

[The 16th Annual RAGCL Convention: "The Germanic Model in Romanian Literature"](#)

Announcement published by Andrei Terian on Thursday, March 21, 2019

Type:

Call for Papers

Date:

July 10, 2019 to July 13, 2019

Location:

Romania

Subject Fields:

Cultural History / Studies, Eastern Europe History / Studies, German History / Studies, Immigration & Migration History / Studies, Literature

THE ROMANIAN ASSOCIATION OF GENERAL AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE (RAGCL)

organizes

the 16th Annual RAGCL Convention: *The Germanic Model in Romanian Literature*, Sibiu, Romania, 10-13 July 2019

If the French model can be regarded as constitutive of institutional culture, as it is for Romanian literary culture, the German model prevails as *the most important alternative model*. Moreover, in certain Romanian territories and in certain epochs, the German model has indeed played the role of primary cultural model – it is, both historically and practically, the first Western model with which Romanian culture was faced in the 16th century, as a result of the Reformation and Counter-Reformation. Unlike the French influence – almost entirely exerted indirectly and from a great distance – the German influence first presented itself in the immediate vicinity, by direct contact. The Saxon colonization of Transylvania began in the 12th century, followed by that of the Swabians in the 18th century and by other migrations from Styria, Carinthia and from the surroundings of Vienna towards the mining and industrial centers in Banat. This population, ethnically diverse in certain regions, was entirely Germanophone and made up the most important *Western* minority living in the midst of the Romanian majority, which proved to be receptive to the cultural and civilizational landmarks furnished by their fellow countrymen. It is important to highlight the fact that throughout the shared cultural Romanian-German history, this model was not confined to literary contact, influence and interplay; it has equally consisted in fundamental aspects of humanistic disciplines (philosophy, history, theology, sociology, anthropology, cultural theory, art theory, etc.), a substantial repertoire of theories and methods from the natural sciences, as well as a particular attitude towards “scientific thought” and indeed a work ethic which has often manifested itself as a “lifestyle” per se.

Thematic suggestions:

- Forms of religious Catholic and Lutheran culture in the Romanian Countries (16th - 19th centuries);

- German landmarks of Uniatism;
- Links between *Școala Ardeleană* (The Transylvanian School) and the German *Aufklärung*;
- German institutions, forms and “styles” in Transylvanian culture in the “long” 19th century (up to World War I);
- The influence of German Romanticism on Romanian literature;
- *Junimea* (Titu Maiorescu, Mihai Eminescu, Ioan Slavici, etc.) as an expression of the German “catalytic model”;
- The emergence of the Transylvanian/rural Romanian novel in the spirit of German realism;
- The image of the *neamț* (German) in pre-modern and modern Romanian literature;
- German expressionism in Romanian poetry and theater (Lucian Blaga, Aron Cotruș, Adrian Maniu, etc.);
- Romanian avant-garde connections to German avant-garde;
- Kakanian and Mitteleuropean nostalgia in Romania;
- *Lebensphilosophie* and the 1927 generation: Mircea Eliade, E.M. Cioran, Constantin Noica etc.;
- Trauma literature (war, the Holocaust, the Gulag);
- Bukovina as intercultural nexus: from Paul Celan to Norman Manea;
- *Aktionsgruppe* Banat and Herta Müller;
- The place and role of German poets within the 1980s generation;
- The image of the Romanian in German culture (starting from Klaus Heitmann);
- Migrant literature;
- The development of German studies in Romania and of Romanian studies in Germany;
- The ramifications of the German cultural model (connections to other arts and discourses: science, politics, religion, etc.).

We encourage submissions employing the following **frameworks** (though of course the list is not exhaustive):

- comparative and world literature;
- cultural and/or intercultural studies;
- postcolonial (including auto-colonial) studies;
- communist and postcommunist studies;
- transnational literary history;
- diaspora studies;
- trauma studies;
- memory studies;
- imagology;
- mythocriticism and archetypal literary criticism;
- intermedial studies;
- evolutionist studies applied to literature;
- quantitative analyses;
- genre theory and poetics;
- ideological criticism;
- rhetoric, stylistics and linguistics;
- interdisciplinary approaches.

Confirmed keynote speakers:

- Prof. Henry Sussman (Yale University, U.S.);
- Prof. Andrei Corbea-Hoişie ("Al. I. Cuza" University, Iaşi/ The Socio-Cultural Research Institute of the Romanian Academy, Sibiu, Romania).

Conference languages: English, German and Romanian.

Paper proposals are to be submitted by **15 April 2019**, at algcr2019@gmail.com and should contain the following: paper title, abstract of 1500-2000 characters in one of the conference languages and the authors' institutional affiliation.

Authors will be notified of paper acceptance until 22 April 2019.

Publication of papers: Presented conference papers will be published selectively and in revised form in the journal *Euresis* or in an edited volume at a prestigious international press.

Contact Info:

Dr. Oana Soare

Contact Email:

algcr2019@gmail.com

URL:

<http://litere.ulbsibiu.ro/algcr2019/>