

SOCIETY FOR ROMANIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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From the President

Many of us had to battle unusually bad weather, but still found the time to help the Society for Romanian Studies (SRS) enlarge its membership, expand its list of activities, update its website and social media sites, and continue to serve as the premier international scholarly organization dedicated to Romanian Studies, broadly conceived. The Society now offers some exciting new activities, and works with the help of several new committees. All these, together with a sound budget made up of contributions from individual and organizational members, place the Society in the strongest position since its creation.



We are delighted to announce the launch of a new peer-reviewed scholarly *Journal of Romanian Studies* to be published in collaboration with Ibidem, a German press with a good distribution network, solid experience with nurturing niche academic journals for specialized audiences, and an excellent staff. The first issue of the journal will be published in 2018. The main editors are Margaret Beissinger (mhbeissi@Princeton.edu) and Lavinia Stan (Istan@stfx.ca). The book editor is Radu Cinpoș (Radu.Cinpoes@kingston.ac.uk). They are all eagerly waiting your submissions! For the call, please see page 3 in this Newsletter and at [link](#).

Equally exciting is our new Mentoring Program, coordinated by a committee formed of Roland Clark (chair), Margaret Beissinger, Petru Negură, Bob Ives, Cristina Plămădeală, and Anca Șincan. The program provides SRS members with invaluable support, and

established scholars the opportunity to support new research and help shape Romanian Studies the field. Informal mentorship will also benefit students in the West whose primary supervisors are not specialists in Romania and Moldova, students and scholars based in Eastern Europe who want to establish informal relationships with colleagues abroad, and senior scholars trying to stay abreast of new literatures and gain insight into other universities and other countries. For more information on that program see page 15 in this Newsletter. This information is also available [here](#).

The SRS will award two much-coveted prizes in 2017. The annual graduate student essay prize is adjudicated by a committee formed of Chris Davis (chair), Diane Vancea, Valentina Glajar and Roland King, which will choose the best English-language graduate student essay written in Romanian Studies. The book prize is adjudicated by Alex Drace-Francis (chair), Peter Gross, and Inessa Medzhibovskaya, who will choose the best monograph published in the last two years in the field. These awards could be yours, so please send your submissions by the deadline! Additional details about the prizes are available on pages 7-8 in Newsletter. The calls are also available via the following [link](#), as well as [here](#).

The book series our Society is publishing in collaboration with Polirom continues strong, under the leadership of Irina Livezeanu and Lavinia Stan. Narcis Tulbure from ASE Bucharest has joined us in early 2017 as the new editorial assistant. Last year, we added another publication, *Geneza culturii române moderne. Instituțiile scrisului și dezvoltarea identității naționale, 1700-1900*, authored by historian Alex Drace-Francis and first published in English in 2005 with I.B. Tauris. This spring, another title was added to the book series: *România postcomunistă: trecut, prezent, viitor*, which is a translation of *Post-Communist Romania at 25: Linking Past, Present and Future*, edited by Lavinia Stan and Diane Vancea and published in English with Rowman & Littlefield in 2015. Take a look at the book description at page 16 in the Newsletter.

Peter Wagner chairs the committee that will organize the next SRS international conference in 2018. He is aided in this important task by Margaret Beissinger (liaison with RSAA), Alexandra Ghit (student representative), Svetlana Suveică and Delia Popescu, as well as our representatives in Romania and Moldova: Rodica Zaharia, Anca Șincan and Petru Negură. The Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest, which is located centrally in Piața Romană, will host us from 26 to 30 June 2018. The theme of the conference, “#Romania100: Looking Forward through the Past,” was chosen not only for its anniversary scope, but also in an effort to bring together an expanded number of quality presenters from Romania, Moldova, and abroad. The call for papers is included on pages 8-9 of this Newsletter, and it is also posted [here](#). If you want to get involved and help with the organization, please contact the committee directly.

Finally, I want to thank Ana Fumurescu and Cristina Plămădeală for their diligence in putting together the Newsletter. Please contact any of the SRS officers in case you want to help the Society!

Lavinia Stan
lstan@stfx.ca

Journal of Romanian Studies Call for Manuscripts

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Society for Romanian Studies is pleased to launch a new biannual peer-reviewed journal in collaboration with Ibidem Press. The new interdisciplinary journal examines critical issues in Romanian Studies broadly conceived, linking work in that field to wider theoretical debates and issues of current relevance, and serving as a forum for junior and senior scholars.

The journal considers manuscripts that draw on various theoretical, conceptual and methodological perspectives as understood in disciplines ranging from history, political science, philosophy, law and justice studies, anthropology, sociology, ethnography, and education to literature, linguistics, economics, business, religious, gender, film and media studies, art history, and music. It considers theoretically informed manuscripts that examine political, socioeconomic and cultural developments in Romania and Moldova, the situation of their ethnic minorities and their relations with the ethnic majority, as well as the position, culture, and history of Romanians and Moldovans living outside the shifting boundaries of those countries.



The journal also welcomes articles that connect Romania and Moldova comparatively with other states and their ethnic majorities and minorities, and with other groups by investigating the challenges of migration and globalization, changes and opportunities in international relations, and the impact of the European Union. Both articles with a historical focus and studies dealing with recent events will be considered.

The journal editors will consider the following types of manuscripts: original research articles (of up to 10,000 words, including bibliography), review articles (of up to 3,000 words, commenting on 2-3 books on a common theme), and book reviews (of up to 1,000 words). All submissions are subject to peer review. Special issues that group research articles on a common theme are welcomed. Submissions are accepted on a rolling basis. The first issue will be published in 2018.

Questions can be directed to the editors, Lavinia Stan (lstan@stfx.ca) and Margaret Beissinger (mhbeissi@princeton.edu), or the book review editor, Radu Cinpoes (Radu.Cinpoes@kingston.ac.uk).

Dennis Deletant receives Romania's highest civilian honour

On October 24, CERES Professor Dennis Deletant was awarded the National Order of the Star of Romania by President Klaus Iohannis. The award recognizes Dr. Deletant's contribution to Romanian studies and his efforts to promote Romanian history, language and culture. Dr. Deletant was previously recognized for his services to Romanian democracy with the National Order for Merit in 2000 by President Emil Constantinescu.



Dr. Dennis Deletant teaching at Georgetown University. He is the author of numerous publications, including *Ceaușescu and the Securitate: Coercion and Dissent in Romania, 1965-89* (London; New York, 1996), *Romania under Communist Rule* (Bucharest, 1998), *Communist Terror in Romania: Gheorghiu-Dej and the Police State, 1948-1965*, (London; New York, 1999) and *Ion Antonescu. Hitler's Forgotten Ally* (London: New York, 2006). His most recent book is *British Clandestine Activities in Romania during the Second World War* (London: New York, 2016).

Cosmina Tănăsioiu Obituary

The premature death of Cosmina Tănăsioiu on August 5 after a long illness has robbed Romanian studies of one of its brightest young lights. Cosmina wrote her PhD on Romanian intellectuals, at the University of the West of England, Bristol in the late 1990s. It was when she was a PhD student teaching at UWE that I met Cosmina, and my own interest in the region began with her classes. After completing her PhD she taught at the American University in Bulgaria. She was loved by her students and colleagues where she is very much missed. As a teacher Cosmina was the ideal combination of serious and demanding of students, constantly pushing her students intellectually but fair and warm to them as well. Her drive, ambition, and ability to mix and relax with students (one former student recalls Cosmina coming to a party in the dorms and beating the students at Badminton) served to inspire her students. A reflection of the regard in which friends, colleagues, and students held Cosmina has been in the support for an endowed scholarship for an undergraduate student that has been set up in her name.



Dan Brett

Featured photo © AUBG

Conference Report

The SRS panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association in Philadelphia

The Society for Romanian Studies operates as a related group section of the American Political Science Association (APSA), supporting a panel at the annual meeting.

In 2016 the meeting was held in Philadelphia, under the general theme *Great Transformations: Political Science and the Big Questions of Our Time*. Amy Liu (University of Texas at Austin) delivered a paper regarding the effect of anti-corruption campaigns on Chinese migrants in Romania. Oana Lup (Central European University), Marina Popescu (Central European University), and Tania Chilin (Median Research Center) presented results from their research on prejudice and intolerance in Romania. Aurelian Muntean (SNSPA) and Dragoş Adăscăliţei (Central European University) delivered a paper analyzing the bargaining strategies of trade unions in Romania. Adina Babeş (Elie Wiesel National Institute for the Study of Holocaust in Romania) presented a paper on college students' perceptions of the Holocaust. Gabriel Bădescu (Babeş-Bolyai University) and Paul Sum (University of North Dakota) delivered a paper on contextual effects (classroom and school) on democratic attitudes and social polarization in Romania. Ruxandra Paul (Amherst College) served as discussant, while Claudiu Tufiş (University of Bucharest) chaired the panel.

The 2017 meeting will take place in San Francisco, under the general theme *The Quest for Legitimacy: Actors, Audiences, and Aspirations*. The CFP was advertised in the previous issue of the SRS Newsletter. Starting with the 2017 meeting, APSA has reduced the number of papers per panel to four, so not all submitted papers could be included in the panel. The 2017 panel includes the following presentations: Cristina Dragomir (State University of New York Oswego) – “Neither Victims, nor Victors: Contemporary Roma Witches in Romania;” Luciana Alexandra Ghica (University of Bucharest) - “Romania’s Government Social Media Presence in Development Cooperation;” Bogdan Mihai Radu (Babeş Bolyai University) – “Religion and Social Capital among Romanian Youth;” and Valentin Stoian (Mihai Viteazul National Intelligence Academy) – “The framing of corruption in Romanian media: securitization or ‘moralization’?” Oana Băluţă (University of Bucharest) agreed to serve as discussant, while Claudiu Tufiş will chair the panel.

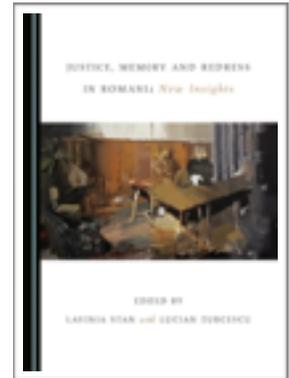
Inquiries about the SRS APSA panel can be directed to Claudiu Tufiş (claudiu.tufis@fspub.unibuc.ro). **We are still looking for discussants for the papers included in the panel. All SRS members attending APSA are cordially invited to join our panel and also to join the already traditional post-panel meeting.**

Claudiu D. Tufiş

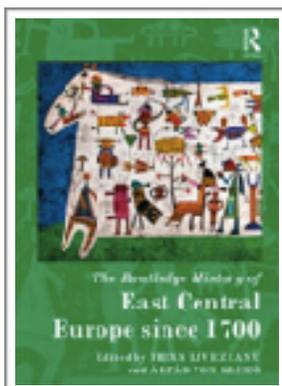
Featured Books

Lavinia STAN & Lucian TURCESCU, eds., *Justice, Memory and Redress in Romania: New Insights*. Newcastle, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2017.

Are there any lessons Romania can teach transitional justice scholars and practitioners? This book argues that important insights emerge when analyzing a country with a moderate record of coming to terms with its communist past. Taking a broad definition of transitional justice as their starting point, contributors provide fresh assessments of the history commission, court trials, public identifications of former communist perpetrators, commemorations, and unofficial artistic projects that seek to address and redress the legacies of communist human rights violations. Theoretical and practical questions regarding the continuity of state agencies, the sequencing of initiatives, their advantages and limitations, the reasons why some reckoning programs are enacted and others are not, and these measures' efficacy in promoting truth and justice are answered throughout the volume. Contributors include seasoned scholars from Romania, Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom, and current and former leaders of key Romanian transitional justice institutions. For more information, click [here](#).



Irina LIVEZEANU & Árpád von Klimó. *The Routledge History of East Central Europe since 1700*. Routledge, 2017.



Covering territory from Russia in the east to Germany and Austria in the west, *The Routledge History of East Central Europe since 1700* explores the origins and evolution of modernity in this turbulent region. Written by an international team of contributors that reflects the increasing globalization and pluralism of East Central European studies, chapters discuss key themes such as economic development, the relationship between religion and ethnicity, the intersection between culture and imperial, national, wartime, and revolutionary political agendas, migration, women's and gender history, ideologies and political movements, the legacy of communism, and the ways in which various states in East Central Europe deployed and were formed by the politics of memory and commemoration. This book uses new methodologies in order to fundamentally reshape perspectives on the

development of East Central Europe over the past three centuries. For more information, click [here](#).

SRS 2017 Graduate Student Essay Prize

We pleased to announce the Ninth Annual Graduate Student Essay Prize competition for an outstanding unpublished essay or thesis chapter. The essay must be written in English by a graduate student in any social science or humanities discipline on a Romanian or Moldovan subject, broadly and inclusively understood. The 2017 prize, consisting of \$300, will be presented at the 2017 ASEES Annual Convention in Chicago, November 9–12. The competition is open to current MA and doctoral students or to those who defended dissertations in the academic year 2016–2017. A dissertation chapter must include the dissertation abstract and table of contents; an expanded version of a conference paper must include a description of the panel and the conference paper proposal; and a seminar paper must include the seminar title and description. Submissions should be a maximum 12,500 words, including notes and bibliography. Candidates should also clearly indicate their institutional affiliation and the type of the essay submitted. Questions can be directed to the chair of the committee, Chris Davis <R.Chris.Davis@LoneStar.edu>.

Please send electronically a copy of the essay and an updated CV to each of the four members of the Prize Committee, listed below. **Submission deadline: July 1, 2017.**

SRS Essay Prize Committee Members:

Prof. Diane Vancea	Prof. Valentina Glajar	Prof. Ronald King
Ovidius University	Texas State University	San Diego State University
economics@ovidius-university.net	vg10@txstate.edu	rking@mail.sdsu.edu

The Fourth Biennial SRS Book Prize

The SRS invites nominations for the **Fourth Biennial SRS Book Prize** awarded for the best scholarly book published in English in the humanities or social sciences, on any subject relating to Romania or Moldova. To be eligible, **books must be in English and published between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2016 as indicated by the copyright date.** Books may be in any academic field, with a predominant focus on Romanian or Moldovan subject matter (including subjects relating to the activities of non-Romanian ethnic groups on Romanian or Moldovan territory). *Edited books, translations, reprints or new editions of works published before 2015, and non-scholarly books are not eligible.*

The prize will be presented at the ASEES National Convention in Chicago in November 2017 and carries with it an award of \$500. Either authors or publishers of books may make submissions. **Submissions should be sent to the SRS prize committee by 1 June 2017.**

Three copies of each submitted book should be sent by mail directly to each committee member at the addresses given below. Questions or inquiries can be sent via email at A.J.Drace-Francis@uva.nl. For details of the Prize and past winners see: [here](#).

SRS Book Prize Committee Members:

Alex Drace-Francis

European Studies Department
University of Amsterdam,
Kloveniersburgwal 48
Amsterdam 1012CX,
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Peter Gross

10025 Casa Real
Cove
Knoxville, TN 37922
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Inessa Medzhibovskaya

Eugene Lang College
The New School
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New York, NY 10011, USA

Call for Proposals for the 2018 SRS Conference

The 2018 SRS conference will be hosted by the Academy of Economic Studies (ASE) in Bucharest. We thank them for their support.

Romania and Romanian Studies at 100:

Making Connections by Looking Back and Looking Forward

Bucharest, 26-30 June 2018

Keynote Addresses: Katherine Verdery and Vintilă Mihăilescu

In 1918, the National Assembly at Alba Iulia proclaimed the unity of all territories inhabited by Romanians and thereby laid the foundation for the modern Romanian state. Yet the proclamation also insisted on a wide range of principles and forward looking reforms from full rights for all (including ethnic and religious minorities, press, and right to assembly) to land reform and a democratic political system. This unique historical moment arguably represents in a nutshell the issues and dimensions associated with questions of a Romanian identity, a national consciousness and culture, the place of intellectuals in Romanian public life, as well as the politics, policies, and economics of Romanian development, including in comparative and international perspective. “Marea Unire” also served as midwife to the birth of Romanian Studies.

The SRS wishes to take the 100th anniversary of this unique moment in Romanian history as an invitation to reflect upon the past, reassess the moment’s impact on the present, and draw lessons for the future, including for Romanian and Moldovan Studies. The conference aims at taking a fresh look at the very creation of contemporary modern Romania. We wish to examine the significance of this historical moment for Romania

and Moldova's historical trajectories, domestically and within the wider European, Eurasian and even international contexts with the help of broad historical, political, literary, and cultural disciplinary and interdisciplinary inquiries.

We welcome proposals for papers, panels and roundtables from junior and senior scholars working in a variety of disciplines: history, sociology, anthropology and ethnography, political science, philosophy, law and justice studies, literature and linguistics, economics, business, international affairs, religious, gender and sexuality studies, film and media studies, art history, music, architecture, and education, among others. Possible topics might include, but are not limited to:

- ♣ The 1918 unification in comparison with other unifications, both past & present
- ♣ The 1918 unification and its precursors in popular and official memory, historiography, film, literature, the arts
- ♣ The 1918 unification and its legacies on minorities and diasporas
- ♣ The legacies and unfinished business of 1918: making connections to Romanian and Moldovan developments going forward (fascism/Nazism, communism, post-communism, democracy, human rights, minority rights)
- ♣ Romania, Moldova in Southeastern and Central Europe
- ♣ Romania, Moldova and European accession and integration
- ♣ Global integration, bilateral and multilateral relations, foreign and security policy issues
- ♣ World War I and the 1918 moment
- ♣ Romanian and Moldovan political thought, and the role of ideas in political change
- ♣ Romanian and Moldovan philosophy and literatures
- ♣ Sources and archives
- ♣ Writers, artists and the arts in fascism, communism and post-communism
- ♣ Moldova between West and East
- ♣ Legal and constitutional reforms
- ♣ Party and electoral politics, voting behavior, policy analysis & administration
- ♣ Free markets, neoliberalism and state paternalism
- ♣ The status of ethnic, religious, linguistic and sexual minorities in Romania & Moldova
- ♣ The reconfiguration of social stratification
- ♣ Post-communist media and journalism
- ♣ The role of the Orthodox Church and of other religious groups
- ♣ Dynamics of migration from and into Romania and Moldova
- ♣ Education policies and strategies
- ♣ Urban policies and architecture: 1918, communism, and post-communism

Proposals for individual papers, panels, roundtables, book or movie presentations, and art installations should be sent by September 25, 2017 at srs2018conference@gmail.com. Participants will be notified of the acceptance of their proposal by December 4, 2017.

Individual paper proposals should include title, a brief abstract of up to 500 words, a short c.v., and contact information of the presenter. Proposals for panels including 3-4 papers, one chair, and 1-2 discussants should provide a title and description of the panel topic, abstracts of all papers, short c.v., and contact information for all participants. Panel participants should be drawn from at least two universities. Roundtable proposals of 3-5 participants should include title and topic description, short c.v., and contact information for all participants. The conference organizers will also accept proposals for presentations of books, movies and art installations; proposals should include a title, a description, short C.V., and contact info.

The language of the conference is English. Submissions in French will be considered, if they are for full panels or roundtables with members from more than one university.

As in previous years, conference registration fees are modest to encourage wide participation. For scholars from North America, the fee will be 40 USD; for those from the Eurozone and Western Europe, 40 Euros, and from Romania, Moldova and parts east, 40 Romanian Lei. SRS membership will also be required and additional for those paying in USD and Euros, but included for those paying in Lei. Registration fees for graduate students are 15 USD, and include membership in the SRS for 2018. All conference participants must be SRS members for their names to be included in the final program.

The Making of the 2018 SRS Conference

An Interview with Peter Wagner

SRS: What are some of the most challenging aspects of organizing a conference?

PW: First, thank you very much for this opportunity to publicize the 2018 SRS conference. As chair of the organizing committee, I should note that my answers only reflect my personal views and not those of the organizing committee, the SRS, nor those of my university. Each conference is actually different. There are obviously some common issues: finding a great location; having a strong call for proposals and being able to distribute it widely; receiving many good proposals; creating a program that reflects the aims of the conference while also integrating interesting proposals; and, finally, making sure that the conference runs smoothly in the end. Romanian Studies is international, multi-disciplinary, and inclusive. The SRS conference has to reflect that in the end as best as possible.



SRS: Tell us a bit about how and why the committee chose the themes and topics of the conference.

PW: I think the choice in this case was simply obvious. If the committee had not chosen this theme, a lot of people would have wondered why the SRS and indeed Romanian Studies were overlooking this historical anniversary. And as the call hopefully makes clear, it is a theme that can integrate a lot of questions, issues, scholarly fields and research methods that make up Romanian Studies today and will therefore lead to exciting and fruitful conference discussions.

SRS: The Call for Papers announcement pertaining to this conference states that “Marea Unire” also served as midwife to the birth of Romanian Studies.” Can you please elaborate further on this idea?

PW: Good question; some would maintain a rather controversial statement. The statement refers to the process in which both nations and nationally-framed scientific fields/views were formed. Of course, one can point to the study of the peoples within the territories now known as Romania and Moldova, to empire/s and their peoples, and one certainly could point to the national awakening, to 1862 and indeed 1881. Still, the field of Romanian Studies as it is constituted today reflects Marea Unire as providing a broad reference point for the field's subject matter. Having stated that, to me, it is highly interesting to note that our current debates about the end/resurgence (sic: both) of the nation-state provide ample reasons for interesting discussions in this regard. With a tip of the hat to Jenő Szűcs: where do the borders of Romanian Studies lie today?

SRS: What advice do you have for graduate students without much experience who would like to participate in an SRS conference?

PW: First, I would urge them to submit a proposal and plan on attending! I think the SRS conference is a wonderful place to present one's work, get great (!) feedback on it, meet others (from fellow graduate students to seasoned scholars), and become active in Romanian Studies. As someone who has attended many different conferences, I can attest that the SRS conference simply stands out as an incredibly friendly and yet highly productive event.

SRS: The upcoming SRS conference already stands out by virtue of its focus on the centennial of the Romanian unification of 1918. In what other ways do you foresee this conference making its mark on the field of Romanian studies?

PW: I think each past conference has provided participants with a lot of information and inspiration. The upcoming conference will continue that tradition. My own hope is that the upcoming conference will lead to multi- and cross-disciplinary conversations and thus continue Romanian Studies as a dynamic and exciting field that contributes to our knowledge and understanding in the humanities and social sciences in general.

Institutional Member News

The Center for Research and Professional Development “*Romanian Studies in International Context*” (STUR)

STUR was founded in 2011 at the Ovidius University of Constanța, building on the results of a previous research project, which produced a website, summarizing the status of the Romanian Studies programs at that moment, still available [here](#) and two international collective volumes of *Romanian Studies around the World* (2007-2008).

In 2015, we promoted an institutional partnership between Ovidius University and SRS, as STUR's aim is to support Romanian Studies in all their aspects, but also to expand the international and interdisciplinary approach of the field. Our annual scientific conferences have gathered international scholars and the papers were published in the volumes: *Caragiale's Actuality: 1912-2012* (2012); *Junimea's Impact after 150 Years* (2013); *Literature, Theatre, and Film. In Honor of the Dramatist Matei Vișniec* (2015), and *East-European Cultures and Civilizations. In memoriam Aida Todi* (2016).

The theme of the fifth STUR conference (October 2016) was “Romanian Studies in Inter- and Trans-disciplinary Context. In memoriam Marin Mincu” and the corresponding volume is now in print. In September 2017, STUR's conference will mark the 2000th commemoration of Ovid's death, and we welcome international participants who are willing to present their work and research in the field, and to discuss the main challenges and opportunities faced by the Romanian Studies Programs around the world in all our conferences and volumes. We also hope to extend our network of academic contacts, so that the dissemination of our activities could become more effective and useful.

Marina Cap-Bun, Director
Ovidius University of Constanța
marina_capbun@yahoo.com

The Faculty of Political Science at the University of Bucharest

The Faculty of Political Science (FSPUB) is one of the youngest departments of Romania's oldest higher education establishment – the University of Bucharest. After 25 years of existence, the FSPUB takes pride in being the most multilingual social sciences department in Romania.

It counts five BA programs, six MA programs, and a well-established doctoral school. Students from Romania and other countries can choose between three political science BA tracks taught entirely either in Romanian, French or English, a security studies BA track in Romanian, and an international relations and European studies BA track taught in English. We offer four graduate programs: *European and Romanian Politics*, *Comparative Politics* (both in English), *Equal Chances Policies in Romanian and European Context* (with optional modules in French), and *Politique en Europe. Etats, frontières, sociétés* (in French). Doctoral theses can be written and defended in Romanian, Italian, French, and/or English.

The teaching staff, the visiting scholars, and the students can conduct research in four centers: *Fundamenta Politica*, the *Center for Equal Chances Policies*, the *Center for Israeli Studies*, and the *Center for Development Studies and International Cooperation*. The FSPUB counts 44 faculty members, many of them trained in European or US universities. It is the only department in Romania that offers full-time tracks and courses in foreign languages. This academic year, we have 1,100 enrolled students, coming from Romania, Moldova, Europe, Africa and Asia. More details about the FSPUB, including admission and collaboration procedures, can be found [here](#) or on [Facebook](#).

Oana-Valentina Suci

oanavalentina_suciu@yahoo.co.uk

A Glimpse into the Recent Romanian Protests

An Interview with Oana-Valentina Suci

Since January 2017, thousands of citizens have taken to the streets to protest against the Sorin Grindeanu cabinet, appointed shortly after the December 2016 parliamentary elections. On February 18, Dr. Oana-Valentina Suci, a SRS member and a professor with the Faculty of Political Science at the University of Bucharest, has kindly agreed to answer some questions for us:



SRS: You are known for your studies on voting behavior. But these days you have assumed a new role. Can you briefly explain which one?

OS: I became a political sociologist because of the events of the early 1990s. It was then that I decided to give up mathematics for social sciences, what was going on in Bucharest those days was far more challenging. I was witnessing the birth of a new era. Through my academic studies, I kept close to these developments, while also volunteering and working with NGOs and think-tanks involved in democratization. Thus, my role hasn't changed that much. Instead of teaching political sociology, these days I attend street rallies, give interviews to media outlets, organize crowd-funding for pollsters to study these events, write and engage in social networking. These are the actions of a concerned citizen, who knows the rights and obligations of both political representatives and voters.

SRS: How many citizens have participated in protests to date? What do they want?

OS: Figures vary, but at the peak of the protests 600,000 people took to the streets in over 50 Romanian cities and towns, and thousands more gathered in support in cities all over the world. The most impressive symbol of these protests is represented by 300,000 people in Bucharest lighting their smartphones. The protests persisted through February, with people demonstrating daily in the Victory Square, where the government building is located. These people's determination is heroic (temperatures have been below zero for three weeks).

It all started on January 31, when the Social Democrat government passed OUG 13 decriminalizing corruption and allowing the release or potential non-conviction of corrupt politicians and business people, a move opposed by concerned citizens and President Klaus Iohannis. After the media reported on OUG 13, over 10,000 people protested in front of the government building, asking for the withdrawal of OUG 13, the resignation of the cabinet, and the formation of a non-corrupt Social Democratic government. The cabinet annulled OUG 13 by adopting the questionable OUG 14, leaving room for Parliament to curb the anti-corruption fight without public consultation.

SRS: Who are the protesters?

OS: A recent opinion poll shows that 17% of the Romanian population participated in at least one of the protests. This poll was funded through crowdsourcing – an absolute premiere in Romania! Note that we are speaking mainly about urban areas, where 10% to 30% of residents took to the streets in the past three weeks. Most protesters are 18 to 35 years old, but there are also older and younger participants (let me mention the constant presence in the street of philosopher Mihai Șora, who is 100 years old). They are mainly highly educated, professionals, artists, writers, from both public and private sectors, geographically mobile, who speak foreign languages and communicate through social networks. I hope to analyze these protests with my students, and look at the slogans, the use of technical devices, creative objects, musical mementos, or flash mobs. All of these prove that we are witnessing the most important social and civic phenomenon in post-communist Romania. One is amazed by the wittiness, creativeness, humour, and politeness that develop like a snowball daily. Moreover, we also witness the re-birth of civiness in a country that until recently was considered at the periphery of the democratic world. The effects of this movement will definitely be seen and felt in the long run.

SRS: What are the arguments of the government? Why has change been so slow?

OS: The arguments of the government, namely that prisons are overcrowded, the government's proposals are requests coming from the EU, and previous governments also adopted emergency ordinances, are all ungrounded and dangerous for democracy. The GRECO reports and the Venice Commission report on anti-torture show that the EU's recommendations are completely different – prevention of crime and corruption, better living conditions in prisons (not a national pardon), social re-insertion and re-integration of inmates. Change was and is slow exactly because of the corruption at all bureaucratic levels, the bribes and favour-taking of the officials, the many bureaucratic and power abuses. This is why the anti-corruption fight is so important in Romania – it is a way of leading a normal life in a state where the rule of law is respected, not abused, by those who are elected to enforce it.

SRS: What should be the priorities of the Social Democrat government after the protests are over?

OS: To govern transparently, to respect citizens (both those who voted and those who did not vote for them), to organize genuine public consultations, to collaborate in implementing legislation that would prevent and punish corruption, not favour it.

Featured Photo: © Andreea Tănase

SRS Mentoring Program

The Society for Romanian Studies is launching a new mentoring program that pairs scholars at different stages of their careers or in different parts of the world to facilitate mutually beneficial discussions and communication. Junior scholars gain local information formally from their supervisors and informally from others they come into contact with. Informal mentorship is particularly important for students and scholars working in the West whose primary supervisors are not themselves specialists in Romania and Moldova. Similarly, students and scholars based in Eastern Europe will find it beneficial to establish informal relationships with their colleagues abroad, with whom they can discuss disciplinary trends and other questions of mutual interest. Mentoring also benefits senior scholars by helping them stay abreast of new literatures and trends in the field as well as providing insights into other universities and other countries.

The purpose of the SRS Mentoring Program is to provide SRS members with invaluable support and established scholars the opportunity to help shape the future of the field and support new research. Responsibility for making the mentoring relationship work rests with the individual mentor/mentee, but the SRS acts as a sponsoring organization that matches mentors and mentees and suggests parameters for the relationship. The SRS aims at facilitating formal mentoring initiatives in cases where mentors and mentees do not know each other, have no clear understanding of their current expertise areas, and need help to connect.

Mentoring relationships may either be established around specific, short-term goals, such as writing a book proposal or developing strategies for acceptance into graduate schools, or may involve a series of discussions about career trajectories, publication plans, accessing libraries, archives, or fellowships, or other issues of mutual interest to the mentor and mentee. Individual pairs should agree on the nature and longevity of the commitment, but we envisage that most mentoring relationships will involve several informal conversations over a period of six months.

You can find more details about the program, including a list of potential mentors, and apply to take part as a mentor, mentee, or both, [on the SRS website](#).

Invitation to Book Launch

Title of the book: Lavinia Stan and Diane Vancea, eds. *Post-Communist Romania at Twenty-Five: Linking Past, Present, and Future*. Lexington Books, 2015.

When: 17 May, 2017 at 13:30

Where: Ovidius University in Constanța, Romania



The SRS-Polirom book series

The Studii Românești / Romanian Studies / Études Roumaines / Rumänische Studien book series has continued to grow during the past few months. In early 2017, Dr. Narcis Tulbure (Academia de Studii Economice, Bucuresti) became Assistant Editor, working together with the series Editors, Irina Livezeanu (irinal@pitt.edu) and Lavinia Stan (lstan@stfx.ca).

The series publishes quality scholarly books in Romanian authored or edited by SRS members. The Editors will consider three types of manuscripts: 1) Romanian translations of scholarly monographs already been published in a foreign language; 2) Original scholarly monographs written in Romanian; or 3) Edited collections of Romanian-language essays dealing with a unifying theme.

Book proposals should deal with Romania and/or Moldova and the populations living on their territories, or with the Romanian and Moldovan diasporas and cultures. Manuscripts should have primarily an academic profile, and a disciplinary, interdisciplinary, or multidisciplinary focus, drawing on history, political science, sociology, anthropology, law, economics, linguistics, literature, art history, or other fields. They should be based on sound and rigorous scholarly analysis, and include references and bibliography. At the same time, contributions should use a writing style free of jargon that would appeal to a wider audience. All proposals, manuscripts, and books for translation will be carefully reviewed for publication in the series.

The latest title, published in Spring 2017, is *România postcomunistă: trecut, prezent, viitor*, a volume edited by Lavinia Stan and Diane Vancea. It includes chapters signed by a number of Romanian Studies scholars from Romania and abroad: Radu Cinpoș, Monica Ciobanu, Dennis Deletant, Tom Gallagher, Peter Gross, Duncan Light, Ronald King, Cosmin Gabriel Marian, Mihaela Miroiu, Csaba Zoltan Novak, Cristina Părău, Levente Salat, Lavinia Stan, Marius Stan, Paul Sum, Vladimir Tismăneanu, Diane Vancea, Katherine Verdery, Craig Young.

Other titles published to date:

CLARK, Roland. *Sfântă tinerețe legionară. Activismul fascist în România interbelic*. Iași: Polirom, 2015.

DRAKE-FRANCIS, Alex. *Geneza culturii române moderne. Instituțiile scrisului și dezvoltarea identității naționale, 1700-1900*. Iași: Polirom, 2016.

SOLOMARI, Vladimir. *Purificarea națiunii: dislocări forțate de populație și epurări etnice în România lui Ion Antonescu, 1940-1944*. Iași: Polirom, 2015.

Forthcoming titles:

BUCUR, Maria. *Heroes and Victims. Remembering War in Twentieth Century Romania*. Indiana University Press, 2010.

Get to Know Our Scholars

BRUCE O'NEILL, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Saint Louis University and SRS Board Member

SRS: Tell us a bit about yourself.

BO: I'm a sociocultural anthropologist with a background in geography, and I've been working in Bucharest since 2006. I'm interested in the social and spatial dimensions of urban life. This means studying cities by spending long amounts of time participating and observing daily routines, conducting interviews, mapping relationships, and taking documentary photographs. My first book, *The Space of Boredom* (Duke University Press 2017) is a study of homelessness in Bucharest - homeless shelters, squatter camps, day labor markets, and transit stations where the homeless spend time. Boredom emerged as a theme after the research was well underway. The homeless' boredom is a window into the experience of displacement from a city at the very moment that its general standard of living was on the rise. People ask me if I find Bucharest boring. Bucharest is endlessly interesting to me, because my position as a foreigner with a favorable exchange rate means I'm able to get fully caught up in all that the city has to offer. Being "caught up" is a very different relationship to Bucharest than being displaced or "cast aside".



SRS: When was the first time you visited Romania? What was the purpose of your trip? What was your experience of Romania like?

BO: My first trip to Bucharest was in summer 2006. I was doing my Master's in urban geography at the London School of Economics, and I decided to write my thesis on Ceaușescu's re-development of Bucharest. The program gave us the summer to research and write, and so I went to Bucharest. I spent time touring Casa Poporului, documenting the Unirii and Lipscani areas, and exploring the wider city. I took methodological inspiration from the figure of the flâneur. I'd hop onto the Bucharest Metro, ride it to a new stop and then explore the surrounding neighbourhoods making notes and snapping photographs.

SRS: What are you working on right now research-wise?

BO: I've started researching a new book project on the urban underground in Bucharest - the lived spaces located beneath the city sidewalk. My interest is in how post-socialist urban life is taking shape in Metro stations and underground parking garages, basements, cellars, and cemetery plots. These underground developments play a role in managing Bucharest's dense population. I'm interested in how urban planners, the municipality, private developers, property owners, and real estate agents are making room and generating revenue in the city by reimagining and repurposing underground spaces. All of these efforts at planning and development carry assumptions about the people and activities that should stay on the surface of the city and those that can and should be located beneath it. I'm interested in how these efforts reorder the city materially and socially in ways that lead to literal forms of class stratification, whereby the better off live, work, or commute on top of the rest.

SRS: What new directions have you seen develop in Romanian studies recently, and where do you see the field heading in the future?

BO: Romanian studies is a multi-disciplinary field that brings together a number of exciting intellectual currents across the humanities and social sciences. Romania provides an interesting vantage point for thinking historically and comparatively about Europe. A focus on the Romanian experience is invaluable for understanding how the present is unfolding and all that there is to gain (and lose) moving forward.

SRS: What advice do you have for emerging scholars?

BO: Read widely, follow your curiosity, get out of your comfort zone, but most of all, learn to find the pleasure of research in the process and not just in the completion of it.

MARGARET BEISSINGER, Ph.D., Research Scholar and Lecturer in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Princeton University and SRS Vice-President

SRS: How have Romanian studies progressed during the course of your academic career? What role has SRS played in the field of Romanian studies?

MB: Romanian studies have expanded significantly since I became involved in the SRS as a student in the 1980s. Under communism, it was difficult for Americans to do research and fieldwork in Romania due to the tight governmental control of virtually everything. Topics that American scholars and students could pursue there were closely watched. After 1990, it became much easier to ask questions and seek answers in Romania. The freedom to speak openly and increased availability of resources have had a major impact on possibilities for scholarship. Most of the SRS members when I joined several decades ago were Americans. There were far fewer scholars from Romania in the American academy or the SRS since so few emigrated at that time. After 1989, this also changed. The Romanian scholarly community has increased significantly on this side of the Atlantic—a trend that continues. The SRS now mirrors overall greater international cooperation especially between North Americans, Romanians, and Moldovans.



Ever since I was a student, the SRS has been the major scholarly organization devoted to the study of Romania and has played an important role in promoting dialogue among scholars in North America as well as between them and scholars in Romania and Moldova. Over the years, I have seen the SRS evolve considerably. Its scope has expanded as the SRS international conference, prizes, and SRS-Polirom book series have become SRS institutions. Most recently, the SRS Mentoring Program has been initiated, and the *Journal of Romanian Studies* was just negotiated by the SRS and *Ibidem*; the initial volume will be issued in 2018. The membership has also grown (including among graduate students) and members are participating more actively now than ever. The SRS has been crucial to the study of Romania in North America and has provided a space for scholars to converse with

each other, become informed about Romanian studies, and expand their overall knowledge of Eastern Europe. It has been a great source of support and community for me over the many years that I have been involved.

SRS: Tell us a bit about your most recent publication(s).

MB: First, I'd like to share how I became interested in Romania. As an undergraduate at Harvard University I majored in Folklore and Mythology and studied with Albert Lord, who had investigated oral epic in Yugoslavia and recorded scores of heroic epic songs performed by Bosnian Muslim traditional poets. In the meantime, a Romanian professor at Harvard at that time, Nicolae Iliescu (a Dante scholar), opened my eyes to Romanian language and literature. I went to Romania for the first time in the 1970s, realized I wanted to spend more time there, and eventually decided to explore Romanian oral epic still heard then at weddings. For my doctoral dissertation (advised by Lord and Iliescu at Harvard), I collected epic songs, a genre performed by *lăutari*—professional, male, Romani singers and musicians. Doing fieldwork in Romania during the Ceaușescu years was very difficult since not only was I an American studying in Romania (already a suspicious undertaking) but I was associating with Romani singers, members of an ethnic community that wasn't even recognized by the communist regime. Working with Roma at that time was essentially taboo.

In 1991 I published *The Art of the Lăutar: The Epic Tradition of Romania*, a product of my hard-earned fieldwork in the 1980s. By the time I returned to Romania after the 1989 revolution, the restrictions that had surrounded fieldwork by Americans had subsided, and the intellectual atmosphere had changed radically. Altogether I could go where and when I wanted and be with whomever I pleased—no more security agents following my every step! So I proceeded in the 1990s to explore other genres and topics related to *lăutari*. Given the massive social and political changes that December 1989 brought, music and song performed by *lăutari* in the 1990s evolved considerably. Moreover, Romani genres were no longer banned, and the study of Romani culture was no longer obstructed.

My most recent publications reflect my ongoing interests in *lăutar* performance and culture, comparative Balkan oral traditions, and epic. I coedited with Speranța Rădulescu and Anca Giurchescu a volume on *Manele in Romania: Cultural Expression and Social Meaning in Balkan Popular Music*. I wrote the introduction and two chapters. In one, based on fieldwork since the 1990s, I discuss how *manele* (Romanian Balkan ethnopop songs) have been adopted and adapted among southern Romanian village *lăutari* (“Village *Manele*: An Urban Genre in Rural Romania”). The other is representative of my comparative work in Balkan culture (“Romanian *Manele* and Regional Parallels: “Oriental” Ethnopop in the Balkans”); here I juxtapose *manele* with Serbian *turbo-folk* and Bulgarian *chalga*, with particular interest paid to the performers and content of the song lyrics. Two articles due to come out this year (2017) also exemplify my current research. One is based on fieldwork among *lăutari* who are “*pocăiți*” yet struggle with this religious commitment that “interferes” with their strong *lăutar* professional and cultural identity: “Religious Faith and Identity in Contemporary Romania: Pentecostal Conversion among Traditional Romani Musicians.” The other piece concerns how ritual kinship and its prohibition of incest are portrayed normatively in oral narrative poetry that is performed at weddings (“Spiritual Kinship, Incest, and Traditional Weddings:

Honor, Shame, and Cultural Boundaries in Romanian Marriage Songs”). In the meantime, I’m working on a book project on *lăutari* in post-1989 southern Romania.

SRS: What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

MB: I enjoy reading novels, going to concerts (especially chamber music), cooking, knitting, and spending time with my family (husband and two 20-something kids). Also, depending on how concerned I am about the political climate, particularly in the U.S. (such as now—in fact, I’ve never been more concerned and alarmed as I am at present), I turn, for better or for worse, into a news junkie . . .

SRS: Do you have a favorite book? If so, which one is it and why?

MB: My favorite scholarly book is the seminal *Singer of Tales* by Albert Lord because he provides such a vivid account of the performance and mechanics of South Slavic oral epic and so elegantly puts forth the theory of oral composition, which has profoundly affected the study of traditional poetry. I have quite a few favorite novels, among them *Anna Karenina* (Tolstoy), *Emma* (Austen), *Jane Eyre* (Brontë), and *Far From the Madding Crowd* (Hardy)—all of them engaging narratives about 19th-century women (which I relate to). I also love *The Bridge on the Drina* by Ivo Andrić, who was a brilliant storyteller and whose tales of Balkan culture resonate deeply.

Member News

FLORIN ABRAHAM received the “Academic Merit” diploma with distinction from the Romanian Academy in 2016 for the volume *Romania since the Second World War: A Political, Social and Economic History*. London, New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2016.

IONUȚ BUTOI was awarded the “Gheorghe Brătianu” Prize by the Society for Historical Sciences in Romania for *Mircea Vulcănescu. A microhistory of Romanian interwar* (2015).

MARCEL CORNIS-POPE received the Elske V.P. Smith Lecturer Award from the College of Humanities, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2015.

DONALD DYER in December 2016 completed 11 years (2005-2016) as Chair of the Department of Modern Languages at the University of Mississippi, and in January 2017 became Associate Dean for Faculty and Academic Affairs in UM's College of Liberal Arts. In January, he returned with 16 other scholars of Balkan and South Slavic Linguistics to The Ohio State University for the 20th anniversary conference for the Kenneth E. Naylor, Jr. Lecture Series. He delivered the lecture “‘Indeterminedly Definite’ after All These Years: A Tribute to Naylor 1983.” His article “Making Things Specific and More Specific: Information Packaging, Determinedness and Intonation in the Bulgarian Sentence,” will appear latter this year in a special memorial volume of the *Southern Journal of Linguistics* dedicated to Rebecca L. Moreton.

MIHAI DINU GHEORGHIU is the editor of the *Psihologia Social* review. All numbers, including the two which were published in 2016, are available at: <http://www.oiss.ro/publicatii/revista-psihologia-sociala/arhiva-psihologia-sociala/>.

GRANT G. HARRIS was promoted in February to Chief of the European Division of the Library of Congress. In January 2008, he became head of the European Reading Room.

KATHERINE VERDERY was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Bucharest in October 2016. She has also been offered one from Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, as has Gail Kligman (Dates are pending).

Member Publications

BĂRBULESCU, Elena. "Farewell to Communism but Leave the Hospital Here," *Transylvanian Review*. Supplement No.1, vol. 25 (2016): 7-15.

BUCUR, Maria. "From Invisibility to Marginality: Women's History in Romania." *Women's History Review* (2016).

_____. "Intimate Politics under Communism in Romania," in Catherine Baker, ed. *Gender in Twentieth-Century Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union*. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2016.

_____. "The Economics of Citizenship: Gender Regimes and Property Rights in Romania in the 20th Century," in Anne Epstein and Rachel Fuchs, eds. *Gender and Citizenship in Historical and Transnational Perspective*. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2016.

_____. "Women and State Socialism: Failed Promises and Radical Changes Revisited," Review Essay. *Nationalities Papers*. 44, no. 5 (September 2016): 847–55.

_____. "Romanian Literature: Fascism to Erotica," *Times Literary Supplement*, 13 December, 2016.

BUTOI, Ionuț. *Mircea Vulcănescu. A microhistory of Romanian interwar*. Bucharest: Editura Eikon, 2015.

CERCEL, Cristian. *Romania and the Quest for European Identity: Philo-Germanism without Germans*. Taylor & Francis, 2017.

CORNIS-POPE, Marcel. *Narrative Innovation and Cultural Rewriting in the Cold War Era and After* (Chinese Translation). Beijing: Beijing Yanziyue Culture & Art Studio, 2017.

_____. "European Fiction on the Borders: The Case of Herta Müller," in Andrew Hammond, ed. *The Novel and Europe: Imagining the Continent in Post-1945 Fiction*. London: Palgrave/Macmillan, 2016.

_____. "Paradigme dinamice în culturile literare dinainte și după 1989: Postmodernism, postcomunism, postcolonialitate și translingvism" *Reflex* vol. 18, no. 1-6 (January-June 2016): 45-51.

_____. "On Writing Multicultural Literary History Focused on the Novel and Other Genres." *Euphorion* 1 (2016): 28-34.

DAMIAN, Theodor. *The Idea of God in the Poetry of Eminescu* (Romanian edition). Bucharest: Eikon, 2016.

_____. "Lazăre, vino afară." *Junimea*. Iassy, 2016.

_____. "Being Constantly Watched: Identity, Transparency and Perichoresis." *The 23rd Ecumenical Theological and Interdisciplinary Symposium*, vol. 23, no. 1, (2016): 5-21.

_____. "Nevoia de a te uita înapoi." *Gracious Light, Review of Romanian Spirituality and Culture*, vol. 12, no. 1 (January-March 2017): 5-8.

_____. "Gregory of Nazianzus' Poetical Legacy." *Romanian Medievalia*, vol. 14 (2016): 7-15.

_____. "De Hominis Dignitate in Gregory of Nazianzus' Poetry." *Romanian Medievalia*, vol. 14 (2016): 29-44.

DELETANT, Denis. *Ceaușescu and the Securitate: Coercion and Dissent in Romania, 1965-1989*. Taylor & Francis, 2016.

DUMITRU, Diana. *The State, Antisemitism, and Collaboration in the Holocaust. The Borderlands of Romania and the Soviet Union*. Cambridge University Press, 2016.

GLAJAR, Valentine, Corina PETRESCU, and Alison Lewis, eds. *Secret Police Files from the Eastern Bloc between Surveillance and Life Writing*. Boydell & Brewer, 2016.

MARTON, Silvia. *„Republica de la Ploiești“ și începuturile parlamentarismului în România*. Bucharest: Humanitas, 2016.

NEGURĂ, Petru, Sergiu Musteață, Diana Dumitru, Andrei Cusco, Igor Cașu, and Octavian Munteanu, eds. *Plural. History, Culture, Society*. vol. 4, no. 2 (2016).

O'NEILL, Bruce. *The Space of Boredom: Homelessness in the Slowing Global Order*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2017.

PECHLIVANIS, Paschalis. "Between Détente and Differentiation: Nixon's visit to Bucharest in August 1969." *Cold War History* (2017).

POPESCU, Liliana. "Europeanization of Romanian Foreign Policy," in Henry F. Carey, ed. *The Challenges of European Governance in the Age of Economic Stagnation, Immigration, and Refugees*. Maryland: Lexington Books/ Rowman & Littlefield, 2017.

TOMA, Valentin-Veron. "Work and occupation in Romanian psychiatry, c. 1838–1945," in Ernst Waltraud, ed. *Work psychiatry and society, c. 1750-2015*. Manchester University Press, 2016.

ȚUGLEA, Mircea. *Literarsura*. Galați: Editura Academică, 2016.

_____. *Jivina, divina*. Editura Agol, 2016.

ZAVATTI, Francesco. "Writing History in a Propaganda Institute. Political Power and Network Dynamics in Communist Romania." (Ph.D. diss.) Huddinge: Södertörn University Publishing, 2016.

Non-Member Publications

Ban, Cornel. *Ruling Ideas: How Global Neoliberalism Goes Local*. Oxford University Press, 2016.

Bogdan, Jolan. *Performative contradiction and the Romanian revolution*. Rowman & Littlefield, 2017.

Dobre, Claudia-Florentina and Antonovici, Valeriu, eds. *Prezentul comunismului: memorie culturală și abordări istoriografice*. Oradea: Editura Ratio et Revelatio, 2016.

Dorondel, Ștefan. *Disrupted landscapes: state, peasants, and the politics of land in postsocialist Romania*. Berghahn Books, 2016.

Filimon, Monica. *Cristi Puiu*. University of Illinois Press, 2017.

Hamlin, David. *Germany's Empire in the East: Germans and Romania in an Era of Globalization and Total War*. Cambridge University Press, 2017.

Hill, Virginia. *Verb movement and clause structure in Old Romanian*. Oxford University Press, 2016.

Kaplan, Robert. *In Europe's shadow: two cold wars and a thirty-year journey through Romania and beyond*. Random House, 2016.

Maxim, Juliana. *The Socialist Life of Modern Architecture: Bucharest, 1947-1965*. Routledge, 2017.

Miroiu, Andrei. *Romanian Counterinsurgency and Its Global Context, 1944-1962*. Palgrave Pivot, 2016.

Pana Dindelegan, Gabriela. *Syntax of Old Romanian*. Oxford University Press, 2016.

Surdu, Mihai. *Those Who Count: Expert Practices of Roma Classification*. Central European University, 2016.

Varga, Mihai. *Worker Protests in Post-Communist Romania and Ukraine: Striking with tied hands*. Manchester University Press, 2016.

SRS Membership Announcement

We use dues to help with monetary prizes for outstanding publications and to budget and pay for the cost of our upcoming 8th International Conference, which will be held in Romania in 2018. In addition, members play a vital role in the Society by supporting our membership program, submitting manuscripts for the *Journal of Romanian Studies*, proposing nominations for the prizes, and getting to vote on the officers and Board members.

You may renew your membership or join SRS, at the SRS website:

(<http://www.society4romanianstudies.org/membership/how-to-join>) by using paypal, or by mail. Contributions from lifetime members are most welcome. Organizational sponsors and patrons may be approved by the Board on a case by case basis. Member organizations do not have a vote but their support will be acknowledged by SRS. Please send your dues and/or donations directly by check (made out to SRS) to:

William Crowther	Dues
Department of Political Science	Free first year for graduate students \$10 for renewing graduate \$25 for a regular membership
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	\$45 for joint SRS/SEESA membership
UNCG P.O. Box 26170	\$37 for joint SRS/RSAA membership
Greensboro, NC 27402-6170	\$50 for sustainers \$100 for sponsors \$300 for patrons

Joining H-Romania

H-Romania is now in its third year of operation, with around 280 subscribers to the network. We have published over a dozen reviews of books written in English, Romanian, German, and Serbian, in disciplines ranging from history to anthropology to literature, with many more titles on the way. While we are happy with our progress thus far, we still have room to grow and improve. We want to encourage SRS members to join H-Romania and publicize the network across the broad field of Romanian Studies. Please feel free to contribute postings and announcements, notify us of any recently published books and calls for papers/applications in your field, and volunteer to review books and report on conferences.

To join H-Romania (and set up an H-Net account), follow these steps:

1. Go to <https://networks.h-net.org/>, click on "Sign up to subscribe & contribute" atop the right-hand column of the webpage.
2. On the Sign-up page, enter your First Name, Last Name, and E-mail address. Then click the box labeled "Accept Terms & Conditions of Use." You will also be asked to enter a series of numbers or letters into a Spam Protection tool, in order to verify that you're an actual person attempting to register. Finally, click "Create new account'."
3. Once you've created an H-Net account and profile, you can then go to the H-Romania page <https://networks.h-net.org/h-romania>.
4. In the right-hand column, next to an icon of an envelope, click "Subscribe to this network to join the discussion." You can then complete your H-Net profile, indicating institutional affiliation, degrees, short bio and areas of interest, by clicking on the accounts icon in the upper right, then selecting the "Profile" option from the drop-down menu.

We would also like to take this opportunity to invite new network and book-review editors. Please contact Chris Davis rcdavis@mail.h-net.msu.edu if you are interested in joining the H-Romania editorial team.

About the Society of Romanian Studies

The Society for Romanian Studies (SRS) is an international inter-disciplinary academic organization founded in 1973 to promote professional study, criticism, and research on all aspects of Romanian culture and society, particularly concerning the countries of Romania and Moldova. The SRS is generally recognized as the major professional organization for North American scholars concerned with Romania and Moldova. It is affiliated with the [South East European Studies Association \(SEESA\)](#); the [Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies \(ASEEES-- formerly known as the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies or AAASS\)](#); the [American Political Science Association \(APSA\)](#); the [American Historical Association \(AHA\)](#); and the [Romanian Studies Association of America \(RSAA\)](#).

More information about the SRS, including current officers, the national board, and membership information, can be found on the SRS [website](#).

If you have any recent activities to report (publications, conferences organized, etc.) please email such information to the Newsletter Editors, Ana Fumurescu and Cristina Plămădeală (s.romanian.studiesnewsletter@gmail.com).