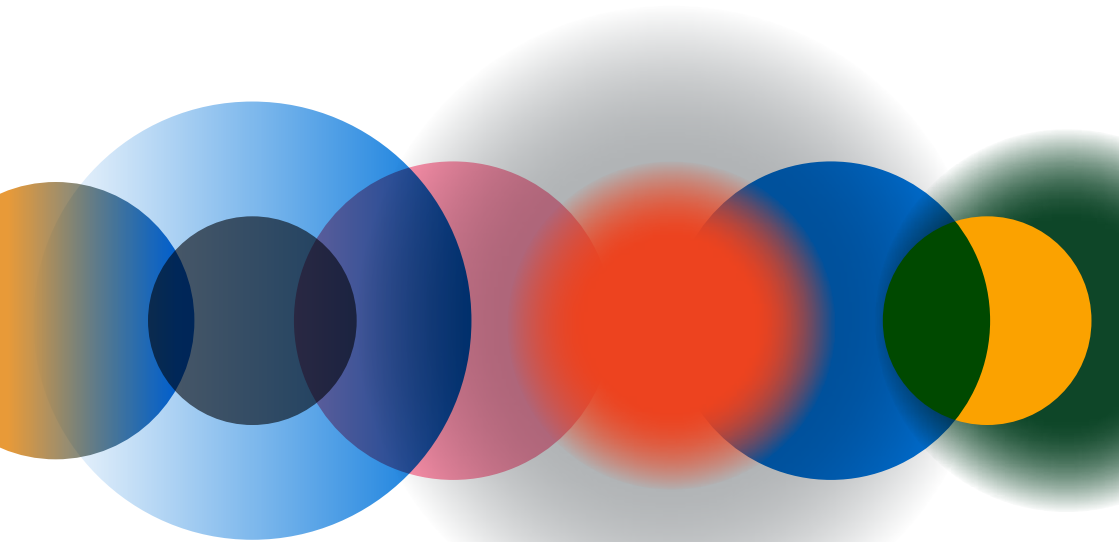


International conference

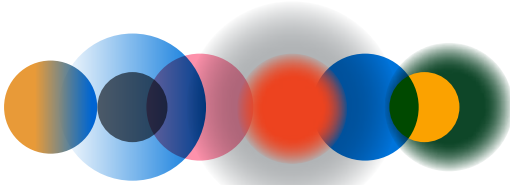
Cultural Pluralism and Identity in European Politics after 1945



Cluj–Napoca

17–19 May 2022

Aula Ferdinand, Napoca Street 11



International conference

Cultural Pluralism and Identity in European Politics after 1945

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The aim of the conference is to discuss, historically and comparatively, the concept of cultural – national, ethnic and religious – identities and their role in the domestic, transnational and supranational European policies and politics, from 1945 until now.

The question of cultural identities had a significant impact on 20th-century European history and has continued to be an important legacy since the post-war era, through the post-Cold-War and post-communist times, right up until the 21st century. Fascist regimes, and in particular Nazism, defined cultural identities from a racial perspective, whereby entire ethno-cultural groups were considered 'inferior', doomed to exclusion or even annihilation. Stalinism wanted to invent the 'Socialist nation', thereby traditional identities were in fact annulled in the name of creating the New Mankind. The fall of the Iron Curtain resulted in a major revival of cultural diversity in the former Eastern Bloc, while the exacerbation of cultural differences in the post-authoritarian Yugoslavia led to the state's dissolution and bloody conflicts. In the 21st century, the construction of the European Union is linked to the acceptance of differences as regards cultural identity, one element of its cohesion being the creation of a space of democracy, solidarity and peace .

Cultural identities can be defined through various legal and political documents, statements and acts authored by both national states and supranational actors. Self-definitions of cultural groups may also respond to state and institutional policies. Finally, grass-roots actors are able to actively influence policies at national, transnational and supranational level. We will discuss these multidirectional relations between cultural identities and politics, including both the top-down perspective of state policy (by state representatives), ranging from practices of discrimination to assimilation and integration, including granting autonomy; the perspective of the activities of different local groups and NGOs, activists, journalists and academics; last but not least, the broader perspective of international organizations, such as the European Union.

Conference Programme

17 May 2022

14:00-14:30

Welcome speeches

Marcela Sălăgean (Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University; member of the Advisory Board, European Network Remembrance and Solidarity)

Ovidiu Ghitta (Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University)

Florin Abraham (National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest; member of the Steering Committee, European Network Remembrance and Solidarity)

Annemarie Franke (The Federal Institute for Culture and History of the Germans in Eastern Europe; European Network Remembrance and Solidarity)

Gábor Danyi (European Network Remembrance and Solidarity)

14:35-15:30

Opening Lecture

History as a *casus belli*: the historical roots of the Russia war against Ukraine

Georgiy Kasianov (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin)

Moderator: Ioan-Marius Bucur (Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University)

15:30- 15:50

Coffee break

15:50-18:20

Panel 1:

European integration and concepts of European cultural identity – between synergy and conflict, unity, and pluralism

Moderator: Ioan-Marius Bucur (Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University)

15:50-16:10

From Geosemantics to Geopolitics in the
Process of EU Enlargement

Anneli Ute Gabanyi [German Institute for International Politics and Security
SWP, Berlin]

16:10-16:30

Cultural Identity in the Debates on Founding and
Reforming the European Union

Florin Abraham [National University of Political Studies and Public
Administration, Bucharest]

16:30-16:50

From the Return to Europe framework to the
contestation of the European cultural identity.
The Polish debate on the European identity

Olga Gontarska [German Historical Institute, Warsaw]

16:50-17:10

Dissenting Identity

Jonathan Lahey Dronsfield [Independent researcher]

17:10-17:30

ErinnerungsFUTUR [Future of Memory] Towards
a Pluralistic Culture of Remembrance

Max Czollek [Institute for Disintegration]

17:30-18:00

Discussions

18:30-20:30

**Dinner offered by the Faculty of History and
Philosophy (Babeş-Bolyai University),
at "Piramida" Restaurant**

Conference Programme

18 May 2022

09:30-11:20

Panel 2:

National cultures and identities in European discourses and policies

Moderator: Mihai Alexandrescu (Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University)

09:30-09:50

Identity formation compared: Central, Eastern and Western Europe over the long 19th century [online]

Catherine Horel (CNRS – French National Centre for Scientific Research; CETOBAC, Paris)

09:50-10:10

European integration and concepts of European cultural identity – between synergy and conflict, unity, and pluralism [online]

Jurij Serebriansky (Warmia and Mazury University in Olsztyn)

10:10-10:30

“And you will know the truth and the truth will set you free”: Judeo-Christian identity and emotional conflict in Holocaust and Communist memory in Sighet [online]

Victoria Nesfield (York St John University)

10:30-10:50

National Cultural Identity in the Process of Romanian European Integration. Case Study: The Presidential Elections in the First PostCommunist Decade

Marius Muresan (Babeş-Bolyai University)

10:50-11:20

Discussions

11:20-11:40

Coffee Break

11:40-13:10

Panel 3:

Conceptualizing regional cultures in European discourses and policies

Moderator: Virgiliu Țărău [Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University]

11:40-12:00

Transylvania and its myths

Ovidiu Pecican [Faculty of European Studies, Babeş-Bolyai University]

12:00-12:20

The Transylvanian network: The Construction of the Transylvania cult in Hungary, 1920-1970

Balázs Ablonczy [Institute of History, Research Center for the Humanities, Eötvös Loránd Research Network]

12:20-12:40

Kalotaszeg, the identity of an emblematic region in Transylvania

Balázs Balogh [Institute of Ethnology, Research Centre for the Humanities, Eötvös Loránd Research Network]

12:40-13:10

Discussions

13:15-14:45

Lunch

15:00-19:00

Documentary tour [visiting the old city centre, the Transylvanian Museum of Ethnography, places of memory]

19:00-20:30

Dinner

Conference Programme

19 May 2022

09:30-11:20

Panel 4:

Cultural pluralism on the state level – historical context of inner cultural diversities, past and present political models of cohabitation

Moderator: Burkhard Olschowsky (Federal Institute for Culture and History of the Germans in Eastern Europe)

09:30-09:50

Ritualised trans-local networking in the Second Yugoslavia

Nikola Baković (Independent researcher)

09:50-10:10

European Cultural Heritage – a new form of cultural identity creation?

Melinda Harlov-Csörtán (Apor Vilmos Catholic College)

10:10-10:30

Ukrainian Language VS Minority Languages in Ukraine: State and Status

Liudmyla Pidkuimukha (Justus Liebig University Giessen)

10:30-10:50

The cultural minorities from Turkey and the European laws

Emilia Nicoleta Schiop (Faculty of European Studies, Babeş-Bolyai University)

10:50-11:20

Discussions

10:50-11:20

Coffee Break

11:40-13:30

Panel 5:

Reconciliation processes: good practices and challenges; examples of the integrative and non-conflicting approach

Moderator: Mihai Alexandrescu (Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University)

11:40-12:00

The Promise of Diversity. Local minorities and state politics in the Alsace

Annemarie Franke (The Federal Institute for Culture and History of the Germans in Eastern Europe, European Network Remembrance and Solidarity)

12:00-12:20

Reconciliation processes in the Western Balkans, Through European Union Integration: Younger Generations Perspectives

Renis Meta (University of Tirana, Faculty of Social Sciences)

12:20-12:40

Remembering the Specific Models of Political Integration of Ethnic and National Minorities in the Communist Regime - Between Politics of Memory and Post-1989 Collective Identity Narratives. Case Study: the Hungarian National Minority of Romania

Tamás Lönhárt (Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University)

12:40-13:00

Romanian-Hungarian conciliation and reconciliation

Marcela Sălăgean (Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University)

13:00-13:30

Discussions and Conclusions of the Conference

The conference programme:



Organizers:



UNIVERSITATEA BABES-BOLYAI
BABES-BOLYAI TUDOMÁNYEGYETEM
BABES-BOLYAI UNIVERSITÄT
BABES-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY
TRADITIO ET EXCELLENTIA



**European Network
Remembrance
and Solidarity**



**FACULTATEA DE
ISTORIE ȘI FILOSOFIE**

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