



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Old Cities, Former Capitals and the Nation-State Building in Europe (18th-20th Centuries): Regional and National Identities



Iași, November 19-21, 2024

Organizers:

“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași
Center for the History of International Relations (CIRI)
Coimbra Group Universities
Universidad Salamanca
Balkan History Association
“Regina Maria” Municipal Museum, Iași

Partener:

Iași City Hall

Organizing Committee:

PhD. Professor Raul Sanchez Prieto – Vice-Rector of the University of Salamanca
PhD. Professor Cristian Ploscaru – Faculty of History, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași
PhD. Professor Efrem Yildiz Sadak – Spanish Language Department, University of Salamanca
PhD. Associate Researcher Mihai Dragnea – Department of Business, History and Social Sciences, University of South-Eastern Norway
PhD. Lecturer Cosmin Mihuț – Faculty of History, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași
PhD. Aurica Ichim – Director of “Regina Maria” Municipal Museum of Iași
PhD. Professor Daniela Cojocaru – Faculty of Philosophy and Social-Political Sciences, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași
PhD. Researcher Liviu Brătescu – “A. D. Xenopol” Institute of History, Iași, Romanian Academy
PhD. Associate Professor Gabriel Leanca – Faculty of History, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași
PhD. Senior Researcher Mihai-Bogdan Atanasiu – Institute of Interdisciplinary Research, Department of Social Sciences and Humanities, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași

Tuesday, November, 19th
(Vasile Pogor Room of Iași City Hall)
Chair: Cristian Ploscaru

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87054000372?pwd=buEWrcEblMti1oPKZHKbhsie0easpI.1>

9.00-9.45: Conference Opening and Welcome Speeches

Mihai Chirica, Mayor of the City of Iași

Liviu-George Maha, Rector of “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University
of Iași

Aurica Ichim, Director of “Regina Maria” Municipal Museum, Iași

Cristian Ploscaru, Center for the History of International
Relations (CIRI), Iași

**9.45-13.30: I. Historical Identity and Territory in Nation-State
Building**

9.45-10.30: Keynote Speaker

Xosé M. Núñez Seixas (University of Santiago de Compostela),
Fascism and Regionalism: Some Notes for a Discussion
(**Online Zoom**)

10.30-11.15: Keynote Speaker

Ambassador Dumitru Preda (Titulescu European Foundation,
Bucharest), *The Role of Capital-City in European Nation State
Building: Romanian Example (Eighteenth–Twentieth Centuries)*

11.15-11.30: Coffee Break

Tuesday, November, 19th
(Vasile Pogor Room of Iași City Hall)
Chair: Alexander Łupienko

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87054000372?pwd=buEWrcEblMti1oPKZHKbhsie0easpI.1>

11.30-13.30: Plenary Session

Sorin Paliga (University of Bucharest), *The Terminology of the Urban v. Rural Organisation in Romania*

Jason Finch (Åbo Akademi University, Turku), *Ports across Genres and Continents: Two Provincial Capitals in Nineteenth-Century Narrative*

Cristian Ploscaru ("Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași), *"The physiology of the provincial in Iași": Cultural Discourse between Tradition and "Moldo-Wallachian" Identity (1829-1848)*

Octavian Țicu (Moldova State University, Kishinev), *Interwar Kishinev: A History of the European Transformation under Romanian Rule (1918-1940)*

13.30-15.00: Lunch - Restaurant "Cârciuma Veche"

Tuesday, November, 19th
(Braunstein Palace, The Round Room, 2nd Floor)
Chair: Jason Finch

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86379657403?pwd=5s19aaxxGEY73Obf0npFkaYZhuVMuV.1>

15.00-19.00: II. Moving Cities. Urban Culture and Community Identity in Change

15.00-15.45: Keynote Speaker

Alexander Łupienko (Tadeusz Manteuffel Institute of History, Warsaw), *Urban Communities and Memories in the Austrian Galicia (1867-1914)*

15.45-16.45: Plenary Session

Mina Hristova (Bulgarian Academy of Science, Sofia), **Chavdar Hristov** (Sofia University), *Bulgaria's Nation State Building Project Narrated by its Banknotes (19th – 20th Centuries)*

Radu Mârza (Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca), *From Kolozsvár to Cluj, from Pozsony and Pressburg to Bratislava on Postcards (after 1918)*

16.45-17.00: Coffee Break

Tuesday, November, 19th
(Braunstein Palace, The Round Room, 2nd Floor)
Chair: Mircea-Cristian Ghenghea

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86379657403?pwd=5s19aaxxGEY73Obf0npFkaYZhuVMuV.1>

17.00-19.00: First Panel

Leonidas Rados (“A. D. Xenopol” Institute of History, Iași), *First to be Founded, Second to be Funded: The Struggle of the University of Iași in the Second Half of the 19th Century*

Tatsiana Varabei (University of Greifswald), *“Styl kościoła i ołtarzy tak zwykły u nas w kraju ...”*: Multicultural Perspectives on the Baroque Architecture of the Former Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the Early 20th Century

Melina Rokai (University of Belgrade), *The Changing Identity of Jewish Communities in Yugoslav Lands (1815-1941)*

Jiayao Jiang (University of Cambridge), *Transnational Flows and National Identity: Transforming Urban Memory in Post-War Rome*

19.00-20.30: Dinner - Restaurant “Casa Universitarilor”

Tuesday, November, 19th
(Braunstein Palace, Room 3, 2nd Floor)
Chair: Mina Hristova

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87957847626?pwd=pRkt1DR3XhFLiwgqrzxYA1a3oettdw.1>

17.00-19.00: Second Panel

Daniela Mârza (Center for Transylvanian Studies, Cluj-Napoca),
Between Local Governance and National Representation: Case Studies of Members of Parliament in Interwar Transylvania with Careers in Local Administration

Liudmyla Novikova (Mechnikov National University, Odessa),
The Question of the Capital in National-State Building of Ukraine (Eighteenth-Twentieth Centuries) (**Online Zoom**)

Andrei Cușco ("A. D. Xenopol" Institute of History, Iași), *The Orthodox Clergy, the National Question, and the Campaign against 'Separatism' in Early Twentieth-Century Bessarabia (1905-1914)*

Edmond Malaj (Institute of History, Tirana), *The City of Shkodra and its Importance for the Albanian Economy, Education, and National Culture in the Nineteenth Century*

19.00-20.30: Dinner - Restaurant "Casa Universitarilor"

Wednesday, November, 20th
(Ferdinand Room, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University)
Chair: Radu Mârza

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86409591463?pwd=2xKb4gWpGorTy10BgfRa6COLLe408v.1>

**9.30-13.00: III. Voices of Difference: Representations of Space
in National Context**

9.30-10.15: Keynote Speaker

Eric Storm (Leiden University), *Thick Identities: The Impact of
Tourism on Local, Regional and National Identities During the
Nineteenth and Twentieth Century*

10.15-11.15: Plenary Session

Alexandru Bar (University of York), *The City Beautiful and
Avant-Garde Architecture: Bucharest’s Interwar Identity*

Raluca Alexandrescu (University of Bucharest), *Politicizing
Nature in the Carpathian Mountains around 1900: From
Regional Perspectives to Nation-Building Narratives*

11.15-11.30: Coffee Break

Wednesday, November, 20th
(Ferdinand Room, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University)
Chair: Sorin Paliga

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86409591463?pwd=2xKb4gWpGorTy10BgfRa6C0LLe408v.1>

11.30-13.00: Third Panel

Alexandru Cohal ("Alexandru Philippide" Institute of Romanian Philology, Iași), **George Țurcănașu** ("Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași), *The Beauty of Linguistic Centralism in Language Standardization: "We are all periphery"*

Csaba Katona (National Archives of Hungary, Budapest), *The Birth of an Imperial Capital: Budapest and the Imperial Idea*

Mihai Chișer ("A. D. Xenopol" Institute of History, Iași), *Moldavia: Historical Agency, Debasement, and Inferiorization after the Union*

13.00-15.00: Lunch - Buffet Lounge "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University Rectorate

Wednesday, November, 20th
(Vespasian Pella Room, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University)
Chair: Edmond Malaj

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/84145403928?pwd=N79m7NwOX0M8tjNyRkehAekKuSrBkA.1>

11.30-13.00: Fourth Panel

Mircea-Cristian Ghenghea (“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași), *Plagiarism and University Life in Romania at the end of the 19th century. The Case of the University of Iași*

Ionel Boamfă (“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași), *The Chrono-Spatial Distribution of some Demographic and Socio-Economic Variables in the Romanian Space in the Last Two Centuries*

Răzvan Pârâianu (“George Emil Palade” University of Medicine, Târgu Mureș), *Nation Building and the Byzantine Turn in Fin-de-siècle Romanian Culture and Politics*

13.00-15.00: Lunch - Buffet Lounge “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University Rectorate

Wednesday, November, 20th
(Ferdinand Room, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University)
Chair: Virgiliu Țîrău

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87527032123?pwd=hsnbn3KxzsSLIGQCCjfTzEOmWPy1sP.1>

15.00-19.30: IV. Provincial Heritage: Features of the National Discourse

15.00-15.45: Keynote Speaker

Heidi Hein-Kircher (Ruhr University, Bochum), *Shaping Local Identities through Political Myths: Bulwark-Myths in East European Local Memories* (**Online Zoom**)

15.45-16.45: Plenary Session

Gabriel Leanca (“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași), *Connecting to Europe: The French-Language Press in Modern Romanian Context (1790-1878)* (**Online Zoom**)

Alexandru Daneș (University of Brașov), *Nation and Nationalism in Romanian Territorial Heraldry (1859-1989)*

16.45-17.00: Coffee Break

Wednesday, November, 20th

(Online Zoom)

Chair: Raluca Alexandrescu

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/81201511078?pwd=QuHAEEjHVS7cMSUUnWDcoHDuF3GUA0.1>

17.00-19.00: Fifth Panel

Tatiana Scurtu (“Gheorghe Șincai” Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities, Târgu Mureș), *Les élites roumaines des Trois Sièges aux XVIII^e et XIX^e siècles* (**Online Zoom**)

Gheorghe Negru (State University of Moldova, Kishinev), *La peur du „danger roumain” comme prétexte à l’intensification de la russification en Bessarabie (seconde moitié du XIX^eme siècle)* (**Online Zoom**)

Jérémy Floutier (Université catholique de l’Ouest, Campus de Nantes), *La représentation des villes transylvaines dans les manuels scolaires hongrois de 1920 à 1990* (**Online Zoom**)

Elena Negru (State University of Moldova, Kishinev), *L’Union soviétique comme „machine pour la fabrication des nations”. Le projet stalinien d’ingénierie ethnoculturelle en R.S.S. Moldave (1940-1941, 1944-1953)* (**Online Zoom**)

Wednesday, November, 20th
(Ferdinand Room, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University)
Chair: Alexandru Bar

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87527032123?pwd=hsnbn3KxzsSLIGQCCjfTzEOmWPy1sP.1>

17.00-19.30: Sixth Panel

Liviu Brătescu ("A. D. Xenopol" Institute of History, Iași), *The Political Elite from Moldavia in the Second Half of the Nineteenth Century and the Challenges of Centralism: Integration Strategies and Discursive Practices*

Piotr Krężel (University of Lodz), *Vienna-Warsaw-Petersburg 18th Century European Capital Cities in "Mémoire" by Simeon Piščević (Online Zoom)*

Lucian Turcu (Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca), *The First Hero of all Romanians: Avram Iancu and the National Significance of the First Centenary of his Birth (1924)*

Esmeralda Kolaneci (University of Tirana), *The Instrumentalization of Language: Unifying Written Albanian and the Forging of a National Identity in The Albanian Renaissance (Online Zoom)*

Ante Bralić, Filip Lenić (University of Zadar), *The Role of the Zadar Cultural Circle in the Standardization of the Croatian Language in the Nineteenth Century (Online Zoom)*

19.30-20.30: Dinner - Restaurant "Casa Universitarilor"

Wednesday, November, 20th
(Vespasian Pella Room, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University)
Chair: Eric Storm

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/86793618687?pwd=FY5Ss2LxjEVaccKaF16yaaYPrexz5z.1>

17.00-19.30: Seventh Panel – Doctoral Students Workshop

Joel Sidler (Universidad Nacional del Litoral, Santa Fe), *State Formation in Argentina. Theoretical Dialogues from the Periphery* (**Online Zoom**)

Bruno Šagi (Independent Researcher, Zagreb), *Multinational Cities of the 19th Century: Lviv and Kyiv – An Overview of Inter-Ethnic Relations* (**Online Zoom**)

Victor Risciuc (Babeş Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca), *Looking West: American Images and Examples for the Emancipation of Romanians in Transylvania (Late 18th to Early 20th Centuries)*

Teodora Turcu (Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca), *The Concept of Nation in the Speeches of the Romanian Clerical Elite in the Hungarian Parliament. The Case of the Orthodox Metropolitan Miron Romanul*

Mihai Tudosă (“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași), *Boosting Morale in the Nation’s Darkest Hour. The Newspaper “România, organ al apărării naționale”, Iași, 1917-1918*

19.30-20.30: Dinner - Restaurant “Casa Universitarilor”

Thursday, November, 21st
(Ferdinand Room, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University)

Chair: Dana Cojocaru

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82408149907?pwd=ts3wFL90Uk2S4
YP6iewC1sixmD5fST.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82408149907?pwd=ts3wFL90Uk2S4YP6iewC1sixmD5fST.1)

**9.00-13.30: V. Integration or Uniformity? The Modern State and
the Regional Historical Tradition**

9.00-9.45: Keynote Speaker

Raul Sanchez Prieto (University of Salamanca), *German, Dutch
and Bulgarian – Three Different Models of National Language
Formation in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*

9.45-11.15: Plenary Session

Cosmin Mihuț (“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași),
*Provincial Mores versus Shared Political Ideas: Foreign Officials’
Observations on Moldo-Wallachian Elite in the mid-Nineteenth
Century*

Efrem Yildiz Sadak (University of Salamanca), *Multilingualism
and the Teaching of Semitic Languages at European Universities*

Virgiliu Țârău (Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca), *A Regional
Capital in Transition. Hopes and Realities in the Administration
of Cluj, October 1944 - March 1944*

11.15-11.30: Coffee Break

Thursday, November, 21st
(Ferdinand Room, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University)
Chair: Octavian Țîcu

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82408149907?pwd=ts3wFL90Uk2S4YP6iewC1sixmD5fST.1>

11.30-13.30: Eighth Panel

Mihai-Bogdan Atanasiu (“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași), *Uprooting and Reintegration into Orthodox World of the Old Regime: On the History of Moldavian Migration to Russian Empire (18th Century)*

Lama Allan Abusamra (University of Krakow), *Diplomatic Immunity and the Formation of National Identity: Regional Impacts in Nineteenth-Century Europe*

Maria Alexandra Pantea, Sebastian Bunghez (“Vasile Goldiș” Western University, Arad), *The Perception of Wilsonian Ideas by Transylvanian Intellectuals in 1918 (Online Zoom)*

Anatolie Bajora (Zhejiang University of Science and Technology), *The Gagauz Movement: Autonomy and Ethnic Identity in Post-Soviet Moldova (Online Zoom)*

13.30-15.00: Lunch - Restaurant “Casa Universitarilor”

Thursday, November, 21st

(Online Zoom)

Chair: Esmeralda Kolaneci

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83438801782?pwd=Eebh8I7488izKSC4PylExdCbjOB1vy.1>

11.30-13.30: Ninth Panel

Zornitsa Draganova (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Sofia), *“This frivolity was allowed ...”: Identity Narratives and Community Building before 1989 and Today (A Case Study of a Hub for Culture and Arts in the “Old Capital” of Bulgaria – Veliko Turnovo)* (**Online Zoom**)

Gabriela Boangiu (Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities of Craiova), *Old Houses, New Mentalities: A “Told” History of Craiova’s Past* (**Online Zoom**)

Yanna Dimitriou (Ionian University, Kerkira), *Reading Associations in Nineteenth Century Corfu: Shaping Identities Between Cosmopolitanism and Nationalism* (**Online Zoom**)

Khachatur Stepanyan (Armenian State Pedagogical University, Yerevan), *The Proclamation of the First Republic of Armenia and the Restoration of Armenian Independence* (**Online Zoom**)