



# NEWSLETTER

## Call for papers

- *War and Fun: Reconceptualizing Warfare and Its Experience (WARFUN)*. Special Issue: War and Fun. Journal: War and Society. Guest editors: Antonio De Lauri, Iva Jelusic, Eva Johais, Heidi Mogstad, Luigi Achilli. Fun has every shade of connotation, from the most joyful to the most sinister. The special issue "War and Fun" will use the category of "fun" and related concepts "pleasure, humor, joy" as an entry point to explore the experience of war from the perspective of those who fight. The special issue builds on an ongoing project funded by the European Research Council and entitled "War and Fun: Reconceptualizing Warfare and Its Experience". The suffering and hardships that humans endure within war cannot be stressed enough. It is precisely for this reason that we need more nuanced understandings of the experience of war. While exploring the relevance of fun in war may strike some people as trivializing human suffering, we invite contributions to show that an investigation of this kind is crucial if we want to unveil the plurality of experiences and affective grammars that would otherwise be neglected by the exclusive focus on the normative aspects of war. Deadlines: 31 March 2023: submission of title, abstract (150 words), and bio; 16 June 2023: submission of full paper (max 8000 words). Submissions should be sent to: Antonio De Lauri (antonio.delauri@cmi.no). Project info: <https://www.cmi.no/projects/2535-erc-war-and-fun>.
- *Ante Portas - War in Ukraine volume*. The Ante Portas – Security Studies (ISSN 2353-6306) is a semiannual journal first published in 2012 by the Department of National Security of the University of Business and Entrepreneurship in Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski. In 2014 a new conflict broke out in Europe. After dozens of years of peace and relative security, war knocked on the European door. Even though only a few then thought, that a full-scale military operation can be launched in Europe in the near future. We were wrong. On February 24th, 2022, Russian Federation started the full-scale war against Ukraine, without any warning or any reason. The ongoing war (when we write these words the war has been going on for more than 100 days) is a humanitarian tragedy and political disaster. However, it is also a fascinating case of military studies. The newest Ante Portas issue is concerned about the military issues of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022, with particular emphasis put on: Military prelude to the war; Russian military build-up 2021-2022; Ukrainian preparations for war; Invasion of Ukraine – military actions, battlefields, logistics, arms and equipment; Foreign military support to Ukraine – aid, sales, technical and military involvement; Foreign volunteers and mercenary groups; Military intelligence, satellite imaging, and surveillance at war; Humanitarian impact – casualties, prisoners of war, war crimes, and refugees; Media at war – propaganda and public relations warfare; Cyberwar – cyberattacks, cyberterrorism and hackers at war; Security and military changes in Europe after February 24th, 2022. Information for authors: We ask you to submit the articles to the e-mail address: [redakcja@anteportas.pl](mailto:redakcja@anteportas.pl). We accept articles only in English. Submissions should not have been previously published. All submissions are subject to double-blind peer review. Texts should be fully proofed for grammatical and typographical errors before submission and must fulfill the editorial requirements. For more see: <https://anteportas.pl/>.

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- *The Journal of Romanian Studies, examining critical issues in Romanian and Moldovan studies.* The editors of Journal of Romanian Studies welcome contributions for forthcoming issues. The journal considers manuscripts that draw on various theoretical, conceptual, and methodological perspectives as understood in disciplines ranging from history, political science, philosophy, law and justice studies, anthropology, sociology, ethnography, and education to literature, linguistics, economics, business, religious, gender, film and media studies, art history, and music. The journal welcomes articles that compare various Romanian and Moldovan issues and those that investigate the challenges of migration and globalization, changes and opportunities in international relations, and the impact of the European Union in the region. In addition to the original research articles (max. 10,000 words), review articles (max. 3,000 words), and book reviews (max. 1000 words) are considered for publications. All submissions are subject to the double-blind peer-review process. Special issues that group research articles on a common theme in Romanian Studies are welcomed. Submissions are accepted on a rolling basis. To submit articles, please e-mail the journal editors Svetlana Suveica ([ssuveica@gmail.com](mailto:ssuveica@gmail.com)) and Jill Massino ([jmassino@uncc.edu](mailto:jmassino@uncc.edu)). To submit book reviews, please e-mail the book review editor Iuliu Rațiu ([bookreviewsjrs@gmail.com](mailto:bookreviewsjrs@gmail.com)). More information: [https://www.liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/pb-assets/documents/Journals/jrns\\_cfp2023-1670426598.pdf](https://www.liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/pb-assets/documents/Journals/jrns_cfp2023-1670426598.pdf)

## Conference Calls

- *Hybrid conference 'The Balkans as a Space of Nourishment,'* Jena, Germany, 16-18 November 2023. We welcome context-sensitive, site-specific accounts that explore rich history of nourishment in theory and practice across the Balkans. In the international news as well as in a vast majority of scholarly accounts, the Balkans figure first and foremost as a site of violence, destruction, and deprivation. The region's rich tradition of nourishment, whether of plants and land, non-human animals and human relationships, and collective solidarity in challenging surroundings gets little, if any, spotlight. This conference aims to explore the history of the Balkans as a space and idea of nourishment through frameworks offered by the recent care turn and attention paid to compassion, healing, and eco-restorative practices of companionship (Haraway, Tsing, Brown). We welcome proposals (250 words) for 20-minute presentations in English. This is a hybrid conference that will take place both at Friedrich-Schiller-University in Jena and online. We will be able to offer some reimbursement to those attending in person. Please, send your abstracts and a short bio (including whether you plan to attend in person or online) to Lea Horvat ([lea.horvat@uni-jena.de](mailto:lea.horvat@uni-jena.de)), Ana Sekuli ([ans401@pitt.edu](mailto:ans401@pitt.edu)) and/or Snezana Stankovic ([snezana.stankovic@uni-jena.de](mailto:snezana.stankovic@uni-jena.de)) by **March 31, 2023**. Website: <http://www.hsozkult.de/event/id/event-134217>
- *EU Law lecture series - University College Cork.* The Centre for European Integration @ University College Cork invites in person and online participation to its 2nd EU law lecture series, with a book launch of "Russia's War against Europe" by Dr Luigi Lonardo (UCC Ireland) on 7 March 2023; EU Citizen Status after "Brexit" (Prof Eleanor Spaventa, Bocconi University, Italy) on **22 March 2023** (online); and a critical analysis of the GC ruling on freedom of expression and Russia Today (Dr Sara Poli, University of Pisa, Italy) on **5 April 2023** (online). Website: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/law/research/centreforeuropeanintegration/ceiucc-events/register-now-eu-law-lecture-series-semester-2.html>
- *Conference 'Patterns of Miscommunication in Contemporary East-Central European Cinema,' Bucharest, Romania, 28-29 September 2023.* East-Central Europe is as much a geographical area as it is a political idea: its spatial coordinates have shifted extensively in alignment with the logistics of the different ideologies which, over time, have placed the delineation of the region at the core of their program. According to Joachim von Puttkamer (2015), with its primary interest in the productive and destructive dimensions of cultural entanglements in imperial and post-imperial contexts, a historiography of East Central Europe has emerged which goes beyond political biases and has a cultural studies orientation? The conference will take place on the 28th and 29th of September, 2023 at the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA) (Bucharest, 30A Expozitiei Blvd.). Authors wishing to contribute to the conference program are kindly invited to submit an abstract of maximum 300 words and a short bio note at the following address: [snsa.unatc.conference@gmail.com](mailto:snsa.unatc.conference@gmail.com). **Deadlines:** Abstracts and bio note submission: **June 15, 2023**. Decision date: July 31, 2023. Conference fee: 50 euros (free of charge for (doctoral) students).
- *Call for Papers 5 th International Conference Between the Worlds of Old and New Homes.* The Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences has the pleasure to invite you to the international conference 'Between the Worlds of Old and New Homes', that will take place on **May 29 - 31, 2023** in Sofia, Bulgaria. The forum is organized under the research project 'Still in Bulgaria. Cultural and Social Effects of Labour Mobility and Migration on Bulgarian Society (1990-2019) (LEFT-BEHIND)', funded by the Bulgarian National Science Fund, implemented by IEFSEM - BAS. According to the 2022 World Migration Report, 3.6% of the global population consists of migrants, while the rest still live in their countries of origin. Despite that percentage, in the last, almost a decade, and in particular in the past three years - during the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing war in Ukraine, the topics related to migrants, refugees, migrations, and mobilities are linked to high disinformation and are part of the politics of fear and division employed by some political leaders. The negative social impact brought up by that politicized discourse affects societal values and supports nationalist narratives and stereotypization related. The working language of the conference is English. All interested authors should send an abstract (between 200 - 250 words) along with a proposed title, five keywords, the author's full name, e-mail, institutional and disciplinary affiliation, and a short biography should be sent by **March 1, 2023**, to the following email: [theleftbehindbg@gmail.com](mailto:theleftbehindbg@gmail.com). Participants will be informed about the outcome of the Organising Committee selection process no later than March 20, 2023. Following the pattern established during our previous conference of the 'Between the Worlds' Series initiative, selected authors will be invited to submit their manuscripts until August 31, 2023, for publication. After double-blind peer-reviewing, these will be published in an open access e-collection at the website of the conference: <https://conferenceworlds.wordpress.com/publications/>

## Calls for projects/Fellowships

- **18 Business School Bursaries. Deadline: 31st March 2023.** University of Bristol Business School PhD Scholarships include home or overseas tuition fees for four years (full-time), depending on satisfactory progress. Each student will receive a stipend of £18,000 per annum and £2,000 over the four-year period in research training and support grant for associated research costs. PhD students with a School Scholarship will also receive a teaching contract, the payment for which is in addition to the bursary. For further information please contact [business-school-pgr@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:business-school-pgr@bristol.ac.uk). Website: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/business-school/phd-programmes/phd-funding/>.
- **ERC Proof of Concept Grants (ERC-2023-POC). Deadlines: 20 April 2023; 21 September 2023.** The ERC Proof of Concept Grants aim at facilitating exploration of the commercial and social innovation potential of ERC funded research, by funding further work (i.e. activities which were not scheduled to be funded by the original ERC frontier research grant) to verify the innovation potential of ideas arising from ERC funded projects. Proof of Concept Grants are therefore on offer only to Principal Investigators whose proposals draw substantially on their ERC funded research. The financial contribution will be awarded as a lump sum of EUR 150 000 for a period of 18 months. The ERC expects that, normally, proof of concept activities should be completed within 12 months. However, to allow for those projects that require more preparation time, the grant agreements will be signed for 18 months. Extensions of the duration of proof of concept projects may be granted only exceptionally. The lump sum will cover the beneficiaries' direct and indirect eligible costs for the project: if the project is implemented properly, the amounts will be paid regardless of the costs actually incurred. The lump sum has been designed to cover the beneficiaries' personnel costs, subcontracting, purchase costs, other cost categories, and indirect costs. All Principal Investigators in an ongoing ERC main grant or in a ERC main grant that has ended less than 12 months before 1 January 2023, are eligible to apply for an ERC Proof of Concept Grant. Website: [ERC-2023-POC](#).
- **ERC Advanced Grant (ERC-2023-ADG). Deadline: 23 May 2023.** Are you an established, leading principal investigator who wants long-term funding to pursue a ground-breaking, high-risk project? The ERC Advanced Grant could be for you. ERC Advanced Grants are designed to support excellent Principal Investigators at the career stage at which they are already established research leaders with a recognized track record of research achievements. Principal Investigators must demonstrate the ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility of their scientific proposal. Advanced Grants may be awarded up to a maximum of EUR 2 500 000 for a period of 5 years (the maximum award is reduced pro rata temporis for projects of a shorter duration). However, an additional € 1 million can be made available to cover eligible "start-up" costs for researchers moving from a third country to the EU or an associated country and/or the purchase of major equipment and/or access to large facilities and/or other major experimental and field work costs. An ERC grant can cover up to 100% of the total eligible direct costs of the research plus a contribution of 25% of the total eligible costs towards indirect costs. ERC Advanced Grant Principal Investigators are expected to be active researchers and to have a track record of significant research achievements in the last 10 years which must be presented in the application. A competitive Advanced Grant Principal Investigator must have already shown a record which identifies them as an exceptional leader in terms of originality and significance of their research contributions. Applications for an ERC grant must be submitted by a single Principal Investigator (PI) in conjunction with and on behalf of their Host Institution, called the applicant legal entity. ERC grants support projects carried out by an individual researcher who can employ researchers of any nationality as team members. It is also possible to have one or more team members located in a non-European country. Proposals are evaluated by selected international peer reviewers who assess them on the basis of excellence as the sole criterion. It will be applied to the evaluation of both the research project and the Principal Investigator in conjunction. Peer reviewers are in charge of assessing and scoring the proposals. Those who pass the quality threshold are ranked. Depending on the call budget available, a budgetary cut-off applies to the ranking list and only the highest ranked proposals are offered an ERC grant until the call's budget has been used. Website: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/erc-2023-adg>.

## Job opportunities

- **The NATO Defense College** advertises two Researcher positions focusing respectively on: a) Security aspects related to Russia b) Future warfare. Qualified candidates are invited to apply through the e-recruitment system, which can be accessed [here](#). The successful candidate will be offered a definite duration contract of two years which may be followed by a further three-year contract. Employment of Research positions shall not be beyond five years duration. Applications from NATO redundant staff members of the same grade will be considered according to the terms of art. 57.2, Chapter XII to NATO Civilian Personnel Regulations. Additional information Appointment will be subject to receipt of a Security Clearance (provided by the national authority of the selected candidate) and approval of the candidate's medical file by the NATO Medical Adviser. Please note that only applications from nationals of NATO member countries can be accepted. Due to the large amount of applications received, telephone or e-mail enquiries cannot be dealt with. In order to follow the status of the vacancy please refer to NDC webpage: [www.ndc.nato.int/about/jobs.php](http://www.ndc.nato.int/about/jobs.php). Location: NATO Defense College, Rome, Italy Post Context: Research Division Title: Researcher Post Number: NDC ARXX 0030 / 0040 NATO Grade: G20 (A4) Closing date: **26 March 2023**. Website: [https://www.nato.int/structur/recruit/documents/Researcher%20\(2posts\).pdf](https://www.nato.int/structur/recruit/documents/Researcher%20(2posts).pdf).