

Organizers: Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development, and Innovation, Romania; Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu;

20 – 22 November, Sibiu, Romania

Deadline for proposal submissions: 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2024

### Call for Papers:

*Making the State. Integration Policies and Sociability in post-imperial realities.*

The societal transformations in the provinces of the territories belonging to the former Austrian-Hungarian monarchy can be depicted in their wide complexity, comprising political, demographic, cultural, social and economic dimensions. The matter of integration cannot be regarded only in black and white, but is ought to generate wide means of analysis, like the transnational, multi-and interdisciplinary ones. Urbanity developed in the periphery of the Double Monarchy by imitation and inspiration and local political and cultural actors intended to implement new, modern urban models in the provinces by following the example of the capitals Vienna and Hungary. One aspect of the urbanity is the sociability and the way in which political, cultural, economic actors, either local or national elite, came together to collaborate, negotiate and create ideas in order to make the state, or to find their own place in the new national state they will belong to.

However, the Great War represented both a turning point and a caesura of the time, and political and cultural elites had to rethink their place in the newly enlarged national Romanian state. Beginning with this event, a new stage in the history of the actors from Transylvania and Bucovina, characterized by the redefinition of political behavior, negotiation and sociability. The matter of discussion refers to the means in which the process of metamorphosis of sociability occurs from the imperial history to the post-imperial one in the lives of the urban actors belonging to the former provinces of the Double Monarchy. Key aspects which will be discussed in the workshop are linked to the concepts of loyalism, integration, sociability and communication and collaboration between elites and social actors from the both sides of the Carpathians, from there and from here.

Our workshop aims to open a forum of debate and reflection on how local elites of the former provinces on the one hand and national elites from the center on the other one,

have related to each other, in order to fulfil and complete the integration process. Places of sociability are of great interest, being considered as *lieux de sociabilite* because they represent nodes that create networks of communication, negotiation and collaboration. The transformations of society are placed under the umbrella of loyalty, which in turn is undergoing a social and cultural metamorphosis from imperial to post-imperial realities.

The organizers of the workshop encourage contributions that focus on the social, cultural and political dimension of the urban world and, especially, on the practices associated with the process of integrating social actors from the former imperial provinces into state projects in the region. We call for new interdisciplinary approaches that reveal the specificity of the urbanity in this part of Europe, and that will hopefully lead to a critical reconsideration of the topic, enabling us to overcome the common places that still dominate discourses on the local elite, minority actors and their role and place in society and history.

The workshop promotes interdisciplinary and comparative approaches to the issue of political integration of peasants within the various societies of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the nation states of Central and Eastern Europe. We encourage submissions tackling the following major research themes and questions:

- Imperial and post-imperial realities regarded from different perspectives: cultural, social, demographic, political.
- Projects by political and intellectual elites regarding the political integration of the urban actors and their transformation into citizens.
- Means of communication and negotiation between actors, either from the national or minority elite.
- Political leaders and discourse on minority, equal rights, self-determination of peoples and integration of the new provinces into greater Romania.
- How did the cultural and economic associations in Transylvania and Bucovina rethink their role in society after the Great War? What were the signs and spheres of civil society in the city?
- Concepts, research methods and sources of documentation of the urban milieu.
- The state, center-periphery relationship, and the monopoly of “democratization of the public” in the city.

The official languages of the discussion workshop are English and Romanian. Please send us your proposals by May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 (title and summary of up to 300 words) to [daniela.stanciu@ulbsibiu.ro](mailto:daniela.stanciu@ulbsibiu.ro). Acceptance decisions will be communicated by 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2024.

The organizers will provide accommodation and meals in the natural area of Paltinis. They also plan to publish the conference proceedings. Final papers, written in English, should not exceed 12,000 words and must be submitted by 15 November. All accepted contributions will be published in a special issue of the journal **Studia Universitatis Cibiniensis. Series Historica** (SUCSH), indexed in international databases (Sciendo, SCOPUS (Elsevier), ERIH+, CEEOL, Ebsco, Index Copernicus). We look forward to your contributions. Do not hesitate to contact us for additional information and clarifications.

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