

18:00–19:30

Veranstaltungsraum, 4. oder 5. Stock
Georg-Coch-Platz 2, PSK-Gebäude, 1010 Wien

Bitte informieren Sie sich direkt im Veranstaltungsprogramm über den genauen Veranstaltungsort. / *Please check the event programme directly for the exact venue.*

Dienstag, 21. April 2026

Agustín Cosovschi, Ljubljana
Rethinking Temporalities, Meanings, and Networks in the History of Non-Alignment

Dienstag, 28. April 2026

Buchvorstellung
Vladislav Knoll, Prag
Book Presentation: Church Slavonic and the Romanian-Speaking Lands

Dienstag, 26. Mai 2026

Diana Mishkova, Sofia
Rival Byzantiums: Empire and Identity in Southeastern Europe

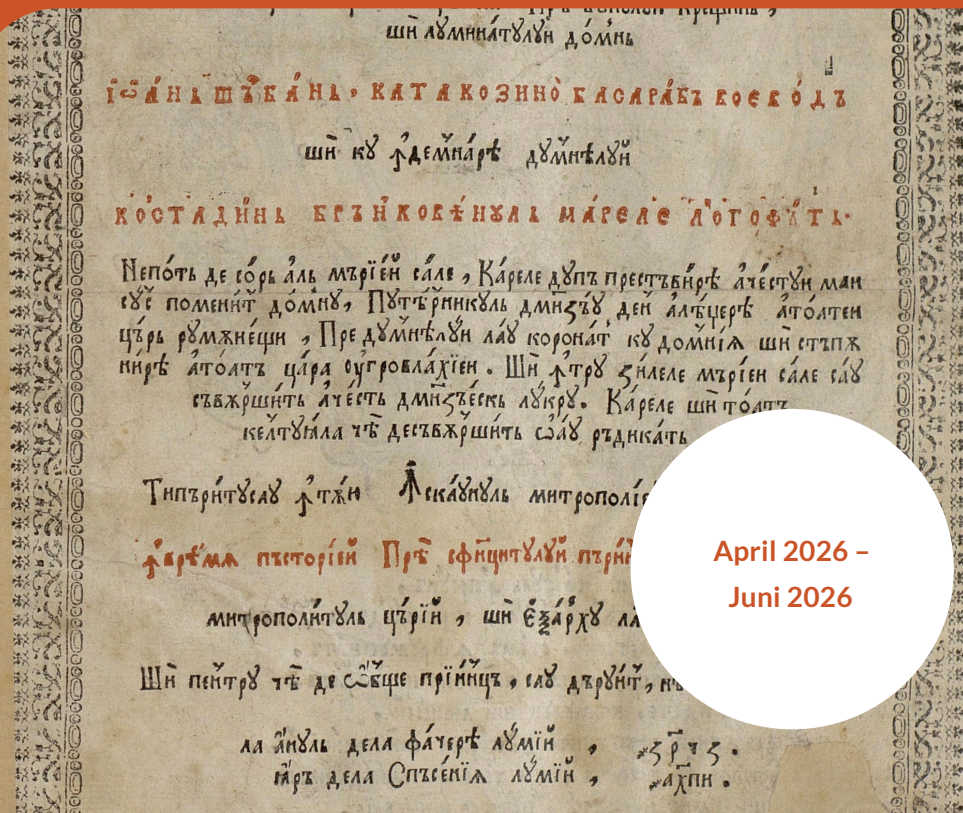
Dienstag, 09. Juni 2026

Tsvetan Vasilev, Sofia
Peculiarities and Difficulties in Studying the Historical Works of Catholic Writers from the Balkans:
Citation and Sources

Vortragsprogramm

Balkanforschung an der ÖAW

Vortragsprogramm April bis Juni 2026



April 2026 –
Juni 2026

Für weitere Informationen zu Schwerpunkten und laufenden Vorhaben an der Balkanforschung, siehe: / *For further information on main research fields and ongoing projects, see:*
oeaw.ac.at/ihb/forschungsbereiche/balkanforschung/

Siehe auch / *See also:*
derstandard.at/diskurs/blogs/ub-balkanblog

Schriften zur Balkanforschung:
oeaw.ac.at/ihb/forschungsbereiche/balkanforschung/publikationen

Balkanforschung an der ÖAW

Vortragsprogramm April 2026 – Juni 2026

Österreich und der Balkanraum sind seit Jahrhunderten eng miteinander verflochten. Als wichtiger kultureller, gesellschaftlicher und politischer Bezugsort für die Gesellschaften des Balkans war und ist Wien auch ein Zentrum der wissenschaftlichen Beschäftigung mit dieser Region. Der 2017 eingerichtete Forschungsbereich Balkanforschung am Institut für die Erforschung der Habsburgermonarchie und des Balkanraumes (IHB) greift diese Forschungstradition auf und versucht in seiner multidisziplinären Ausrichtung neue Akzente zu setzen.

Die Vortragsreihe Balkanforschung an der ÖAW versteht sich dabei als Forum, auf dem Wissenschaftler:innen ihre Ergebnisse einer breiteren Öffentlichkeit zugänglich machen und zur Diskussion stellen können.

Austria and the Balkans have been intertwined for centuries. As an important cultural, social and political hub for the Balkan societies, Vienna remains a center of scientific engagement with this region. The research unit „Balkanforschung“ established in 2017 at the Institute for Habsburg and Balkan Studies (IHB) continues this research tradition and aims to set innovative trends through its multidisciplinary orientation.

The lecture series “Balkan Research” at the OeAW is intended as a forum for researchers to present their results accessible to a broader public and to open them up for discussion.

Die Vorträge finden — wenn nicht anders angegeben — im Veranstaltungsraum im 4. oder im 5. Stock PSK-Gebäude, Georg-Coch-Platz 2, 1010 Wien statt.

The lectures will be held — if not stated otherwise — in the event room on the 4th or 5th floor of the PSK building, Georg-Coch-Platz 2, 1010 Wien.

Die Vorträge können auch im Internet via Zoom-Livestream verfolgt werden. Informationen zum Zugang werden rechtzeitig bereitgestellt.

The lectures can also be followed online via Zoom, access information will be provided in good time.

Dienstag, 21. April 2026

18:00

Ort: Veranstaltungsraum 4. Stock, Raum 5, PSK-Gebäude

Agustín Cosovschi

Ljubljana

Rethinking Temporalities, Meanings, and Networks in the History of Non-Alignment

The presentation will offer an overview of the project Brokers-of-NAM, which draws on bio-graphical approaches to understand the practices of internationalism and political networking in the making of the Non-Aligned Movement. The project focuses on the lives of five actors that played an important role in weaving the networks of nonalignment during the years of the Cold War in different regions of the world. These are Veljko Vlahović, Vassos Lyssaridis, Kamal Jumblatt, Oscar Waiss, and U Kyaw Nyein. I will particularly discuss the life of Vlahovic, a leading figure of the Yugoslav communist regime who had an instrumental role in promoting non-alignment and articulating the transnational networks of the Yugoslav communist regime.

The talk will position the project in the context of existent scholarship on non-alignment. More importantly, it will offer examples from the writings and archives of Vlahovic. This case showcases the importance of a biographical approach to rethink the temporalities of non-alignment, the multi-layered and multi-sited nature of its meanings, and the making of the political networks that underpinned its expansion into the global South.

Agustín Cosovschi is a historian and a research associate at the Institute of contemporary history in Ljubljana (INZ). His research deals with the contemporary history of Southeast Europe from a global perspective. He completed his PhD at the EHESS in France and the University of San Martín in Argentina. His work combines approaches in political and intellectual history together with the use of digital methods. Since November 2025, he is PI of the project “Brokers of Non-Alignment: Biographical and Network Approaches to the Making of the Third World” funded by an ERC Starting Grant.

Dienstag, 28. April 2026

18:00

Ort: Veranstaltungsraum 4. Stock, Raum 5, PSK-Gebäude

Book Presentation: Vladislav Knoll

Praha

Church Slavonic and the Romanian-Speaking Lands

Speakers: Constanța Burlacu (Institute of Slavonic Studies of the Czech Academy of Sciences), Cristian Gașpar (Department of Historical Studies, Central European University), Mihail-George Hâncu (Institute for South-East European Studies of the Romanian Academy), Joachim Matzinger (Institute for Habsburg and Balkan Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences)

Moderator: Ovidiu Olar (Institute for Habsburg and Balkan Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences)

This presentation marks the publication in 2024 of a trilogy dedicated to the use of Church Slavonic and other Slavic-based language varieties among Romanian-speaking communities in Wallachia, Moldavia, and Transylvania from the late Middle Ages to the Early Modern period. The work traces the evolution, diversity, and functions of Slavonic writing across the territories of present-day Romania and the Republic of Moldova. It highlights the dynamic interactions between Slavonic and other regional languages, offering fresh insights into a complex multilingual landscape. From the earliest local Old Church Slavonic inscriptions to the cultural and spiritual legacy of Paisij Velyčkovs'kyj and his monastic community, the three volumes provide a comprehensive account of a remarkable linguistic and cultural tradition.

At this event, the author, together with invited experts in the field, will present and discuss the trilogy, opening a conversation on a fascinating and often overlooked chapter of Slavic philology.

Vladislav Knoll is a researcher at the Institute of Slavonic Studies of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic. His recent research interests include the history of Church Slavonic with a focus on the Romanian-speaking area and theoretical issues related to the functioning of multilingualism and language development in the premodern period. He is the author of *Church Slavonic and the Romanian-Speaking Lands* (I–III, Prague 2024), *Kašubština v jazykovém kontaktu* (Kashubian in Language Contact, Prague 2012), *Církevní slovanština v pozdním středověku* (Church Slavonic in the Late Middle Ages, Prague 2019), and coauthor of *Sintaxi contrastiva del català amb les llengües eslaves* (Contrastive Syntax of Catalan with Slavic Languages, Andorra 2011).

Dienstag, 26. Mai 2026

18:00

Ort: Veranstaltungsraum 5. Stock, Raum 9, PSK-Gebäude

Diana Mishkova

Sofia

Rival Byzantiums: Empire and Identity in Southeastern Europe

Diana Mishkova will talk about her book, *Rival Byzantiums: Empire and Identity in Southeastern Europe* (CUP 2023), which explores how the “national historians” of the modern Balkan “successor states” to the empire – Greece, Bulgaria, Serbia, Romania and Turkey – have operated with the topos of Byzantium and how, in doing so, they have been shaping the national canons of history in these countries from the Enlightenment to the present day. All this means divulging the national stakes of Byzantine studies, how it partakes in changing the understanding and writing of history, national history in particular. Her approach to this theme, therefore, concerns the mirrored reflections, not the “historical reality” of Byzantium. These reflections are also historical facts, but they belong less to the history of the Byzantine empire than to that of modern historiography. In this sense the lecture should be seen as, on the one hand, an exploration of the politics of Byzantine studies – of the images, perceptions and understandings this field has been cultivating during the last two and a half centuries – and, on the other, a critical interrogation of “Byzantium” as a historiographical construct with considerable ideological potential in shaping national history and national identity.

Diana Mishkova has specialized in modern and contemporary history of Southeastern Europe. Having taught at the History Department of Sofia University and a number of European and US universities, since 2000 she has been the director of the Centre for Advanced Study in Sofia. Her recent publications include *Beyond Balkanism. The Scholarly Politics of Region Making* (Routledge, 2018) and *Rival Byzantiums: Empire and Identity in Southeastern Europe* (Cambridge University Press, 2022). She is the editor of ten international volumes and collective monographs, among them *Balkan Historiographical Wars* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2025), *European Regions and Boundaries. A Conceptual History* (Berghahn Books, 2017), ‘Regimes of Historicity’ in Southeastern and Northern Europe, 1890-1945 (Palgrave-Macmillan, 2014); *Entangled Histories of the Balkans*, vols. 2 and 4 (Brill, 2014, 2017). Foreign Corresponding Member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Doctor Honoris Causa of Södertörn University, Stockholm, Sweden, holder of the “Danubius Award” (2022) and the “Konstantin Jireček Medal” (2023).

Ort: Veranstaltungsraum 5. Stock, Raum 8, PSK-Gebäude

Tsvetan Vasilev

Sofia

Peculiarities and Difficulties in Studying the Historical Works of Catholic Writers from the Balkans:
Citation and Sources

The study of 17th- and 18th-century Balkan Catholic historiography, exemplified by Petar Bogdan's *De antiquitate paterni soli et de rebus Bulgaricis* (On the Antiquity of the Fatherland and the Deeds of the Bulgarians), is a key challenge in researching Balkan historiography. Rediscovered in 2017, Bogdan's work is the first historical treatise of the Bulgarian Pre-Renaissance period, blending various genres – history, chronicle, apology, report, and essay. Its complexity lies in its multilingual and multilayered source base. Writing in Latin for a European audience, Bogdan, a Franciscan archbishop of Bulgarian origin, drew on exceptionally diverse sources ranging from ancient authors such as Aristotle and Cicero, through the Church Fathers and medieval chroniclers, to contemporary Renaissance historians like Caesar Baronius and Mauro Orbini. His use of *loci communes* (commonplace books) and legal compilations blurs the line between the author's own text, direct quotations, and second-hand citations, often merging quotations seamlessly with his own narrative. The work is also strongly confessional: Catholic writers like Bogdan sought to defend the 'honor of the fatherland' and the ancient roots of Catholicism in the Balkans against 'de-tractors' and 'schismatics'. This apologetic aim requires scholars to critically deconstruct quotations, separating theological or political motivation from historical fact, while verifying references in multiple languages – Latin, Italian, and the Bulgarian vernacular – and distinguishing between published works, unpublished archival documents, personal correspondence, and oral testimony.

Tsvetan Vasilev is Associate Professor of Classical Languages at the Department of Classical Philology at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski," where he teaches (Medieval) Latin language and literature. His research focuses on Medieval Latin and Greek, Post-Byzantine Greek epigraphy, and Latin Catholic literature by Bulgarian intellectuals of the 17th–18th centuries. After graduating from the National High School of Ancient Languages and Cultures in Sofia, he studied Classical and German Philology at Sofia University, earning a doctorate in Post-Classical Greek in 2016. His dissertation examined linguistic features of Greek inscriptions in 17th-century bilingual churches in Bulgaria.

Vasilev has contributed to projects on inscriptions on icons, Balkan icon painters, the Gutenberg Revolution and Post-Byzantine art in Bulgaria. He has published widely on Neo-Latin studies and Post-Byzantine Greek epigraphy. His major works include a two-volume critical edition of Petar Bogdan's 17th-century treatise *De antiquitate paterni soli et de rebus Bulgaricis*, published in 2020 after its rediscovery in 2017.

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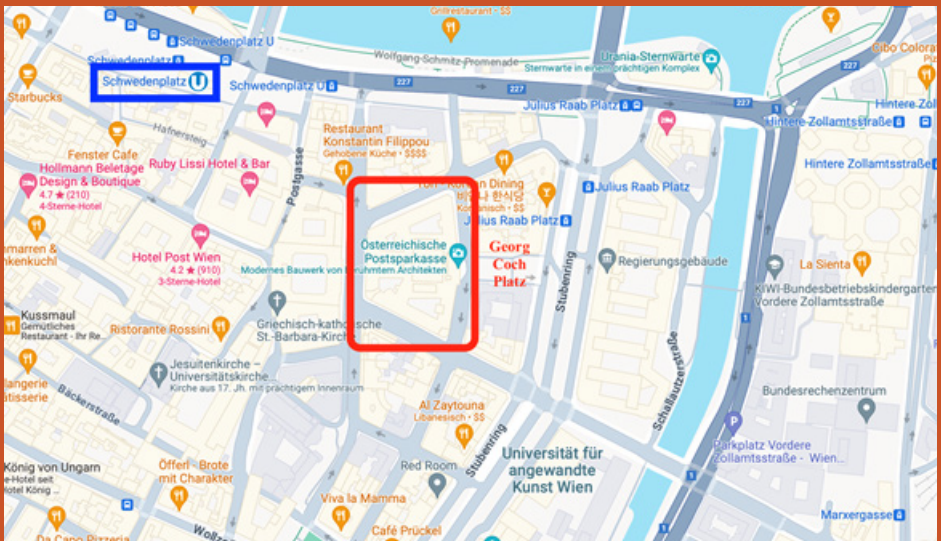
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VERANSTALTUNGSORT

Veranstaltungsräume im 4. oder 5. Stock, PSK-Gebäude, Georg-Coch-Platz 2, 1010 Wien.
Bitte folgen Sie der Beschilderung/Please follow the signs.



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