Faith and Community around the Mediterranean in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages

March 7-10, 2016
Program

Bucharest, New Europe College, March 7-8.

Monday, March 7, Conference Papers

10.00 Greetings from Prof. Dr. Valentina SANDU-DEDIU, Rector of the New Europe College
Greetings from Acad. Dan BERINDEI, Vice-president of the Romanian Academy
Greetings from Dr. Petre GURAN, Researcher at the Institute for South-East European Studies of the Romanian Academy

10.30 Claudia RAPP, Professor of Byzantine Studies, University of Vienna, Austria
*New Religion - New Communities? Christianity and Social Relations in Late Antiquity and Beyond*

11.15 Coffee Break

11.30 Uriel SIMONSOHN, Lecturer, Department for Middle Eastern History, University of Haifa, Israel
*Kinship and Community: The Social Subversiveness of Religiously-Mixed Families in the Early Islamic Period*

12.00 Alexandru-Florin PLATON, professor at the Faculty of History, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Romania
*‘The Body of Christ’ in Saint Paul's Epistles and the New Face of Christian Unity (1st Century AD)*

12.30 Thomas CARLSON, Assistant Professor of Middle Eastern History, Oklahoma State University, USA
*Faith among the Faithless? Theology as Aid or Obstacle to Islamization in Late Medieval Mesopotamia*

13.00 Roundtable Discussion

13.30 Lunch

15.00 Philippa TOWNSEND, Chancellor’s Fellow of New Testament and Christian Origins, University of Edinburgh, Scotland
*Conflict and Community in the Book of Revelation*

15.30 Eduard IRICINSCHI, Visiting Fellow at the International Consortium for Research in the Humanities (IKGF), University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany
*Religious Education and Spiritual Healing in the Egyptian Manichaean Community of Kellis (4th- cent CE)*
16.00 Dionisij SHLENOV, Head of Greek Christian Literature, Department of Christian Literature, Moscow Theological Academy and Seminary, Russia
The Image of the Emperor’s Power in Ascetical Literature

16.30 Peter BROWN, Professor of History Emeritus at Princeton University, USA
Faith and Community around the Mediterranean (Pre-recorded video remarks)

17.00 Roundtable Discussion

Tuesday, March 8, Conference Papers

10.00 Petre GURAN, Researcher at the Institute for South-East European Studies, Romanian Academy, Romania
Church or Christendom? Late Antique Juridical Terminology on Christian Religion.

10.30 Nathan P. GIBSON, Postdoctoral Scholar in Syriac studies and digital humanities at Vanderbilt University, USA
Turning Friends into Enemies and Enemies into Friends: Al-Jahiz’s Attempt to Redefine Religious Identity in Ninth-Century Iraq

11.00 Coffee Break

11.30 Craig CALDWELL, Assistant Professor of Ancient History and director of the Program in Classical Civilizations, Appalachian State University, USA
From Galerius’ Romanitas to the Danubian Open Frontier: Peter Brown and the Balkans in Late Antiquity

12.00 Maja KOMINKO, Cultural Grants Manager at Arcadia Fund, UK
The Peutinger Table – The World-Map as a Palimpsest

12.30 Roundtable Discussion

13.00 Lunch

15.00 Daniel BENGA, Professor for Church History, Orthodox Theological Faculty, University of Bucharest, Romania
The Jewish Heritage as Challenge for a Syriac Christian Community according to Didascalia Apostolorum

15.30 Daniel SCHWARTZ, Assistant Professor of History and Associate Director of the Initiative for Digital Humanities, Media, and Culture, Texas A&M University, USA
The Social Context of Religious Change in Late Antique Syria

16.00 Dragoș MÎRȘANU, independent researcher and journalist, Romania
Arian Solidarity in the Time of the Barbarian Kingdoms: Did It Exist?

16.30 Roundtable Discussion
Iași, Mihai Eminescu Central University Library (King Ferdinand Foundations)

Thursday, March 10, Conference Papers

10.00 Greetings from the Metropolitan of Moldavia
Greetings from the Rector of the Iasi University and the Dean of the Theology Faculty

10.30 Mark SHERIDAN, Benedictine monk living in Abu Ghosh, Israel and professor emeritus in the Faculty of Theology of the Pontificio Ateneo S. Anselmo
*The Development of the Concept of Poverty from Athanasius to Cassian*

11.15 Nelu ZUGRAVU, Professor of Late Antique History and Civilization, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Romania
*Christianity as a Factor of Dissolution and Aggregation in the Works of John Chrysostom*

11.45 Coffee break

12.00 Matthew MILLINER, Associate Professor of Art History at Wheaton College, USA
*Rethinking the ‘Afterlife of Icons’*

12.30 Bogdan MALEON, Professor at the Faculty of History, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University and Director of Mihai Eminescu Central University Library Iași , Romania
*The Exile around the Mediterranean Sea during the Early Byzantine Period*

13.00 Roundtable Discussion

13.30 Lunch

15.00 Iulian DAMIAN, Assistant Professor of History of Religions, Faculty of Theology, University of Iași
*Revelation in Abrahamic Religions: Convergence and Divergence Concerning the Phenomenon of Prophethood*

15.30 David MICHELSON, Assistant Professor of History of Christianity at Vanderbilt University, USA
*From Periphery to Horizon: Peter R. L. Brown’s Contribution to the Historiography of Christianity*

16.00 Peter BROWN, Professor of History Emeritus at Princeton University, USA
*Faith and Community around the Mediterranean* (Pre-recorded video remarks)

16.30 Concluding Discussion

Event organized within the *Europe next to Europe* Program, with the support of the *Riksbankens Jubileumsfond*, Sweden.