Valahia University of Târgoviște, University of Agder, University of Oslo,
Embassy of Lithuania in Romania, The Romanian Association for Baltic and Nordic Studies
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RE-IMAGING EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES IN THE NORTH SEA, BALTIC SEA AND BLACK SEA REGIONS

THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BALTIC AND NORDIC STUDIES IN ROMANIA

VALAHIA UNIVERSITY OF TÂRGOVIȘTE, ROMANIA, AUGUST 17-19, 2014

THE OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE: INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF CONFERENCES OF VALAHIA UNIVERSITY OF TÂRGOVIȘTE, 39 ION ALEXANDRESCU ST.
SUNDAY AUGUST 17, 2014, 10 A.M.

Partners

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Practical information

Venue
All sessions take place at the International Centre for Conferences of Valahia University of Târgovişte (Ion Alexandrescu St., No. 39 – see map). Conference opening session, plenary sessions I, II, III and IV, panels 1, 3, 5, 7 and book&periodicals presentation session take place in Auditorium or Red Room (ground floor). Panels 2, 4, 6 and 8 are held in the Green Room which is located at the first floor.
The photo exhibition *A piece of Norway* is organized at the Museum of History and Museum of Art of the "Royal Court" National Museal Complex of Târgovişte (Calea Domneasca, no. 181).

Conference office opening hours
The Conference office is open for registration and information at the International Centre for Conferences as follows:
Sunday, 17 August 9.00-12.00
Monday, 18 August 9.00-11.00
Practical information can be acquired from phone numbers (004)0724403094 and (004) 0766604123 and e-mail: conference@arsbn.ro
Website of the conference: http://www.arsbn.ro/conference-2014.htm

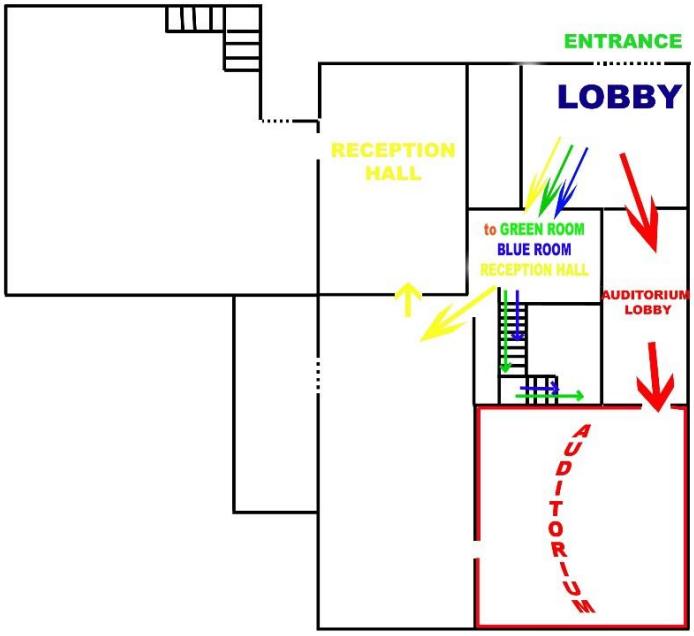
Accommodation
The closest hotels are Nova Hotel (http://www.novahotel.ro) and Hotel Tolea (www.hoteltolea.ro), situated near to the city center and between 3 to 10 minutes to the Museum of History and the International Centre of Conferences of Valahia University. Nova Hotel is situated on Arsenalului St., No. 14, just 3 minutes walking from the Conference Center. Hotel Tolea is situated on Linistei St., No. 28 – 30.

Lunch, dinner and refreshments
Will be served at Valahia University Restaurant. A Swedish buffet will be offered on Monday, 18 August 2014 at Valahia University Restaurant.
Coffee will be served during breaks. A refreshments room is located at the ground floor of the International Centre of Conferences.

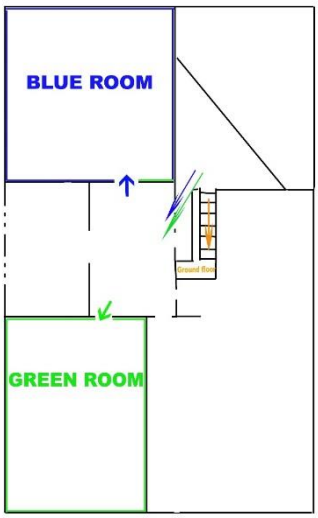
Shopping
Supermarkets are normally situated in the city centre. We recommend you Supermarket Kaufland (open 8 AM to 10 PM) situated on Lt. Stancu Ion, No. 2C and Carrefour Mondial situated in the Prefecture Square.

Emergencies
Pharmacies are normally open from 9 AM to 5 PM, but some pharmacies are open during nighttime as well. There are many pharmacies in the city center on the Mircea cel Bătrân Ave., Independenţei Ave and in the Prefecture Square. Catena pharmacies offer online shopping (http://www.catena.ro).
More information can be acquired from the hotel and from the organizers.
In case of emergency, please call the organizers at (004) 0724403094 and (004) 0766604123.

Map, Conference Centre ground floor



Map, Conference Centre first floor



Aims of the Conference:

Conference general topic description:

The conference continues and develops a project that the Romanian Association for Baltic and Nordic Studies (ARSBN) initiated in 2010, aiming at investigating, comparing and describing the relations, encounters, intersections, confluences, mutual influences and/or parallels between the Nordic and Baltic Sea areas, on the one hand, and the Black Sea region, on the other hand. The project was structured in annual international conferences usually taking place in late May. Thus, the first conference, entitled "Romania and Lithuania in the Interwar International Relations: Bonds, Intersections and Encounters" was held on 19-21 May 2010 and concentrated, as the title suggests, on the present and historical relations between two countries belonging to these two areas. The following editions of the annual ARSBN conference enlarged their scope, being entitled "The Black Sea and The Baltic Sea Regions: Confluences, influences and crosscurrents in the modern and contemporary ages" (20-22 May 2011),"European Networks: the Balkans, Scandinavia and the Baltic World in a Time of Economic and Ideological Crisis" (25-27 May 2012) and respectively "Empire-Building and Region-Building in the Baltic, North and Black Sea Areas" (24-26 May 2013).
During its four editions, the ARSBN conference addressed fundamental problems within the current agenda of the Nordic, Baltic and Black sea states and contributed with fresh ideas and innovative research results to the general knowledge in the scientific field. Moreover, the conference advanced draft proposals useful to the European decision-makers of different fields.
While the participants to the first two editions of the conference concentrated rather on the historical dimension of the relations, the third and fourth editions brought together specialists from various fields (political science, economics, IR, minority studies, cultural studies etc.) and addressed, besides the historical aspect of relations, aspects relevant to the present time, i.e. the current global economic crisis, the Balkan organized crime in Nordic Europe, the minorities in the Baltic Sea area and in the Balkans.
The 2014 conference invites applications from consecrated and young specialists, theorists and practitioners in the most various fields: education, cultural studies, history, IR, political science, economics etc. The 2014 edition of the conference aims at investigating, but also encouraging debate on the role and influence of culture and cultural relations over the preservations of good relations and peace between states and different communities.

Description of the general topic of the Conference

At the beginning of the 21st century, Europe still faces potential conventional and non-conventional threats. Today, conflicts threaten to emerge due to poverty, exclusion, competition for resources, weak institutions, ideological views, perceptions of the other or lack of knowledge about the other. Europe seems under constant (perceived) threats related to terrorism, energy, Russia's relations with Europe or weapons of mass destructions.
Despite many difficulties and constraints, there is justified hope to move from a culture of (perceived) threat to a culture of peace. While politicians stress that one should be prepared to respond to threats and security challenges, and that society should not make the fatal mistake of minimizing the many (potential) dangers that Europe faces today, scientists, artists, historians, linguists etc. argue that peace can and should be preserved through collaboration with the other, through promoting knowledge about the other, through the study of past experiences, through promoting pieces of the other's culture.
This conference focuses on intercultural dialogue and forms of cooperation between state and non-state entities, between intra-cultural entities, between different communities. The conference approaches the cultural relations from two perspectives:

- As an integral part of bilateral and multilateral foreign policy, focusing on intercultural relations, policies, past experiences;

- As an integral part of bilateral and multilateral foreign policy focusing on intra-cultural relations.

Cultural relations manifest in interstate relations, in inter-regional relations, in relations between states and non-state entities, in multicultural states. Cultural relations have effect on policies, political thought, communications, choices of states, ethnic groups, religious groups etc.
This conference will bring together non-governmental and governmental actors in the areas of cultural relations, and peace building, ambassadors, scientists, young and consecrated scholars, educators. The conference is a follow-up to the summer school of Nordic and Baltic Studies financed by the EEA Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 within the inter-institutional cooperation programme in the Higher Education area of Romania, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. In this respect, the conference will address themes such as:

- **Peace-related studies within Nordic and Baltic cultures**
- **Women participation in shaping the society in Nordic, Baltic and Black Sea regions**
- **Nordic and Baltic literature: specificity and universality**
- **European communities and peace**

Panels:

- **Panel 1:** Language and Culture
- **Panel 2:** A Diplomacy of Peace
- **Panel 3:** World War II - The Greatest Challenge to Peace?
- **Panel 4:** Intercultural Relations
- **Panel 5:** The Aesthetics of Peace Through Literature
- **Panel 6:** Re-Imagining Power, Gender and Contemporary Globalization
- **Panel 7:** European Networks of Peace: Modeling the Whole
- **Panel 8:** Project discussion

Selected papers presented at the conference will be published in *Revista Româna de Studii Baltice si Nordice / The Romanian Journal for Baltic and Nordic Studies*: http://www.arsbn.ro/RRSBN.htm

Sunday, 17 August 2014

09.00-12.00: Registration of the participants;
The International Centre for Conferences, Entrance hall, Info Desk, Valahia University, Ion Alexandrescu St., No 39

10.00-10.30: The opening of the Fifth Annual International Conference on Baltic and Nordic Studies in Romania;
The Red Hall of the International Centre for Conferences, Valahia University of Târgovişte, Ion Alexandrescu St., No 39

Chair: Dr. Elena Dragomir, The Romanian Association for Baltic and Nordic Studies;

Speakers:
Prof.Dr. Silviu Miloiu, Valahia University of Targoviste;
Dr. Crina Leon, The Romanian Association for Baltic and Nordic Studies & „Al.I. Cuza" University of Iaşi;

10.30-11.15: **Plenary session I**
The Red Hall of the International Centre for Conferences

Chair: Bogdan Schipor, Vice-President of the Romanian Association for Baltic and Nordic Studies & „A.D. Xenopol" Institute of the Romanian Academy;

Speaker: Michael North, Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universität Greifswald
Keynote address I: *Reconceptualizing Sea Regions*

11.15-11.30: Coffee Break

12:00-12:30: Visit of the exhibition *A piece of Norway*, by Tom Andreassen
Museum of History, Auditorium Hall

12:45-13-45: Lunch break **(Valahia University Restaurant)**

Session 1
14.00 – 15.30

Panel 1
Language and Culture
The Red Room
Chair: Crina Leon

Tor Einar Sæther and Anne Thomassen, *Narratives as a Cultural Entrance*
Kathleen Easlick, *Literary and Cultural Exchange: Translation Trends in the Nordic and Baltic Countries*
Costin-Valentin Oancea, *Language Variation in a Speech Community on the Black Sea Coast*

Panel 2
A Diplomacy of Peace
The Green Room
Chair: Cezar Stanciu

Nerijus Babinskas, *Transnational History as a Peace Sustaining Factor: an Approach of Historical Regionalism*
Elena Dragomir, *Towards a New World Order. The Creation of the CMEA – Romania's Involvement*

Meri Herrala, *Post-War Friendship Between Neighbours: Finnish-Soviet Music Exchanges*

15.30-16.00: Coffee Break
The Reception Hall of the International Centre for Conferences

Session 2
16.00 – 18.00

Panel 3
World War II - The Greatest Challenge to Peace?
The Red Room
Chair: Elena Dragomir

Kari Alenius, *Finnish Efforts to Promote Cultural Relations with Romania During the Second World War*
Silviu Miloiu, *The Nordic Way: Romanian Endeavours to Peace During the WWII*
Bogdan-Alexandru Schipor, *Turkey – A Diplomatic Scenario for Europe's Peace in 1939*
Mioara Anton, *Romanians Near Romania. Cultural Politics and International Realities. 1941-1944*

Panel 4
Intercultural Relations

The Green Room
Chair: Anne Thomassen

Diana Lăţug, *Knut Hamsun's International Reception*

Crina Leon, *Knut Hamsun and His Cultural Refuge in Germany*

Raluca-Daniela Răduţ, *The Renewal of Norwegian Literature. Jan Erik Vold and the Concept of Concrete Poetry*
Adél Furu, *Peace Through Cultural Interaction*

18.00-18.45: Books and periodicals presentation (1);
The Red Room of the International Centre for Conferences of Valahia University;

19.00-21.00: Conference Dinner (Valahia University Restaurant)

Monday, 18 August 2014

09.00-11.00: The registration of the participants;
The International Centre for Conferences, Entrance hall, Info Desk,
Valahia University, Ion Alexandrescu St., No 39

09.30-10.15: Plenary session II
The Auditorium of the International Centre for Conferences

Chair: Silviu Miloiu, Valahia University;

Speaker: Leonidas Donskis, ISM University of Management and Economics, Vilnius & Kaunas
Keynote address II: *War and Peace in Eastern Europe: The Baltic Lessons*

10.15-10.45: Book Presentation
The Auditorium of the International Centre for Conferences
Chair: Silviu Miloiu, Valahia University;
Speakers: Leonidas Donskis and Ştefan Popescu
Forme ale urii. Imaginaţia bântuită a filosofiei şi literaturii moderne, Târgovişte : Cetatea de Scaun Publishing House, 2013.

10.45-11.00: Coffee Break

11.00-12.30: Conference session
The International Centre for Conferences Valahia University

Session 3
11.00 – 12.30

Panel 5
The Aesthetics of Peace Through Literature
The Red Room
Chair: Tor Einar Sæther

Costel Coroban, *Peace and Conflict in Skaldic Poems: Imagery, Historicity and Narrative*

Roxana Dreve, *Sunne – Göran Tunström's Land of Peace and Beauty*

Monica Manolachi, *Old and New Values in the Contemporary Finnish Novel*

Alina Pascu, *Post-Holocaust Reconstructed Identities in Jonathan Safran Foer's* Everything is Illuminated

Panel 6
Re-Imagining Power, Gender and Contemporary Globalization
The Green Room
Chair: Mioara Anton

Nicoleta Olteanu, *How Did 22/7 Shape the Political Rhetoric on Immigration and Integration in Norway?*

Mihaela Ivănescu, *Political Representation of the Romanian Women in the National and European Parliament. How Big is the Gender Gap?*

Mihaela-Cristina Lazăr, *Between Equality and Difference: the Evolution of Nordic Feminism*

Emanuel Plopeanu, *A Bridge of Peace and Understanding: the Place of Turkish-Tatars Community from Dobrudja and the Turkish-Romanian Present Relations*

Tatiana Drăguţan, *Organizational Culture Issues in Romanian Companies with Management from Post-Soviet Area*

12:45-13-45: Lunch break **(Valahia University Restaurant)**

14.00-14.45: Plenary session III

The Red Room of the International Centre for Conferences

Chair: Adrian Viţalaru, „Al.I. Cuza" University of Iaşi;

Speaker: Marko Lehti, University of Tampere & University of Turku;

Keynote presentation III: *History Conflicts and Conflicting Histories: Looking for Dialogic Peace Process;*

14.45-15.00: Coffee Break

15.00-18.00: Conference sessions

Session 4
15.00 – 16.15

Panel 7
European Networks of Peace: Modeling the Whole
The Red Room
Chair: Michael North

Mihaela Mehedinţi-Beican, *Peace or Conflict? Past Cultural Relations Between the Nordic Countries, Russia and the Romanian Area (17th – 19th Centuries)*
Mircea-Cristian Ghenghea, *About Pan-Scandinavianism. Reference Points in the 19th Century (1815-1864)*
Adrian Viţalaru *Romanian Diplomats in the Scandinavian Countries (1918-1948)*

Panel 8
Project discussion

The Green Room
Chair: Elena Dragomir

Era.Net Rus Plus call: *Understanding conflict, identity, and memory: past and present*

16.15-16.30: Coffee Break

The Red Hall of the International Centre for Conferences

Plenary session IV
16.30 – 18.30

Analyzing the Contemporary Energy Security Dynamics in Europe's Three Regions: Nordic, Baltic and Black Sea Regions
The Red Room
Chair: Emanuel Plopeanu

Mehmet Efe Biresselioglu, *A Comparison of Nordic, Baltic and Black Sea Regional Energy Security Challenges*
Muhittin Hakan Demir, *The Question of Nuclear Power in Nordic, Baltic and Black Sea: Nuclear Renaissance or Phase Out?*
Evrim Özyorulmaz, *Renewable Energy vs. Fossil Fuels: A new Era for the Nordic, Baltic and Black Sea Regions?*
Esra Onater, *Does CO2 Emission Stand as an Indicator for Economic Development: A Possible Transition to a Low-Carbon Economy?*
Sinem Dönmez, *Impact of the Emerging Arctic Region on the Existing Choke Points: Danish Straits vs. Turkish Straits*

18.30-19.00: Closing Session

The Red Room
of the International Centre for Conferences, Valahia University of Târgovişte

Chairs: Silviu Miloiu & Crina Leon;

20.00-23.00: Swedish Buffet offered by the organizers;
Valahia University Restaurant

Tuesday, 19 August 2014

09.00-12.00: Tour of Targoviste;

Presenters' index:

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