020 ED A HEWETT BOOK PRIZE offered by the ASSOCIATION FOR SLAVIC, EAST EUROPEAN, AND EURASIAN STUDIES (ASEEES)*****
- Cristian Cercel, *Filogermanism fără germani. România în căutarea europenității* (2021) *****WINNER OF THE 2022 OBSERVATOR CULTURAL BOOK AWARD*****
- 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 Vătuțescu, *Cultură și poliție secretă în comunism* (2018) *****WINNER OF THE 2011 BARBARA HELDT PRIZE, SPONSORED BY THE ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN SLAVIC STUDIES; WINNER OF THE 2011 OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC TITLE AWARD, SPONSORED BY CHOICE.*****
- 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 SOCIETY FOR ROMANIAN STUDIES (SRS) BOOK AWARD*****



SRS-Polirom Book Series

NEW RELEASE:

Emanuela Grama's *Centrul vechi din București. Politică și patrimoniu* was translated by Justina Bandol, June 2023. The English edition won the **2020 Ed A Hewett book prize offered by the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies**. The Romanian edition includes new sections based on additional archival materials.

“Based on archival and ethnographic research, the volume brings to light lesser-known episodes from the history of this neighborhood, starting from negotiations among architects, archaeologists, and the communist government about the heritage value of the area, up to its more recent transformation into a tourist brand, under the name 'historic center.' But the book is not just a monograph of a place. It is also an attempt to better understand how various urban changes have reflected social and attitudinal changes; which histories have mattered and which have been forgotten; which aesthetic and urban visions have prevailed and which have disappeared; which social and professional groups have managed to impose their values and under what conditions. In other words, which narratives, objects, aesthetic forms, and lifestyles become valued as heritage—and which of them are marginalized, abandoned, or destroyed.” **Emanuela Grama**



What people are saying about it:

“Grama challenges the reader to understand the complex games played by elites of different political regimes with the buildings, historical ruins and infrastructure of the neighborhood, whose social and ethnic composition changed dramatically after the Second World War.” **Irina Livezeanu, University of Pittsburgh**

“The sophisticated theorization of heritage and the use of material culture and specifically lived environments in post-socialist spaces renders this case study relevant for scholars of memory, [and] semiotics, [and for] historians, and cultural anthropologists. It invites further examination of discrete acts of framing, negotiating, and rejecting purported collective identities. Upon examination, these collective identities reveal fragmentation and hierarchies of power and privilege hidden in the interstices of discourses that naturalize the past as one cohesive narrative for the entire community.” **Maria Bucur, Anthropological Quarterly**

“Socialist Heritage: The Politics of Past and Place in Romania is a compelling exploration of heritage making as state making through the lens of the postwar and postcommunist transformations of Bucharest’s Old Town. [...] A theoretically dense but engagingly written book, Socialist Heritage is a must read not only for specialists of (post)socialist Romania and eastern Europe, but also for students and researchers of nationalism, urbanization and heritage making, history (re)writing, the role of experts under socialism, postcommunist efforts of Europeanization, and privatization as gentrification, or ruination as commodification.” **Diana Georgescu, Slavic Review**

SRS-Polirom Book Series

IN PRODUCTION:

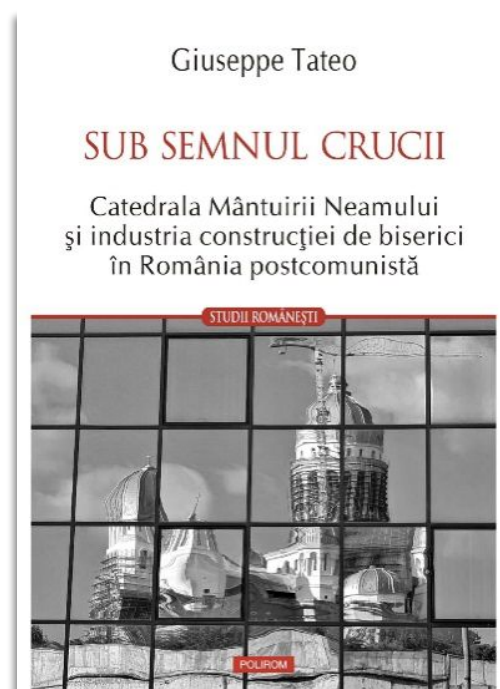
Giuseppe Tateo's *Sub semnul crucii. Catedrala Mântuirii Neamului și industria construcției de biserici în România postcomunistă* (New York: Berghahn, 2020), translated into Romanian by Maria-Magdalena Anghelescu, will appear in our series early in 2024.

What people are saying about it:

“...the book is an ethnographic research of a construction project rather than of the organizational developments of the Romanian Orthodox Church.

Nevertheless, one may endorse that it sheds light on the main crucial strategies pursued by the Romanian Orthodox Church for its organizational revival over the past three decades. While this multifaceted institutional pattern has enabled the Romanian Orthodox Church to expand its hegemony in Romanian society, the book masterly describes how it is requiring a novel social legitimation for addressing the growing anticlerical stances.” **Marco Guglielmi, *Religion and Society: Advancements in Research***

“Giuseppe Tateo’s book is an important contribution to the recent history of the Romanian Orthodox Church and its current crisis in a slowly secularizing Romania. His case study — elaborating on the People’s Salvation Cathedral, the church-building projects, and the multiplication of crosses in the country — represents three elements from a large set of strategies of space sacralization, the re consecration of civic life and space, and the ideological and political power dynamics of the Romanian Orthodox Church after 1990. Combining the sociology of religion, space theory, cultural anthropology, and church history, Tateo’s book serves as an important example of a transdisciplinary approach in the academic study of religions in Central-Eastern Europe.” **Csaba Szabó, *Religion and Society in Central and Eastern Europe***



SRS-Polirom Book Series

FORTHCOMING:

Mariana Hausleitner's *Eine Atmosphäre von Hoffnung und Zuversicht. Hilfe für verfolgte Juden in Rumänien, Transnistrien und Nordsiebenbürgen 1940-1944* (Berlin: Lukas Verlag, 2020) is being translated and is expected to appear in Romanian in 2024.

During World War II, Romania was an ally of the German Reich. The spectrum of Jewish persecution in Romanian-controlled territories was broad, ranging from legislative measures to disenfranchisement and expropriation, from pogroms to deportations and mass murder. However, a few courageous people from a variety of social classes came to the aid of these oppressed people. This book introduces these often anonymous helpers who risked their lives to German readers for the first time. *(from the publisher's web page)*



What people are saying about it:

“When it comes to the Holocaust in Romania, Mariana Hausleitner has been, for the last three decades, the most productive researcher in the German-language space. [...] With *Eine Atmosphäre von Hoffnung und Zuversicht*, Mariana Hausleitner has written, again, a standard work that is also of interest to a broader readership. Lukas Verlag has spared no effort in publishing a book with a clear layout, rich illustrations, and many useful maps. Hausleitner's important text was thus recast into a special reader-friendly form.” **Simon Geissbühler, *Jahrbücher für osteuropäische Geschichte***

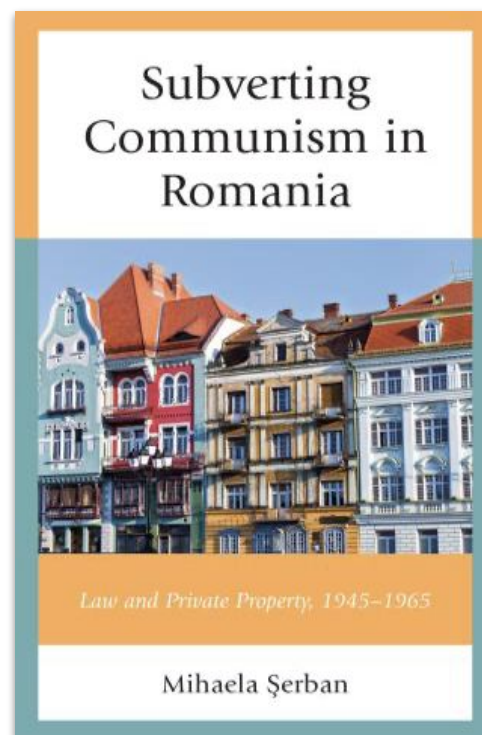
“In ten short chapters, the author analyses numerous cases of the attitude towards Jews and the course of rescue operations - mostly little-known episodes of the Holocaust - based on numerous archival sources, diaries, correspondence, memoirs and accessible research literature. The cases have been reconstructed in the regional context of Romania and its eastern and western border areas. [...] The book clearly shows that those people who wanted to help the Jews did so despite all difficulties and danger to their lives. The rescuers took advantage of all the existing leeway (and created an atmosphere of hope and confidence among the Jews). The rescue operations, which the author presents as life sequences in which the fates of rescuers and victims are interwoven, present the characteristics of social-moral resistance and encourage reflection on the role of accident and contingency in the history of the Holocaust.” **Svetlana Suveică, *Südost-Forschungen***

SRS-Polirom Book Series

FORTHCOMING:

Mihaela Șerban's ***Subverting Communism in Romania: Law and Private Property 1945–1965*** (Lanham: Lexington Books, 2019) is expected to appear in Romanian in the fall of 2024.

Subverting Communism in Romania explores the role of law in everyday life and as a mechanism for social change during early communism in Romania. Mihaela Șerban focuses on the regime's attempts to extinguish private property in housing through housing nationalization and expropriation. This study of early communist law illustrates that law is never just an instrument of state power, particularly over the long term and from a ground up perspective. Even during its most totalitarian phase, communist law enjoyed a certain level of autonomy at the most granular level and consequently was simultaneously a space of state power and resistance to power. *(from the publisher's web page)*



What people are saying about it:

"In this six-chapter book, Mihaela Șerban offers a nuanced perspective of the manifold ways in which legal continuity and change affected the takings of homes during early communist rule in Romania. With the help of newly discovered archival documents she studied in the city of Timișoara, Șerban shows that during the 1945-1965 period law was more than an instrument of violence and repression blindly used by a dictatorial regime to effect social change and unmake the pre-communist hegemony of private property. [...] A carefully researched and elegantly written analysis showing profound understanding of Romanian realities, this book is a necessary reading for all those interested to know more about the property regime, the legal culture, and the interplay between power and law in an understudied country of the former communist bloc." **Lavinia Stan, St. Francis Xavier University**

"Mihaela Șerban tells an unexpected and previously unknown story of resistance to the nationalization of their homes by ordinary Romanians in the 1950s. She weaves her meticulous archival research into an engaging and theoretically compelling narrative of the ups and downs of the campaign to reshape legal consciousness in the image of Marxism-Leninism. The endless petitions by displaced Romanians to have their rights reinstated demonstrate not only that law mattered, but also their continued belief in private property. Șerban's book fills a nagging gap in the literature and deserves to be widely read." **Kathryn Hendley, University of Wisconsin**

Find more extensive presentations of the forthcoming books on the SRS [website](#).

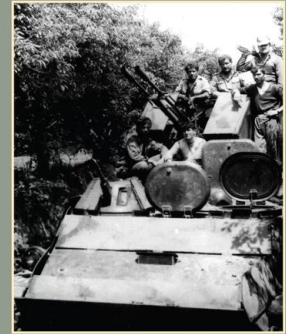
PROSPECTIVE AUTHORS

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 series editors.

Featured Books

Eugen Străuțiu, Steven D. Roper, William E. Crowther, Dareg Zabarah-Chulak, Victor Juc, and Robert E. Hamilton (editors), *The Armed Conflict of the Dniester: Three Decades Later* (New York: Peter Lang, 2023)

“This volume — a result of the collaboration between the Laboratory for Transnistrian Conflict Analysis (Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Romania) and the Balkan History Association — presents a wide range of voices, and seeks to be non-partisan in its approach. Among the issues it tackles are the political and geopolitical causes of the war; the documentary sources and their analysis; quantitative and qualitative evaluation of the combat forces, their levels of training and professionalism, command structures, tactics, weapons, and equipment; the organization and actions of the paramilitaries; the interests of Russia, Moldova, and other international actors, and their political and military actions; and finally the political and patriotic capital generated by the war.”



The Armed Conflict of the Dniester

Three Decades Later

Edited by

Eugen Străuțiu, Steven D. Roper,
William E. Crowther, Dareg Zabarah-Chulak,
Victor Juc, and Robert E. Hamilton

PETER LANG

FORUM: RUMÄNIEN



Kultur und Propaganda

Das Rumänische Institut in Berlin (1940-1945)

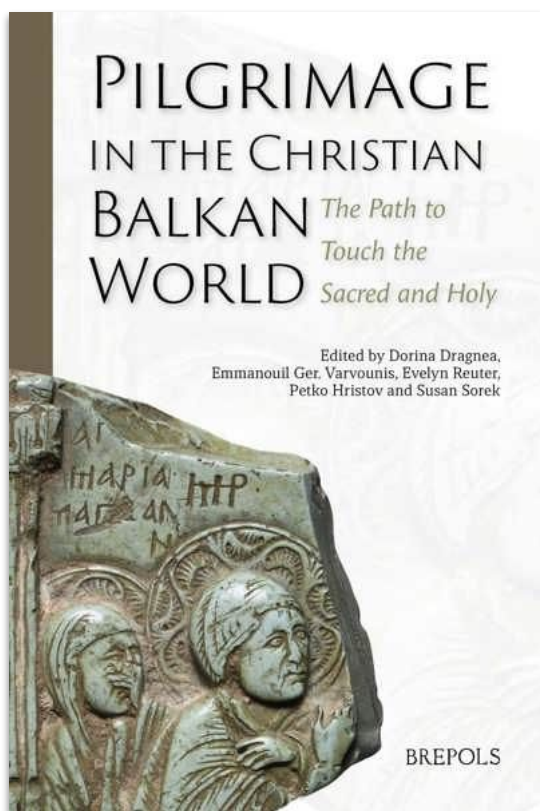
Irina Nastasă-Matei/Lucian Nastasă-Kovács

Frank & Timme

Irina Nastasă Matei und Lucian Nastasă Kovács, *Kultur und Propaganda: Das Rumänische Institut in Berlin (1940-1945)* (Berlin: Frank & Timme, 2023)

“Das 1940 in der Reichshauptstadt Berlin gegründete Rumänische Institut sollte die kulturellen Beziehungen zwischen Rumänien und dem Deutschen Reich koordinieren und vertiefen. Dieser Band beleuchtet erstmals und umfassend die Entstehung dieser Einrichtung und das Wirken der dort tätigen Personen: von der Planung und Organisation des Instituts über dessen Aufbau, die Ziele und Leitgedanken bis hin zu Erwartungen an das ambitionierte Projekt und Rückschlägen in der Umsetzung. Im Zentrum steht dabei die Veröffentlichung zeithistorisch bedeutsamer Dokumente und deren intensive und kritische Diskussion. Erhellend ist zudem die kritische Auseinandersetzung mit Personen, die mit dem Rumänischen Institut in Verbindung standen, mit deren Aktivitäten und mit der Einbettung des Instituts in den politisch-ideologischen Kontext des Nationalsozialismus.”

Featured Books

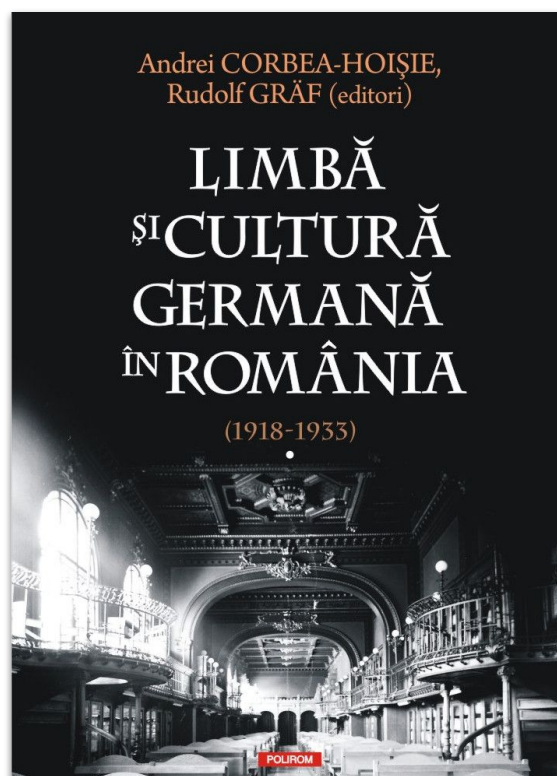


Dorina Dragnea, Emmanouil Ger. Varvounis, Evelyn Reuter, Petko Hristov, and Susan Sorek (editors), *Pilgrimage in the Christian Balkan World: The Path to Touch the Sacred and Holy* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2023)

“The purpose of this volume is to explore, re-interpret and re-contextualise the various natures of practices performed by the Orthodox and Catholic pilgrims in Balkan countries in their devotional ‘path to touch the sacred and holy’ through the prism of pilgrimage contents, and their articulating, using, and handling strategies. Inter- and transdisciplinary perspectives constitute a strong point for exploring the essence of this collective practice of worship, which is theoretically and critically interpreted, and chronologically and diachronically analysed. Therefore, the various visions of the authors, formed on the basis of qualitative and critical analysis of primary (ethnographic and folkloric data from field interviews, archive documents, samples, etc.) and secondary sources, come to fill a gap in research on pilgrimage in southeast Europe, and especially on pilgrimage practices in Eastern Orthodoxy. Particularly, the ritual practices, sacred places in contemporary Balkan societies, religious folklore, divine intervention stories, miracle-working icons, relics and reliquaries as part of the structure of pilgrimage are discussed.”

Andrei Corbea-Hoișie și Rudolf Gräf (editori), *Limbă și cultură germană în România (1918-1933)* (vol. I + II) (București: Polirom, 2023)

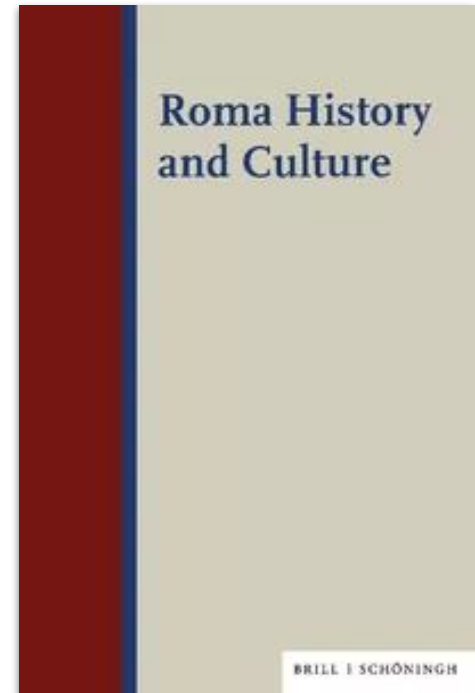
“Rezultat al unui proiect finanțat de UEFISCDI, lucrarea de față și-a propus înregistrarea, aprofundarea și interrelaționarea de către echipe interdisciplinare de istorici, germaniști, juriști, sociologi, specialiști în studii culturale din Iași și Cluj-Napoca a elementelor ce compun mozaicul atât de variat al prezenței limbii și culturii germane pe teritoriul statului român după 1918. Pe baza unui model multi-, inter- și transdisciplinar al tipurilor și varietăților de interacțiune, s-a urmărit o reconstituire a imaginii «în mișcare», de ansamblu și totodată diferențiată, a tuturor domeniilor în care s-au manifestat acestea în noua configurație politică, socială și culturală a României Mari, studiind atent rețelele de mijlocitori individuali și colectivi și motivațiile care au determinat fluxurile de «transfer» cultural între actorii implicați.”



Featured Books

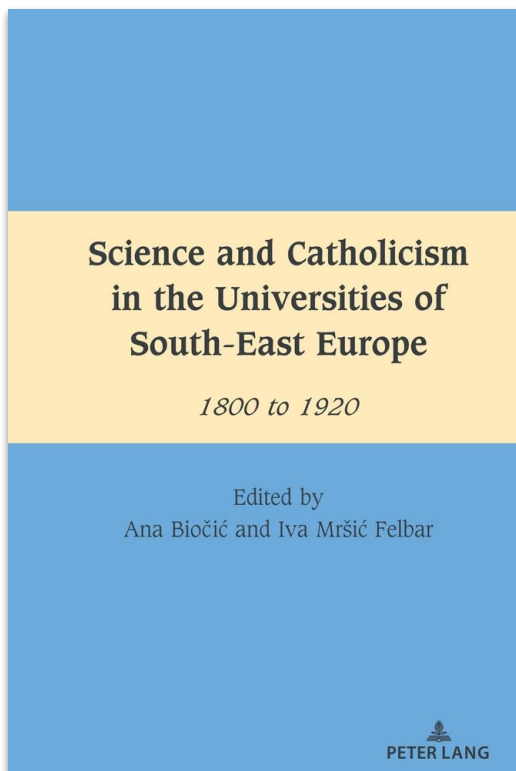
SERIES: Elena Marushiakova, Vesselin Popov, and Sofiya Zahova (series editors), *Roma History and Culture* (Paderborn: Brill | Schöningh, 2023—)

“The overarching goal of the Series is to incorporate the history and culture of Roma into the mainstream of European and global academia. To achieve this goal, the series Roma History and Culture publishes books (monographs, edited volumes, and collections of historical sources) from wide range of disciplines – history, ethnography, anthropology, sociology, political science, religion, cultural studies, literature studies, film, and art history, with particular focus on comparative studies – that offer innovative, critical and, above all, reliable and fully documented insights into Roma history and culture that relies on documents, critical rereading and rethinking of historical sources and existing research.”



Current publications in the series include:

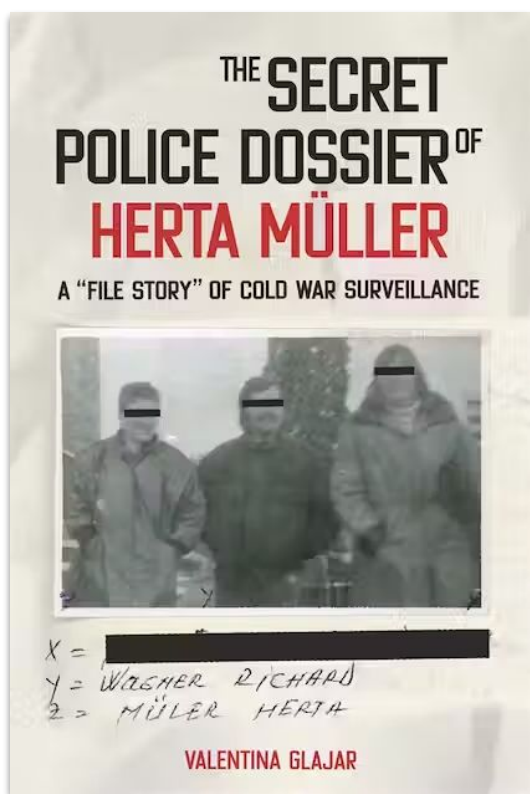
- Shakir M. Pashov, *History of the Gypsies in Bulgaria and Europe: Roma* (May 2023)
- Julieta Rotaru and David Gaunt, *The Wallachian Gold-Washers: Unlocking the Golden Past of the Rudari Woodworkers* (April 2023)



Ana Biočić and Iva Mršić Felbar (editors), *Science and Catholicism in the Universities of South-East Europe: 1800 to 1920* (New York: Peter Lang, 2023)

“This edited collection sheds new light on the complex dialogue between religion and science which played out at universities in South-East Europe during the 19th and early 20th centuries. This discourse took place against a backdrop of great political, cultural, linguistic, and religious diversity, as well as the long-term transition from Habsburg rule to new nation states. The book’s contributors—an international team of scholars with a wide range of expertise—delve into a range of key questions, including the influence of political regimes on faculties of theology and implications for university autonomy, the role of theology as a science in defining the status of these faculties, and the development of science in the face of religious divisions. The book will appeal to readers interested in religious and intellectual history, the history of science, and the relationship between faith and science, as well as all those interested in South-East Europe either side of the First World War.”

Featured Books



Valentina Glajar, *The Secret Police Dossier of Herta Müller: A "File Story" of Cold War Surveillance* (Martlesham: Boydell & Brewer, 2023)

“Herta Müller should share her Nobel with the Securitate.” This comment by a former officer in the Romanian secret police, or Securitate, was in reaction to hearing that Müller, a German writer originally from Romania, had won the 2009 Nobel Prize for Literature. Communist Romania's infamous secret police was indeed a protagonist in Müller's work, though an undesired and dreaded one: most of her writings are deeply and explicitly anchored in Ceaușescu's Romania and her own traumatic experiences with the Securitate. Müller's file traces her surveillance from 1983 until after she emigrated to West Germany in 1987. She has written extensively in reaction to reading her file, but primarily addresses its gaps, begging the question what information the file does in fact contain. This book is an in-depth investigation of Müller's file, and engages with other related files, including that of her then-husband, the writer Richard Wagner. Valentina Glajar treats the files as primary sources in order to re-create the story of Müller's surveillance by the Securitate. In such an intrusive culture of surveillance, surviving the system often meant a certain degree of entanglement: for victims, collaborators, and implicated subjects alike. Veiled in secrecy for decades, these compelling and complex documents shed light on a boundary between victims and perpetrators as porous as the Iron Curtain itself.”

Emanuel Copilaș, *Integrarea României în sfera de influență sovietică (1944-1947): Perspective internaționale și locale* (București: Corint Istorie, 2023)

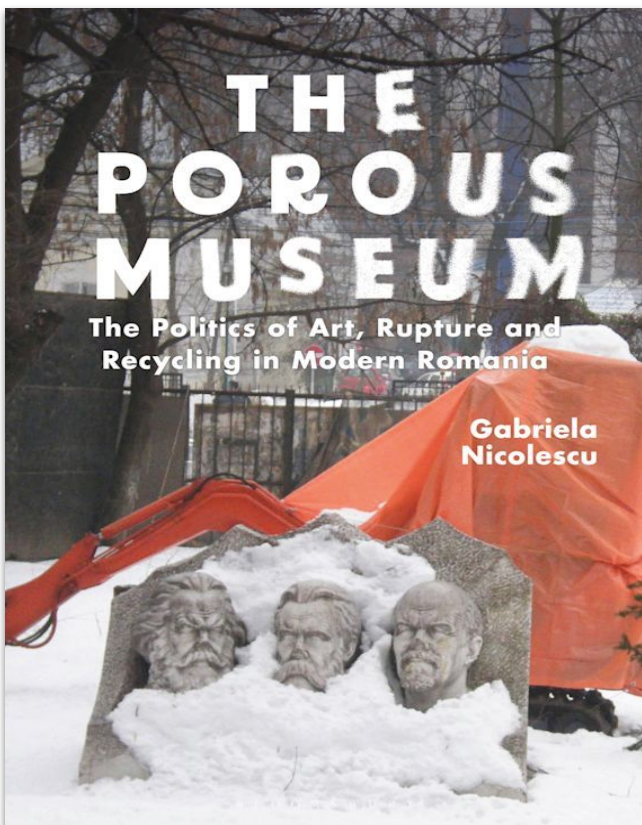
“Pornind de la câteva întrebări esențiale – De ce a ajuns cel mai redus și dezorganizat partid comunist est-european de la finalul celui de-Al Doilea Război Mondial să se transforme, câteva decenii mai târziu, în partidul comunist est-european cu cel mai mare număr de membri? Cum a fost posibilă o astfel de contradicție? Și cum o putem aborda și înțelege, altfel decât prin clișeele dreptei intelectuale? –, autorul încearcă să elucideze contextul politic extrem de complex și de volatil al României postbelice.”



Featured Books

Ruxandra-Iuliana Canache, [*Marginal Spaces and Cultures of Dissent in Socialist Romania's Black Sea*](#) (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2023)

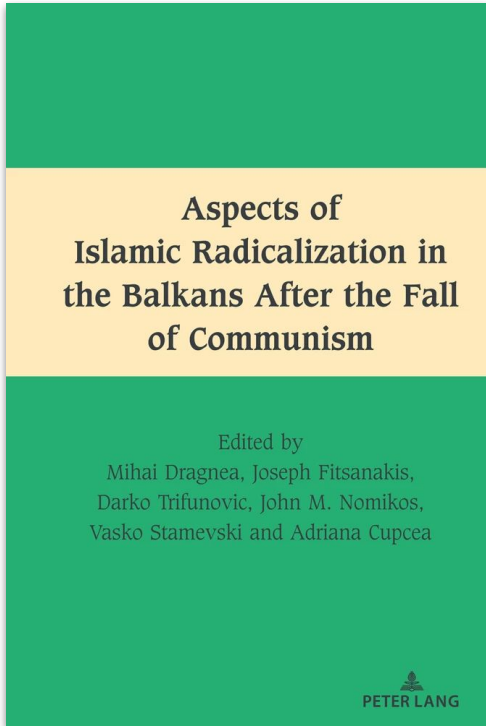
“This book analyzes two Romanian villages – 2 Mai and Vama Veche – as spaces of relative freedom during the last decades of socialist rule. This microhistorical study refutes simplistic views of the communist past which focus on political figures and events, and instead explores ordinary people and everyday life. Taking a multidisciplinary approach, it considers a broad range of sources, including official Communist Party documents, secret police files, personal memoirs, oral history interviews, ethnographic films, songs, and artistic performances. This book intertwines three narrative threads: that of the visitors (mainly members of the Romanian intelligentsia, young people, and hippies); that of the local inhabitants; and that of 'authority' (local and central state agents actively engaged in surveillance and supervision). In doing so, it interrogates the spectrum of consent/dissent and resistance/collaboration hitherto neglected in scholarship.”



Gabriela Nicolescu, [*The Porous Museum. The Politics of Art, Rupture and Recycling in Modern Romania*](#) (London: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2023)

“The Porous Museum examines questions of museum practice, aesthetics and politics through a focused study of The National Museum of the Romanian Peasant in Bucharest. The museum has functioned successively as a museum of art, a communist museum, the headquarters of the communist secret police, and a museum of folk art. Gabriela Nicolescu traces the museum's spectacular biography and follows the transformation of its practices and aesthetics through three very different political regimes in the 20th and early 21st century: monarchist, socialist and post-socialist.”

Featured Books

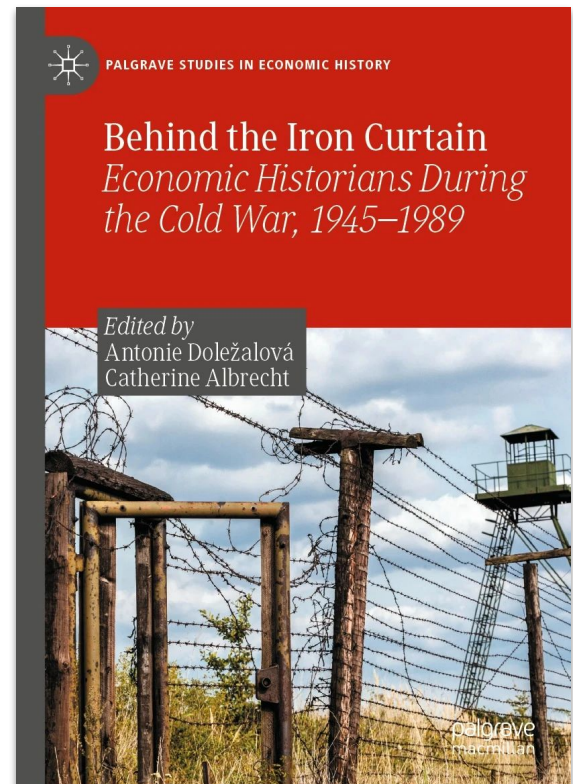


Mihai Dragnea, Joseph Fitsanakis, Darko Trifunović, John M. Nomikos, Vasko Stamevski, and Adriana Cupcea (editors), *Aspects of Islamic Radicalization in the Balkans After the Fall of Communism* (New York: Peter Lang, 2023)

“This book explores the channels through which Islamic fundamentalism has spread among Muslim populations in the Balkans since the fall of communism. The authors collectively examine political and religious ties between Balkan Muslims and various private organizations and state institutions in Muslim states, with a particular focus on the reception of Salafism and its Saudi version, Wahhabism. In that context, they debate the extent to which war crimes committed by Muslims during the Yugoslav Wars were motivated by Salafism, rather than being a result of domestic ethno-national conflicts. Finally, the book also addresses the ideological climate that has generated volunteers for Islamic State (Daesh) in recent years.”

Antonie Doležalová and Catherine Albrecht (editors), *Behind the Iron Curtain: Economic Historians During the Cold War, 1945–1989* (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2023)

“This edited volume offers a systematic exploration of the relations between Western and Eastern scientists during the Cold War from the Eastern European perspective using the example of economic history. Introducing famous as well as almost forgotten scholars who attempted to eliminate the Iron Curtain and strove to break through the obstacles against the transfer of scientific ideas, the book challenges the narrative of the non-cooperative nature of scientific work during the Cold War due to socialist scientists’ incapability and disinclination to engage openly in international discussions. The book contributes to a deeper collective understanding of the multiple contemporary ideological and political circumstances that influenced scientific work and individual scientists’ careers and explores the options scientists in socialist countries had - and utilized - to develop their research in collaboration with their Western colleagues.”





Open Calls

Calls for Papers:

“From the Middle Ages to Modern times. Historical, cultural, and linguistic relations between Albanians and Romanians”: Deadline extended for volume on Albanian-Romanian relations published through Peter Lang’s “South-East European History” series.. More information [can be found here](#). New deadline for proposals: **29 December 2023**.

“Ecocriticism, Sustainability, and Literature”: Nesir: Journal of Literary Studies will center its 6th issue on the theme of 'Ecocriticism, Sustainability, and Literature,' set for April 2024. The issue welcomes articles that explore literary works, both fictional and non-fictional, from the early Ottoman period to contemporary Turkey, within an ecological perspectives, offering a comparative global literary outlook. Articles in English or Turkish can be sent through [the website](#) until **1 February 2024**.

Studia Universitatis Babeş-Bolyai Philologia: Crises, Challenges and Post-Pandemic Prospects in Teaching Languages for Specific and Academic Purposes: This special issue focuses on Languages for Specific Purposes and welcomes papers taking a research, pedagogical or theoretical perspective on the topic. More information available at the link. For any inquiries, please contact octaviazglobiu@ubbcluj.ro. Submission deadline: **15 February 2024**.

Disability and Detective Fiction (theme issue of Clues: A Journal of Detection): Submissions should include a proposal of 250–300 words and a brief bio. Proposals due: **15 March 2024**.

After Constantine Issue 5: *After Constantine* is a peer-reviewed and open-access academic journal published online once a year. Its purpose is to bring Late Antiquity to the spotlight by hosting papers that underline its importance to Classic and Byzantine studies and contribute to a better piece of knowledge in the academic community. Authors are welcome to submit their papers to the journal via the email address info@afterconstantine.com, in Word (.doc or .docx) and PDF format by **20 August 2024**.

Studia Politica. Romanian Political Science Review publishes high quality, peer-reviewed articles in all major areas of political science including political theory, comparative politics, political sociology, public policy, international relations and global studies. *Studia Politica* accepts manuscripts for review **all year round** for our 2 issues.

OpenPhilately is an open-access journal that aims to make quality philatelic and postal history research available to all. It seeks submissions for its second and subsequent issues. **Submissions are open**, without deadline.

The Yale Journal of Music & Religion invites proposals to publish English translations of primary sources, scholarship, essays, and commentaries related to the study of sacred music and its ritual, artistic, and cultural worlds. Our goal in publishing translations is to increase access to texts from a broad range of religious traditions and discourses that have not been published in English. Projects may be from any language, geographical region, or historical period, and partial translations of larger texts with sections focused on music and sound will be considered. Please contact Editor-in-Chief Jeffers Engelhardt (jengelhardt@amherst.edu) with questions and proposals.



Open Calls

Calls for Conference Papers:

Urban Futures – Cultural Pasts Conference: This conference will take place at Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain, from 15-17 July, 2024. This conference is aimed at urban historians, archaeologists, and art/architectural historians and will discuss the positive and negative effects of the heritage sector. *Deadline for abstracts:* **10 December 2023** (Round 1) | **25 April 2024** (Round 2).

Learning. Life. Work. Conference: This conference will take place at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco, USA, from June 10-12, 2024. It is interested in exploring various topics relating to teaching and learning practices, and welcomes contributors from across disciplines. *Deadline for abstracts:* **1 December 2023** (Round 1) | **1 May 2024** (Round 2).

ISIE's Third Annual Online Symposium 'Best Practices in International Exposition Designs': The Institute for the Study of International Expositions invites abstracts for its online symposium 'New Voices: ISIE's 2024 Symposium for Emerging Scholars', to be held online on 22 March 2024. *Deadline:* **19 December 2023**.

Culture and the Mind: Voices, Sites and Practices International Conference: CULTMIND will hold its first annual conference 15-17 May 2024 in central Copenhagen. We invite scholars from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds and career stages to discuss the current state of research on the entanglement of culture and the mind, and to outline new paths for future exploration. Please send proposals for oral presentations or posters (including a paper/poster title, an abstract of 300 words and a brief academic biography of 200 words) to: CULTMIND@hum.ku.dk by **15 January 2024**.

CFP: Who shaped energy transitions? Consumers, businesses, public and social actors (18th-21st century): On the occasion of its 100th anniversary, Total Archives, the historical archives of TotalEnergies, will host a conference on the theme of energy transitions: The conference will take place on 13–14 June 2024 in La Défense (near Paris, France). Proposals in English or French are due by **15 January 2024**.

ICSF 2024 : 5th International Conference on Sustainable Futures: Environmental, Technological, Social and Economic Matters: Authors are invited to submit full papers (6+ pages) based on original research, including surveys, tutorials, perspective/colloquia articles in conference topics by **20 January 2024**.

Making Modern Identities, 13th Spring History Symposium, The University of Hong Kong, 3 and 4 May 2024: The deadline for submission is **31 January 2024**, and applicants will be notified of the results in February.

Summer schools:

MINESCAPES: Socio-natural Landscapes of Extraction and Knowledge in the Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period: Summer school for PhD students, taking place 31 May – 10 June 2024. Location: Harz Mountains, Herzog August Library Wolfenbüttel (Germany). Application deadline: **17 December 2023**. Applicants will be informed at the beginning of February.



Open Calls

Calls for Session Proposals:

WEHC 2025 – call for session proposals: The 20th World Economic History Congress will convene from 28 July to 1 August 2025 in Lund, Sweden. The theme for the Congress is Equality and Sustainability Challenges, which highlights some of the central issues facing humanity today and also connects to a broad and diverse range of historical problems. To address both the challenges and to find insights from the historical record for that endeavor, a range of perspectives will be necessary. The call for sessions will close on **31 January 2024**.

Calls for Book Chapters:

Political demography: Population change in the Balkans following the 1878 Treaty of Berlin: This volume will be published by Peter Lang as part of the South-East European History series. Deadline for submission of proposals to editors: **18 December 2023**.

Call for Book Chapters: “The representation of marginalized populations in collections and exhibitions of dress”: Vernon Press cordially invites scholars to submit book chapter proposals for an upcoming scholarly volume on the representation of marginalized populations in collections and exhibitions of dress, edited by Kenna Libes. Please send abstracts of 250-500 words with a bio to the book editor, at kenna.libes@bgc.bard.edu, by **31 December 2023**.

Prize Competitions:

Agricultural History Society Call for Award Nominations: The Agricultural History Society is accepting nominations for awards. To nominate a book, article, or dissertation with a 2023 publication date, please follow the directions at the link. *Deadline: 31 December 2023*.

Call for Nominations of Candidates for the Otto Neugebauer Prize for the History of Mathematics: The Prize is to be awarded for highly original and influential work in the field of history of mathematics that enhances our understanding of either the development of mathematics or a particular mathematical subject in any period and in any geographical region. Nominations for the prize should be submitted electronically to the chair of the Prize Committee, Professor Karine Chemla (chemla@univ-paris-diderot.fr) with the EMS Office (ems-office@helsinki.fi) in cc. no later than **31 December 2023**.

André Corvisier Prize 2024: The International Commission of Military History awards the André Corvisier Prize for PhD theses on Military History, named after the distinguished French scholar who was for ten years President of ICMH and then President of Honour. For the 2024 edition, the prize will be awarded for a PhD thesis discussed and approved in 2023 at a recognized University. More information available at the link. *Deadline: 31 January 2024*.

The PLURAL Local Archives & Collections Research Prize: This prize is to be awarded for original research articles based on archives or collections held in Moldova or in the neighbouring regions and counties in Ukraine and Romania. It is offered to one MA2-, PhD-, or postdoc-level student in the field of history, the social sciences, or other humanities, under 40 years of age, who is still enrolled in an MA2 or PhD program or has defended their thesis in the past five years. Please send applications to prize@plural.md no later than **31 January 2024**.



Open Calls

Funding opportunities:

Folger Institute fellowships: The Folger Institute offers long-term fellowships for scholarly research and short-term fellowships for both scholarly and artistic research. The deadline for short-term fellowship applications is **15 January 2024**.

Scholarship opportunities for part-time postgraduate courses in sustainable urban development at Oxford University: The Department for Continuing Education at the University of Oxford is pleased to invite applications for a scholarship worth over £46,000 to undertake the part-time MSc in Sustainable Urban Development for October 2024 entry. Deadline: **19 January 2024**.

Leverhulme Trust: Early Career Fellowships: For early career researchers, with a research record but who have not yet held a full-time permanent academic post, to undertake a significant piece of publishable work. Fellowships can be held at UK universities with research degree awarding powers. The Fellowships are intended to assist those at a relatively early stage of their academic careers, and it is hoped that the appointment would lead to a more permanent position for the individual, either within the same or another university. *Deadline: 22 February 2024*.

European Commission funding opportunities:

Information Measures for the EU Cohesion policy (IMREG): Expected Outcome: to increase media coverage on Cohesion policy, in particular at regional level, to enhance people's awareness of the results of Cohesion policy and their impact on their lives, to achieve concrete outputs and deliverables aimed at wide outreach within the measure's duration. *Deadline: 9 January 2024*.

Cultural and creative industries for a sustainable climate transition: Proposals for topics under this Destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to the following expected impact of the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan: The full potential of cultural heritage, arts and cultural and creative sectors as a driver of sustainable innovation and a European sense of belonging is realised through a continuous engagement with society, citizens and economic sectors as well as through better protection, restoration and promotion of cultural heritage. *Deadline: 7 February 2024 17:00 Brussels time*.

MSCA Staff Exchanges 2023: MSCA Staff Exchanges promote innovative international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration in research and innovation through exchanging staff and sharing knowledge and ideas at all stages of the innovation chain. The scheme fosters a shared culture of research and innovation that welcomes and rewards creativity and entrepreneurship and helps turn ideas into innovative products, services or processes. It is open to research, technical, administrative and managerial staff supporting R&I activities. *Deadline: 28 February 2024*.

Calls for reviewers:

NEOS Call for Peer Reviewers and Volunteers: Learn more about the various opportunities [here](#).

Crowd Editions: Call for Reviews. The full call for reviews can be found [here](#).



Open Calls

Call for nominations:

The EHA Committee on Research Archives and Databases invites nominations for the Engerman-Goldin Prize for creating, compiling, and sharing data and information with scholars. It is awarded in even numbered years (beginning in 2018) for contributions made in the previous six years. [Eligibility criteria can be found here](#). Nominations along with a brief (2- to 3-page) description of the data set, its significance, and its dissemination should be sent to Zach Ward at Zachary_Ward@baylor.edu with “Engerman-Goldin Prize Nomination” in the subject line. Deadline: **29 February 2024**.

Call for participants:

[The Oral History Manuscript: Writing from Oral History](#): This workshop is oriented toward writers, scholars and/or oral historians looking to address some of these questions while creating long form work rooted in oral histories/oral history collections. The workshop begins with a refresher of oral history values and characteristics followed by responsive writing exercises/lab-time and a survey of oral history-centered literature (monologues, oral narratives, oral tone poetry). The workshop is structured to help participants more explicitly identify their aesthetic and ethical approaches in a supportive setting and to support literary innovation. Participants can be at any stage of their projects. It will take place from **16-18 December 2023**.

Other calls:

[DARIAH Regional Hubs scheme](#): A DARIAH Regional Hub (DRH) is a representative consortium of institutions from geographically close countries that serves the aims of DARIAH (Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities) at a regional level and is officially recognized by DARIAH-EU. The main criterion for establishing a DRH is geographic proximity because cultural, social, historical and/or linguistic similarities that can be found in geographically close countries constitute an excellent basis for fruitful collaboration on joint projects. Members of a DRH can be institutions from DARIAH Member Countries, DARIAH Observer Countries and non-member countries. Both DARIAH Cooperating Partners and non-affiliated institutions from non-member countries are allowed to join as long as the overall goals of the regional association are in line with DARIAH’s mission. While regional hubs are primarily geographic associations, a DRH can choose to focus on particular topics to meet the interests of its members and/or specific funding opportunities. Find all information on Regional Hub - goals, membership, eligibility - [here](#).

[Diversity Scholars Network \(DSN\)](#): Join the DSN and become one of the 1,500+ scholars from more than 200 institutions across the world. Our application process employs rolling admissions. Our priority deadline is **31 December 2023**. Applicants can expect to be contacted regarding their application status in February 2024.



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.



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SRS Treasurer - George Andrei
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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 American Historical Association (AHA), the American Political Science Association (APSA), the Romanian Studies Association of America (RSAA), the Southeast European Studies Association (SEESA), the Balkan History Association (BHA), the PLURAL Forum for Interdisciplinary Studies, the American Romanian Coalition for Human and Equal Rights (ARCHER), the Immigration Research Forum (IRF), and the New Books Network (NBN). 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 Editors](#).

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