



## **17<sup>th</sup> International "Border Crossings" Student Conference** **11-14 April 2019, Bucharest**

### **(Im)mobilities: place-making, boundaries, interconnectedness**

In recent years the increasing freedom of flows, permeability of borders, decreasing role of the nation state are met with sweeping counter reactions: the establishment of populist, far-right leaders and governments, a crackdown on civil rights, a wave of nationalistic policies limiting mobility and paving the way for xenophobia and discrimination: Brexit, the erection of Hungary-Serbia border fence, the USA-Mexico border wall, as well as other attempts to limit refugee access to the countries of the Global North.

People are rendered mobile or immobile by a wide range of forces and social actors. The politics of urban space sometimes betray claims to a homogeneous public space, such as the decision of Italian towns to forbid 'ethnic' foods in the city centres. Various other means of marginalisation and exclusion occur, rendering people immobile, or, on the contrary, pushing them to become mobile. Mobility creates interconnectedness of different localities; those who leave create bridges that often contribute to the recreation of place through remittances, food, building houses etc.

Processes of identification and belonging, cultural and social integration, creation and erasure of boundaries and borders, (re)creation of places and connections have inspired us to interrogate these topics as part of a wider range of anthropological inquiries. This year's Border Crossings conference invites presentations that deal with, but not limited to, the following topics:

- Placemaking, cultural landscapes, place and space, ways of dwelling;
- Cultural heritage (tangible and intangible): politics of heritage, memory and commemoration, commoditisation of heritage, impact of tourism;
- Collective identities: forms of belonging, affiliation, ethnicity, the new faces of the nation state; models of diversity and integration, minority politics, gender politics, images of otherness;
- Mobility: migration, refugees, pilgrimage, tourism; technologies and infrastructures of mobility; transnational families and households, diasporas;
- Borders: borderscapes, borders as bounded spaces, encounters with otherness, experiences of liminality, the crossing of borders;



- Food: food and nationalism, food as a source of place-making, taste as a marker of distinction and difference, food in movement, migrant cuisines;
- Environment: cultural ecology, socio-ecological resilience, spatial justice, ethnographies of the anthropocene, narratives and practices of sustainability and conservation;
- Material culture: houses and housing, dwelling and “curating” homes, travelling objects, mutual processes of value creation between people and things.

### Organising Institutions

- Department of Sociology, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest
- Border Crossings Network
- Department of History and Archaeology, University of Ioannina
- Department of Balkan, Slavic and Oriental Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki
- Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, St Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje
- Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, Zagreb
- Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana
- Department of Ethnology and Anthropology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Belgrade
- Department of History and Ethnology, Democritus University of Thrace

### Eligibility

The conference is open to BA students, BA graduates, MA students, MA graduates, PhD candidates in anthropology and related disciplines.

### Conference sessions and paper presentations

The conference sessions will take place on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at the Department of Sociology, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest. **Paper presentations should last no more than 15 minutes** (plus 5 minutes for discussion). Power-point and multimedia presentations are welcome. Students are highly encouraged to submit ethnographic film to be screened during the conference. The conference language is English.

### Conference costs and logistics

There is no conference fee. Travel and accommodation costs should be covered by the participants themselves. Participants are expected to make their own arrangements for the accommodation. Support will be offered by the organising committee. A bus for the conference participants will run from Thessaloniki to Bucharest on April 11<sup>th</sup> and from Bucharest to Thessaloniki on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

### Application procedure

Applicants are expected to submit a paper abstract of around 250 words, their academic status and institutional affiliation by **March 10<sup>th</sup> 2019** to the following address: [conference@politice.ro](mailto:conference@politice.ro). Successful applicants will be notified by March 18<sup>th</sup> 2019.



### Conference Scientific Committee

- Prof. Vassilis Nitsiakos, Department of History and Archaeology, University of Ioannina, Ioannina
- Prof. Vintila Mihailescu, Department of Sociology, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest
- Prof. Rajko Muršič, Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana
- Prof. Ljupčo Risteski, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, St Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje
- Associate Prof. Slobodan Naumović, Department of Ethnology and Anthropology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Belgrade
- Professor Ilina Jakimovska, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, St Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje
- Dr. Davorin Trpeski, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, St Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje
- Dr. Petra Kelemen, Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, Zagreb
- Dr. Marijeta Rajković Iveta, Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, Zagreb
- Dr. Tihana Rubić, Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, Zagreb
- Dr. Georgios Agelopoulos, Department of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- Dr. Alik Angelidou, Department of Social Anthropology, Panteion University, Athens
- Dr. Vassilis Dalkavoukis, Department of History and Ethnology, Democritus University of Thrace, Komotini
- Dr. Vassiliki Kravva, Department of History and Ethnology, Democritus University of Thrace, Komotini
- Dr. Paraskevas Potiropoulos, Hellenic Folklore Research Centre of the Academy of Athens
- Dr. Ioannis Manos, Department of Balkan, Slavic and Oriental Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki
- Dr. Zeliha Nilüfer Nahya, Department of Turkish Folklore, Erciyes University in Kayseri, Turkey
- Dr. Monica Stroe, Department of Sociology, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest
- Dr. Bogdan Iancu, Department of Sociology, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest
- Dr. Andrei Mihail, Department of Sociology, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest

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- Daniela Gîlcă, MA student, Department of Sociology, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest