

Synthetic report 2015

Project: *Beyond the Norms: Religious Practice in Medieval and Early Modern Transylvania* (project PN-II-ID-PCE-2011-3-0359)

A first objective of the project for the year 2015 has been the integration of Romanian research within the international context. The members of the team have succeeded – through their presentations at international conferences and through their publications – to sustain a lively dialogue with the international scholarly community and to translate to national scholarly endeavours the principal suggestions formulated in broader European scholarly contexts concerning specific aspects within the general theme of the research project (the integration of lay devotional options in clerical discourse, the issue of artistic patronage and the adaptation of the norms set by ecclesiastical institutions to the rhythms of daily religious life).

The second objective, the confrontation of local research results with similar approaches in international scholarship has been attained through the debates the members of the team have engaged in during 2015. This has occurred by way of attendance at international conferences and discussions with scholars from abroad with similar research interests focused on the definition of lay religious life at the crossroads of church norms and daily devotional practice. The team has primarily explored the analytical and conceptual trends formulated on the basis of local source material by comparing them to similar propositions in western historiography. Serving the comparative perspective, this strategy has benefited from the involvement of team members in research and editorial projects which have broadened their interpretative scope by applying a similar set of analytical categories. Moreover, it is worth mentioning that the national and international visibility of team members has had significant impact on international research in specific fields, such as lay religiosity and artistic patronage.

In 2015, the members of the research team have attended national and international conferences organised by academic institutions in Hungary, Poland and Romania, they have been involved in editorial projects in Romania and the UK and have undertaken research in libraries, archives and museums as well as doing field work in Transylvania.

