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NEGATIVE EMOTIONS' IN ACTION – TWO EXAMPLES FROM THE 15TH CENTURY RAGUSAN DIPLOMACY

Valentina Šoštarić (Zovko)

ABSTRACT

Emotions shouldn't be neglected, but rather taken seriously in order to understand better the complexity of political, and socio-cultural processes that they have generated. The study of emotions in the field of diplomacy is particularly promising, but requires precise definition of the term, explanation of the methodological approach and qualifications concerning the research possibilities that depend upon the nature of the archival sources. The goal of this article is to analyze how words used to signify emotions, which could be signified as negative, shaped practical decisions within certain socio-political and cultural contexts; in other words to demonstrate an active role of emotions in shaping and conducting practical diplomatic decisions. The study aims to underpin the reciprocal relations between emotions and actions illustrated by two case studies from the late medieval Ragusan history. The sources of an interest are preserved in the State archive in Dubrovnik, in the archival seria *Lettere di Levante*, which, among others, contains the instructions written by the city authorities to their envoys. Despite the fact that the instructions were a product of a long and sober-minded discussions, and therefore they aren't usually abundant with words used to express certain emotions in them, places where those expressions appear are quite significant and can tell us more about how emotions were used as a tool of cognitive processes.

KEYWORDS: Dubrovnik, diplomacy, emotions, 15th century, Ragusa.

VALENTINA ŠOŠTARIĆ (ZOVKO) is an Assistant Professor at the Department of History, University of Zadar. Her research interests are closely linked to the late medieval history of the Mediterranean, especially diplomatic and cultural contacts between East and West, as well as late medieval and early modern Ragusan history.

CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE IN EUROPEAN UNITY VISION OF ST. JOHN PAUL II THROUGH HERITAGE OF ST. CYRIL AND METHODIUS

Iryna Hnidyk

ABSTRACT

During the Soviet and post-Soviet period, countries of Central and Eastern Europe experienced difficult social transformation processes. At the same time, these states remained marginal in European integration projects. In this context, the European integration vision of Pope John Paul II became relevant. He emphasized the important role of Central and Eastern part of Europe, its identity, spiritual and cultural heritage in the context of the European unity concepts. St. Cyril and Methodius became the special symbols and the personification of identity of Central and Eastern Europe in Pope's vision. On the basis of analysis of researches, works and speeches the connection between the figures of St. Cyril and Methodius and the European vision of John Paul II is analysed. Particular attention is paid to his interpretation of actuality of St. Cyril and Methodius heritage for modern Europe in three important aspects: European integration, ecumenism, spiritual and cultural European identity.

KEYWORDS: Central and Eastern Europe, John Paul II, St. Cyril and Methodius, European integration, heritage.

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IDENTITIES ON THE GO: HOMELANDS AND LANGUAGES IN BALKAN AND TURKISH–CYPRIOT LITERATURE

Anna-Marina Katsigianni

ABSTRACT

The present study focuses on tracing the depictions of the poetic subject in the light of lost homelands, linguistic foreignness and multilingualism, in poems about “political ethics”, which all too clearly converse with history—narratives that highlight the geographically and linguistically homeless poetic subject, in poems which are always written under the weight of a specific historical event, in other words articulated “under the heavy footsteps of history”. The transition from stability to instability, the feeling of physical and psychological loss through geographical and cultural change is vividly reflected in both Balkan and Turkish-Cypriot literature. In the present study, poems by Balkan poets are examined alongside poems by Turkish-Cypriot poet Mehmet Yaşin. Despite the self-evident cultural differences between Balkan and Turkish-Cypriot literature, there exist factors that warrant their co-examination; common narrative structures and similar themes—at least in part—require that they be systematically read together. The common historical past and the burden of memory—the construction or reconstruction through these texts of a collective point of reference and the transfer to common memorial sites; internal migration; the survival of common oral forms of poetry; divergent or ‘heretical’ writings; linguistic transitions; the processing of transitional identities: these are just some of the most obvious points of convergence. Balkan poems constitute a distinct category and, as will be shown below, are linked to Turkish-Cypriot ones primarily through their ideology. Some of the themes that persistently recur in Balkan poets’ and Yaşin’s work are: lost homelands, the reception of alterity, internal migration, shattered identities, the thematisation of orality and multilingualism. Yaşin’s poetry registers the multiple transitions of language and the coexistence of foreign languages, while also making use of the Karamanlidika dialect.

KEYWORDS: Turkish-Cypriot literature, lost homelands, linguistic foreignness, reception of alterity, internal migration, fragmented identity, thematisation of orality and multilingualism.

ANNA-MARINA KATSIKIANNI is Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Patras. Her research interests include Comparative Literature, European Literature, Modern Greek Literature and Criticism, Metrics, Genre Theory, Mythocriticism, Theory of Literature, Inter-artistic Relations, Cultural Studies, Editing.

ASPECTS OF ROMANIAN CONSULAR DIPLOMACY IN TWO SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES IN THE FIRST DECADES OF THE COMMUNIST RULE

Claudia Mănguță Rusu

ABSTRACT

This article aims to analyse the activity of Romanian Consulates in two Scandinavian countries, Denmark and Norway, with particular focus on the first decades of the post-war period. Thus, the objective of this paper is to identify the main problems encountered by Romanian Consulates in Copenhagen and Oslo, as well as the solutions found to overcome them. The article is based on the analysis of the work plans and the annual reports preserved in The Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Romania on the activity of the consular offices, both during the rule of Gheorghe Gheorghiu Dej, as well as at the beginning of Ceausescu's rule. The openness of the Romanian authorities after 1965 towards the West offers new perspectives for the analysis of the Romanian consular services in the two Scandinavian countries, which can anticipate the evolution of the Romanian consular diplomacy, its difficulties as well as its achievements.

KEYWORDS: Scandinavia, diplomacy, Romania, communism, consulates.

CLAUDIA MĂNGUȚĂ RUSU, since 1991, has been a history teacher at Colegiul Național „Constantin Carabella”, Târgoviște. In 2016 she became a PhD student at Valahia University of Târgoviște and she currently researching consular diplomacy between 1878-1989. The aim of her dissertation is to make a comparative analysis of the Romanian consular activity in Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, by examining documents preserved in The Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Romania, as well as documents found in Riksarkivet, the National Archives of Sweden. Beside of that, she is highly interested in totalitarianism and the Holocaust.

CONFRONTING RECENT HISTORY: MEDIA IN SERBIA DURING ALEKSANDAR VUČIĆ'S MINISTRY OF INFORMATION IN THE MILOŠEVIĆ ERA (1998–1999)

Srdan Mladenov Jovanović

ABSTRACT

Since the end of the Yugoslav wars of the nineties, Serbia seems to have fallen out of the spotlight in scholarly research. Attempting to counter this, in this article, we tackle the media suppression by the 1998–99 Ministry of Information led by Aleksandar Vučić, nowadays serving as Serbia's President. Repositioning the spotlight from Slobodan Milošević to Aleksandar Vučić, we confront the numerous attempts of media suppression and censorship in the late nineties.

KEYWORDS: Serbia, censorship, Aleksandar Vučić, media, Milošević era.

SRDAN MLADENOV JOVANOVIĆ is an Associate Professor of History at the Nankai University in Tianjin, China. He has taught and conducted research in a number of universities and research institutions, such as Palacky University Olomouc (Czech Republic), University of Košice (Slovakia), New Europe College (Romania), Lund University (Sweden), Polish Institute for Advanced Studies (Poland), and Istanbul Şehir University (Turkey). His research interests include recent history, sociolinguistic and political sciences in Eastern Europe.