



THE BALKANS AND CAUCASUS
Parallel processes on the opposite sides of the Black Sea.
Past, present, and prospects.

An international symposium

New Europe College – Institute for Advanced Study, Bucharest
12-13 April 2010

Monday, April 12

9:30 Opening, welcome address Professor Andrei Pleșu, Rector of the New Europe College
10:00 – 11:30 **Plenary session:**

***Parallels and Intersections. “Outsiders” and “Insiders”:
the Great Powers and the Black Sea Area***

Moderator: Taline TER MINASSIAN

Keith HITCHINS, Professor of History, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA:
Shared Challenges: The Principality of Wallachia and the Kingdom of Georgia at the Threshold of the Modern Age (1774-1812)

Constantinos PREVELAKIS, Researcher, Centre National de l’Enseignement à Distance, Paris:
Allied Projects for an Eastern Front and the Illusion of an Oriental Commonwealth. The Eve of World War II (1938-1940) as a Case Study for the Geopolitics of the Balkan and the Caucasus

Ozan ARSLAN, Lecturer, Department of International Relations and the European Union, Izmir University of Economics, Turkey:
Turkish Foreign Policy’s Historical Perspectives Towards the Northern Balkans and Transcaucasus Areas: A Comparison of the Late Ottoman and Republican Approaches in the Wider Black Sea Region

Discussions

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 13:40 **Parallel sessions**

***Shadows of the Past and Spiritual
Cross-currents, I***

Moderator: Ivan BILIARSKY

Dmitrii SIDOROV, Associate Professor,
Department of Geography, California State
University, Long Beach, USA:

The Challenges of the 21th Century

Moderator: Dmitry SHLAPENTOKH

Gianluca PASTORI, Professor Faculty of
Political Science, Catholic University of the
Sacred Heart, Milan:

Russian Geopolitical Imagining of a pan-Orthodox Empire: Translatio Imperii, Third Romes, and Post-Byzantine Space

Roland CLARK, PhD Candidate, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh USA:

Regional Cooperation According to Interwar Romanian Nationalists

Yuri STOYANOV, Department of the Near and Middle East, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; Senior Associate Fellow, The Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem:

The Formation of Sectarian Identities in the Religious Interchange between the Balkans and Caucasus and Their Role in Contemporary Religio-Political Processes

Discussions

Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea. The Balkans, the Caucasus, and European Energy Security

Emmanuel KARAGIANNIS, Assistant Professor of Russian and post-Soviet Politics, Department of International and European Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece:

The U.S.-Russian Competition in the Caucasus Region

Vugar BAYRAMOV, Chairman, Centre for Economic and Social Development, Baku, Azerbaijan:

Do Rich Energy Sources Assure Sustainable Development for the Caucasus Region?

Arolda ELBASANI, Chair, International Relations Department, European University, Tirana; Research Fellow, Free University, Berlin:

Politics of Enlargement in the Western Balkans: Extensive Conditionality and Weak Incentives?

Discussions

13:40 – 15:00 Lunch

15:00 – 16:30

Parallel sessions continued

Shadows of the Past and Spiritual Cross-currents, II

Moderator: Ovidiu CRISTEA

Ivan BILIARSKY, Senior Researcher, Institute of History, Sofia; Associate Professor, Free University of Varna, Bulgaria:

Davidic Kingship in the Periphery of the Empire (A Case Study on a Possible Impact of a Caucasian Tradition on a Bulgarian Mediaeval Text)

Arsen HAKOBYAN, Researcher, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, National Academy of Sciences, Yerevan; Assistant professor and Chair, Department of History,

Conflict Zones

Moderator: Thede KAHL

Hanna SHELEST, Senior Researcher, National Institute for Strategic Studies. Odessa Branch, Ukraine:

Comparative Analysis of the Independence Proclamation and Recognition of Kosovo and South Ossetia/Abkhazia

Marieta KUMPILOVA, PhD Candidate, Leipzig University:

Double Diaspora: Circassians from Kosovo in the Russian Federation

Gavar State University, Armenia:
*The Orthodox –Chalcedonian Armenians, From
Caucasus to the Balkans: Outlines of the History
and Identity*

Mariam CHKHARTISHVILI, Professor, Ivane
Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Director of
the Institute of History of Georgia &
Sopio KADAGISHVILI, BA Student, Ivane
Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University:
*Perception of Ethnicity in Medieval Georgia and
at the Time of Georgian National Consolidation*

Discussions

Dmitry SHLAPENTOKH, Associate Professor,
Indiana University, USA:
The Evolution of the Chechen Resistance

Discussions

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break

17:00 – 18:30 **Plenary session**

Imperial Politics. The Historical Background

Moderator: Keith HITCHINS

Taline TER MINASSIAN, Professeur des Universités, Institut National des Langues et des Civilisations
Orientales, Paris, France:
*The Balkans and Caucasus: Two Peripheries of Two Empires. An Overview of Different Comparative
Historical Approaches*

Ovidiu CRISTEA, Senior Researcher and Deputy Director, “Nicolae Iorga” Institute of History of the
Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania: *The Quest for Maritime Supremacy in the Black Sea during
the Later Middle Ages*

Julian BROOKS, PhD Candidate, Simon Fraser University, Canada: *Understanding Intervention:
Imperial Thought and Establishing Order in Ottoman Macedonia*

Discussions

Dinner

Tuesday, April 13

10:00 – 11:30 **Plenary session**

Ethnic Identities and National Building in the Black Sea Region, I

Moderator: Zaal KIKVIDZE

Thede KAHL, Senior Researcher and Head of Research, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria:

Ethno-cultural Diversity in the Black Sea Area as an Objective for Research

Ana DEVIC, Visiting Professor, Centre for Racism, Ethnicity and Nationalism, University of Glasgow, UK:

Intellectuals and Nationalism in the Balkans and Caucasus: Forging the History of Socialism - 'Naturalizing' Nationalist Violence

Ketevan KAKITELASHVILI, Associate Professor, Institute of Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities; UNESCO Chair in Intercultural Dialogue, Iv. Javakishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia:

Reconstruction of History and Nation Building in the Post-Cold War Era: South Caucasus and the Balkans

Discussions

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 13:30 **Plenary session, continued**

Ethnic Identities and National Building in the Black Sea Region, II

Moderator: Yuri STOYANOV

Zaal KIKVIDZE, Professor, Department Chair, Department of General Linguistics, Akaki Tsereteli State University, Georgia:

Script Shift and Splitting of Nations in the Caucasus, in the Balkans, and Elsewhere: the Russian/Soviet Experience

Elena POKALOVA, Editor, *Eyes on the ICC*; Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science, Kent State University, USA:

Ethno-Nationalism in the Post-Communist World: The Communist Inheritance?

Ana DINESCU, Ph.D Candidate, Department of History, University of Bucharest, Romania: *The Balkans and Caucasus. The Limits of the Comparative Perspective. The Ethnic Minority Issue*

Discussions

13:30 – 15:00 Lunch

15:00 – 16: 30 **Plenary session**

The Sea as Bridge and Border

Moderator: Mariam CHKHARTISHVILI

Constantin ARDELEANU, Lecturer, History Department, “Dunărea de Jos” University, Galați, Romania:

The Lower Danube, Circassia and the Commercial Dimensions of the British-Russian Diplomatic Rivalry in the Black Sea Basin (1836-37)

Zaal ANDRONIKASHVILI, Associate Professor, Ilya Chavchavadze University, Tbilisi, Georgia; Academic Researcher, Centre for Literary and Cultural Research (ZfL), Berlin:

“The Autochthone Order”

Markus BAUER, Journalistic and academic free-lance writer (*Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, Switzerland):

Land und Meer – *Black Sea and Caucasus in German Culture*

Discussions

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break

17:00 – 19:00

Crossing Borders through Music and Drama

Moderator: Markus BAUER

Birgit KUCH, PhD Candidate, Institute for Theatre Studies, Leipzig University, Germany; Postgraduate Program "Critical Junctures of Globalization", Leipzig University, Germany:

Georgia on Stage: Tbilisi's Theatres between Rose Revolution and August War

Katharina STADLER, PhD Candidate, Department of Musicology, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin; Research Fellow, Centre for the Study of Caucasus and Black Sea Region, University of Georgia: *Black Sea Fire – Crossing Borders on the Musical Scale*

Peter McMURRAY, Associate Curator, Milman Parry Collection of Oral Literature; Assistant Coordinator, Harvard Ethnomusicology Lab, Cambridge, MA USA:

Singers of Borderland Tales: A Comparative Study of Bosniak and Turkish Epic Song and the Performance of Identity

Victor A. STOICHIȚĂ, Post-doctoral Fellow, New Europe College, Bucharest &

Estelle Amy de la BRETEQUE, PhD Candidate in Ethnomusicology, LESC-CREM CNRS, Paris, France :

Musics of the New Times – Romanian manele and Armenian rabiz as Icons of Post-communist Changes

Discussions, closing comments

Dinner