



Universitatea
BABEȘ-BOLYAI



Facultatea de
Istorie și Filosofie

ȘCOALA DOCTORALĂ
„ISTORIE. CIVILIZAȚIE. CULTURĂ”

WORKSHOP:

Travel and Travelers: population movements and cultural transfer

Organizatori:

Prof. univ. dr. Maria CRĂCIUN

Lect. univ. dr. Andrea FEHÉR

Dr. Gheorghe NEGUSTOR

VINERI, 24 mai 2019, ORA 10⁰⁰

**AULA FERDINAND, INSTITUTUL DE ISTORIE NAȚIONALĂ,
NAPOCA 11**

Program

Vineri, 24 Mai 2019

Aula Ferdinand, Institutul de Istorie Națională

10.00-17.30

10.00-11.30

Conferința:

Elizabeth Tingle, *Sacred Travel: Long-Distance Pilgrimage and the Counter Reformation in North West Europe c. 1520 to 1750*

11.30-12.00 *Pauză de cafea*

Workshop:

Travel and Travelers: population movements and cultural transfer

Moderator: Prof. univ. dr. Maria Crăciun

12.00-14.00 *Desfășurarea lucrărilor*

1. Ștefan Vasilache (supervised by Professor Gelu Florea), *A Sarmatian horse-rider at the court of the Dacian kings*

The intended presentation will focus on the cultural links, as seen from an archaeological point of view, between the political center in South-Western Transylvania and the Sarmatian culture present in the north-western and northern Black Sea region, during the late Iron Age period. The discussion will revolve around a new piece of (archaeological) evidence regarding such contacts.

2. Enrico Silverio (supervised by Professor Mihai Bărbulescu), *“Volumus autem [...] perscrutari qui sint aut unde venerint et in qua occasione”. Travelers in Constantinople during the Justinian age between individual motivations and urban security needs*

In the sixth century AD the emperor Justinian, perhaps also remembering the *Nika* riot of 532 AD, decided to regulate the flow of the provincials who, for the most disparate reasons, went to Constantinople. The task was entrusted to a new official, the *quaesitor*, who not only had to investigate the identity, origin and motive of the journey of anyone who arrived in Constantinople but also had to facilitate the carrying out of some activities that may have caused the voyage to Constantinople and to take care of the repatriation of those who no longer had reason to stay in the capital. The presentation, setting Justinian's provision in its socio-economic and cultural context, also in the light of some juridical precedents and contemporary historical sources, intends to illustrate how imperial legislation identifies the categories of travelers and how these provisions attempted to reach a balance between their individual motivations and the needs of urban security. At the same time, the paper intends to illustrate the role of the *quaesitor* in the security system of the imperial capital especially in relation to the urban prefecture and in particular with respect to its jurisdiction over certain categories of people, who were not from Constantinople as, for example, students or doctors, all along included under the control of the urban prefect.

3. Carolina Andrea Davis González (supervised by Dr. Andrés L. Jaume), *The Purpose and Meaning of Travel during the Sixteenth Century: Jacobus Palaeologus and His Many Destinations*

Jacobus Palaeologus could be easily called a continuous traveler or an unstoppable itinerant. However, he did not travel for pleasure or leisure; he was not a tourist or a nomad. Sometimes he seems to have been an exile, at other times a fugitive, or at best a migrant. More often than not he was in a position to travel to and make a life in faraway and different lands. Taking the circumstances of his travels into account, the focus of this investigation will be the nature of this incessant geographical mobility. The paper will thus examine Paleologus' reasons for travel and the meanings attached to the experience itself.

4. Cornel-Dănuț Mărcuș (supervised by Professor Sorin Mitu), *Historical Events depicted in Romanian Travel Writings from the Modern Era*

The study analyzes the historical events mentioned by Romanian travelers during the Modern era. The reason behind this article is to identify which type of historical events were recorded by Romanian travelers in their texts. This study identifies two types of circumstances in which Romanian travelers made notes about

historical events: 1. Direct involvement in the events. 2. Traveling through the place where particular events had occurred or meeting participants in past historical events. We found, in our research, that most mentions are about past historical events, not about witness events. The majority refer to key European events, or to occurrences with direct consequences for Romanian history.

5. Cristina Bardan (supervised by Professor Toader NICOARĂ), *Projections of the food imaginary in Romanian geographic space of the nineteenth century, in foreign travelers' options*

Beyond the picturesque descriptions contained in the accounts of foreign travelers about the Romanian space, its realities rested, specific to each of the temporal stages. By reference to the nineteenth century, in a Caragialean Romania, this projection of foreigners visiting our lands, often complements, in often ironic mode, a changing environment as a mentality and vision of everyday life, preferred among the elites. It is a Romania that was just emerging from the numbness of the East and was moving hurriedly towards a Europe of progress, often with stumbling steps, which often portray insecurity, but it also gives a sarcastic note, somewhat, in analyzing the details of a changing elite.

14.00-14.30 *Pauză de cafea*

14.30-17.00 *Desfășurarea lucrărilor*

6. Anca Doce (supervised by Professor Sorin Mitu), *The Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca*

The hajj — Arabic for “pilgrimage” — is a five-day religious pilgrimage to Mecca and nearby holy sites in Saudi Arabia that all Muslims who are physically and financially able must perform at least once in their lives. It is one of the five pillars, or duties, of Islam, along with the profession of faith in the one God and Mohammed as his prophet, prayer, charitable giving, and the annual pilgrimage to Islam's holiest sites.

7. Andrei Crișan (supervised by Professor Toader NICOARĂ), *Road to Karbala: The Arba'een Pilgrimage*

Millions of Shi'a Muslims from all over the world are gathering annually in the holy city of Karbala from Iraq to commemorate and recall the martyrdom of Imam Hussain. The pilgrimage of Karbala is the world's largest annually held pilgrimage. Old, young, women, men and children all take part in specific revivalist collective rituals through which they manifest their transcendental devotion towards the martyred nephew of Prophet Muhammad. Imam Hussain's death and the rituals commemorating him play a fundamental key role in the construction of Shi'a identity and its revivalist currents. The pilgrimage itself is a ritual manifestation which recalls (and consolidates) a profound group identity shaped around the divine nature and the archetypal example of Hussain's sacrifice. The fervent devotees take part, during Arba'een pilgrimage, in rituals which resemble a specific sacred context in which the believer is projected into a space and a time where he becomes contemporary with his beloved imam.

8. Nica Bogdan (supervised by Professor Toader NICOARĂ), *Journey in a socialist society: Romanian Research Group*

In the late 1970s, the United States has approached Romanian society by sending researchers to study and depict the relations between the population and their government and other social aspects. As a result, the American geopolitical perspective was changed through one single belief that the Romanian communist regime can be reformed by a so-called "social learning" of how a democratic system works. Thus, in 1977, the Romanian Research Group was born. We remember several members that travelled to the Socialist Republic of Romania, members that shaped future studies about how populations, especially peasants, regarded the collectivized land: Sam Beck, John M. Cole, David A. Kideckel, Marilyn Mc Arthur, Steven Randall, Steve Sampson and, later on, Katherine Verdery. In this discussion, the main focus will be on the methodological and procedural issues that were raised during the visits, such as legal status in villages of residence, methods of data collection, dealing with the Romanian communist bureaucracy and relationship with informants.

9. Ion Indolean (supervised by Professor Maria CRĂCIUN), *Western Mirage in Romanian Cinema. Case Study: By the Rails*

By the Rails is a film directed by Cătălin Mitulescu in 2016. It revolves around Radu, who returns to Romania from Italy after an absence of one year and finds his wife completely changed. The two spend a night in which they are trying to reconnect. But the distance created comes with mistrust and confusion. However, Radu hopes for a new beginning. Music hovers across the railroad, where all their friends are partying at a wedding celebrated in the neighborhood. No night seemed so long. This paper is a case study regarding the changes provoked by being forced to work abroad. It is a problem confronted by Romanians in their search for a better life. Trying to escape poverty, we can say that they sell their soul to the devil. In more concrete words, temporary or permanent expats seem to move between two worlds and stop belonging to any of them. Radu is only tolerated in Italy and estranged from his former world. He no longer feels at home anywhere.

17.00-17.30 *Concluzii*