

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Stefan Dorondel

Date of Birth: 17. December 1968
Place of Birth: Galati, Romania
Place of Residence: Bucharest, Romania
Status: Citizen of the Republic of Romania

EDUCATION

- 2004 – 2007 **Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany**
Agricultural Economics and Social Sciences
Dissertation on the ‘Agrarian Transformation, Social Differentiation and Land Use Change in Postsocialist Romania ’
Degree: **Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics** (*Dr. rer. ag.*)
- 1997-2004 **Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu, Romania**
Faculty of History and Anthropology
Dissertation on the ‘Water and Death. Funerary Rituals, Water Symbolism and the Otherworld Structure within the Peasant Imaginary’
Degree: **Ph.D. in History**
- 2001-2002 **Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium**
Faculté Faculté des Sciences sociales et politiques
Thesis on ‘Changement sociale et droits de propriété dans deux villages roumains’
Degree: **Diplôme d’études approfondies (MA equivalent) in Cultural Anthropology**
- 1991 – 1996 **“1 Decembrie 1918” University, Alba Iulia, Romania**
Faculty of History and Archaeology
Thesis on ‘Funerary Practices and Religious Beliefs in the Neolithic Age of Romania’
Degree: **Bachelor**
- 1983-1988 **“Costache Negri” High School, Galati, Romania**
Secondary Education
Degree: **Bacalaureat** (Romanian High School Diploma)

WORK EXPERIENCE

02/2007- present	Institute of Anthropology Bucharest, Academy of Social Sciences, Romania Researcher within the Department of Social Anthropology
02/2007 – present	Institute for Southeast European Studies, Bucharest (part time)
09/2003 – 01/2007	Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany Staff member in the Junior Research Group on Postsocialist Land Relations
01/2000 – 09/2003	Institute of Anthropology Bucharest, Academy of Social Sciences, Romania Junior researcher within the Department of Social Anthropology
09/1999 - 09/2003	Institute for Southeast European Studies, Bucharest (part time)
03/1997 – 12/2000	Village Museum, Bucharest, Romania Curator
04/1997 – 04/1998	Social Cohesion and Cultural Diversity, Bucharest, Romania European Council Project Director of the Project
08/1996 – 02/1997	Romanian Broadcasting Corporation, Bucharest, Romania The Cultural Channel

FIELDWORK

2014-2015	Wallachia, Danube Floodplain (5 months), funded by the National Romanian Research Agency
2009-10	Wallachia, Romania (6 months), funded by the Volkswagen Foundation
2008	Wallachia, Romania (1 month), funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG)
2007	Varna, Bulgaria (1 month), funded by the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2004	Wallachia, Romania (8 months), funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG)
2002	Dobroudja, Romania (2 months), funded by the Romanian Academy

2001	Dobroudja, Romania (2 months), funded by the Romanian Academy
2000	Dobroudja, Romania (2 months), funded by the Romanian Academy
1999	Transylvania, Romania (9 months) funded by the Open Society Institute, Prague
1998	Wallachia, Romania (2 months), funded by the Romanian Academy
1997	Wallachia, Romania (4 months), funded by the Romanian Academy and The Village Museum Bucharest

FELLOWSHIPS

2019	Fellow of the Imre Kertész Kolleg, University of Jena, Germany
2014 (March)	Visiting Fellow at the Institut für Ost-und Südoesteuropaforschung, University of Regensburg
2012 (Sept-Dec.)	CRASSH Visiting Fellow, University of Cambridge
2009-2012	Postdoctoral Researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology Halle, Germany
2010	Rachel Carson Center International Postdoctoral Fellow
2008-2009	New Europe College Fellowship
2005	Yale University, CT, USA Agrarian Studies Program Visiting Scholar
2003-2007	Doctoral Fellowship from the German Research Foundation (DFG)
2003 – 2006	Doctoral Fellowship from Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie, Paris (fellowship declined)
2001-2002	Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

(since)

2011	European Society for Environmental History (Member of the Executive Board and Regional Representative)
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2006	International Association for the Study of the Commons
2005	European Association of Rural Sociologists
2000	International Association for Southeast European Anthropology (Member of the Executive Board)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Romanian (mother tongue)
- English (fluent in speaking, reading and writing)
- French (fluent in speaking, reading and writing)
- German (conversational)
- Italian (conversational)
- Russian (arduous)

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Team leader of the research project *Taming Postsocialist Nature. Floods, Local Strategies, and National Policies on the Lower Danube* (2013-2016), 205,000 euro

VARIA

- 2015 Co-organizer of the conference *Floods, State, Dams and Dykes in Modern Times: Ecological and Socio-economic Transformations of the Rural World*, NEC, Bucharest, 18-20 June, 2015
- 2014 Organizer of the panel *Hybrid Landscapes: Dykes, State and the Ecological Transformations along the Lower Danube* within the SASC „Modes of Appropriation and Social Resistance“ International Conference, Cluj-Napoca, Babes-Bolyai University, 21 November.
- 2014 Co-organizer of the workshop *Farmland, Food and Forest in Transition: The Eurasian Countryside 25 Years After* together with Oane Viser și Max Spoor (International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University, Rotterdam), Bucharest, 7-8 November.
- 2013 Co-organizer (with Diana Mincyte, NYU) of the workshop **Taming Nature in Modern East Europe: Rivers, Lands, and Forests** within the 7th Biennial Conference of the European Society for Environmental History, 20-24 August, 2013, LMU and Rachel Carson Center.
- 2012 Organizer with Duska Vranjes of the workshop **Muddling Through: Land as a Resource and Social Security in Rural Eastern Europe** within the International Conference “Land

Use in Transition: Potentials and Solutions Between Abandonment and Land Grabbing”
organized by Leibnitz Institute, Haale (Saale), 20-22 June

2011 Organizer with Daniel Münster and Ursula Münster of the workshop **Contested Environments: The Political Ecology of Agrarian Change and Forest Conservation**
The Meeting of the Association of German Anthropologists, Vienna, September 14-17

2013 Appointed as Editor-in-chief of the *Annuaire roumain d’anthropologie* (a peer-reviewed journal of the Romanian Academy of Sciences and of the Francisc I. Rainer Institute of Anthropology Bucharest)

2009 Organizer (with Stelu Serban) of the workshop **From Anthropology of Southeast Europe to Anthropology in Southeast Europe. Paul H. Stahl Legacy** (in Romanian)
Bucharest, New Europe College. Institute for Advanced Studies, February 4, 2009

2007 Organizer (with Thomas Sikor and Damiana Otoi) of the International workshop **Private Property: Postsocialist Promises and Experiences**
Bucharest, New Europe College - Institute for Advanced Studies, June 15-16, 2007

PEER-REVIEWER

Peer-reviewer for the *Annuaire Roumain d’Anthropologie*, *Revue des études sud-est Européennes*, *Studia Universitatis Sociologia*, *Proceedings of the 9th International Postgraduate Conference* held at SSEES (University College London), *Annals of the Association of the American Geographers*, *International Review for Social Research*, *Global Environmental Change*, *Ethnologia Balkanica*, *Conservation Letters*, *East European Politics and Society*, *Suedosteuropa. Journal for Politics and Society*, *International Journal of the Commons*, *Conservation and Society*, books for Anthem Press (New York), books for Routledge

Reviewer for: The Romanian National Research Agency, the Slovenian National Research Agency, the Estonian National Research Agency, European Research Council (for Consolidator Grants)

Member of the team of reviewers of the Romanian public universities funded by the Swiss-Romanian Cooperation Programme (2016)

LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTIVE)

2017

Stefan Dorondel, *Reclaiming Wilderness along the Lower Danube: Restoration, Spontaneous Recovery and Hybrid Nature*, paper presented at the International Workshop „Knowing Nature: The Changing Foundations of Environmental Knowledge“, organized by RCC for Environment and Society, Ludwig Maximilians University, <ax Planck Institute for the History of Science and Renmin University of China, Beijing, 25-27 May

Stefan Dorondel, *The Nature State in Eastern Europe: History, Changes, Challenges*, paper presented at the European Society for Environmental History Biennial Conference, Zagreb, Croatia, 28 June – 2 July

Stefan Dorondel, Cristina Posner, *Postsocialist Agriculture vs. Nature: State, Neoliberalism and Infrastructure in the Lower Danube Floodplains*, paper presented at the International Workshop “Agrarian Distress, Rural Aspirations: Exploring Capitalist Transformations and Institutional Reordering”, organized by the University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, 22-24 August

2016

Ștefan Dorondel, Mara Rusu, *Reinventing Land Mortgage in Postsocialist Europe. The Romanian Case*, paper presented at the international workshop „Mortgage Across Cultures: Land, Finance and Epistemology”, organized by the Center for Finance, Law and Policy, University of Boston, April 14, 2016.

Ștefan Dorondel, Stelu Șerban, *The Political Ecology of Levees: State, Local Communities and the Socialist Transformation of Lower Danube*, paper presented at the international conference „Undisciplined Environments”, organized by the Royal Institute of Technology Stockholm, March 20-24, 2016.

2015

Ștefan Dorondel, *Nature Restoration along the Lower Danube: History, Environment and Economics*, paper presented at the international workshop “Challenges and Potentials for a Sustainable Development in the Danube Region: Contributing to Horizon 2020”, organized by Alpen-Adria Universität Klagenfurt, Austria, Klagenfurt 8-10 April 2015.

Ștefan Dorondel, *Natural Disasters and Environmental Justice: an Example from Eastern Europe*, paper presented at the international conference “Greening History. Studying the Environment Across Discipline: Past, Present and Future”, organized by European Society for Environmental History și Versailles University, Versailles, 30 June-3 July 2015.

Ștefan Dorondel, Oana Ivan, *Floods, Power and Environmental Justice along the Danube Floodplains in Postsocialist Romania*, paper presented at the international workshop “Floods, State, Dams and Dykes in Modern Times: Ecological and Socio-economic Transformations of the Rural World” organized at The New Europe College, Bucharest, 18-20 June 2015.

2014

A Moving Island: Nature Dynamics and State Borders Conflict for Nature in Modern Southeast Europe (together with Stelu Șerban), paper presented at the International Conference of the Association for Danube Research, „The Danube and Black Sea Region Unique Environment and Human Well Being Under Conditions of Global Changes”, Sofia, 17-20 June.

Stefan Dorondel, Veronica Mitroi, *Fishermen Into Poachers: Nature, State and Fishing Practices in the Danube Delta*, paper presented at the workshop “Nature State” organized by Ludwig-Maximilians Universitaet München, Gran Paradiso National Park, Italy, 15-17 July.

Neocolonialism, Gold Mining, and Cultural and Environmental Disasters in the Carpathian

Mountains, lecture given to the Global Environments Summer Academy, University of Bern, 6-9 August.

Environmental Disasters and Other Big Problems of Our Time: What Place for the (Southeast European) Anthropology? Keynote speech of the international conference organized by the International Association for Southeast European Anthropology, Istanbul, 18-22 September.

Floods, Power and Environmental Justice along the Danube Floodplains in Postsocialist Romania, paper presented at the University of Vienna, October 15, 2014.

Natural Disasters and Environmental Justice: an Example from Eastern Europe, paper presented at the international conference organized by the World Resources Forum, Peru, Arequipa, 19-23 October.

Postsocialist Agriculture Vs. Nature: State, Land Improvement and the 'Invisible Infrastructure' in the Lower Danube Floodplains, paper presented at the international workshop „Farmland, Food and Forest in Transition: The Eurasian Countryside 25 Years After“, organized by the International Institute of Social Studies, Universitatea Erasmus Rotterdam and Francisc I. Rainer Institute of Anthropology Bucharest, 7 – 8 November.

2013

Wasted Waters: State, Property Rights, and the Postsocialist Appropriation of Nature in Romania, Workshop “Nature and the Environment in East and Southeast Europe: Historical and Economic Perspectives“, University of Regensburg, 27-29 June.

Between Worlds: Funerary Geography, Witchcraft, and the Return of the Dead in Rural Romania, Workshop “The Geographical Unconscious: mapping the Natural and Supernatural in Current Research“, Cambridge, 10 of April, University of Cambridge.

Intermingling Ecologies: Humans, Animals, and the Reconfiguration of the Rural Postsocialist Space, Workshop “Les arpenteurs du temps : recompositions spatiales, sociales et politiques dans les Balkans contemporains“, Paris, 27 of January 2013, Sciences Po, Université Paris.

Bureaucratic Flexibility and the Translation of Neoliberal Policies: Moralities and Public Welfare in Romania, Workshop on “Affects and Techniques of Flexible Bureaucracies” organized by University of Cambridge and LSE, University of Cambridge, 23-24 March.

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LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Thomas Sikor, **Stefan Dorondel**, Johannes Stahl and Phuc Xuan To, *When Things Become Property: Land Reform, Authority and Value in Postsocialist Europe and Asia*. Berghahn Books, Oxford and New York, 2017 (238 pages)

<https://www.berghahnbooks.com/title/SikorWhen>

Stefan Dorondel, *Disrupted Landscapes. State, Peasants, and the Politics of Land in Postsocialist Romania*. Berghahn Books, Oxford and New York, 2016 (234 pages)

<http://www.berghahnbooks.com/title.php?rowtag=DorondelDisrupted>

Stefan Dorondel, *Moartea și apa. Ritualuri funerare, simbolism acvatic și structura lumii de dincolo în imaginarul țărănesc* [Death and Water. Funerary Rituals, Water Symbolism, and the Otherworld Imaginary Among the Peasants from Southern Romania]. Paideia, București, 2004 (359 pages)

Stefan Dorondel, Stelu Serban (eds.), *Between East and West. Studies in Anthropology and Social History*, Romanian Cultural Institute, Bucharest, 2005 (527 pages)

GUEST-EDITOR SPECIAL ISSUES:

Oane Visser, **Stefan Dorondel**, Max Spoor (eds.), *Post-socialist Smallholders: Silence, Resistance and Alternatives*. In: *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, 2018 (in print)

Stefan Dorondel, S. Serban, *At the Margins of History. The Agrarian Question in Southeast Europe*. In: *Martor*, Vol. 19, 2013, 206 pages

Daniel Münster, Ursula Münster, **Stefan Dorondel** (eds.), *Fields and Forests: Ethnographic Perspectives on Environmental Globalization*. In: *RCC Perspectives*, Vol. 5, 2012

Stefan Dorondel, Thomas Sikor (Eds.), *Private Property: Postsocialist Promises and Experiences*. In: *Annuaire Roumain d'Anthropologie*, Vol. 46, 2009: 55-120

ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS AND BOOK CHAPTERS (since 2002)

Stefan Dorondel, Stelu Serban, *Healing Waters: Infrastructure and the Capitalist Phantasies in the Socialist Ruins of Rural Bulgaria*. In: *Canadian Journal of Development Studies* (accepted for peer-review)

Stefan Dorondel, Stelu Serban, Daniel Cain, *The Play of Islands: Danube Dynamics and Border Establishment in Modern Southeast Europe*. In: *Environment and History* 24(1), 2019
Fast track publication: <https://doi.org/10.3197/096734018X15254461646413>

Stefan Dorondel, Stelu Serban, *Dissuading Large Agricultural Investors: Neoliberalism and Community Mobilization in Bulgaria*. In: *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, 2019 Online publication: <https://doi.org/10.1080/02255189.2018.1498326>

Stefan Dorondel, Veronica Mitroi, *Nature, State and Conservation in the Danube Delta. Turning Fishermen into Outlaws*. In: W. Graf von Harderberg, M. Kelly, C.M. Leal and E. Wakild, *The Nature State: Rethinking the History of Conservation*, Routledge, London and New York, 2017, pp. 194-212

Stefan Dorondel, Environmental Disasters, Climate Change and Other Big Problems of Our Times. A View from Southeast Europe. In: *Ethnologia Balkanica*, vol. 19, 2016: 11-32

Stefan Dorondel, Mihai Popa, Workings of the State: Lists, the European Union Food Aid, and Local Practices of Distribution in Rural Romania. In: *Social Analysis* 58(3), 2014: 124-140

Stelu Serban, **Stefan Dorondel**, Shifting Frames: Social Anthropology in Romania after 1990. In: *Ethnologia Balkanica*, Vol. 17, 2014: 209-240

Stefan Dorondel, Stelu Serban, A Missing Link: The Agrarian Question in Southeast Europe. In: S. Dorondel, S. Serban (eds.), *At the Margins of History. The Agrarian Question in Southeast Europe*. A special issue of *Martor*, Vol. 19, 2014: 7-29.

Stefan Dorondel, Neoliberal Transformations of the Romanian Agrarian Landscape. In: D. Münster, U. Münster, **S. Dorondel** (eds.), *Of Fields and Forests: Ethnographic Perspectives on Environmental Globalization*. In: *RCC Perspectives*, Vol. 5, 2012: 5-10

Daniel Münster, Ursula Münster, **Stefan Dorondel**. *Of Fields and Forests: The Contested Environments of Agrarian Change and Forest Conservation*. In: D. Münster, U. Münster, **S. Dorondel** (eds.), *Fields and Forests: Ethnographic Perspectives on Environmental Globalization*. In: *RCC Perspectives*, Vol. 5, 2012: 13-22

Tatjana Thelen, **Stefan Dorondel**, Alexandra Szoke, Larissa Vettters, 'The Sleep Has Been Rubbed from Their Eyes': Social Citizenship and the Reproduction of Local Hierarchies in Rural Hungary and Romania. In: *Citizenship Studies*, 3-4, 2011: 513-527

Stefan Dorondel, Tenure rights, environmental interests, and the politics of local government in Romania. In: T. Sikor, J. Stahl (Eds.), *Forests and People: Property, Governance, and Human Rights*, London, New York, Earthscan, 2011, pp. 175-186

Thomas Sikor, Johannes Stahl and **Stefan Dorondel**, Property, Access, and State Legitimacy: Emergent Political Orders in Albanian and Romanian Forests. *Development and Change* 40(1), 2009: 171-193

Republished in T. Sikor and C. Lundt (Eds.), *The Politics of Possession. Property, Authority and Access to Natural Resources*, Malden, Oxford, Wiley-Blackwell, 2010, pp. 162-183

Stefan Dorondel, Thomas Sikor, Private Property: From Postsocialism to Neoliberalism? In: *Annuaire Roumain d'Anthropologie*, Vol. 46, 2009: 55 -62

Johannes Stahl, Thomas Sikor and **Stefan Dorondel**, Transparence de l'administration foncière en Albanie et en Roumanie. In: *L'enchâssement social de la question foncière dans les Balkans*, a special issue of the *Options Méditerranéennes* 82, 2009: 55-64

Stefan Dorondel, 'They should be killed': forest restitution, ethnic groups, and patronage in postsocialist Romania. In: D. Fay, D. James (eds.): *'Restoring what was ours': the rights and wrongs of land restitution*, London, Routledge-Cavandish, 2009, pp. 43-66

Johannes Stahl, Thomas Sikor, and **Stefan Dorondel**, The Institutionalization of Property Rights in Albanian and Romanian Biodiversity Conservation. In: *International Journal of Agricultural*

Resources, Governance and Ecology 8(1), 2009: 57-73

Stefan Dorondel, Ethnicity, State, and Natural Resources in the Southeastern Europe. The *Rudari* Case. In: S. Serban (ed.): *Transborder Identities. Romanian-Speaking Population in Bulgaria*, Bucharest, Paideia, 2008, pp. 215-240

Republished in Bulgarian in *Balgarski Folklor*, 1, 2009: 72-86

Constantin Iordan, **Stefan Dorondel**, Stelu Serban, Romanian-speaking population in the Bulgarian post-communist historiography and sociology. Selective bibliography. In: S. Serban (ed.): *Transborder Identities. Romanian-Speaking Population in Bulgaria*, Bucharest, Paideia, 2008, pp. 355-402

Stefan Dorondel, Land, Property, and Access in a Village from Postsocialist Romania. In: S. Dorondel, S. Serban (eds.): *Between East and West. Studies in Anthropology and Social History*, Bucuresti, Editura Institutului Cultural Roman, 2005, pp. 268-307

Stefan Dorondel, The 'Voices' of the Romanian Integration into EU: Land and Environmental Practices in a Village from Dobroudja. In: *The Anthropology of East Europe Review*, 23(2), 2005: 30-40

Stelu Serban, **Stefan Dorondel**, L'histoire orale entre document et récit. Continuité et changement dans la société rurale de Roumanie. In: E. Siupiur et al. (eds.): *Peuples, États et nations dans le sud-est de l'Europe*, Bucarest, Anima, 2004, pp. 45-84

Stefan Dorondel, Orthodoxy, Nationalism and Local Identities: a Romanian Case Study. In: *Ethnologia Balkanica. Journal for Southeast European Anthropology*, Vol. 6, 2002: 42-59

NON REFEREED ARTICLES (since 2000)

Stefan Dorondel, Environmental Anthropologist-cum-Environmental Historian: Listening to the Mermaids. In: C. Mauch, H. Trischler (Eds.), *Making Tracks. Human and Environmental Histories. RCC Perspectives*, Vol. 5, 2013: 131-135.

Stefan Dorondel, Contesting *Pasts*: Property Negotiation and Land Reform in a Romanian Village. In: *New Europe College Yearbook*, 2008/2009, 2011: 121-138

Republished in Catalan in *Revista d'Etnologia de Catalunya*, No. 34: 52-56

Stefan Dorondel, Cultural Change and Symbolic Meanings among the Romanian Peasants from Lapus (Transylvania). In: *Etudes et Documents Balkaniques et Méditerranéens*, Vol. 23, 2001: 35-46

Stelu Serban, **Stefan Dorondel**, The Oral History of an Interethnic and Inter-confessional Village. The Migration Legends. In: *Revue des études sud-est Européennes* XXXVIII, 1-2, 2000: 191-205

BOOK REVIEWS

James C. Scott. *Against the Grain. A Deep History of the Earliest States*, New Haven & London, Yale University Press, 2017. In: *Peuce* XVI, 2018, pp. 371-376.

Alina Mungiu-Pippidi, *A Tale of Two Villages. Coerced Modernization in the East European Countryside*, Budapest, New York, CEU Press, 2010. In: *Südosteuropa*, 60(1), 2012: 148-150

Max Spoor (ed.), *The Political Economy of Rural Livelihoods in Transition Economies. Land, Peasants and Rural Poverty in Transition*, London, Routledge, 2008. In: *Journal of Peasant Studies*, 37(1), 2009: 252-254