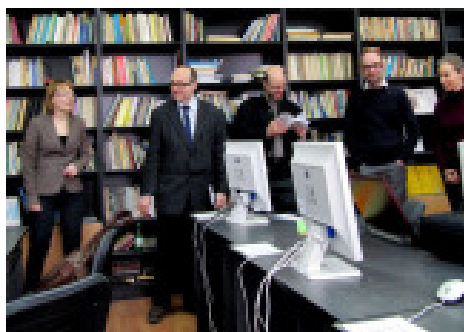


International conference
« Nouvelles approches des frontières culturelles »
4-6 March 2010, Oradea, Romania

Currently, two research teams at the Universities of Metz and Nancy in the field of Humanities and Social Sciences coordinate an interdisciplinary research project (NAFTES) that has expanded internationally since 2008 by joining more and more European and international universities. The coordinator of the project is Prof. Dr. Didier Francfort from the University of Nancy2.

The University of Oradea has been a partner in the project since 2009 through the Faculty of History, Geography and International Relations.

Given the context, according to the NAFTES schedule, in March 2009, an international conference on *Nouvelles approches des frontières culturelles (New Approaches on Cultural Borders)* was hosted by the University of Oradea through the Faculty of History, Geography and International Relations represented by Prof. Dr. Ioan Horga, as well as the Institute for Euroregional Studies Oradea - Debrecen and the University Nancy 2. The event brought together researchers from different universities throughout Europe and Central Asia (Oradea - Romania, Nancy - France, Strasbourg - France, Warsaw - Poland, Metz - France, Istanbul - Turkey, Turku - Finland, Saint-Quentin en Yvelines - France, Oslo - Norway, Baku - Azerbaijan, Pantheon University of Athens - Greece).



According to the terms of the project, the scientific event in Oradea approached a currently highly debated issue, the issue of cultural borders in a general context, when physical borders tend to fade away. During the debates, several theoretical aspects on the European cultural borders were approached, as well as practical issues, case studies envisaging UNESCO's involvement in the matter, the situation of Turkey, Georgia, Portugal and Romania, and the issue of interculturality on the artistic level (dance, music, and gastronomy). Some of the papers presented during the session have been chosen to be published in issue no. 9 of the *Eurolimes Journal* focused on the topic of *The Cultural Borders of Europe*.

The event has had continuity particularly on the level of academic collaboration between Oradea and Nancy also providing the opportunity to enlarge the relations of the University of Oradea with universities in Europe and Central Asia. There were also discussions on starting new projects, such as the partnership between the Tara Crisurilor Museum in Oradea and the Luneville Castle lying 25 km away from Nancy, France.

The meeting ended with the visit to the most important tourist attractions in Oradea: the Vulturul Negru Palace, the Moon Church, the Tara Crisurilor Museum, St. Nicolas Church, the synagogue, the fortress

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International Conference
“Regional Development and Territorial Cooperation in Central and Eastern
Europe in the context of the CoR White Paper on Multilevel Governance”
(Oradea, Romanian, 20-21 May 2010)

Regional development is the main challenge for the states from the area of Central and Eastern Europe after their accession to the European Union, and territorial cooperation is an efficient means for the harmonious and balanced integration of the EU's territories, with a view to modernize the regions lacking economic and social development. With the major goal of promoting economic, social and territorial cohesion, the EU's economic development policy supports the efforts by each Member State of mitigating the interregional disparities through transfers of financial resources to the backward regions. Multilevel governance engages, at the highest level, the participation of the regional and local authorities to the elaboration and implementation of the development programs and plans; hence, the initiative of the Committee of the Regions (CoR) to open up a large debate forum on the subject of the involvement of the sub-national authorities was well received by the entire spectrum of stakeholders, from the regional and



local levels to the business community, civil society and academic field. The conference is part of the public debate initiated by the CoR starting June 2009 and ending in September 2010.

The Institute for Euroregional Studies (IERS) of the University of Oradea (coordinated by Professor Ioan Horga, PhD.) could take the credit for being one of the most active European institutions engaged in the debate. After being the only Romanian institution and among the very few within Central Europe which expressed a clear point of view on the White Paper of the Multilevel Governance of the Committee of Regions (in December 2009, see [vezi www. cor.europa.eu/pages/event Template.aspx](http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/eventTemplate.aspx)) through this conference, IERS, having previously earned its status as an European centre of excellence in the field of regional studies and regional cooperation, partook in the second stage of debating on the White Paper of the CoR. The current debate was organized by four research structures of the most important Romanian universities, with expertise within the European problems: The Institute for Euroregional Studies of the University of Oradea, The “Altiero Spinelli” Centre for the Study of European Governance of Babes Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, The Academic Club for European Studies (CASE) of the National School for Political and Administrative Studies Bucharest, The “Alicide de Gasperi” Centre for European Studies of the Western University of Timisoara. The conference was attended, by the partner Universities of Debrecen/Hungary and Uzshorod/Ukraine, plus another 27 representative authors from the academic environment of Hungary, Poland, Ukraine, Italy, Moldova, Portugal, Spain, France, together with the Vice-President of the Group of Research and Action for European Neighbourhood Policy, Brussels; this not only proves the conference high standards, but also the organizers' capacity of mobilizing, for debate purposes, different points of view from various countries, both member states and non-members of the EU (Ukraine).

The conference brought together 82 papers presented in plenary meetings and two workshops: Regional Development: Performances and Perspectives; Territorial Cooperation and *CoR White Paper on Multilevel Governance*.

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**International Symposium
Imperial Politics in the East and West of the Romanian Space
Oradea - Chişinău, 3rd edition, 10-13 June 2010**

Although it is too early to give the final ruling, we can state that progress has been made by the Romanian historiography further to the scientific partnership between the University of Oradea, Faculty of History, Geography and International Relations, and the State University of Moldova, the Romanian Academy, through the Centre for Transylvanian Studies and the “Țării Crişurilor” Museum in Oradea. The accomplishments are equally scientific and human-related. The Conference and the subsequent volumes *Romanian borders within European context*, Oradea, 2008; *Historiography and Politics in the East and West of the Romanian Space*, Chişinău-Oradea, 2009 and today *Imperial Politics in the East and West of the Romanian Space* are but a few of the scientific accomplishments. Why a scientific symposium titled: *Imperial policies in the Romanian Space*? To some it may seem outdated; to some it may sound elitistical. The idea came from our colleagues in Chişinău, more exposed to imperial and post-imperial policies. We are attempting to investigate the imperial policies consequences to the Romanian territory, in general, and in particular, to its eastern and western extremities. Please note that the study follows not only the negative consequences, as shown by a certain part of the communist historiography, but also the modernization policy conducted by the Viennese Court, the religious policy that gained a spot for the Romanians within the Transylvanian groups. From the methodological angle, the comparative method in which we approached our research allowed for the emphasis of both particularities and similarities between the economic, administrative, religious, military and cultural policies promoted by the empires acting on our territory: Ottoman Empire, Habsburg Empire, Austro-Hungarian Empire, as well as the Czarist Empire and later on the USSR.



Another level of analysis pursued the medium and long run effects that the imperial policies had on the Romanian society, in general, and on the western and eastern Romanian population, in particular. The abundance of historical sources, many of them having so far been closed to the public, allows the quest for new approaches using the newest research methods. The symposium had the following sections: Empires, Imperial Patterns and Policies: Sources and Historiography; Politics, Administration and Society within the Medieval and Early Modern Empires; Politics, Administration and Society within Modern Empires; Imperial Constructions and Strategies within Romania in XX Century; Contemporary Consequences and Echoes of the Imperial Policies. There was also a section where the scientific publications from Chişinău, Oradea and Cluj-Napoca were presented.

Among the attendees to the symposium we mention Acad. Ioan-Aurel Pop, Director of the Centre for Transylvanian Studies; Prof. Barbu Ştefănescu, PhD., University of Oradea; Prof. Ioan Horga PhD., University of Oradea; Prof. Sorin Şipoş, PhD., University of Oradea (Chair of Symposium); Prof. Ion Eremia, PhD., State University of Chişinău; Lecturer Igor Şarov PhD., State University of Chişinău; Lecturer Ion Gumenâi, PhD., State University of Chişinău; Lecturer Ovidiu Mureşan PhD., “Babeş-Bolyai” University from din Cluj-Napoca, Lecturer Şerban Turcus, PhD., “Babeş-Bolyai” University from Cluj-Napoca.

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Conference
“Dimensions of the European security”
Oradea, 15 October 2010

The event on “Dimensions of the European security” was the first public manifestation on debates related to the security studies at the University of Oradea, for the academic year 2010/2011. It corresponded to the opening ceremony for the new year of MA program in European security at the Faculty of History, Geography and International Relations and the announcement of the first issue of Romanian Journal of Security Studies.

The event gathered speakers from different domains related to security, both theoreticians and practitioners. Iulian Fota, presidential adviser on security, presented an argument on the reform of international system and the security challenges that occur within these transformations. General (ret.) Mihai Mărgărit, former chief of Military Intelligence Department of Romanian Army presented a perspective of the intelligence sector reform, related to the present security challenges within democratic regimes. Professor Constantin Hlihor underlined the importance of reevaluation of the main security concepts within social sciences and security studies, based on the relationship of security-insecurity and its perception. Professor Adrian Ivan stressed the importance of security studies within the academic structures in Romania.



As hosts, Rector Cornel Antal and Dean Ioan Horga insisted on their intervention on the support and enhancement of scientific research and didactic activities on security studies at the University of Oradea.

Within the same event, there were launched the most recent books on security studies. Nicolae Toboşaru, *The Romanian-US strategic partnership*; Maurice Vaisse, *The International Relations after 1945*; Paul Robinson, *Dictionary of International Security*; Stephany Lawson, *International Relations*.

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