



Sociologie Românească

ISSN: 2668-1455 (print), ISSN: 1220-5389 (electronic)

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE STATE AND SOCIETY IN EUROPE, 12TH EDITION, ORGANIZED BY “ALEXANDRU AND ARISTIA AMAN” DOLJ COUNTY LIBRARY, CRAIOVA, ROMANIA, 23RD TO 26TH OCTOBER 2019

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Sociologie Românească, 2019, vol. 17, Issue 2, pp. 137-140

<https://doi.org/10.33788/sr.17.2.8>

Published by:
Expert Projects Publishing House



On behalf of:
Asociația Română de Sociologie

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Simona Mihaiu¹, Constantin Crăițoiu²

Abstract

Between 23rd and 26th October 2019, “Alexandru and Aristia Aman” Dolj County Library and “Alexandru and Aristia Aman” Foundation of Craiova - courtesy of Dolj County Council, in partnership with other cultural and of higher education and scientific institutions research, organized the 12th edition of the international scientific conference “State and Society in Europe”. In the course of the event, keynote addresses, parallel sessions, book launch, round table, parallel workshops, and exhibitions took place. Through the diversity and topicality of the scientific themes addressed, the manifestation brought together over 120 participants from 11 countries such as Albania, Greece, Serbia and, as expected, Romania. During the four days of the conference, participants had the opportunity to debate research results from different thematic areas and academic or university centres in Central and Eastern Europe. At the same time, this scientific event facilitated the intercultural dialogue which, in this globalized world, contributed to the mutual knowledge of the participants. After more than a decade of organizing annually, this conference has become of a tradition in disseminating the results obtained by the international scientific community.

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From 23rd to 26th October 2019, “Alexandru and Aristia Aman” Dolj County Library and “Alexandru and Aristia Aman” Foundation from Craiova, courtesy of Dolj County Council, in partnership with the Section of Archaeological and Historical Sciences of the Romanian Academy of Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences, the Faculty of Letters, the Faculty of Orthodox Theology from the University of Craiova and the Institute of Socio-Human Research “C. S. Nicolaescu Ploșor” of the Romanian Academy, organized the 12th edition of the international scientific conference “State and Society in Europe”. On this occasion, the event’s organizers invited participants to reflect at the impact that social sciences research has upon society, both the international and local levels, by understanding the past and by shaping the future. The conference took place to the “Alexandru and Aristia Aman” Dolj County Library, in Craiova, str. M. Kogalniceanu 9, starting from 9:30.

The format of the conference has included keynotes addresses, parallel sessions, book launch, round table, parallel workshops, and exhibitions. The languages used were Romanian and English.

At the event, the official opening was prefaced by a series of speeches supported by: Ion Prioteasa, President of the Dolj County Council, Romania; His Eminence Irineu, PhD, Archbishop of Craiova and Mitropolit of Oltenia, Romania; Acad. Radu Ciuceanu, PhD, Director of the National Institute for the Study of Totalitarianism of the Romanian Academy, Romania; Nicolae Panea, PhD, Vice-Rector, University of Craiova, Romania; Apostolos Patelakis, PhD, Institute for Balkan Studies Thessaloniki, Greece; Gheorghe Onișoru, PhD, “Ștefan cel Mare” University, Romania; Lucian Dindirică, PhD, Manager, “Alexandru and Aristia Aman Dolj County Library”, Romania; Constantin Crăițoiu, PhD, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Craiova, Romania. Particularly varied and topical in terms of theme, the event brought together over 120 participants from 11 countries such as Romania, Greece, Albania, Serbia, etc.

As we were used to, the event organizers kept the tradition of thematic exhibitions. Thus, during the official opening ceremony of the conference, Magdalena Butucea opened the exhibition “Peace Museum Romania”, the first “Peace Museum in South-East Europe”, respectively the first “Mobile Peace Museum in the World”, an integral part of the “International Network of Museums for Peace”. The idea of setting up, but also of the mobility of this museum, belongs to its founder, Magdalena Butucea. “Peace Museum Romania” promotes peace and human rights, by presenting prominent personalities of the world who have contributed and contribute to the defense of peace, freedom and human rights.

Following the official opening, the plenary session took place, during which the auditor had the honor to listen to three remarkable communications: *Women in the Islamic World: Past and Present*, PhD Ema Mijlković, Faculty of Philology, Belgrade University, Serbia; *Brief History of Hellenism in Romania*, PhD Apostolos Patelakis, Institute for Balkan Studies, Thessaloniki; Efstratios Dordanas, *The*

German Empire, its Allies and its Enemies in the Balkans during WWI, PhD, Department of Balkan, Slavic and Oriental Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece, and *Emigration of Koutscovlach Population from Greek Macedonia to Romania during Interwar Period*, PhD Vlasidis Vlasios, Department of Balkan, Slavic and Oriental Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece.

After plenary debates, the six parallel sections were held that brought together topics in areas such as *Identity, Family and Delinquency in the Romanian Society; Cultural Studies; Philology; Social Deviation and Virtual Interaction; History, International Relations and Politics, and also, Orthodox Theology*.

It should be noted that the conference included a series of three workshops, as well as five lectures concerning the Romanian village, wooden churches and their latter importance from a cultural and heritage point of view.

Within the sections entitled *Identity, Family and Delinquency in the Romanian Society* and *Social Deviation and Virtual Interaction*, which we moderated along with PhD Ștefan Ghenea, the presentations and the debates covered important topics of scientific knowledge. In the first section, the most interesting exposures focused on symbols of national identity; socio-cultural dimensions of the pilgrimage; building parental identity in relation to the child; legal and moral responsibilities of parents working abroad; the evolution of crime in Romania after 1989; the relationship between the use of technology and increasing the quality of life of children with disabilities, respectively on the role of authority and discipline in the educational process of children. The second section included topics such as cybercrime prevention and cyberspace; social mediation as a working method for ensuring the psychosocial health of the family; the psycho-linguistic prototype and the social interaction, respectively corporal punishment and anxiety symptoms on children.

In the last part of the scientific event, there was a very topical debate, entitled “From the Anti-EU Discourse to Fake. Fake news in the Digital Era”, held at a round table dedicated to understanding and combating the worrying phenomenon of fake news. Among the sustained communications, the following were noted: *About the anti-European Discourse*, Marian Jean Marinescu, European Deputy, Romania; *The Danger of Fake News for the Security of a State*, Iulian Fota, PhD Security Expert, “Mihai Viteazul” National Academy of Information, Romania, and *Fake News in the Digital Age*, Alexandru Petrescu, Minister of Communications and Information Society, Romanian Government, Romania.

The “State and Society in Europe” conference facilitated the international dissemination of research results from different thematic areas, and academic and university centres in Central and Eastern Europe, and the intercultural dialogue, which, in this globalized world, contributed to the mutual knowledge of the participants. Certainly, a scientific manifestation like this, organized for more than a decade, plays a very important role in shaping and updating the results obtained

by the international scientific community. In this regard, the organizers of the conference encourage researchers, teachers and other specialists, to share their professional experiences in 2020, and to contribute, through the thematic approach, to the development of the multidisciplinary perspective of scientific knowledge.

All information concerning the conference, author details, participant presentations, event schedule and summaries of recorded communications, have been gathered in *Aman's Book of Abstracts*, a scientific support available for consultation and download on the event website: <https://sse.conferences.faaa.ro/>.