



SOCIETY FOR ROMANIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



As 2015 draws to a close, I am taking stock of my time as president of the Society for Romanian Studies, which comes to an end in December. Given my very short mandate, my initial goal was to ensure that all the SRS activities put in place before January 2014 would continue at the same high standards set by my predecessors. We managed to do that, and accomplished some more! Prizes for the

best graduate student essay have been awarded in 2014 and 2015, and this year we also recognized the best book written in the field of Romanian Studies. These annual and biennial recognition badges allow our committees, and the Society as a whole, to keep abreast with publications in the field that have the potential to significantly advance our knowledge of various aspects of Romanian Studies, broadly defined. We thank the prize committees for diligently identifying and evaluating submissions!

We also organized in the summer a very successful international conference in Bucharest, which drew over 320 scholars and graduate students from inside and outside Romania and Moldova. Numerous participants have told us that the conference was a great opportunity not only to meet and greet new and old friends, but also to exchange ideas, share information, hear about new research projects and new publications, and visit some exciting sites in and around Bucharest. We thank the Faculty of Political Science at the University of Bucharest for hosting us, Institutul Cultural Roman (ICR), Scoala Nationala de Studii Politice si Administrative (SNSPA), and Academia de Studii Economice (ASE) for sponsoring us, our partners for organizing and funding the tours to Palatul Cotroceni, the Rm. Sarat prison and the CNSAS archives in Popesti-Leordeni, and our conference organizing committee for their dedication and

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hard work! We only hope that the next SRS international conference in Romania, which is scheduled for the summer of 2018, will be as successful!

The most significant accomplishment the Society registered in 2014-15 is perhaps the launching of our Studii Romanesti/Romanian Studies book collection in partnership with Polirom, Romania's largest academic publisher. The collection seeks to make available in the Romanian language on Romanian and Moldovan markets titles already published with reputable, internationally recognized presses. This year the collection, a project initiated and supervised by the SRS Past President Irina Livezeanu, made its debut with the publication of its first two volumes: Roland Clark's *Sfântă tinerețe legionară*, and Vladimir Solonari's *Purificarea națiunii*. These superb volumes have been extremely well received in Romania, sparking renewed interest for the themes and time periods they cover. Irina has lined up a number of other great books as possible candidates for this book collection. Look for these volumes, and send us your feedback!

The Bucharest conference allowed us to show our deep appreciation to two long-standing members of the Society: Jim Augerot and Paul Michelson. A founding member of the SRS, Jim has remained a constant supporter, attending our Bucharest conference, participating in the work of key committees, and simply being there when information was needed. A former president of the SRS and a lifetime member, Paul is ending his term as the SRS Secretary. We wish him and his wife enjoyable and relaxed retirement!

Let me also thank the many volunteers who have taken valuable time from their busy schedules to help the Society remain present on the Internet and a number of social media sites. Our webmaster Emilian Ghelase continues to regularly update our website, keeping it informative for members and non-members alike, well aware that in many ways the website is our business card to the world. Roxana Cazan has single-handedly twitted on behalf of the Society for over a year, connecting us to the world. Roland Clark, Irina Livezeanu, Paul Michelson and I maintain the Facebook and LinkedIn pages of the SRS, posting on a weekly basis a wealth of information on all stuff related to Romanian Studies. This work makes a difference, as demonstrated by the fact that in late November 2015 our FB posts reached over 4,500 people! And Chris Davis and Valentin Sandulescu continue to keep H-Romania a site worth visiting. A warm thank you to all of them!

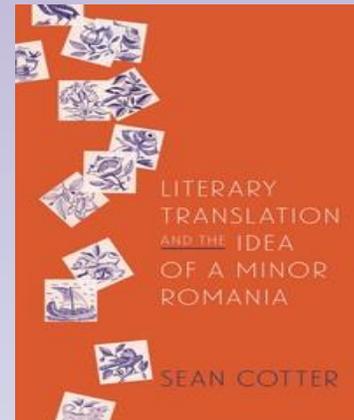
Elections for some officer and Board member positions were organized this November. Margaret Beissinger will become the SRS Vice-President and Roland Clark our new Secretary. Alexandra Ghit and Ruxandra Canache will join the Board as student representatives, and Petru Negura, Anca Sincan, Roxana Cazan, and Oana Suciuc as members. Having renewed my mandate as President, I am looking forward to working with all new and continuing officers and Board members starting in January 2016! Thanks for your vote of confidence.

We ask our members to please stay in touch and let us know what we can do better! And best wishes to all of you for the winter break.

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SRS ANNOUNCES THE WINNER OF THE 2015 BOOK PRIZE

The Society for Romanian Studies announces the winner of the Third Biennial SRS Book Prize for 2015: Sean Cotter's *Literary Translation and the Idea of a Minor Romania* (Rochester, 2014). The book prize committee, consisting of Holly Case (Cornell, History, Chair), James Augerot (Univ. of Washington, Slavic Languages and Literatures) and Vladimir Solonari (Univ. of Central Florida, History) solicited nominations for the best book published in English in any field of Romanian studies (including Moldova) in the humanities or social sciences.



To be eligible, books had to be in English and published between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2014 as indicated by the copyright date. Edited books, translations and non-scholarly books were not eligible. In addition to the call for nominations and submissions, the committee chair also contacted several publishers who had been identified as carrying qualified titles, to which several replied with submissions.

The books this year were of very high quality. In the end, Sean Cotter's book stood out as an exceptional example of rigorous scholarship and original argument. The book wonders "Under what conditions could literary translation move to the center of the national imagination?" To do so, he makes the "minor" status of Romanian culture into an interpretive mechanism, largely through following the careers of Lucian Blaga, Constantin Noica, and Emil Cioran in the aftermath of the Second World War. Being minor is not merely a matter of size or scale, but a matter of nature and type, a "translated nation," as he calls it. The Soviet occupation prompted Cotter's protagonists to "rethink the country in minor terms." Tracing literary debates, personal dilemmas, and translations of their work and ideas both within and beyond Romania, Cotter shows that the essence of "minor" cultures can be read through careful analysis of translation practices.

The committee also recognizes Moshe Idel's *Mircea Eliade from Magic to Myth* (Peter Lang, 2013) with an honorable mention. Idel presents Eliade in an admiring light, yet does not hesitate to include the various blemishes in the wide-ranging career of one of the best-known Romanian writers of the twentieth Century.

SRS GRADUATE STUDENT ESSAY PRIZE RECIPIENT

The Society for Romanian Studies is pleased to announce that Ion Matei Costinescu is this year's winner of the Graduate Student Essay Prize, for his essay entitled *Interwar Romania and the Greening of the Iron Cage: The Biopolitics of Dimitrie Gusti, Virgil Madgearu, Mihail Manoilescu, and Ștefan Zeletin*. The winning piece is a chapter from his dissertation on *The Village as Quest for Modernity: The Bucharest Sociological School and the Romanian Alternative Way*, which he is completing at the University of Bucharest. The dissertation explores the work of the Bucharest Sociological School in interwar Romania to propose an "alternative modernity project configured along biopolitical lines." Costinescu offers a constructivist twist to a Weberian argument by recasting the notion of the iron cage in the terms of the Bucharest Sociological School. The chapter submitted for our consideration offers an impressive critical assessment of alternate visions of modernity, which propose the biopolitical transformation of the people, and the creation of a new national ethos infused with a mythos of superior moral and ethnic value. Costinescu suggests that the Weberian model was adapted to accommodate such a new vision of the state imbued with a new and mobilizing "secular magic" of Romanian nationalism. The essay leads with a robust critical argument that is well developed, interesting, and contributes to developments in the field. The strong theoretical focus of the piece offers a much needed and nuanced addition to the small but extremely important literature on Romanian biopolitics by focusing on the latter half of the compound term, politics. It is an important intervention that both deepens and expands our knowledge of the period, is well-researched and engagingly written.

Many congratulations to Ion Matei Costinescu for a fascinating essay!

SRS Student Prize Winner Honorable mentions

Madalina Valeria Veres' "Constructing Imperial Spaces: Habsburg Cartography in the Age of Enlightenment," is an important contribution to the study of historiography and the geopolitics of space in Central and Eastern Europe. Her imaginative and objective interpretation is based on the examination of rare archival material, which is organized with impeccable fairness and scholarly tact. This beautifully written piece is a comprehensive and compelling presentation of patterns by means of which constructs enter politics, a sobering invitation to take nothing for granted-- and to reinvigorate the analysis of what appears to be a closed topic. The submission is part of her doctoral dissertation, titled *Mastering Space: The Great Military Map of Transylvania*, which she is completing at the University of Pittsburgh.

Zsuzsanna Magdo's entry, titled "Ceausescu's Thaw and Religiosity: The Central Committee Considers Atheism, 1965-1974," examines the sort of political dialectic occasioned by the encounter of communist state policy and Romanian cultural religiosity. The essay makes use of archival documents from the Department of Religious Cults, the Committee of Historical Monuments, and the Ministry of Culture, to propose a compelling and sophisticated analysis of the "religion question" in the autochthonous modernity project delineated by the Romanian communist state. Magdo offers an interesting and well-researched historiography with a strong argument that leads to a rich picture that traces historical developments and transformations in the context of communist ideological development. In the process, Magdo recasts the politico-ideological interchange between Marxism, modernity, and national spiritual life. The clear and prominent integration of archival material on Agitprop is a particular highlight of the essay, and Magdo succeeds in being both informative, analytical, and infusing the occasional sense of humor, which smooth the way to an enjoyable and thought-provoking piece of

reading. Zsuzsanna Magdo's entry is part of her dissertation, *The Socialist Sacred: Atheism, Religion, and Culture in Communist Romania, 1948-1989*, which she is completing at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

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FROM THE SECRETARY

Been there, done that! We went to București with the idea of "Linking Past, Present, and Future: The 25th Anniversary of Regime Change in Romania and Moldova (1989/1991)" and succeeded magnificently in looking backwards, sideways, and forwards simultaneously. As we reviewed and revisited the history of the Society for Romanian Studies since 1973, we were gratified to see that the organization has held firm over the decades to its principal goals of promoting the professional study, criticism and research on all aspects of Romanian culture and civilization, particularly in Romania and Moldova. As for the present, as we listened to the largest (over 300) and one of the most diverse groups of presentations and presenters we have had at our seven international congresses in terms of disciplines, countries, and scholarly

generations, we were informed, edified, and challenged. And as we extrapolate from the past and the present, we are justified in contemplating a bright and promising future for Romanian Studies: expanded membership (both in numbers and scope), expanded programs, expanded generational participation, and expanded enthusiasm. The level of engagement at București 2015 was palpable, the dialogue continuous, and we had fun as well. Of course, our hosts, especially at the Faculty of Political Science of the University of București, and the congress committee (especially Monica Ciobanu and Oana Suciu) did a bang-up job, and it was nice that the weather cooperated admirably (note to future congress planners: early to mid-June is going to be much nicer than July).

Naturally, our hope is that such meetings will not only bring greater understanding of the Romanian past and present, but will also play a role in Romania's halting movements in the present and toward the future. The last year has produced several surprisingly positive steps in the lives of our native or adopted people. Frequently Romanian officialdom has not been happy with questions raised and problems studied by members of the Society for Romanian Studies. It needs to be stressed that if our work didn't occasionally perturb somebody it would probably be inconsequential, and we need to keep pointing out that our interest in Romanian Studies is motivated by a deep regard for and personal concern with this striking and captivating area at the crossroads of Southeastern Europe.

As for the short run, the 2015 SRS elections are now in the books and our leadership for the next few years is set. The newly-elected officers of the Society for Romanian Studies, taking office on January 1, 2016, are the following: President (January 2016-December 2018): Lavinia Stan, St. Francis Xavier University, Canada; Vice-President (January 2016-December 2018): Margaret Beissinger, Princeton University NJ, USA;

Secretary (January 2016-December 2019): Roland Clark, University of Liverpool, UK; Board Members: Roxana Cazan, St. Francis University PA, USA, Petru Negura, Ion Creangă University, Moldova, Anca Şincan, Gheorghe Şincai Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities, Romania, and Oana-Valentina Suciu, University of Bucureşti, Romania (January 2016-December 2019); Alexandra Ghit, Central European University, Hungary, and Ruxandra Canache-Petrinca, McGill University, Canada (student representatives, January 2016-December 2017). They will join returning officers: Treasurer: Bill Crowther, University of North Carolina/Greensboro NC, USA (term expires December, 2017); Past-President: Irina Livezeanu, University of Pittsburgh PA, USA (term expires December, 2018); Newsletter Editor: Ben Thorne, Wingate University NC, USA; Webmaster: Emilian Ghelase, Bucureşti RO; H-RO Editor: Chris Davis, Lone Star College-Kingwood TX, USA; Board Members (terms expiring December, 2017): Jennifer Cash, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany; Monica Ciobanu, State University of New York at Plattsburgh, USA, Bruce O'Neill, Saint Louis University, USA; and Andrei Terian, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Romania. Outgoing members of the Board

are: James Koranyi, Paul Michelson, Jill Massino, Paul Sum, and Jonathan Stillo.

A second item of current interest/business relates to the exciting subject of Bylaw revisions. The first set of revisions circulated in June were overwhelmingly approved, though a low response level indicates that, astoundingly, most of you had other things to do than be concerned about Bylaws. These were generated by the Bylaw Revision Committee – chaired by myself and assisted by Jim Augerot (University of Washington), Roland Clark (University of Liverpool), Irina Livezeanu (University of Pittsburgh), and Lavinia Stan (St. Francis Xavier) and involved principally matters that needed to be dealt with before the 2015 elections. A second set of revisions will probably have been circulated by the time you read this newsletter. These deal mainly with editorial changes and tinkering with the language of the Bylaws.

Moving on to other matters, I hope you will be as pleased as I am that a Public Relations and Membership committee has recently been established. Bob Ives (University of Nevada-Reno) is chair; members include Margaret Beissinger (Princeton University),

Roland Clark (University of Liverpool), Alexandra Ghit (Central European University, Budapest) and Rodica Zaharia (ASE, București). Ideas and suggestions? Contact Bob Ives <rives@unr.edu>.

Our prize committees have been doing their usual assiduous work. Kudos and sincere thanks to the Graduate Student Essay prize committee: Delia Popescu (Lemoyne University), chair, Ben Thorne (Wingate University), and Inessa Medzhibovskaya (The New School NY); and the SRS Book Prize Committee: Holly Case (Cornell University), chair, Vladimir Solonari (University of South Florida) and Jim Augerot (University of Washington). The prizes were awarded at the ASEES meeting in November, with the annual Graduate Student Essay Prize going to Ion Matei Costinescu (University of București) for his essay, “Interwar Romania and the Greening of the Iron Cage,” and the Third Biennial SRS Book Prize to Sean Cotter (University of Texas at Dallas) for *Literary Translations and the Idea of a Minor Romania* (University of Rochester Press, 2014).

We are also gratified by the first fruits of the SRS/Polirom publishing project, *Studii Românești/Romanian Studies/Études Roumaines/Rumänische Studien*, which owes

to the leadership of Lavinia Stan (St. Francis Xavier University) and Irina Livezeanu (University of Pittsburgh) as series editors. Roland Clark's *Sfîntă tinerete legionară. Activismul fascist în România interbelică* and Vladimir Solonari's *Purificarea națiunii. Dislocări forțate de populație și epurări etnice în România lui Ion Antonescu, 1940-1944* bode well for the future.

One new responsibility of the Secretary is to maintain our liaison list for the professional societies with which we are affiliated. Currently these organizations and reps are: The American Historical Association (Paul E. Michelson, Huntington University); The American Political Science Association (Claudiu Tufis, University of București); The Romanian Studies Association of America (Margaret Beissinger, Princeton University); and the Southeast European Studies Association (Dallas Michelbacher, Central Michigan University). If you are in any of these

organizations, please keep our affiliate rep informed of your participation and feel free to suggest panels for the programs of these associations.

Looking to the future, it should finally be noted that the 2016 SRS National Board will be the first that I have not been a part of since 1976 when I was first elected to the Executive Board. I am now completing my final term as secretary of the Society for Romanian Studies, which I have been since 1977, with time off for misbehavior between 2006-2009 when I served as Society President. I can honestly say that I have never begrudged or regretted the time I have spent on the activities of the SRS since it has brought me into contact with so many wonderful people and friends that I would not have met otherwise. I am pleased that the Society has maintained its course steadfastly since its creation in 1973 and I am convinced that the future looks promising and more.

Mulți înainte!

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SEESA NEWS

The South East European Studies Association (SEESA) is a scholarly, non-profit, non-political organization devoted to the exchange of knowledge amongst scholars interested in the area of Southeastern Europe. It is affiliated with the Society for Romanian Studies and offers the option of joint membership in both organizations at a discounted membership rate. Information about SEESA can be found at its [website](#) and [blog](#).

At the beginning of April 2014 SEESA elected a new leadership with a mandate until 2018:

- President **Catherine Rudin** (Wayne State College)
- Vice-President **Bavjola Shatro** (Aleksandër Moisiu University)
- Secretary-Treasurer **Ashby Crowder** (US National Archives and Records Administration)
- Board Member/Editor of *Balkanistica* **Donald Dyer** (University of Mississippi)
- Board Member/Website Editor **Alexander Murzaku** (College of Saint Elizabeth)
- Board Member/President of the US Committee for AIESEE **Victor Friedman** (University of Chicago)
- Board Member/Former President **Olga Mladenova** (University of Calgary)
- Board Member **Virginia Hill** (University of New Brunswick, Saint John)
- Board Member **Christina Stojanova** (University of Regina)
- Board Member **Bojan Belić** (University of Washington)
- Student Board Member **Antje Postema** (University of Chicago)

Aspects of the Romanian language, culture and history fall within the research areas of six out of the eleven SEESA executives on the newly elected SEESA Board.



Volume 28 of *Balkanistica* appeared in April 2015. The updated index of its volumes issued from 1974 to 2014 is available [here](#). SEESA members automatically receive *Balkanistica*, non-members can order [online](#) the volumes that are still in print.

Organizational Sponsors: CEPOS

The SRS is proud to have the **Center of Post-Communist Political Studies (CEPOS)** at the University of Craiova as an organizational sponsor. [CEPOS](#) was established in November 2012. Its mission is to foster and enable research and public events series: conferences, workshops, public lectures, round tables, internships, expo photos, discourse contents and debates in interdisciplinary issues such as: political studies and transitional justice, economies in transition, multiculturalism and political history.

CEPOS research is achieved through working groups on (i) State, society and political reform, (ii) Public policies, institutions and administrative reform, and (iii) Rights, liberties and justice reform. The Center also publishes [Revista de Științe Politice / Revue des Sciences Politiques](#). For more information please email: cepos2013@yahoo.com, cepos2013@gmail.com. publishes [Revista de Științe Politice / Revue des Sciences Politiques](#). For more information please email: cepos2013@yahoo.com, cepos2013@gmail.com.

2015 CONFERENCE IN BUCHAREST

When I was invited by Lavinia Stan, the President of the Society for Romanian Studies to chair the organizing committee of the 2015 international congress I had not anticipated that this will turn into such a large scale academic event!

The last international congress of the Society for Romania Studies (SRS) was held from June 17 to June 19, 2015 at the Faculty of Political Science at the University of Bucharest. It was the best attended event in the history of the SRS since its creation in 1973. The theme of the conference was “Linking Past, Present and Future: the 25th Anniversary of Regime Change in Romania and Moldova (1989/1991).” Three hundred and nineteen participants attended seventy-six panels, eleven roundtables and six book panels. Seven recent books focused on various aspects of the Romanian and Moldovan politics, culture and society published in English, Romanian and Italian were released and authored and/or edited by Roland Clark, Marina Cap-Bun and Florentina Nicolae, Peter Gross, Petru Negură, Dragoș Petrescu, Lavinia Stan and Diane Vancea, and Francesco Zavatti.

The high number of participants reflected a wide-range of disciplines as well as diverse demographics. Papers and presentations covered both more traditional social sciences and humanities disciplines like anthropology, political science, history, literature, sociology, ethnography, economics, education, linguistics, music and also newer areas of interdisciplinary studies including gender and women’s studies, media, cultural and urban studies, and transitional justice. Although a majority of the participants came from Romania and the United States, many others were affiliated with research centers or universities from Canada, the United Kingdom, France and Germany. A few came from Belgium, China, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Finland, France, Netherlands, Switzerland, and Hong Kong. Most notably, a small group of researchers came from the Republic of Moldova. The younger generation of scholars of Romanian Studies was well represented. Almost a third of the participants were graduate students and junior faculty. This mix of generations and disciplines was greatly valued by participants who felt it was an opportunity to establish and broaden their academic networks. Especially junior scholars found the conference a place to enhance their research projects and establish useful professional connections.

Besides the generous hosting of the event by the Faculty of Political Science, the conference also benefited from the contribution of several institutional partners: Școala Națională de Studii Politice și Administrative (SNSPA), Institutul Cultural Român (ICR), Arhivele Naționale ale României (ANR), Institutul pentru Investigarea Crimelor Comunismului și Memoriei Exilului Românesc (IICCMER), Consiliul Național pentru Studierea Arhivelor Securității (CNSAS), Centrul de Informare Turistică a Primăriei Municipiului București, Romanian Studies Association of America (RSSA), and the Academia de Studii Economice, București (ASE).

The day before the beginning of the conference the ICR hosted two movie screenings (Searching for Maxy by Lee Dragu and Poarta Albă by Nicolae Mărgineanu). An innovation of the conference were the three organized tours sponsored by the Office of the Presidency at the Cotroceni Palace, a one-day trip organized by the IICCMER to the Râmnicu-Sărat former Stalinist prison, and a visit to the CNSAS's secret archives of the communist police in Popești-Leordeni.

The conference also attracted strong interest from various media outlets including Televiziunea Română, Radio France International, Radio România Internațional, Radio Cultural, Radio Cultural, Radio Constanța and others.

Behind this extraordinary success was the one year of hard work by a dedicated committee consisting of Monica Ciobanu (chair), Margaret Beissinger (liaison with RSAA), Igor Cașu, Roxana Cazan, Valentina Glăjar, Cristian Romocea, Jill Massino, and Oana Suci (representative in Bucharest).

It has been a real pleasure to work with this committee as well as the President of the SRS and our many partners and collaborators. I hope this is just the beginning for many more and successful conferences to come!

LA MAI MARE ȘI MULȚUMESC!

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Organizational Patrons: FSPUB

UNIVERSITATEA DIN BUCUREȘTI
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FACULTATEA DE ȘTIINȚE POLITICE

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FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

www.fspub.eu, www.fspub.unibuc.ro

Multilingual and highly interdisciplinary in focus, the Faculty of Political Sciences at the University of Bucharest (FSPUB) was the first Romanian higher education institution created in direct opposition with the communist regime. Although relatively small in size, the FSPUB has been since its establishment in 1991 the leading Romanian social science hub for quality teaching and research at top international standards. It currently has a community of over 1300 students, cca. 10 000 alumni, 46 tenured professors and 50 guest professors, four research centers, two scientific journals indexed in international databases, a doctoral school and the largest Romanian network of national and international partners in both academia and the professional milieu.

Programs: BA in Political Science (in English), BA in Political Science (in French), BA in Political Science (in Romanian), BA in Security Studies (in Romanian), MA in Comparative Politics (in English, joint program with the University of Wroclaw, Poland), MA Politics in Europe: States, societies, borders (in French, joint program with the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris), MA Policies of Equal Opportunity (partly in French, program completely integrated to the European Master EGALES), MA in International Relations (in Romanian), MA in European Studies (in Romanian), MA European and Romanian Politics (in Romanian), PhD in Political Science (in Romanian, with the possibility to write the thesis in a foreign language and external co-supervision)

Organizational Patrons: ASE



The Bucharest University of Economic Studies (ASE) is the most prestigious Romanian higher education institution in the fields of Economics, Business Administration and Public Administration. Established by Royal Decree on April 6, 1913, the University has educated numerous generations of graduates who have become leading figures in their fields. With over 23 000 students enrolled in the 11 faculties, ASE Bucharest is one of the largest universities in Romania, and one of the largest specialized universities in Central and Eastern Europe.

Faculties – BA, MA, MSc and PhD programs: Accounting and Management Information Systems (in English or Romanian), Agrifood and Environmental Economics (in Romanian), Business Administration in foreign languages (in English, French or German), Business and Tourism (in English or Romanian), Cybernetics, Statistics and Economic Informatics (in English or Romanian), Finance, Insurance, Banking and Stock Exchange (in English or Romanian), International Economics and Business (in English or Romanian), Public Administration and Management (in Romanian), Management (in English or Romanian), Marketing (in English or Romanian), Theoretical and Applied Economics (in Romanian).

SRS/Polirom Book Series

The Society for Romanian Studies (SRS), the world's premier academic organization dedicated to the advancement of Romanian Studies, and Polirom, Romania's largest publisher of academic titles, have partnered to launch a new book series, Studii Românești/Romanian Studies/Études Roumaines/Rumänische Studien. The series publishes scholarly books in Romanian authored or edited by SRS members. The first titles published in the series are Vladimir Solonari, *Purificarea națiunii. Dislocări forțate de populație și epurări etnice în România lui Ion Antonescu, 1940-1944* (translated by Catalin Dracsineanu; English version: *Purifying the Nation: Population Exchange and Ethnic Cleansing in Nazi-Allied Romania*, Johns Hopkins UP, 2010) and Roland Clark, *Sfînta tinerețe legionară. Activismul fascist în România interbelică* (translated by Marius-Adrian Hazaparu; English version: *Holy Legionary Youth: Fascist Activism in Interwar Romania*, Cornell UP, 2015).

These titles were selected for the series due to the contributions each makes to our understanding of extremist politics and radical ideologies in the 1930s and 40s. *Purifying the Nation* „argues that the persecution of Jews and Roma by the Romanian government was not a response to pressure from the country's ally, Nazi Germany, but rather stemmed from the vision of an ethnically pure Romania” and has been hailed as „genuinely monumental... the most historically sensitive and conceptually savvy account of the Holocaust in Romania yet to be produced.” *Holy Legionary Youth* examines Romania's Legion of the Archangel Michael, one of Europe's largest and longest-lived fascist social movements and „draws on oral histories, memoirs, and substantial research in the archives of the Romanian secret police to provide the most comprehensive account of the Legion in English to date.”

The series editors are currently accepting three types of manuscripts:

- Romanian translations of scholarly monographs already published in a foreign language
- Original scholarly monographs written in Romanian
- Edited collections of Romanian-language essays dealing with a unifying theme

Book proposals should deal with Romania and/or Moldova and the populations living on their territories or with the Romanian and Moldovan diasporas and cultures, and they should have primarily an academic profile. Contributions may have a disciplinary, interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary focus, drawing on history, political science, sociology, anthropology, law, economics, linguistics, literature, art history, and other fields. All manuscripts and books will be carefully reviewed in view of publication. Further information on how to submit a book proposal is available on the SRS website at <http://www.society4romanianstudies.org>. For further inquiries, and suggestions please contact either the series editors or the members of the Advisory Board.

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Advisory Board: Maria Bucur (Indiana University), Magda Cârnci (Universitatea Națională de Arte din București), Tom Gallagher (University of Bradford), Mihai Dinu Gheorghiu (Universitatea „Al. I. Cuza” din Iași), Armin Heinen (Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule, Aachen), Gail Kligman (University of California, Los Angeles), Vintilă Mihailescu (SNSPA, București), Mihaela Miroiu (SNSPA, București), Bogdan Murgescu (Universitatea din București)

H-Romania

H-Romania <<https://networks.h-net.org/h-romania>> was successfully launched last year. At present, we have 193 subscribers to the network. We have also published three reviews, including Gene Tanta's review of Paul Doru Mugur, Adam J. Sorkin, Claudia Serea, eds. *The Vanishing Point That Whistles: An Anthology of Contemporary Romanian Poetry* (Greenfield, 2011); Roland Clark's review of Andrii Krawchuk, Thomas Bremer, eds. *Eastern Orthodox Encounters of Identity and Otherness: Values, Self-Reflection, Dialogue* (New York, 2014); and Ksenija Kolerović's review of Aleksandra Djurić-Milovanović's, *Dvostruke manjine u Srbiji: O posebnostima u religiji i etnicitetu Rumuna u Vojvodini* (Belgrade, 2015), with more on the way. 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.



For anyone still unfamiliar with the network, H-Romania is an H-Net discussion network for scholars, students, and professionals interested in Romanian Studies (broadly conceived). H-Romania is an international interdisciplinary academic network promoting the professional study, criticism, and research of all aspects of Romanian history, politics, culture and society. It focuses primarily on the countries of Romania and Moldova but also attends to numerous other past and present political, ethnic and social groups, including minorities and diasporas, in terms of their significant connections to present-day Romanian territory. H-Romania is also affiliated with the Society for Romanian Studies (SRS).

To join H-Romania (and set up an H-Net account), following these steps:

1. Go to <<https://networks.h-net.org/>>, click on "Sign up to subscribe & contribute" atop the right-hand column of the webpage.
2. On the Sign up page, enter your First Name, Last Name, and E-mail address. Then click the box labeled "Accept Terms & Conditions of Use." You will also be asked to enter a series of numbers or letters into a Spam Protection tool, in order to verify that you're an actual person attempting to register. Finally, click "Create new account".
3. Once you've created an H-Net account and profile, you can then go to the H-Romania page <<https://networks.h-net.org/h-romania>>.
4. In the righthand column, next to an icon of an envelope, click "Subscribe to this network to join the discussion." You can then complete your H-Net profile, indicating institutional affiliation, degrees, short bio and areas of interest, by clicking on the accounts icon in the upper right, then selecting the "Profile" option from the drop-down menu.

R. Chris Davis and Valentin Săndulescu, Editors

UPCOMING EVENTS

The **130th Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association** will be held in Atlanta, GA on January 7-10, 2016. This year's theme is "Global Migrations: "Empires, Nations, and Neighbors". For details see <http://www.historians.org/annual-meeting>

The **14th International Postgraduate Conference on Central and Eastern Europe** will be held at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, UCL, London, on February 20-21. This year's theme is "Transnationalisms: Contexts, Patterns and Connections in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union". For details see <https://networks.h-net.org/node/7941/discussions/98338/cfp-14th-international-postgraduate-conference-central-and-eastern>

The **9th Annual Romanian Studies Conference** will be held at Indiana University, Bloomington on March 25-6, 2016, with a keynote address from SRS President Lavinia Stan. Any inquiries about the conference or the program may be directed to Catalin Cristoloveanu at romso@indiana.edu

The **21st Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN)** will be held at Columbia University, New York, on April 14-16, 2016. For details see <http://nationalities.org/conventions/world/2016/>

The **Research Center for Postcolonial and Posttotalitarian Studies**, Faculty of Philology, Wrocław University will host a conference on "Trauma as Cultural Palimpsests" to be held on June 2-3, 2016. For details see <https://networks.h-net.org/node/7941/discussions/102176/cfp-trauma-cultural-palimpsests-research-center-postcolonial-and>

The **Institute for the Investigation of Communist Crimes and the Memory of the Romanian Exile (IICMRE)** is organizing an international conference to be held in Râmnicu-Sărat on June 22-25, 2016. The theme of will be "Histories (Un)Spoken. Survival and Social-Professional Integration Strategies in Communist Political Prisoners' Families in Central and Eastern Europe in the '50s and '60s". For details see <http://www.iicr.ro/pdf/en/Call%20for%20Papers%20HistoriesUnSpoken.pdf>

Calls For Papers

Conference: "The authenticity of collections" - an international and interdisciplinary symposium on authenticity, recording and digitization

Date: March 7-11, 2016

Location: Herder Institute for Historical Research on Eastern Europe, Marburg, Germany

Deadline for Submissions: January 10, 2016

Details: <https://networks.h-net.org/node/19384/discussions/102633/deadline-extended-cfp-authenticity-collections-international-and>

Conference: The Fourth Euroacademia International Conference 'Identities and Identifications: Politicized Uses of Collective Identities'

Date: March 4-5, 2016

Location: Cultural Center "Don Orione Artigianelli", Venice, Italy

Deadline for Submissions: January 15, 2016

Details: <http://euroacademia.eu/conference/identities-and-identifications-fourth-edition/>

Journal: The Hungarian Historical Review

Theme: Resistance and Cultural Opposition in East Central Europe

Deadline for Submissions: January 15, 2016

Details: <http://www.hunghist.org>

Conference: Conference on Mass Violence & Memory

Date: May 18-19, 2016

Location: O. P. Jindal Global University, India

Deadline for Submissions: January 20, 2016

Details:

<https://networks.h-net.org/node/2645/discussions/103488/call-papers-conference-mass-violence-memory-jindal-univ-india-18>

Conference: The concept of ‘national indifference’ and its potential to nations and nationalism research

Date: September 5-6, 2016

Location: Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

Deadline for Submissions: January 31, 2016

Details:

<https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/conferences/from-the-margins/programme/2--national-indiffer/>

Conference: 3rd International Forum for Doctoral Candidates in East European Art History

Date: April 29, 2016

Location: Chair of Art History of Eastern and East Central Europe, Humboldt University, Berlin

Deadline for Submissions: January 31, 2016

Details: [https://networks.h-](https://networks.h-net.org/node/19384/discussions/99747/cfp-3-internationales-doktorandenforum-kunstgeschichte-des)

[net.org/node/19384/discussions/99747/cfp-3-internationales-doktorandenforum-kunstgeschichte-des](https://networks.h-net.org/node/19384/discussions/99747/cfp-3-internationales-doktorandenforum-kunstgeschichte-des)

Conference: Confronting the Violence(s) of History: Critical Methods, Epistemologies, and Engagements

Date: April 7-8, 2016

Location: Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Deadline for Submissions: January 31, 2016

Details: [https://networks.h-](https://networks.h-net.org/node/6873/discussions/98162/cfp-confronting-violences-history-critical-methods-epistemologies)

[net.org/node/6873/discussions/98162/cfp-confronting-violences-history-critical-methods-epistemologies](https://networks.h-net.org/node/6873/discussions/98162/cfp-confronting-violences-history-critical-methods-epistemologies)

Conference: “Urban Peripheries?” Emerging Cities in Europe’s South and East, 1850-1945

Date: September 26-27, 2016

Location: Institució Milà i Fontanals, Barcelona, Spain

Deadline for Submissions: February 15, 2016

Details: [https://networks.h-](https://networks.h-net.org/node/19384/discussions/102622/call-papers-%E2%80%9CUrban-peripheries%E2%80%9D-emerging-cities-europe%E2%80%99s-south-and)

[net.org/node/19384/discussions/102622/call-papers-%E2%80%9CUrban-peripheries%E2%80%9D-emerging-cities-europe%E2%80%99s-south-and](https://networks.h-net.org/node/19384/discussions/102622/call-papers-%E2%80%9CUrban-peripheries%E2%80%9D-emerging-cities-europe%E2%80%99s-south-and)

Conference: Not just Chernobyl: Ecological Dimensions of the History of Communism

Date: April 21-22, 2016

Location: Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland

Deadline for Submissions: February 15, 2016

Details: [https://networks.h-](https://networks.h-net.org/node/11717/discussions/100135/not-just-chernobyl-ecological-dimensions-history-communism)

[net.org/node/11717/discussions/100135/not-just-chernobyl-ecological-dimensions-history-communism](https://networks.h-net.org/node/11717/discussions/100135/not-just-chernobyl-ecological-dimensions-history-communism)

Conference: Policy of anti-Semitism and Holocaust during post-war retribution trials in European states

Date: September 7-8, 2016

Location: Banská Bystrica, Slovak Republic

Deadline for Submissions: March 31, 2016

Details: <http://www.muzeumsnp.sk/oznamy/medzinarodna-konferencianternacional-conference/>

Institutional Affiliate Updates

Balkananalysis.com is the leading independent news/analysis entity covering SE Europe, focusing on situational and trend assessments. These assessments are carefully considered within the relevant regional or global context, and often benefit from our deep institutional memory and rich network of contacts from around the world. To review its publications, including a number of articles regarding the current refugee/migrant crisis, visit their website at www.balkananalysis.com.

The Center of Post-Communist Political Studies (CEPOS) will host its sixth international conference, “After Communism. East and West under Scrutiny” in Craiova on April 8-9, 2016. For more details, including instructions for submitting proposals (deadline: March 10), visit their website at <http://cepos.eu/upcoming.html>.

The Southeast European Studies Association (SEESA), in conjunction with Ohio State University, hosted the 18th annual Kenneth E. Naylor Memorial Lecture delivered by Joseph Schallert, “Observations on the Lexicon of the Earliest Macedonian Vernacular Gospels (Konikovo and Kulakia Gospels)”. SEESA will hold its 20th Balkan and South Slavic

conference at the University of Utah. For more information, see <http://12trec.utah.edu/20th-balkan-south-slavic-conference/>

Member Updates

Monica Ciobanu (Associate Professor and Chair, Criminal Justice Department, SUNY Plattsburgh) was one of six faculty and staff members to receive the 2015 Chancellor's Award for Excellence, awarded to those "who have gone above and beyond in service to our students, campuses and communities."

Roland Clark has accepted a new position as Lecturer in Modern European History at the University of Liverpool. His new book, *Holy Legionary Youth: Fascist Activism in Interwar Romania* (Cornell University Press) also appeared in Romanian translation as part of the new SRS/Polirom initiative (see p. X for more details).

Earlier this year, **Onoriu Colacel** (Lecturer, Department of Foreign Studies, Universitatea "Ștefan cel Mare" din Suceava) published *Postcolonial Readings of Romanian Identity Narratives* with Peter Lang.

In addition to a new collection of verse, *Singurul dincolo* (RawexComs, Bucharest), Theodore Damian's poetry recently appeared in German translation as *Ein Fallen selbst im Steigen* (translated by Mike Fröhlich, Pop Verlag, Ludwigsburg).

R. Chris Davis is an Assistant Professor of History at Lone Star College-Kingwood in Houston, TX.

Diana Georgescu accepted an appointment as Lecturer in Transnational/Comparative South-east European Studies at University College London's School of Slavonic and East European Studies.

Eleanor Knott (PhD Candidate in Political Science, London School of Economics) recently published two articles as sole author: "Generating Data Studying Identity Politics from a Bottom-Up Approach in Crimea and Moldova" in *East European Politics & Societies*, 29(2), 467-486 and "What Does it Mean to Be a Kin Majority? Analyzing Romanian Identity in Moldova and Russian Identity in Crimea from Below" in *Social Science Quarterly* 96(3), 830-859. Additionally, with Dan Brett she co-authored "Moldova's parliamentary elections of November 2014", *Electoral Studies* (2015).

Alice Isabella Sullivan (Ph.D. candidate, Department of History of Art, University of Michigan) received the Chester Dale Fellowship from the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, and the Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fellowship in support of her dissertation, "The Painted Fortified Monastic Churches of Moldavia: Bastions of Orthodoxy in a Post-Byzantine World."

Alex Rhode Tipe received her Doctorate from Indiana University-Bloomington, having successfully defended her dissertation "For Your Civilization and Ours: Greece, Romania, and the Making of French Universalism."

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Andreescu, Gabriel. *Existenta prin cultura. Represiune, colaborationism si rezistenta intelectuala sub regimul comunist*. Bucharest: Polirom, 2015.
- Bajomi-Lázár, Péter. *Party Colonisation of the Media in Central and Eastern Europe*. Budapest: Central European University Press.
- Bărbulescu, Constantin. *România medicilor: Medici, țărani și igienă rurală în România de la 1860 la 1910*. Bucharest: Humanitas, 2015.
- Békés, Csaba, László Borhi, Peter Ruggenthaler, et al, eds. *Soviet Occupation of Romania, Hungary, and Austria 1944/45–1948/49*. Budapest: Central European University Press, 2015.
- Boia, Lucian. *Cum s-a românizat România*. Bucharest: Humanitas, 2015
- Cameron, Averil. *Arguing It Out: Discussion in Twelfth-Century Byzantium*. (The Natalie Zemon Davis Annual Lecture Series, vol. 8) Budapest: Central European University Press, 2015.
- Clark, Roland. *Holy Legionary Youth: Fascist Activism in Interwar Romania*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2015.
- Clark, Roland. *Sfânta tinere legionară: Activismul fascist în România interbelică*. Trans. Catalin Dracsineanu. Bucharest: Polirom, 2015.
- Colacel, Onoriu. *Postcolonial Readings of Romanian Identity Narratives*. Peter Lang: Frankfurt, 2015.
- Cotter, Sean. *Literary Translation and the Idea of a Minor Romania*. University of Rochester Press: Rochester, 2014.
- Damian, Theodor. *Singurul dincolo*. Bucharest: RawexComs Press, 2015.
- Damian, Theodor. *Ein Fallen selbst im Steigen*. Transl. Mike Fröhlich. Ludwigsburg: Pop Verlag, 2015
- Dinu, Tudor. *Bucureștiul fanariot: Biserici, ceremonii, războaie , vol. I*. Bucharest: Humanitas, 2015.
- Iacob, Bogdan and Vladimir Tismăneanu, eds. *Remembrance, history, and justice: coming to terms with traumatic pasts in democratic societies*. Budapest: Central European University Press, 2015.
- Kligman, Gail and Katherine Verdery. *Țăranii sub asediu. Colectivizarea agriculturii în*

România. Bucharest: Polirom, 2015.

- Mareș, Clara and Constantin Vasilescu, eds. *Nesupunere și contestare în România comunista. Anuarul Institutului de Investigare a Crimelor Comunismului și Memoria Exilului Românesc*. Vol. X Bucharest: Polirom, 2015.
- Mischevca, Vladimir. *Prutul în destinul neamului românesc : o antologie istorico-literară a râului*. Chișinău: Civitas, 2015.
- Mishkova, Diana, Marius Turda, and Balázs Trencsényi, eds. *Anti-modernism: Radical Revisions of Collective Identity*. (Discourses of Collective Identity in Central and Southeast Europe 1770–1945 Vol. IV) Budapest: Central European University Press, 2014.
- Mitu, Melinda and Sorin Mitu. *Ungurii despre români. Nașterea unei imagini entice*. Bucharest: Polirom, 2015.
- Naumescu, Valentin and Dan Dungaciu, eds. *The European Union's Eastern neighbourhood today: politics, dynamics, perspectives*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015.
- Pârvulescu, Ioana, ed. *Și eu am trăit în comunism*. Bucharest: Humanitas, 2015.
- Petrencu, Anatol. *O istorie a Basarabiei*. Chișinău: Editura Serebia, 2015.
- Pleșu, Andrei and Gabriel Liiceanu. *Dialoguri de duminică: O introducere în categoriile vieții*. Bucharest: Humanitas, 2015.
- Secu, Ioana Elena. *Stalin și tentația imperialismului*. Bucharest: Humanitas, 2015.
- Shapiro, Paul A, ed. *The Kishinev ghetto, 1941-1942: a documentary history of the Holocaust in Romania's contested borderlands*. Tuscaloosa: The University of Alabama Press, 2015.
- Solonari, Vladimir. *Purificarea națiunii: Dislocări forțate de populație și epurări entice în România lui IonAntonescu, 1940-1944*. Trans. Marian-Adrian Hazaparu. Bucharest: Polirom, 2015.
- Tașcă, Mihai and Wolfram Niess, eds. *Dezmembrarea României: anexarea de către URSS a Basarabiei, Nordului Bucovinei și Ținușului Herța -1940: (studiu și culegere de documente)*. Chișinău: Editura Serebia, 2015.
- Todorova, Maria, Augusta Dimou, and Stefan Troebst, eds. *Remembering Communism: Private and Public Recollections of Lived Experience in Southeast Europe*. Budapest: Central European University Press, 2015.
- Tóth, Imre. *A fi evreu dupa Holocaust*. Bucharest: Humanitas, 2015.

Tudoran, Dorin. *Bănesc, deci exist! Inteligenție și Putere în România 2004-2014*. Chișinău:

Cartier, 2015.

Vaduva, Sebastian and Andrew Thomas, eds. *Geopolitics, development, and national security: Romania and Moldova at the crossroads*. Heidelberg: Springer, 2015.

Membership Reminder

SRS has launched a series of new programs during recent years. We use dues to help with monetary prizes for outstanding graduate student essays and books in the field of Romanian Studies, broadly conceived, and organize an international congress in Romania every three years. Membership is on a calendar year base. Contributions from lifetime members are most welcome.

You may renew your membership or join the Society, at our website (<http://www.society4romanianstudies.org/membership/how-to-join>) by using PayPal.

Alternatively you can send your dues and/or donations directly by check (made out to SRS) to our Treasurer:

William Crowther
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Greensboro, NC 27402-6170

Dues are:
First year graduate students free
\$10 for renewing graduate students
\$25 for a regular membership
\$45 for joint SRS/SEESA membership (a savings of \$10)
\$37 for joint SRS/RSAA membership
\$50 for sustainers
\$100 for sponsors
\$300 for patrons

About the Society for Romanian Studies

The Society for Romanian Studies (SRS) is an international inter-disciplinary academic organization founded in 1973 to promote professional study, criticism, and research on all aspects of Romanian culture and civilization, particularly concerning the countries of Romania and Moldova. The SRS is generally recognized as the major professional organization for North American scholars concerned with Romania and Moldova. It is affiliated with the South East European Studies Association (SEESA); the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES-- formerly known as the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies or AAASS); the American Political Science Association (APSA); the American Historical Association (AHA); and the Romanian Studies Association of America (RSAA).

More information about the SRS, including current officers, the national board, and membership information, can be found on the website at <http://www.society4romanianstudies.org>

This newsletter was assembled with the generous assistance of Miles Wilkerson of Eastern Connecticut State University. If you have any recent activities to report (publications, conferences organized, etc.) please send such information to the Newsletter Editor, M. Benjamin Thorne, bthorne@wingate.edu.