
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
GENERATIONS – MEMORY, DIALOGUE, CONFLICT

24-25 April 2026,

Bulgaria, Sofia
New Bulgarian University, Hall 20, Building 1, Floor 2

PROGRAMME

<https://conference.balkanistica.com>

BALKANISTIC WORLDS
Balkanistic Forum – International University Seminar
for Studies and Specialization



New Bulgarian University, Hall 20, Building 1, Floor 2

8.30 – 9.00 – REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

9.00 – 9.15 – OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

9.15 – 11.00 - FIRST SESSION

Moderators: Petar Vodenicharov, Maya Angelova

CLAUDIA-FLORENTINA DOBRE (“Nicolae Iorga” Institute of History, Bucharest)

Post-memory and Cultural Trauma in Post-communist Romania

PETAR VODENICHAROV, NURIE MURATOVA (South-West University “Neofit Rilski”)

Communist State Security and Youth - Language and Ideologies

APAK KEREM ALTINTOP, MELEK AYLIN ÖZOFLU, SELIN BAŞER ÖZGEN (İstanbul University)

Normative Power or Selective Silence? The European Union’s Discursive Approach to the Srebrenica and Gaza Genocides

PLAMEN DOYNOV (New Bulgarian University)

The "Brigadier Generation" in Bulgarian Poetry: Emergence, Census and Selection (1947-1958)

EKA VARDOSHVILI (Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University)

The issue of the Relationship between Literary Generations - Traditions and Rebellion

DISCUSSION

11.00-11.15 – COFFEE BREAK

11.15 – 13.00 - SECOND SESSION

Moderators: Petar Vodenicharov, Maya Angelova

YELIS EROLOVA (IEFEM, BAS)

Chernobyl as a Dark Tourism Site

ĐERMANA KURIĆ (University of Galway, Law School)

Yugoslav State Socialism and (Bosniak) Muslim Women

KETEVAN SVANIDZE, SHORENA BOLKVDADZE (Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University)
Double Colonization and the Dynamics of Linguistic Code-Switching Across Generations

VLAD MITRIC-CIUPE (Center for Historical and Architectural Studies, Bucharest, Romania)
Architecture and Inheritance: Political Repression and Intergenerational Memory in Communist Romania

DISCUSSION

13.00-14.00 – LUNCH

14.00 – 15.45 - THIRD SESSION

Moderators: Biljana Ristovska-Josifovska, Konstantin Georgiev

SELIN BAŞER ÖZGEN, MELEK AYLIN ÖZOFLU AND APAK KEREM ALTINTOP (İstanbul University)
International Criminal Justice and Social Healing after Srebrenica: Reflections in Collective Memory

BORIS NAYMUSHIN, New Bulgarian University
From the Third Kingdom to the People's Republic: Collision of Generations in Diplomatic Service and Diplomatic Interpreting in Bulgaria

VLADIMIR JANEV (Institute of National History in Skopje)
A Contribution towards the History of the Jewish Community in the Caucasus region (A Contemporary Perspective)

MAYA ANGELOVA (New Bulgarian University)
'Young and Old' in the Mid-1960s: Staged Conflicts in Bulgarian Socialist Realist Prose

ANTON VENEV (Regional Historical Museum, Kyustendil)
Irina Boyanova - tobacco worker, shock worker or a new type of socialist woman?

DISCUSSION

15.45-16.00 – COFFEE BREAK

16.00 – 18.00 - FOURTH SESSION

Moderators: Biljana Ristovska-Josifovska, Konstantin Georgiev

TEONA BERIDZE, MAIA DUMBADZE (Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University)

Christa Wolf's Female Protagonists as Embodiments of Authorial Rebellion

INDIRA DZAGANIA (Sokhumi State University, Georgia)

Women in modern society: Stereotypes and Reality

GEORGETA NAZARSKA (ULSIT, Sofia)

Youth Camps of YMCA and YWCA in Bulgaria (1920s-1940s)

NEVENA DIMITROVA (IEFEM, BAS)

Ageing and Power in Sport: Intersectional Perspectives on Women, Ageism, and Generational Stereotypes

INXHI BRISKU (IEFEM, BAS)

Nursing Homes in Socialist Albania: Care in Times of Financial Restriction

DISCUSSION

25 April 2026

New Bulgarian University, New Bulgarian University, Hall 20, Building 1, Floor 2

9.15 – 11.00 - FIRST SESSION

Moderators: Ketevan Svanidze, Milena Angelova

MARIYANA PISKOVA (South-West University)

Twenty Years of Friendship and Fruitful Academic Exchange: Shota Rustaveli University in Batumi and the Balkanistic Seminar (2006-2026)

BILJANA RISTOVSKA-JOSIFOVSKA (Institute of National History in Skopje)

Macedonian Academic Research on the Caucasus as a Part of the Scientific Knowledge Exchange: Communication, Tradition and Generation Memory

ANTONY HOYTE-WEST (Nottingham Trent University, United Kingdom)

Generational Perspectives in Ledia Xhoga's Misinterpretation

LELA TAVDGIRIDZE, DALI DOBORJGINIDZE, ANASTASIA MAKHARADZE

The Importance of International Scientific Collaboration and Knowledge Exchange (Scientific Communities and Knowledge Exchange)

OANA-RAMONA ILOVAN, KINGA XÉNIA HAVADI-NAGY, CSABA HORVÁTH (Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, Romania) *on-line*

Heritage Communities. Sustainable Regenerative Practices in Rural Transylvania, Romania

DISCUSSION

11.15-11.30 – COFFEE BREAK

11.15 – 13.00 - SECOND SESSION

Moderators: Ketevan Svanidze, Milena Angelova

MANUCHAR LORIA (Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University)

Contemporary Challenges in Visual Anthropological Research: Ethnographic Albums and Films (Ajarian Dwellings and Folk Decorations on Wood)

MAREK JAKOUBEK (University of Hradec Králové)

“Don’t Call Us Bulgarians”: Youth Adaptation and Elder Encapsulation among the Voyvodovo Resettlers

LENKA JAKOUBKOVÁ BUDILOVÁ (Charles University, Prague)

Romantic Love vs. Family Strategy: Generational Conflict Over-arranged Marriage in Voyvodovo (1900–1950) and after Resettlement

MARINE AROSHIDZE (Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University)

Cultural Heritage in the Information Society

BEHRIN SHOPOVA (IEFEM, BAS)

Repressed Memory and Cultural Marginalization: The Case of Ali Dervish

NANA KAJAIA, ASMAT ARDZENADZE (BATUMI SHOTA RUSTAVELI STATE UNIVERSITY, GEORGIA)

Visual Representation of the Social and Cultural Transformation of Women in 20th-Century Adjara: Photography as a Sociocultural Text

DISCUSSION

13.00-14.00 – LUNCH

14.00 – 15.45 - THIRD SESSION

Moderators: Evelina Kelbecheva, Kristina Stoyanova

TATYANA CHURCHULIEVA – NAYT (University of Cologne, Germany, IEFSEM - BAS)

Lost in Transition? The Decline of the 1980s Wedding Bands Phenomenon in the Thracian Region of Bulgaria and Their Coping with Socio-Cultural Changes in the 1990s

MILENA ANGELOVA (New Bulgarian University)

Exhibits and Relics of the “Heroic Generation”: Towards the Making of the Museum of the Revolutionary Movement in Bulgaria (1944–1950)

EVELINA KELBECHEVA (American University in Bulgaria)

The Camouflage of the Museum of Art During Socialism

MAGDALENA PANAYOTOVA ("St. Kliment Ohridski" University)

Time and Timelessness in the Balkans ("Everything I Know About Time" by Goran Petrovic)

KHATUNA AMAGLOBELI, IRMA ZAKARAIA (Sokhumi State University, Georgia)

Between Tradition and Modernity: Challenges to Georgian Cultural Identity

DISCUSSION

15.45-16.00 – COFFEE BREAK

16.00 – 18.00 - FOURTH SESSION

Moderator: Evelina Kelbecheva, Kristina Stoyanova

KRISTINA STOYANOVA

Intergenerational Language Conflicts in Georgia: Tradition vs. Innovation

KAKHA TAVDGIRIDZE (Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University)

The "Lost Generation" as a Discursive Outcome of Verbal Aggression

Coffee break

NINO AROSHIDZE (Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University)

Audiovisual Translation as Cultural Mediation: Subtitles as Bridges

NATELA TCOTCHUA (Tbilisi State University)

Psychological Well-being of Students as a Predictor of Academic and Social Success.

IRINE GOSHKHETELIANI, NATALIA SURGULADZE, MAIA KIKVADZE, TEONA BERIDZE, TSIRA KAKHADZE (Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University)

The Image of a Woman in Georgian, English, French, and German Proverbs

DISCUSSION

18.00 – CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE