

ReThinking Multiculturalism, Multilingualism and Cultural Diplomacy in Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea Region. The 12th International Conference on Baltic and Nordic Studies

PROGRAMME

AIMS OF THE CONFERENCE

RethinkMulti-Kulti2021 reflects on multiculturalism, multilingualism and cultural diplomacy in Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea Region ten years after German Chancellor Angela Merkel heralded the demise of German multicultural society. The affirmation that the half-a-century cherished multi-kulti “utterly failed” has been applauded by many Conservative politicians and eventually signalled as an augur by far-right gurus. Merkel’s track record as a devoted democratic-minded politician, EU leader and advocate of migrant integration has gained a quasi-universal approval of this claim. Moreover, Merkel’s statement has never been properly questioned, but rather taken for granted in the Academia. In the meanwhile, policies regulating multiculturalism and multilingualism have been in a stalemate in the EU and the EEA when they have not acknowledged a regress, especially in what Fareed Zakaria termed illiberal democracies.

The conference is not summoned as an attempt to revive the political agenda behind multi-kulti, but to critically reexamine the role of multiculturalism, multilinguism and cultural diplomacy from the perspective of Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea Region. We regard Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea Region as interconnected by a multitude of historical, cultural and social channels and partly overlapping and therefore are encouraging the applicants considering papers dealing with multiculturalism, multilinguism and cultural diplomacy as mirrored in Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Finland, Germany, Greenland, Iceland, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia, and Sweden, the UK and the wider Europe. Moreover, our approach is not restricted to the ten years following Merkel’s speech or the half a century past the heyday of multi-kulti, but takes a broader historical and sequential glance. The organizers welcome papers dealing with contacts, liaisons, affiliations, divergences, hatred, legal or de facto statuses of cultures and languages in Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea Region. Approaches inspired by theories and concepts e.g. cultural appropriation, post-colonial studies, emotion theory are also recommended. The organizers regard the relations between languages, cultures and diplomacies across the various layers of history and ideology blocs with great interest. How multilingualism, multiculturalism and cultural diplomacy fared or muddle through from liberal societies to far-right or far-left regimes and back continues to figure high on public agenda. The multicultural and multilinguistic encounters between the Vikings and the wider Europe, the contribution of Hansa to the fashioning of modern Europe or the role of authors such as Hans Christian Andersen, Henrik Ibsen, Mika Waltari, Leonidas Donskis, Sofi Oksanen may refresh our understanding of Europe as it has hitherto developed.

PLENARY SESSION THEMES

- The Swedish model of heritage preservation – a tool for building inclusive and integrated society
- Slavic and Baltic-Nordic Encounters from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea: Past Background and Present Perspectives in the ‘Intermarium’ Region

PANEL THEMES

Panel 1: Multilingualism in Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea Region

Panel 2: Multiculturalism, identity and in-between

Panel 3: Romanian reception of literary and social alterity

Panel 4: Diplomacy, multilingualism and multiculturalism

Panel 5: Multilingualism in Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea Region

Panel 6: Eastern Europe and the challenges of the 20th Century

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All papers must be original and not simultaneously submitted to another conference or journal.

The following paper categories are welcome:

Full papers describing multiculturalism, multilingualism and cultural diplomacy in Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea Region, the relations between communities, nationals and nations within and with the two regions, etc.

Please submit your paper or panel proposal by February 15, 2021 on EasyChair platform:

<https://easychair.org/my/conference?conf=rethinkmultikulti202>. Alternatively, you can e-mail your submission (title, keywords and abstract) to e-mails [baltoskandia\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:baltoskandia@gmail.com) or [welcome\(at\)rethinkingeurope.com](mailto:welcome(at)rethinkingeurope.com).

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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Lect. Dr. Crina Leon, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași & The Romanian Association for Baltic and Nordic Studies

Mr. Adrian Pogacian, ReThinking Europe

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Chair – Mr. Adrian Pogacian, ReThinking Europe

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Assoc. Prof. Dr. Carmen Vioreanu, University of Bucharest

PUBLICATION

RenewMulti-Kulti2021 proceedings will be published in The Romanian Journal for Baltic and Nordic Studies, vol. 13 (2021).

Revista Română pentru Studii Baltice și Nordice – The Romanian Journal for Baltic and Nordic Studies is a biannual peer-reviewed journal dedicated to publishing the results of research in all fields which are intertwined with the aims of The Romanian Association for Baltic and Nordic Studies such as: history of Baltic and Nordic Europe; Baltic and Nordic Europe in International Relations; Baltic and Nordic Cultures and Civilizations; economics and societies of Baltic and Nordic Europe; relations between Romania and the Baltic and Nordic Europe.

The journal has been established with the aim of fostering research and dialogue among scholars working in Romania and abroad in fields of research related to the interests of ARSBN. We are eager and honored to open our pages to all both senior and young scholars engaged in studies regarding the Baltic and Nordic Europe and Romania's relations with these regions, along with any reviews on other published books and articles calling attention. Our journal will also host reviews of any scholarly events focusing on any of the themes of the Association.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Articles should be submitted as email attachments in Microsoft Word format to the Editorial secretary at editorial@arsbn.ro or baltoskandia@gmail.com.

Contributions must be original and should not be under consideration by any other publication at the time of their submission. A cover letter in this sense should accompany the manuscript.

The maximum length for consideration of an article is 6,000 – 12,000 words (including footnotes), and 700 – 1,000 words for a review.

Please submit double-spaced papers in 11-point Book Antiqua font with 2 cm margins. Footnotes should be in 9-point.

All research articles must include a 100-200 word English language abstract (and in Romanian or one of the Nordic and Baltic languages when applicable) and at least five English language key words.

Submissions should include complete bibliographic references (including page numbers) in footnotes.

Final bibliography should be inserted at the end of the article.

For general rules of grammar, form, and style, authors should refer to *The Chicago Manual of Style* (The University of Chicago Press).

All manuscripts will be subject to anonymous peer review, and will be evaluated on the basis of their creativity, quality of scholarship, and contribution to advancing the understanding of the regions concerned.

Please note that the the journal does not ask for article processing charges.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Prof. Dr. Hab. Sergiu Musteață, „Ion Creangă” State University of Chișinău Associate Researcher

CONTACT

All questions about submissions should be emailed to baltoskandia@gmail.com or welcome@rethinkingeurope.com.

Webpages of the conference

<https://balticnordic.hypotheses.org/conference2021>

<http://www.rethinkingeurope.com>

PAST CONFERENCES

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. Thus, the first conference, entitled “Romania and Lithuania in the interwar international relations: bonds, intersections and encounters” was held on 19-21 May 2010 in Târgoviște and concentrated, as the title suggests, on the present and historical relations between the 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” (Târgoviște, 20-22 May 2011), “European networks: the Balkans, Scandinavia and the Baltic World in a time of economic and ideological crisis” (Târgoviște, 25-27 May 2012), “Empire-building and region-building in the Baltic, North and Black Sea areas” (Constanța, 24-26 May 2013), “A piece of culture, a culture of peace, re-imaging European communities in the North Sea, Baltic Sea and Black Sea regions” (Târgoviște, 17-19 August 2014), “Historical memory, the politics of memory and cultural identity: Romania, Scandinavia and Baltic Sea Region in comparison” (Constanța, 22-23 May 2015), “Good governance in Romania and the Nordic and Baltic countries” (Bucharest, 24-25 November 2016), “Finland, Romania, Roma integration –

Learning from each other" (Bucharest, 9 October 2017), "100 Years since Modern Independence and Unification in the Baltic Sea Region and East-Central Europe" (Târgoviște, 15-16 November 2018), „Dissent versus conformism in the Nordic, Baltic and Black Sea areas" (Constanța, 6-8 June 2019) and „ Rethinking Europe in Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea Region" (Zoom platform, 28-29 May 2020).

During its previous ten 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 following editions brought together specialists from various fields (political science, economics, international relations, minority studies, cultural studies, mnemonic studies, etc.) and addressed, besides the historical aspect of relations, other aspects relevant to the present time, i.e. the global economic crisis, the Balkan organized crime in Nordic Europe, region-building processes, the minorities in the Baltic Sea area and in the Balkans, the Roma minority integration, the remembrance of 1918, dissent and conformism, etc.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Thursday, 27 May 2021

All day: Connection of the participants to Zoom

10.00-10.15: The opening of the Twelve Annual International Conference on Baltic and Nordic Studies in Romania

Chair: Crina Leon

The salute of the organizers:

Her Excellency Dr. Violeta Motulaitė, Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to Romania

Silviu Miloiu, President of the Romanian Association for Baltic and Nordic Studies and Vice-Rector of Valahia University of Târgoviște

Adrian Pogacian, President of ReThinking Europe

Zoom, meeting ID: 995 1922 0692 (Passcode: 413993)

10.15-10:45: The centenary of the Romanian-Finnish relations (online exhibition organized in partnership with the Diplomatic Archives of the Romanian Foreign Ministry);

Zoom, meeting ID: 995 1922 0692 (Passcode: 413993)

10.45-11.00: Coffee Break

11.00-11.45: Plenary session I: The Swedish Model of Heritage Preservation – a Tool for Building an Inclusive and Integrated Society

Chair: Bogdan-Alexandru Schipor

Speaker:

Sergiu Musteață, “Ion Creangă” State University of Chișinău

Zoom, meeting ID: 995 1922 0692 (Passcode: 413993)

11.45-12.00: Coffee Break

Panel 1

Multilingualism in Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea Region

Zoom, meeting ID: 747 9161 2907
(Passcode: jQ8ru4)

Chair: Costel Coroban

Sabira Ståhlberg, *Explaining the Other – how travel narratives reflect multicultural and multilingual experiences*

Panel 2

Multiculturalism, Identity and in-Between

Zoom, meeting ID: 995 1922 0692 (Passcode: 413993)

Chair: Adrian Vițalaru

Kari Alenius, *Acculturation or autonomy? Controversy over the status of the Sámi in Finland during the interwar period*

Session 1
12.00 – 14.00

Crina Leon, *The use of English in 21st century Norway*
 Adél Furu, *Knowledge of Russian and Estonian – a hallway of Finnish–Russian–Estonian relations*
 Sabira Ståhlberg and Dorijan Hajdu, *The family tree: a challenge for multicultural learning*

Maruta Pranka, Ginta Elksne and Ilze Koroleva, *"We had "a terror" of the Latvian language at home": language and identity in the life stories of Latvian expats in Sweden*
 Orsolya Kiss, *Multilingualism in the Finnish and Estonian Tatar minority – a comparative overview*
 Krišs Kapenieks, *One of the most stable state boundaries in the Baltic Sea region: multilingual and multicultural aspects in creating Latvian-Lithuanian state boundary a century ago*

14.00-15.30: Lunch

Panel 3
Romanian Reception of Literary and Social Alterity
 Zoom, meeting ID: 779 7964 5859
 (Passcode: DV1J55)

Panel 4
Diplomacy, Multilingualism and Multiculturalism
 Zoom, meeting ID: 995 1922 0692 (Passcode: 413993)

Chair: Crina Leon

Chair: Kari Alenius

Session 2
 15.30 – 17.00

Diana Lăţug, *How were Hamsun's famous novels initially received in Romania and why?*
 Johanna Domokos, *The Anthropocene and the Multilingual in the latest poetry books of Sabira Ståhlberg and Tzveta Sofronieva*
 Marian-Alin Dudoi, *Alf Lombard and the Romanians in the early post-war period*

Ieva Steponavičiūtė Aleksiejūnienė, *A Lithuanian honorary consulate in Iceland in the mid 20th century – an alternative and true history*
 Silviu Miloiu, *A Romanian press attaché in the bilingual environment of Second World War Finland*
 Adrian Viţalaru, *From neighbors to allies. "Cultural Propaganda" of Romania in Poland (1919-1926)*

17:00: End of day I

Friday, 28 May 2021

All session time: Connection of the participants to Zoom

9.30-11.45: Plenary session II: Slavic and Baltic-Nordic Encounters from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea: Past Background and Present Perspectives in the 'Intermarium' Region

Zoom, meeting ID: 995 1922 0692 (Passcode: 413993)

Chair: Nerijus Babinskas

Sándor Földvári, *The Multi-Ethnicity, Multi-Confessionalism, Bi/ or Multi-Linguism and Diglossia in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and its Heirs; Regarding the Impact of the Past on the Present Identification Processes*

Ihor Todoroff, *Russia's Aggression Against Ukraine: A Challenge to Democratic Values in the Context of the Covid19 Pandemic*

Valerii Lastovskyi, *A view from Poland: The State and the Orthodox Church in the Ukrainian Lands in the 17-18th Centuries as Reflected in the Polish Historical Researches*

Maksym V. Mykhalenko, *Expansion of Ukrainian-Baltic Defense and Economic Cooperation in Late 2010s as Attraction for Broader Involvement in the Intermarium Area*

Zoom, meeting ID: 995 1922 0692 (Passcode: 413993)

11.45-12.00: Coffee Break

12.00 - 13.30:

	<p>Panel 5 Multiculturalism in Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea Region Zoom, meeting ID: 773 1470 4313 (Passcode: xB27Sq) Chair: Adél Furu</p> <p>Irina Manea, <i>Norse Heathenry and its Modern Relevance</i> Alexandra Gruian, <i>A Story from the Sand Dunes... following the footsteps of H.C. Andersen</i> Costel Coroban, <i>National Identity and Race in Women's Diaries from the Great War</i></p>	<p>Panel 6 Eastern Europe and the challenges of the 20th Century Zoom, meeting ID: 995 1922 0692 (Passcode: 413993) Chair: Silviu Miloiu</p> <p>Bogdan-Alexandru Schipor, <i>The 1939 Soviet-Baltic Treaties of Mutual Assistance in Romanian Diplomatic Reports. The case of Estonia</i> Nerijus Babinskas, <i>National populism in the Baltic and the Visegrad group countries: an outline of comparative analysis</i> Adrian Pogacian, <i>Rethinking Russia's soft power mechanisms in a post-pandemic world: new challenges, old ambitions</i></p>
<p>Session 3 12.00 – 13.30</p>		
	<p>13.30-13.45: Closing Session Zoom, meeting ID: 995 1922 0692 (Passcode: 413993) Chairs: Silviu Miloiu and Bogdan-Alexandru Schipor</p>	