

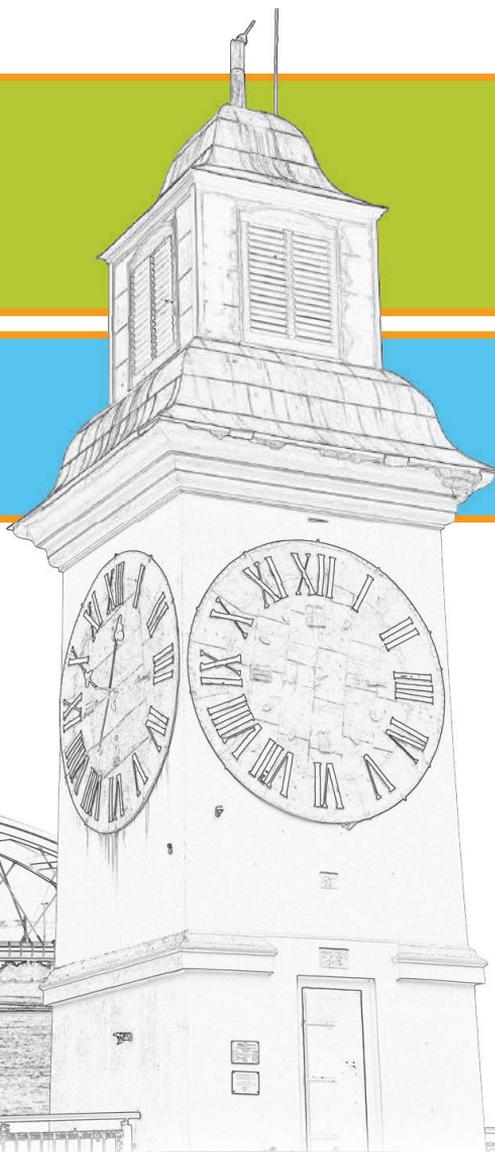


ICARUS CONVENTION #32

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH –
BETWEEN THE ANALOG
AND THE DIGITAL

NOVI SAD, SERBIA
JUNE 5-7, 2024



austrijski kulturni forum^{beg}

TREVIS

Coorganisers: Archives of Vojvodina, Historical Archives of the City of Novi Sad and ICARUS

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The ICARUS Convention #32 has been financially supported by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia and the Austrian Cultural Forum, Belgrade

Sponsor: Trevis d.o.o.

Published by: Archives of Vojvodina

Editor-in-chief: Dr Nebojša Kuzmanović

Edited by: Ljiljana Bubnjević

Catalog design and preparation for printing: Tatjana Cavnić

Photo by: Vladimir Mučibabić

English translation/proofreading: Mark Daniels

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Ljiljana Bubnjević
Coordinator of ICARUS Convention #32

On behalf of the Republic of Serbia, Province of Vojvodina, the City of Novi Sad, director of the Archives of Vojvodina, Nebojša Kuzmanović PhD, director of the Historical Archives of the City of Novi Sad Petar Đurđev, our President Birgit Kibal and the rest of our ICARUS community and, of course, our entire archival team, I welcome you all to Novi Sad, venue for the 32nd ICARUS convention!

Archives and Research – Between the Analog and the Digital is the main theme of this 32nd ICARUS Convention.

Novi Sad is the capital city of the Province of Vojvodina and Serbia's second-largest city. It originated as a Stone Age settlement in present-day Petrovaradin. The first references to the city itself date from 1694, two years after the construction of Austria's Petrovaradin Fortress had begun. There, on the

"Gibraltar of the Danube", 1,255 kilometres downstream from the source of this river, the mediaeval Habsburg monarchy rose from the ashes by building this Fortress, after the Turkish siege of Vienna in 1683 had been fought off. In a region where three major rivers meet – the Danube, the Tisa, and the Sava – and three civilisations do too – those of the Christian East, the Christian West, and of Islam – many ethnic and religious communities found shelter and sanctuary. The place saw migrations of Gepids, Huns, Avars, Slavs, Germanic peoples, Magyars, Byzantines and Turks. On the Petrovaradin Rock, the Romans had erected a fort, which was later rebuilt by the Hungarians and held by the Turks. After the Turks had been expelled at the end of the 17th century, the Austrians built a bridgehead facing the fortress, on the left, marshy bank of the Danube, around which a settlement of soldiers, merchants, and tradesmen sprang up.

Vojvodina is also home to the oldest national park in Serbia called Fruška Gora, situated on the slopes of the mountain bearing the same name. Seventeen monasteries have been built over the centuries, dotted all over Fruška Gora. Vojvodina is famous for its abundance of high-quality arable land, its overall economic and cultural development, its high population density and its demographic diversity. Vojvodina, as the northern Province of Serbia, is a region which has traditionally fostered multilingualism, multiculturalism and multiconfessionalism. The University of Novi Sad is the second biggest university in Serbia, with 14 faculties, three institutes and 50,000 students.

Throughout its history, this area and its central city have witnessed numerous shifts in their boundaries. We, as archivists, are the stewards of this historical legacy. Our commitment is to transcend the boundaries that divide us. In this spirit, the Vojvodina Archives have embraced a guiding principle that informs our primary functions, our project initiatives, and our publishing work: *Openness, Access, Memory, Identity*. As archivists, we are the guardians and the conscience of society, and this convention is important because it takes us on a fascinating collective voyage.

Welcome again!

Ljiljana Bubnjević, Senior Archivist of Archives of Vojvodina
Coordinator of ICARUS Convention #32



Programme

Wednesday 5 June

Venue: Archives of Vojvodina, Žarka Vasiljevića 2a, Novi Sad

- 12⁰⁰ – 15⁰⁰ Registration – Archives of Vojvodina Main Hall
- 12⁰⁰ – 13⁰⁰ Coffee – Archives of Vojvodina Main Hall
- 13⁰⁰ – 14³⁰ Executive Board meeting (only for Board members)
- 14³⁰ – 15⁰⁰ *Coffee break – Archives of Vojvodina Main Hall*
- 15⁰⁰ – 15³⁰ Welcome – Archives of Vojvodina Main Hall
- Nebojša Kuzmanović PhD, director of Archives of Vojvodina
 - Birgit Kibal, President of ICARUS
 - Charles Farrugia PhD, director of the National Archives of Malta/President of EURBICA

Wednesday 5 June

Session: Minority Communities in Europe – Archival Materials and Other Sources

Venue: Archives of Vojvodina, Žarka Vasiljevića 2a, Novi Sad

- 15³⁰ – 15⁴⁵ Aleksandar Bursać, Ljiljana Bubnjević: Associations of the Danube Swabians in Vojvodina 1920-1944 (Archives of Vojvodina, Serbia)
- 15⁴⁵ – 16⁰⁰ Sophio Jobava, Khatia Kinkladze: German settlements and their way of life in Georgia as documented in the collections of the National Archives of Georgia (National Archives of Georgia, Georgia)

Minority Communities in Europe – Archival Materials and Other Sources

- 16⁰⁰ – 16¹⁵ Maja Nikolova: Digitalisation of Tsintsari Culture. Bulletin of the Lunjina Serbian Aromanians Society (UNIHub, Serbia)
- 16¹⁵ – 16³⁰ Marija Belakaposka: A minority community in Europe – the Vlachs in Macedonia (University, Institute of History, North Macedonia)
- 16³⁰ – 16⁴⁵ Boris Stojkovski: Muslims, Jews and Orthodox Christians in Mediaeval Hungary in the mirror of the archival documents (University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Philosophy, Serbia)
- 16⁴⁵ – 17¹⁵ *Coffee break*
- 17¹⁵ – 17³⁰ Bojana Vuković: The role of people in the digitalization process of the Folklore Collection of the Institute of Ethnography of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts (Institute of Ethnography SASA Belgrade, Serbia)
- 17³⁰ – 17⁴⁵ Srđan Sivčev: Documents from the Historical Archive of Kikinda regarding the Romani community from the end of the 18th Century until 1944 (Historical Archive of Kikinda, Serbia)
- 17⁴⁵ – 18⁰⁰ Sanja Demirović: Transcript and translation of the charter in which the toponym of the current city of Brčko is mentioned for the first time. (Archives of Vojvodina, Serbia)
- 17¹⁵ – 18⁰⁰ **ICARUS project meeting (research room)**
- 18³⁰ – 19³⁰ **Soccer game**, Sport centre Sokolsko Društvo Vojvodina (football pitch), address: Ignjata Pavlasa 2-4, walking distance 5 min from Archives of Vojvodina.
- 20⁰⁰ **Reception** – Archives of Vojvodina – Amphitheatre (in the garden)

Thursday 6 June

Session: Archives and Societies – An Analog Archivist in a Digital World

Venue: Historical Archives of the City of Novi Sad, Filipa Višnjića 2a, Novi Sad

- 09⁰⁰ – 11⁰⁰ Registration – Historical Archives of the City of Novi Sad Main Hall + coffee break
- 10⁰⁰ – 10¹⁵ Petar Đurđev, director of Historical Archives of the City of Novi Sad
- 10¹⁵ – 10³⁰ Thomas Hengst: FamilySearch. Working with friends - Tools and Processes for Mass Digitization and Preservation of Historical Records
- 10³⁰ – 10⁴⁵ Günter Mühlberger: Transkribus – AI for historical documents (Institute for German Language and Literature, University of Innsbruck, Austria)
- 10⁴⁵ – 11⁰⁰ Adam Sofronijević, Nataša Dakić, Aleksandra Trtovac: Transkribus Experience at University Library Belgrade (University Library “Svetozar Marković”, Belgrade, Serbia)
- 11⁰⁰ – 11¹⁵ Charles J. Farrugia: Constant Adaptation in Archival Environments: Transitioning from the analogue to the digital archive (National Archivist Malta; Head of the Department of Library, Information and Archive Sciences, University of Malta; Secretary, Evaluation Commission of ICA, Malta)
- 11¹⁵ – 11⁴⁵ *Coffee break*
- 11⁴⁵ – 12⁰⁰ Sven Lepa: Finding minute details in minutes – an introductory report on an information extraction project (National Archives of Estonia, Tartu, Estonia)
- 12⁰⁰ – 12¹⁵ Peer Boselie: Limburg Time Machine Society as a central theme (Regional Archives of Sittard-Geleen, President Icarus4all, Netherlands)
- 12¹⁵ – 12³⁰ Bálint Ternovác: Street Names and Memory Politics (Budapest City Archives, Hungary)
- 12³⁰ – 12⁴⁵ Maruška Nenezić: Archival practice at the Kotor Historical Archive in the context of analogue and digital processing of data from the Austrian cadastre (Historical Archives of Kotor, Montenegro)

Archives and Societies – An Analog Archivist in a Digital World

- 12⁴⁵ – 13⁰⁰ Danica Majstorović Eather: Creating Digital Image Collections: A case study involving Serbian diaspora documentary heritage research projects in Australia (Private sector, Australia)
- 13⁰⁰ – 14⁰⁰ *Lunch – Historical Archives of the City of Novi Sad Main Hall*
- 14⁰⁰ – 14¹⁵ Nina Čolović, Vinko Korotaj Drača, Stella Maria Varga: Construction of archival memory: narratives of power in understanding and Yugoslav and Post-Yugoslav interethnic relations diversity in archival practice (Archives of Serbs in Croatia, Croatia)
- 14¹⁵ – 14³⁰ Dejan Mostarlić: Archival material on Jews in Srem - Remembering the life of a people - (Srem Historical Archives, Sremska Mitrovica, Serbia)
- 14³⁰ – 14⁴⁵ Miško Stanišić: Inclusive memory culture and the new challenges for archival pedagogy (Terraforming, Serbia)
- 14⁴⁵ – 15⁰⁰ Igor Rakić: Shaike Dan and Yugoslav-Israeli (in)formal contacts: a document detailing the utilization of individual Jewish contacts to bolster Yugoslav Middle-East policy (Historical Archives in Niš, Serbia)
- 15⁰⁰ – 15³⁰ *Coffee break*
- 15³⁰ – 15⁴⁵ Sonja Ivanović, Olivera Krivošić: Project E-ROUTES – Time Travel Routes through Europe (Biblioteka Matice Srpske, Novi Sad, Serbia)
- 15⁴⁵ – 16⁰⁰ Bojan Milosavljević: Creative Europe programme in Serbia (Ministry of Culture, Belgrade, Serbia)
- 16⁰⁰ – 16¹⁵ Caroline Maximoff: The Heritage Innovation Marketplace – a platform for tools and services of relevance for cultural heritage players (ICARUS, Vienna, Austria)
- 16¹⁵ – 16³⁰ Jovica Zeković: Everything you need for the archive, library, museum and gallery (Trevis, Belgrade, Serbia)

Walk from the City of Novi Sad Historical Archives to the Fortress (around 40 minutes' walk); tour of the underground military tunnels at the Fortress and the City Museum of Novi Sad

18³⁰ – 19³⁰ **Military Tunnels and City Museum of Novi Sad**, Petrovaradin Fortress

20⁰⁰ *Dinner at Karlo restaurant, Petrovaradin Fortress*

Thursday 6 June

Parallel session: **TOPOTHEQUE**

Venue: Svilara, Đorđa Rajkovića 6b, walking distance: 5 minutes from Historical Archives of the City Novi Sad

14¹⁵ – 14⁴⁰ Vlatka Lemić: Topotheque – Collaborative portal for archives and communities and Topotheque collections of the University of Zagreb (2 Topotheques) (ICARUS, Croatia)

14⁴⁰ – 15⁰⁰ Josip Bako: Topotheque – Heritage of Croats in Serbia: markers of ethno-cultural Identity (Institute for Culture of Croats in Vojvodina, Subotica, Serbia)

15⁰⁰ – 15²⁰ Siniša Domazet: (Partially) opened chest – Topotheque and the Archives of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Archives of Bosnia and Herzegovina Sarajevo)

15²⁰ – 15⁴⁰ Danijela Branković: Topotheque – seals from the Archives of Vojvodina Fonds (Archives of Vojvodina, Serbia)

15⁴⁰ – 16⁰⁰ Sara Samardžić: Topotheque – the Almaški Quarter (Historical Archives of the City of Novi Sad, Serbia)

Friday - 7 June

Venue: Archives of Vojvodina, Žarka Vasiljevića 2a, Novi Sad, Serbia

- 09⁰⁰ – 9¹⁵ Vlatka Lemić, Tamara Štefanac: Approaching the migration phenomena from an archival perspective: reflections on the AToM project (ICARUS Croatia, Croatia)
- 09¹⁵ – 9³⁰ László-Herbert, Mark: A personal story: navigating the joys and challenges of working with documents of minority communities. Vera and Donald Blinken Open Society Archives at Central European University (Budapest, Hungary)
- 09³⁰ – 9⁴⁵ Milica Savić Kosovac: Magdalena Manda Sudarević in the parliamentary and social life of Vojvodina. (Archives of Vojvodina, Serbia)
- 09⁴⁵ – 10⁰⁰ Dragana Katić: Greeks in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina 1945 – 1949 (Archives of Vojvodina, Serbia)
- 10⁰⁰ – 10³⁰ *Coffee break*

MONASTERIUM WORKSHOP

- 10³⁰ – 11⁰⁰ Karl Heinz and Daniel Jeller: Monasterium (ICARUS, AT)
- 11⁰⁰ – 11³⁰ Antonella Ambrosio, Maria Pia Tiseo: Analog Archives, Digital Future: the medieval monastic archives of Southern Italy on Monasterium.Net (University of Naples and University of Basilicata, Italy).
- 11³⁰ – 12⁰⁰ Zagorka Avakumović: Archives of Vojvodina Collection of Charters and Diplomas (Archives of Vojvodina, Serbia)



THEMED EXHIBITION AND BOOK PRESENTATION:

- 12⁰⁰ – 13⁰⁰ Svetlana Ljubljanac, archives adviser, Archives of Vojvodina, author of the themed exhibition and book presentation. To celebrate Archives of Vojvodina Day, we present the book “ADVOKATSKA KOMORA VOJVODINE Kroz odabranu arhivsku građu od 1875. do 1975. godine”, a publication resulting from a partnership between the Archives of Vojvodina and the Vojvodina Bar Association (Archives of Vojvodina, Serbia)
- 13⁰⁰ – 14⁰⁰ *Lunch – Archives of Vojvodina*
- 14⁰⁰ Guided tour through Novi Sad and a visit to the Museum of Vojvodina, walking distance 5 min from Archives of Vojvodina



Thursday - 6 June

Workshop of Archives of Vojvodina: Conservation and Restoration of Paper and Parchment – a Case Study

Venue: Archives of Vojvodina, Žarka Vasiljevića 2a, Novi Sad

Note: this workshop/special session addresses a narrow field of expertise and will be held in Serbian since participants are from this region; our colleagues from Hungary will give their presentations in Hungarian, for which consecutive interpretation into Serbian will be provided as well as vice-versa (from Serbian into Hungarian) by Šarolta Kartag Miladinov.

- 10⁰⁰ – 10¹⁰ Welcome
- 10¹⁰ – 10³⁰ Adrien P. Holl: Preservation and protection of the written heritage of the Visegrád Countries. V4 project for the protection of archival materials (Budapest City Archives, Hungary)
- 10³⁰ – 10⁵⁰ Ágnes L. Nemes: The protection and restoration of archival materials in the Hungarian National Archives (National Archives of Hungary)
- 10⁵⁰ – 11¹⁰ Andreja Dragojević: Visual examination of written heritage (Croatian State Archives, Croatia)
- 11¹⁰ – 11³⁰ *Coffee break*
- 11³⁰ – 11⁵⁰ Nataša Dimitrić: Amino alcohol-based protic ionic liquids for fungi removal from paper heritage artefacts (Library of Matica Srpska, Serbia)
- 11⁵⁰ – 12¹⁰ Višnja Nikolić: Conservation and restoration work on maps and plans in the Archives of Vojvodina (Archives of Vojvodina, Serbia)
- 12¹⁰ – 12³⁰ Maja Jokmanović: Creating a copy of the Charter of Empress Maria Theresa on the establishment of the Great Kikinda Privileged District from 1774 (Archives of Vojvodina, Serbia)
- 12³⁰ – 13⁰⁰ Discussion
- 13⁰⁰ – 14⁰⁰ *Lunch – Archives of Vojvodina Main Hall*

- 14⁰⁰ – 14²⁰ Márk Somogyi: The structure and conservation of springback bindings (National Archives of Hungary)
- 14²⁰ – 14⁴⁰ Katalin Orosz: Condition assessment of the Ráday Archives' mediaeval document collection, conservation-restoration decision-making and interventions (Budapest City Archives, Hungary)
- 14⁴⁰ – 15⁰⁰ Elisaveta Markovikj: The treatment of Anoxia for preventive protection and conservation of rare books from the fonds of the State Archive of North Macedonia (case study). (State Archives of the Republic of North Macedonia)
- 15⁰⁰ – 15²⁰ Anđela Aćimović: Processes of conservation and restoration of a geographical map (Archives of Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- 15²⁰ – 15⁵⁰ Discussion



domo synago
est de cubiculo
si. interducat
alium suum. et
te in domū mīc
biculum eius. que
cepit me.
lū uiuum. s. ut nō
ut occidet non em
more sed odio emule.

latere meo ananias
et collocauit in sinu suo. ^{p. cerimo} Su
autē filium qui erat mort
pegit in sinu meo. ^{doctrinae.} Cum
m mane ut darem lac filio meo: apparui
di non ē meum quem

ue diligenti intuentē.
um est occidēte quomodo
uum et alios ecclia a sacros
nt intellexit ecclia non ē si
n suū qui tenebatur in le
et in luce cognouit que in
nebris non uidebat.

Respondit altera mu
est ita ut dicit. sed fili
mortuus est meus
honoratio uam mentari. filius quippe m
filius tuus mortuus est. atq; in hunc r
debant coram rege. **T**unc rex ait. hec dicit
uiuit. mortuus est filius tuus. et ita
filius tuus mo
ant uiuit.

Session: Minority Communities in Europe – Archival Materials and Other Sources

Associations of the Danube Swabians in Vojvodina 1920 – 1944

Aleksandar Bursać, senior archivist
Ljiljana Bubnjević, senior archivist
Archives of Vojvodina, Novi Sad, Serbia

At the Archives of Vojvodina, among several archival fonds containing materials related to the German community in Vojvodina, there is one holding records created in the XX century, namely from 1920 to 1946. The name of the fonds is Associations of Danube Swabians, and it bears the archival signature F. 556.

Danube Swabians were a numerous, significant, and thriving ethnic community, living on the territory of present-day Vojvodina since the XVIII century. They were colonized just after the expulsion of the Turks and quickly became well integrated into the multiethnic structure of the province. During the Second World War, representatives of the community sided with the occupiers. Even more, some of its members served in the German military, and some of those committed war crimes. As a result, post-war reprisals led to the almost complete disappearance of Danube Swabians from Vojvodina; some of them were executed, while most of them emigrated to Germany or were assimilated.

Archival fonds F. 556 contains materials created by four associations of Danube Swabians. One, Kulturbund, operated in the mid-war period; the other three were active during the war, each in a different occupied area of Vojvodina. Fonds' materials were seized after the war, and although fragmentary preserved, they are still an abundant source of information about the community. Some of the documents held in the fonds include associations' correspondence, different types of index cards and personal IDs, propaganda materials, photos, letters, newspapers, confidential information bulletins, etc.

The F. 556 fonds is available for use in its entirety. With regard to the fonds' finding aids, users have the option of using a summary inventory with a

historical note and a compilation of personal information records, which is in a digital format and is titled "Registers and Lists". Likewise, the fonds is completely digitized and will soon be completely integrated into the Archival information system of the Republic of Serbia, which will enhance its availability to researchers.

Aleksandar Bursać was born in 1976 in Novi Sad. He graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy in 2001. Since 2008 he has worked at the Archives of Vojvodina and is a senior archivist at the department for organising and processing newer archival records (from 1918).

So far, he has worked on organising and processing more than 20 archival fonds. He has published articles in professional and other periodicals, and participated in the creation, editing and publication of several monographies and document collections of the Archives of Vojvodina. He has also presented at specialised and academic conferences in Serbia and abroad and has worked on various projects of the Archives of Vojvodina.

Ljiljana Bubnjević, senior archivist. Graduated from the University of Paris Lodron in Salzburg, Austria, communications studies. Erasmus exchange student of the Hanzehogeschool in Groningen, the Netherlands. Archivist at Archives of Vojvodina since 2010. Head of the Department for pre-1918 Archival Records in the Archive of Vojvodina in Novi Sad, Serbia since 2021. She has been involved in academic and research work in the field of archiving, arranging, processing and using older archival fonds and collections and acquainting the general public with their content and structure.

Author of themed exhibition and catalogue: *Migracije naroda na području Bačke i Banata u 18. i 19. veku – kroz odabrane dokumente Bačko-bodroške, Tamiške i Torontalske županije*.

Co-author of the publication 'A Mosaic of Archival Closeness – Anthropology of memories from the Pannonian to the Adriatic Sea' (Ljiljana Bubnjević and Dragana Radojčić), Monographic Edition Metroon, Volume 5, Arhives of Vojvodina and Institute of Ethnography SASA, Novi Sad – Belgrade 2022. Associate expert and co-author of a number of projects, publications and exhibitions of the Archives of Vojvodina.

German Settlements and their way of life in Georgia as documented in the collections of the National Archives of Georgia

Sophio Jobava
Khatia Kinkladze
National Archives of Georgia, Georgia

Georgia is a historically remarkable country in terms of its ethnic and religious diversity. For centuries, representatives of different ethnic groups have coexisted peacefully in Georgia.

The presentation will focus on one of the settlements of these ethnic groups and their way of life in Georgia: the Germans.

Records from the 19th and 20th centuries concerning German settlers in Georgia and the South Caucasus are kept at the National Archives of Georgia. They arrived in Georgia in 1817, when it was a part of the Russian Empire, and they quickly became involved in the social and cultural life of the country.

The aforementioned archive data provides us with an understanding of the history of establishing German colonies, as well as its system of government, land ownership, educational system, parish activities, etc.

By the end of 1819, German immigrants had established the colonies of Marienfeld, Alexandersdorf, Petersdorf, Elisabeththal, Katarinenfeld, Annenfeld, and Hellenendorf with assistance from the country's administration. Afterwards, Alexandershilf, Naidorf, Grandenberg, Georgfeld, Eigenfeld, Grünfeld, and Traubenfeld were among the other German colonies founded in Georgia. German colonists' settlements in Georgia were called 'German colonies of Georgia' until 1848, and then 'German colonies of South Caucasia' after that year.

The material preserved in the National Archives of Georgia documents the German colonists' arrival and land transfer, the founding of colonies, the granting of residency permits, household and cameral censuses, the enactment of the Unified Agrarian Law, their commercial endeavors, the building of churches and schools within the colonies, the election of representatives from the Evangelical-Lutheran Church to the Synod, the

inventory of the Tbilisi Evangelical-Lutheran Church, and the undertakings of their women's organisation. Lists of German families that include the number of households, schools, chapels, churches, and teachers are among the documents.

The role that German architects played in the development of Tbilisi architecture during the latter part of the 1800s should also be mentioned. They had a major influence on Tbilisi's architectural style during the period. German architects created a number of notable structures, including Roman-Catholic church and the Orient Hotel by Albert Salzman; Victor Schroeter's Opera House; Leopold Bielfeld's Kashueti Cathedral; the Wentzel Hotel, the German Church, and Likani Palace; Otto Simonson's Viceroy's Palace, a classical gymnasium building; Paul Stern's two-story residential house and the current City Assembly building in Tbilisi; and the Gottgard's brewery building. A large number of plans for these are kept in the Georgia National Archives.

It should be noted that 23 out of the 145 members of the Constituent Assembly of the First Democratic Republic of Georgia were members of the country's minorities. Two Germans, Eric Bernstein and Pavle Buly, were among them.

Long-term cohabitation had an effect on the spiritual and economic lives of the ethnic groups that lived in Georgia, as well as the Georgian people. In addition to absorbing many Georgian customs, the ethnic groups that settled in Georgia also had an impact on the native populace.

Sophio Jobava is head of the Department of Public and International Relations at the National Archives of Georgia. With years of experience in public and international relations, her areas of work include coordinating institutional activities and collaborating and communicating with the public and media, international organisations, diplomatic missions, and foreign archives. She is in charge of the PR and international direction of the annual International Scientific Conference and the Tbilisi Archival Film Festival organised by the National Archives of Georgia. She is also involved in preparing nominations for the UNESCO Memory of the World Register. In addition to holding an MA in Educational Management and a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities, she has translated multiple fiction books from English into Georgian.

Khatia Kinkladze is the main specialist in the Department of Public and International Relations of the National Archives of Georgia. Her primary responsibilities include interacting with members of the public, the media, international organisations, etc. In addition to handling the official website, she is also in charge of creating content and managing social media pages; she works on organising for various events, including the International Scientific Conference, the Tbilisi International Archival Film Festival, exhibitions, and movie screenings.

In 2020, she graduated from the Georgian-American University and received a bachelor's degree in social sciences (diplomacy and international relations). Currently, she is a first-year student on the master's program, studying at the Faculty of Public Relations.

Along with her studies and professional background she has a passion for music. She has been creating and performing songs since childhood.

Digitalisation of Tsintsara Culture **Bulletin of the Lunjina Serbian Aromanians Association**

Maja Nikolova
UNI HUB Belgrade, Serbia

The Lunjina Serbian Aromanians Society was founded in Belgrade in 1991, and in the period from 1999 to 2010 it published a magazine called *Lunjina*, whose initiator and editor-in-chief was Professor Pribislav Marinković PhD. The goal of the Society was and is to preserve the Aromanians' identity by safeguarding history, language, culture and tradition. In view of the fact that the Aromanian people have lived in the Balkan peninsula for centuries, their uniqueness needs to be protected from assimilation and their identity preserved in these areas through the protection of their material and non-material heritage. Titles and photographs relating to the life of Aromanians during the 19th and 20th centuries, their importance for the development of Serbian culture, their uniqueness in acquiring education

and their contribution to the overall development of society and science were published in the magazine.

Digitisation of these collected archival materials relating to the life of Aromanians in Belgrade and Serbia provides the opportunity for the public, and especially the younger generations, to become familiar with the existence of Aromanians in our region, that is, to save important facts for the historical sequence of the Serbian states from forgetfulness. The digitisation project includes the digitisation of the magazine itself, preparation for reading by key terms, installation on the Rastko Platform and other digital media.

Maja Nikolova, development specialist. Graduate of the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade, majoring in pedagogy. Received her master's degree from the University of Belgrade in 1996. She worked as the museum adviser at the Pedagogical Museum for several decades, where she was involved in the collection of museum materials and data and scientific research work, specifically the collection and processing of materials on the history of schooling and education, as well as the publication of the results of this work. The topics of her research were, and still are, Serbian schools abroad and foreign schools in Serbia, the state of education in Serbia during the First and Second World War, homes for neglected children, as well as the education of minorities such as the Jewish and Aromanian people. She also works on the digitisation of archival material that allows research in the field of education. She has authored a number of exhibitions and professional publications, as well as papers for national and international conferences. Now as a development specialist at the UNIHUB NGO she works on collecting archival materials and photographs related to the life of Aromanians in Serbia during the 19th century and the first half of the 20th.

A minority community in Europe – the Vlachs in Macedonia

Marija Belakaposka

University, Institute for History, North Macedonia

Macedonian Vlachs are a constitutionally recognised minority in the Republic of Macedonia. Their number is 9,695 people, ie 0.48% of the total population of Macedonia

The Vlachs are a people of Romanian origin who speak a distinct language. In Macedonia and the Balkans they are known under several names, such as Aromani, Cintsari, and Kutsovlasii; in the Romanian language all Vlachs from the southern part of the Balkan Peninsula are referred to as Machedoni (Macedonia) and by other names.

There are several theories about their origin that indicate that they are descendants of the indigenous population of the Balkan Peninsula who retreated to the mountainous regions during the immigration of the Slavs and other peoples.

Of the many theories, the most famous are those according to which it is considered that the Vlachs are descendants of the Byzantines (Romans) because of their language, while by some they are considered to be descendants of the Ancient Macedonians.

The first permanent settlement of Vlachs in Macedonia took place at the beginning of the 19th century, specifically around 1830 – 1832 when their most developed and largest city Moskopole in southern Albania was destroyed by Albanian bandits supported by Ali Pasha Janinski.

With the frequent raids and robberies of the Albanian gangs on the Vlach towns and villages in southern Albania, on Mount Gramoshta, in Epirus and Thessaly, a large number of Vlachs settled in Macedonia, mostly in the western parts of Krushevo (which until 1830 was a small village in the Prilep region kaza inhabited exclusively by Macedonians), Bitola and the surrounding mountain villages, the western and southern part of Aegean Macedonia.

The constant terror of the Vlachs from their areas in southern Albania and especially in Thessaly forced a large number of Vlach herders to settle in the mountain areas in the valley of the river Bregalnica in Shtipsko, Kochansko and Ovche Pole.

These Vlachs who live in eastern Macedonia are also known under the name Karakachani. The nomadic Vlachs from eastern Macedonia are also known under the name Black Vlachs, in contrast to the Vlachs in western Macedonia who are known under the name Charshiski or White Vlachs.

Percentage representation of the Vlachs in Macedonia according to the 2002 census Map of the Vlachs in Macedonia (2021) Number of the Vlachs in Macedonia (2021).

The Vlachs in Macedonia mostly lived in the cities, though in the past they also lived in several mountain villages in southwestern and eastern Macedonia, from which today they have mostly been displaced. Today, the largest number of Vlachs live in the cities of Krushevo, Shtip, Bitola and Skopje. They are also found in smaller numbers in Kočani and Veles. By region, the Vlachs are represented along the Bregalnica river basin: Ovche Pole, Shtipsko, Kochansko with the mountains of Osogovo and Plachkovica, as well as the town of Krushevo and several villages in Bitola in the mountainous areas northeast of Bitola.

Statistically, the Vlachs in Macedonia are most represented in the municipalities: Krushevo with 10.53%, Shtip with 4.6%, Bitola with 1.33% and the city of Skopje with 0.50%.

The Macedonian Vlachs have a highly developed culture and cultural identity. Vlach costumes and rugs are well-known (especially those from the village of Delisinci, Ovchepolsko), and are part of a rich Macedonian ethnological treasure.

Their way of life as herders and wealthy merchants left recognisable cultural marks in the identity of the Vlachs. The Vlach-Karakachans of eastern Macedonia, who were herders, are recognisable by the fact that their women wear tattooed crosses on their foreheads and wrists.

The opulent churches in the Bitola Vlach villages of Malovishte and Staro Zmirново, as well as in the town of Krushevo, are widely known.

In Macedonia the Vlachs have 2 political parties and one MP in the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia. In the Municipality of Krushevo, the Vlach language is official alongside Macedonian, although the Vlachs make up less than 20% of the population.

A program in the Vlach language is broadcast on the second channel of the national television, and there is also a Union for the Culture and Publishing of the Vlachs.

Macedonian Vlachs are Orthodox Christians by religion. Older Vlachs are very devoted and religious people.

Marija Belakaposka. From Prilep, North Macedonia. Holds a degree in economics, and is currently attending postgraduate studies at St. Cyril and Methodius University, Institute of History.

Muslims, Jews and Orthodox Christians in Mediaeval Hungary in the mirror of the archival documents

Associate Professor Boris Stojkovski, PhD
University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Philosophy, Serbia

Different ethnic and religious groups lived during the mediaeval period in Hungary. They have left a particular trace in the archival documents, mostly those preserved by the Hungarian national archives in Budapest, but also in other archives. The key sources for this topic are charters, letters, privileges and other types of mediaeval archival document.

The paper will provide an overview of the archival sources on the different religious groups-minorities in the mediaeval Kingdom of Hungary. These are Muslims, Jews and Orthodox Christians. Even though the data on the medieval Hungarian Muslim population are mostly found in the narrative sources, such as for instance Arab and Hungarian chronicles, there is a certain amount of the archival documents that testify on this population in Hungary. These sources are mostly connected to the palatine of Sarrasin origin named Mizse, who is mentioned in 1290, but also to the Registry of Varad. The latter originates from the 14th century and is the last known source that mentions Muslims in mediaeval Hungary.

For Jews, on the other hand, there is a vast amount of archival documents. Lest we forget, they played a prominent role in the social and economic life of certain mediaeval Hungarian cities, like Buda, Esztergom and Pozsony. Thus numerous documents testify to Jewish privileges, positions and of course

boundaries inside Hungarian society. Archival documents provide data on the expulsion of Jews and promulgation of different laws regarding them, as well as documenting their businesses in Hungary. There are even some documents on medieval Hungarian Jews in the Hebrew language. Archival documents on the Jewish population in mediaeval Hungary of Hungarian, German and other origins extend across the whole of mediaeval Hungarian history, from the 10th century until 1526.

There are two types of documents dedicated to Orthodox Christians in mediaeval Hungary. The first group can be observed as those dedicated to Byzantine ecclesiastical organisation and monasteries of the Greek rite in the mediaeval Hungarian kingdom. These include the well-known Greek charter of King Stephen I to the nuns of the monastery of the Most Holy Theotokos of the Veszprém Valley. Besides this, there are several other archival documents that directly or indirectly testify to the existence of these monasteries. The second group are the documents on Serbs in mediaeval Hungary. Most of them were issued or connected to noblemen, but there are some charters that directly mention Orthodox Serbs living in Hungary. All three religious (and ethnic) groups show the diversity of mediaeval Hungary and their study is a very important part of the research on the mediaeval Hungarian kingdom.

Boris Stojkovski, PhD is an associate professor and a mediaeval historian at the Novi Sad University, Faculty of Philosophy, Department of History, in Serbia. Fields of research and interest include: history of Srem and present-day Vojvodina in the Middle Ages, Church history, the history of the mediaeval Mediterranean, Arab and Ottoman history and its ties with Southeastern Europe in the Middle Ages, Byzantine-Hungarian and Serbian-Hungarian relations and Western sources on Serbia in the Middle Ages. He has been a guest lecturer at universities in Budapest, Pisa, Olomouc and Niš. He has participated in dozens of international conferences and is author of four monographs and collective volumes and co-author of four more, and has published several dozens of papers in journals, monographic publications, etc. He is also a member of several international and domestic scholarly associations.

The role of people in the digitalisation process of the Folklore Collection of the Institute of Ethnography of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Bojana Vuković

The Institute of Ethnography SASA, Belgrade, Serbia

The Institute of Ethnography of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts possesses an extensive folklore collection. This archival material was collected after World War II, and in the collection we primarily find folk songs and other folklore literary genres from around the former Yugoslavia. The Institute of Ethnography SASA has recognised the importance of this collection and has initiated efforts to systematise and digitalise it. The ongoing Creation of a Digital Database of the Folklore Collection of IE SASA project began in 2022. This initiative is being made possible with the financial support of the Serbian Ministry of Culture, which has recognised the importance of preserving and promoting the country's unique cultural legacy for future generations.

The primary objective of this paper is to provide an in-depth account of the systematisation and digitalisation process involved in organising archival material. The various phases of the project, from the initial planning stages to the final execution, along with the intricacies of the work and the challenges encountered by the project collaborators, will be described in detail. The paper will also provide an overview of the database and website created as part of the project, including their functionality and how the team utilises them as a working tool. This paper provides an informative account of the project and highlights the importance of human work in it.

Bojana Vuković was born in Belgrade in 1989. She graduated from the Department of Cultural Studies and Anthropology at the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Primorska in Koper in 2012. She was an international student at the Eberhard Karls University in Tübingen and the University of Vienna. She is pursuing her master's degree in Cognitive Science at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Since 2021, Bojana has been a records manager at the Institute of Ethnography of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts. She actively participated in the 'Digitalization of field archival materials from Prizren' project of the Ethnographic Institute SASA. Since May 2022, she has been working as part of a team on the 'Creation of the digital database of the folklore collection of IE SASA' project.

Documents from the Historical Archive of Kikinda on the Romani Community from the end of the 18th Century until 1944

Srđan Sivčev

Historical Archives of Kikinda, Serbia

This article seeks to present and analyse documents about the Romani people in Velika Kikinda from the end of 18th century until 1944 and the end of Second World War in the Banat region. The main objective of the article is to reconstruct the lives of a community that was on the margins of society, neglected and invisible to government and city administration until their arrival in Velika Kikinda at the end of 18th century. The documents about their existence and way of life are rare and they are kept in the Historical Archive in Kikinda. The majority is of the judicial type, regarding misdemeanours and offences committed by members of the Romani community throughout the 19th century. Information about Roma people can also be found in civil registry books of births, marriages and deaths from 1895 until 1921. Data about the community can also be traced in the documentation of the city administration concerning the question of a Romani leader in Velika Kikinda, called Knez (Duke) in the interwar period. The struggles and suffering of the Romani community in the Second World War in Velika Kikinda due to the racial laws of the Nazi regime in occupied Europe are portrayed at the end of the article.

Srdan Sivčev was born in 1991 in Kikinda where he completed elementary and high school, and Dušan Vasiljev Grammar School. He completed Bachelor studies in 2014 at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad, history department. He completed master's studies in 2015, with the thesis 'Dyonisus – myth and cult'. In February 2016 he began working at the Historical Archive of Kikinda. He passed his archivist state exam in 2019. The assembly of the city of Kikinda appointed him as the director of the Kikinda Historical Archive in February 2023. Sivčev is the author of many articles in the historiography and archival sciences, as well as several monographies and exhibitions.

**Transcript and translation of the charter
in which the toponym of the current city of Brčko
is mentioned for the first time**

**Sanja Demirović, archivist
Archives of Vojvodina, Novi Sad, Serbia**

The subject of this paper is the research, processing, transcript and translation into Serbian of a charter written in Latin that is kept in the National Archives of Hungary / Diplomatic Archives (MNL, DL 11225). The charter was issued in Tatá on June 29, 1422 and bears witness to the history of the Serbs in the Habsburg Monarchy. It is a document that establishes a business/legal relationship between Emperor Sigismund and the noble Ivan, the son of former palatine Nikola Gorjanski.

Through the charter Emperor Sigismund grants Ivan and his wife Hedwig estates for use and usufruct for an indefinite period of time, as compensation for the Talj fortress and the Tokaj estate with the Tarcal Castle, which Ivan and his wife returned to the ruler at his request, although given to them by Sigismund himself on the occasion of their marriage.

Among the possessions in Bosnia assigned to them by Emperor Sigismund, the Barkaz fortress (Barkazaa, now Brčko) is mentioned for the first time.

The content of charters is of inestimable importance for the study of history and the development of historical science itself. Charters had the greatest legal importance in the Middle Ages, but relatively few of them have survived. The archival document which is the subject of this paper shows that charters as specific written legal acts are an important source for the study of history, in this case the history of the Serbs in Bosnia during the Habsburg Monarchy, where they played a prominent role and left their mark.

Sanja Demirović. Graduated from the Department of Classical Sciences at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade; classical philologist-master by profession.

Employed as an archivist in the Archives of Vojvodina in the Department for Documentation, Information and Information System, as an organiser of programme activities. She is a collaborator on the processing and translation of original archival materials in Latin on a project of national importance, Serbian Privileges, initiated by the Archives of Vojvodina.

She was a participant in the Art Brut project, representing Archives of Vojvodina, which was conducted as part of the program ARC Europe within the European Capital of Culture 2022 in Novi Sad.

She has organised and been moderator for numerous exhibitions of paintings, photographs and other artistic events and literary promotions.

Magdalena Manda Sudarević in the parliamentary and social life of Vojvodina

**Milica Savić Kosovac, archivist
Archives of Vojvodina, Novi Sad, Serbia**

Magdalena Manda Sudarević was one of seven women delegates at the Great People's Assembly of Serbs, Bunjevci and other Slavs in Banat, Bačka and Baranja, which was held in Novi Sad on November 25, 1918. Keeping

in mind the historical context and status of the Bunjevci in the territory of Vojvodina and beyond, who, together with the Serbs and other Slavic peoples took the decision to join the Kingdom of Serbia, and in light of their role in the creation of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, we will talk about the importance of the contribution of Magdalena Manda Sudarević on that occasion. She took part in the Great People's Assembly as a chosen delegate together with two other Bunjevci women, when the fate of this region was being decided on. We especially highlight her participation in numerous cultural events in Subotica, her humanitarian work, and her social involvement. We will describe the document 'Rules of the Bunjevac Women's Charitable Fellowship' dating from 1919, which has hitherto not been published, in order to shed light on the women's associations she was an active member in. Based on various sources, selected literature and archival records stored in the Archives of Vojvodina, we will present the work of Manda Sudarević, highlighting her significant contribution to the efforts on the part of women to take part in the political life of our country, and as a member of the Bunjevci community to pursue her people's objectives.

Milica Savić Kosovac. Born on 21 st December 1984. Graduated in Serbian Language and Literature from the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad in 2008, receiving the professional title of Professor of Serbian Language and Literature. Completed post-graduate studies at the same faculty in 2009, study programme: Serbian Philology. Obtained the professional title of Graduate in Philology (Serbian Studies – Serbian Language and Literature), Master of Philological Sciences. She has presented the results of her research on Serbian language teaching methodology at academic conferences Konteksti (2012 and 2015) and Susreti Kultura (2013), held at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad, as well as in professional and scientific papers published in linguistics and teaching methodology periodicals.

She passed her state board exam at the Archives of Vojvodina in 2022, and obtained the title of archivist.

Greeks in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina 1945 – 1949

Dragana Katić, PhD, archival adviser
Archives of Vojvodina, Novi Sad, Serbia

The Greek community in Vojvodina came about as a result of the defeat of the revolutionary army in the Civil War (1945 – 1949). The first refugees arrived in FPR Yugoslavia at the very beginning of the war, and one of the most famous and controversial centres where they gathered and lived was the Vojvodina village of Buljkes, which at one point became practically a state within a state (having an autonomous administration, printing its own money etc.) . The conflict between the Yugoslav and Soviet communists also affected the Greek community, which mostly supported the position of the Greek Communist Party and sided with Moscow, which led to the collapse of this unusual Greek commune and the departure of almost all of its members to other socialist countries.

Dragana Katić completed her history studies at the University of Novi Sad Faculty of Philosophy where she also received her doctorate. She is employed as an archives adviser at the Archives of Vojvodina, in the position of head of the Depot Service Department. She has published a number of papers in professional and academic journals dealing with topics relating to the economic, political and cultural history of Novi Sad and Vojvodina. She has edited several monographs and journals and is a member of the project team within the internet platform ‘Culture of Remembrance of Novi Sad – an integrative source of special importance for Vojvodina.’ She has participated in a number of academic and cultural projects, and has been an organiser of and participant in a number of international and local conferences and seminars. She lectures on the subject of Organisation of Government and History of Institutions for the state board exams for archives employees. She is a member of the expert council of the Archives of Vojvodina, chair of the committee tasked with the deaccessioning of worthless documentary material and a member of the committee for determining the cultural value of archival material that is transferred to the Archives of Vojvodina. She speaks fluent English and Greek.

A personal story: navigating the joys and challenges of working with documents of minority communities

László-Herbert, Mark

Vera and Donald Blinken Open Society Archives at Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

In recent years, the Vera and Donald Blinken Open Society Archives at Central European University in Budapest (Blinken OSA Archivum) has significantly increased its archival holdings connected to minority communities. The processing, preservation, and granting of access to documents created by, or documenting the activities of, minority groups, including ethnic, religious, and sexual minority communities, but also less visible groups like persons with physical disabilities, refugees, or home birth and reproductive rights activists, have prompted us to consider new approaches and methods in our daily archival work. This presentation will highlight some of the issues we have encountered during our work with (documents on) minority communities, and also update the ICARUS community on what else is new, in more general terms, at Blinken OSA Archivum.

László-Herbert, Mark is an Archivist at the Vera and Donald Blinken Open Society Archives at Central European University in Budapest. He works mostly with textual (paper) documents of NGOs and individuals, but over the past few years he has also curated digital archival collections, supervised interns, prepared a volume of archival materials for publication, written for Blinken OSA's blog and more.

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Session: Archives and Societies – An Analog Archivist in a Digital World

Working with friends – tools and processes for mass digitisation and preservation of historical records

**Thomas Hengst, Field Relations Manager Central Europe,
FamilySearch International, Frankfurt am Main, Germany**

FamilySearch, a non-profit organisation, is one of the world's leading archival digitisation companies with 130 years' experience in systematically preserving historical records.

It has worked with archives on 11,000 digitization projects around the globe. Currently, FamilySearch produces one million images every day and approximately one billion searchable records every year and provides multiple services to archives and other institutions.

All services are free of charge.

On its platform FamilySearch.org, which supports 40 languages, more than 70 million users (growing by 5 million every year) have free access to an enormous amount of historical data for use in personal, institutional or scientific research.

FamilySearch has a comprehensive strategic and technological roadmap and shares its knowledge with governments, archives, churches, societies, universities, industry partners and other many institutions.

FamilySearch owns and develops tools for the professional preparation and execution of digitisation projects, including AI applications for computer assisted indexing, tree building and data processing. This includes the design of GDPR compliant process flows, the strict observation of legal regulations and policies as well as strategic models of collaboration to properly address the various and individual challenges and requirements that exist in different parts of the world.

The presentation introduces some of the major tools and processes Family Search has successfully implemented and provides a strategic and technological outlook on how we can work together as friends in the future.

Thomas Hengst has been working as a Field Relations Manager with FamilySearch International since mid-2021. He is responsible for business and strategic relationship development in nine European countries and is also FamilySearch's representative at ICARUS.

Previous to his current position, Thomas worked in leading positions in the renewable energy and semiconductor industry for 20 years and was responsible for the worldwide business development and strategy of a stock-listed Swiss-German equipment and technology company. Before this, he was co-founder of an IT company and worked in software development.

Thomas has a degree in machine engineering and significant experience in project and product management as well as in international customer relations.

Family history has been his hobby since his early youth. Some branches of his family tree go back to the end of the 15th century.

Transkribus – AI for historical documents

Günter Mühlberger
University Innsbruck, Austria

Until a few years ago, it was unimaginable, but today it is reality: Artificial intelligence now allows for the automated transcription of historical manuscripts and documents, making them searchable and semantically accessible to the public. The Transkribus platform, developed by the University of Innsbruck in collaboration with European partners, plays a significant role globally. With nearly 200,000 users and millions of processed pages, its training data is likely the largest and most diverse for historical scripts worldwide. Since 2019, Transkribus has operated as READ-COOP SCE, a European cooperative with members including universities, archives,

and libraries, ensuring that this transformative technology is accessible to all interested institutions and individuals.

Günter Mühlberger works at the Institute for German Language and Literature at the University of Innsbruck. He heads the Digitisation and Digital Archiving (DEA) working group and is member of the Digital Humanities Research Centre at the University of Innsbruck. Moreover, he is honorary chairman of the board of directors of the European Cooperative READ-COOP SCE, which operates the Transkribus platform. Günter Mühlberger has been working in the fields of digitisation, digital preservation, digital libraries and digital humanities since the mid-90s. He has initiated and managed a large number of national and international research and digitisation projects. Among them are the EU R&D projects LAURIN (1998- 2000), METADATA ENGINE (2000-2003), Books2u (2002-2004), reUSE (2004-2007) eBooks-onDemand (2007-2009), IMPACT (2008-2012), tranScriptorium (2013-2015), READ (2015-2019) and NewsEye (2018-2022). Günter coordinated the EU Horizon 2020 project READ (Recognition and Enrichment of Archival Documents) where the Transkribus platform was developed which enables non-technical users to leverage AI-Tools for handwritten text recognition of historical documents. In 2019 Günter initiated the foundation of the European Cooperative Society READ-COOP SCE with the University of Innsbruck as one of the founding members. Today READ-COOP SCE has attracted nearly 200,000 registered users and nearly 180 members have joined the cooperative. Günter has published scientific papers on digitisation, layout analysis, and handwritten text recognition and digitisation issues in general.



Transkribus Experience at University Library Belgrade

Adam Sofronijević

Nataša Dakić

Aleksandra Trtovac

University Library “Svetozar Marković”, Belgrade, Serbia

The Transkribus software platform was developed by the University of Innsbruck in cooperation with leading research groups from all over Europe as part of the Horizon 2020 EU research project READ (2016-2020). The University Library Belgrade (UNILIB) has been involved in the development of Transkribus, first as an associated partner of the READ project, and then, as a member of the READ Collaborative, enabling its users to access transcribed and searchable text from their manuscript collections. Since these collections are mostly written in Cyrillic script the primary goal was to create an AI model that would enable the automatic transcription of manuscript materials in Serbian Cyrillic. This goal was accomplished through projects financed by the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia. UNILIB has successfully digitised and transcribed a significant number of manuscripts from its collections, including works by notable figures such as Isidora Sekulić, Branimir Ćosić, and Jovan Skerlić. Collaborations with various cultural institutions have further expanded the digitisation and transcription efforts, preserving a crucial aspect of Serbian cultural heritage. In addition to this, an open invitation has been extended to libraries and archives possessing manuscript materials in Serbian Cyrillic to contribute to the creation of a comprehensive AI model for recognising the script. This initiative aims to enable successful full-text search of digital collections of manuscript materials. To facilitate participation, a series of workshops, lectures, and presentations have been conducted for employees in archives, libraries, and museums throughout Serbia. Additionally, a professional development program titled ‘Democratisation of Digitisation in Libraries’, focusing on Transkribus, was accredited in 2019 and garnered significant interest, with nearly 400 participants. Despite the temporary suspension of educational activities due to the COVID – 19 pandemic, plans are underway to resume training in the use of Transkribus, with a renewed focus on employees in archives and the automatic recognition of archival materials in the upcoming year.

Adam Sofronijević, university professor and a Serbian expert in library information, has received multiple national awards for his significant contributions. His involvement spans organising several notable scientific and professional events in digital culture preservation. Notably, he has held roles such as membership in the Governing Board and a deputy directorship at the Belgrade University Library. In addition to his impactful work in digitisation, Sofronijević has authored numerous scientific publications and spearheaded various scholarly gatherings. He initiated the University Library's inclusion in the H2020 READ project and has been managing the Library Team's activities since its inception. His expertise is widely recognised, evidenced by his engagements as a guest lecturer across ten European countries. Since 2020, Sofronijević has held a significant position as a member of the Executive Board of the Association of European Research Libraries (LIBER), the largest association of its kind in Europe. Alongside these responsibilities, he continues to contribute as a professor at the Faculty of Applied Management, Economics and Finance in Belgrade.

Nataša Dakić, a library advisor, earned her PhD in Library and Information Science (LIS). Employed at the University Library Belgrade since 1997, she currently holds positions as a cataloging editor and digital library consultant. Nataša plays an integral role in a team that successfully organises accredited professional development programs for librarians. Additionally, she actively participates in various educational initiatives designed for academic librarians and LIS students. From the very beginning, she has been involved in the H2020 READ project as the coordinator for the transcription of handwritten content and the main instructor for Transkribus at the University Library. Over the years, she has been involved in dozens of domestic and international projects, accumulating extensive experience in digitisation, cultural heritage preservation, and metadata management. Nataša is also a frequent participant in both national and international conferences and has authored numerous articles published in scientific journals and proceedings. In addition, she is an active member of the LIBER Educational Resources Working Group.

Aleksandra Trtovac is a library advisor with extensive experience in Library and Information Science (LIS). Holding a PhD in the field, her research focuses on metadata and information retrieval in digital libraries. With

over two decades of service at the University Library Belgrade, she has held the positions of Chief Catalogue Editor since 2008 and Digital Library Consultant since 2012. Additionally, she serves as the editor-in-chief of *Infotheca* – a journal for digital humanities since 2022. Aleksandra actively engages in various national and international LIS projects. Her scholarly contributions include monographs and scientific articles, some of which are indexed in the SCI list. She generously shares her expertise through lectures to librarians and LIS students in Serbia and the Balkan region. Aleksandra plays a key role as one of the primary instructors for the Transkribus platform, facilitating the transcription of historical handwritten materials. Additionally, she contributes as a member of the LIBER Digital Scholarship and Digital Cultural Heritage Collections Working Group.

Constant adaptation in archival environments: Transitioning from the analogue to the digital archive

Charles J. Farrugia
National Archives Malta, Malta

The last decades have witnessed the need to adapt to changes that have transformed the way we operate. Archives have not been immune to such changes. The digital transformation has affected every facet of archival operation – from accessions, to storage and preservation, archival description and the services provided to the public. Other circumstances have also transformed the way we think, plan, and operate. On the political level there have been more unified European approaches to archival programmes and initiatives. Even scholarship has shifted to a more European and international perspective. However, the greatest transformation has been the shift from analogue to digital. While traditionally such terminology referred to the change in formats of records, the shift is nowadays a holistic one – the way we train, employ, re-train and develop archivists themselves. The archivist of today is one who must cater for the preservation of Tweets, moderate feedback in archival description crowd-sourcing, and navigate

the world of blogs and virtual learning and operations. This presentation will build around personal experiences of the author in managing social media platforms that sustain both national archives and University archival training. He will also delve into the role of crowd-sourcing carried out via digital platforms and its impact on archival finding aids and user interaction with archival institutions.

Dr. Charles J. Farrugia is Malta's National Archivist. He has been active in ICA activities since 1999 and has acted as Chairman of the Association of Commonwealth Archivists and Record Managers (ACARM) and of the European Branch of the ICA (EURBICA) and has recently been appointed as a Member of the Evaluation Commission of the ICA. Charles is also head of the Department of Archives and Records Management at the University of Malta. He has published extensively on the management of archives and the interplay of memory and archives and has lectured at a number of universities worldwide.

Finding minute details in minutes – an introductory report on an information extraction project

Sven Lepa

National Archives of Estonia, Estonia

Since the beginning of this year, the National Archives of Estonia have been working in cooperation with linguists and historians of the University of Tartu on a new project called “Information extraction through the example of protocols of historical institutions (1880 – 1940)”. As a collaborative endeavour between scientists and archivists, the project aims to create tools for named entity recognition and topic classification for historical text corpora. With these tools the archives hope to create new possibilities for archival research, not only for scientists, but for the general public as well. Although similar in source type, comprising minutes of public institutions,

the three corpora used are diverse in content. The project will work with 1) minutes of the Estonian Constituent Assembly from 1919 – 1920, showing the birth of a nation; 2) minutes of the Tartu city council from 1918 – 1940, illustrating the growth of a city in the interwar period; 3) minutes of Estonian parish courts, exhibiting peasant society of the second half of the 19th century. The differences are also apparent in the creation of the corpora, the first originating from the labour of academics, the second automatically recognised using Transkribus, the third crowdsourced with the help of volunteers. Each of these corpora create their own challenges that need to be tackled. The cross-use of their data opens up opportunities for analysing and interpreting historical, linguistic and cultural processes.

Sven Lepa has been working at the National Archives of Estonia since 2010, first as an archivist, now as the deputy head of the access and enquiry department in Tartu. During these years, he has worked on different projects to enhance the access to archival collections, whether via crowdsourcing, automatic text recognition or other means. He enjoys keeping the company of his fellow Icarus members.

Limburg Time Machine Society as a central theme

Peer Boselie

Director of the Regional Archives of Sittard-Geleen, Netherlands

The AEZEL project or *Limburg Time Machine* began in 2009. From the beginning it was a fully open source project and a ‘community project’ in which an institution (Euregional Historical Centre Sittard-Geleen, now Regional Archives of Sittard-Geleen) and volunteers worked together. Although it started in the city of Sittard, over the years the project grew organically and now consists of over 100 sub-projects in the Limburg, the Netherlands and over the Belgian and German border, so it is a real ‘Euregional’ project!

With a large group of almost 200 volunteers we now work in the Regional Archives of Sittard-Geleen and several other archives and historical societies in the Dutch province of Limburg.

Everything starts with the cadastral history of cities and villages, and many of the cca 225 villages and cities in the Dutch province of Limburg are now visible as they were in the time the cadastre started in the year 1840. Sometimes you can even see a city grow and shrink before your eyes! But it is more than that. It is also a genealogical project. In this way we combine the two most interesting things for the average citizen: the history of their family and the history of their environment. In this way we add 'emotion' (and by doing so also connectedness and durability) to the project. After over 200,000 hours of adding, tagging, vectorising, transcribing etcetera we are now able to explore and connect interesting parts of the history of cadastral parcels in cities, and of the people who lived and loved there. The project also offers the possibility of adding layers, for example, a graveyard layer or a Second World War layer. This community-sourcing project, where every piece of information is digitised and traceable to its original (archival, museum or other) source, is still growing stronger. Of course the *Limburg Time Machine* is also one of the local Time Machines, part of the European Time Machine: [Limburg: Time Machine Europe](#)

In October 2020 the website was launched with over 20 million genealogical facts and 11 million cadastral facts. We are now over 6 million pageviews in and can see that it has exceeded expectations. Historical Big Data can be used on a wide variety of levels, both for technical matters, but also for storytelling and, for instance, the history of migration.

Peer Boselie. Born in Eindhoven (the Netherlands) in 1958, Peer Boselie studied at the Rijksarchiefschool (Den Haag, 1979) and theology and church-history (Heerlen/Nijmegen 1996). He has worked as an archivist in Eindhoven, Maastricht and Sittard. Since 1999 he has been director of the Sittard-Geleen and regional archives, from 2010 to 2015 he was also director of the Euregional Historic Centre.

He is very active in the (Eu)regional historical sphere and publishes mainly on subjects relating to Euregional history, church history and historical recipes. He always tries to find new ways to help the public discover history. For this, archival information needs context, analogue or digital. But he also

finds storytelling and the build and unbuilt (green) environment of major importance for contextualisation.

- President of ICARUS4ALL ICARUS for everybody! | ICARUS (icar-us.eu)
- Chair of SOLEUR / Stichting Oud-Limburgse en EUregionale Receptcultuur www.soleur.eu
- Chair of Geheime Tuinen van Sittard www.geheimetuinen.nl
- advisor at AEZEL.eu

Street names and memory politics

Bálint Ternovác

Budapest City Archives, Hungary

In 2020, the centenary of the Treaty of Trianon and Versailles, which concluded the First World War and resulted in the disintegration of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, specifically the Kingdom of Hungary, was commemorated in various ways throughout Hungary. In the Budapest City Archives, we approached the task creatively by examining how the capital's memory politics related to the issue in different periods of the 20th century, reflected in the names of various Budapest streets. We investigated how the geographic names of the territories annexed in 1920 or the Hungarian minorities living in those annexed territories were represented on street signs in Budapest.

A total of 934 urban spaces in the capital received such names, representing over 10% of Budapest's streets. We compiled these public spaces into a database, examining when they were named, which modern countries they are located in, and which pre – 1920 counties they belonged to. Based on this database, a website using data visualisation methods was created and is accessible from our archive's website. The website, which can be divided into three parts, first shows that immediately after 1920, there was a disproportionately high number of such namings, but even during the darkest years of the communist period in the 1950s, Budapest streets

received names from these lost territories. Then, after 1990, following the regime change, there was another wave of such namings.

There have been formations of so-called “street name clusters”, which occurred when multiple streets in close proximity received their names from the same geographical region around the same time. An example of this is the street name cluster in the 14th district of Budapest, Zugló, which got its name from towns in present-day Serbia, in the Vojvodina region: here, side by side, you can find streets named Csantavér (today Čantavir), Nagybecskerek (Zrenjanin), Bácska (Bačka), Újvidék (Novi Sad) and Pétervárad (Petrovaradin).

In the second part of the website, we show which modern countries contain the towns after which the streets were named – Romania leads by far due to Transylvania, followed by Slovakia. The third part of the website displays the distribution according to the former counties.

Dr. Bálint Ternovácz was born in Novi Sad. He graduated from Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest in 2014, majoring in history and archives. In the same institution he defended his doctoral dissertation in 2020, the topic of which was the mediaeval history of the Latin bishoprics of Szeged and Bosnia. Between 2014 and 2017, he was an employee of the Jesuit Archives in Budapest, and since 2017 he has been working in the PR department of Budapest City Archives. His research area is mediaeval Hungarian and Balkan relations.



Archival practice at the Kotor Historical Archives in the context of analogue and digital processing of data from the Austrian cadastre

Maruška Nenezić

Kotor Historical Archives, Montenegro

In this paper, I will talk about the fascinating topic of the Austrian cadastre, which has been very popular and current here in the Kotor Historical Archive in recent times. The daily use of digitised documents is proving very important, above all for evidentiary purposes, so that locals and newcomers alike can prove that they are in fact in possession of the land in question.

We have noted an increasing number of researchers who are able to uncover family ties between people with the help of chronological registration records of owners and co-owners in specific cadastral municipalities, using various auxiliary books, name registries, and other identification documents.

The creation of a large archive of digitised documents has made more detailed access possible, as well as a new opportunity to gain fresh insight into the history and society of that era. Land registries and land registry inserts (ZUs) provide the largest corpus of relevant data concerning the origins and heritage of individual families.

In fact they are the only true indicators of the history of a society, in this case the Austrian period in the area of Boka Kotorska from 1883 to 1995. The large number of users of digitised cadastral materials has given rise to increased interest in seeking out data, and this will bring about significant change in society in the future.

Maruška Nenezić. Maruška was born November 14, 1988 in Nikšić and now lives and works in Kotor. She completed her undergraduate studies at the Faculty of Tourism and Hotel Management in Kotor in 2012, and her specialist studies at the same faculty in 2013. She has been employed in the Kotor Historical Archives since 2015. She contributed the paper

‘O životu i naučnoistraživačkom radu dr Miloša Miloševića na osnovu dokumenata iz njegove zaostavštine’ (‘On the life and academic research of Dr. Miloš Milošević based on documents from his legacy’), together with her colleague Jelena Mršulja, at the international Miloš Milošević and the Cultural Tradition of Boka academic seminar held in 2023. She has also participated in the international conference of archivists on the 9th ICARUS Croatia Days, Heritage Beyond Borders, held on March 13 – 15, 2024 in Osijek.

Creating Digital Image Collections: A case study involving Serbian diaspora documentary heritage research projects in Australia

Danica Majstorović Eather
Private sector, Australia

The aim of this presentation is to trace the major findings, challenges and opportunities arising from diasporic documentary heritage research projects that I am currently undertaking. The primary goal has been to source and digitise unpublished archival materials held in individual collections and by immigrant associations, and then to curate Digital Image Collections to donate to public libraries or similar research institutions.

The two Digital Image Collection projects which are in their final stages of completion are: *Serbian-Queensland Diaspora Memories* for the State Library of Queensland (SLQ) and the *Yugoslav-Mount Isa Diaspora Memories* for *Isa in Images*, Mount Isa City Library.

Major findings (being the wealth of original material, mainly: photos, letters, event invitations and official documents), challenges (including copyright, metadata formats, trust and memory), and opportunities (such as my more recent communication with a public research institution for donation of diasporic archival publications) inspired me to undertake a research project at the national level. Thus, in 2023, I commenced the

development of a third Digital Image Collection, being the *1960 Australia Tour of King Petar II Karadjordjević*. As context to this historical seven-week tour, I have been researching published material in Canberra at the National Library of Australia (NLA) alongside requesting digitisation of unpublished archives held by the National Archives of Australia (NAA).

The significance of these projects is three-fold. Firstly, visually-researchable digital images are being created alongside verifiable metadata. Secondly, these Digital Image Collections created from private collections – sourced from individuals and immigrant associations – are being integrated into public domains for online access. Thirdly, through preservation of cultural memory in public research institutions, larger narratives emerge to enrich and enable access for both future research and the development of potential cultural heritage by-products (including online), such as exhibitions, publications, digital story-telling and educational resources.

Danica Majstorović Eather (born 1961, Mount Isa, Australia, to World War II immigrant parents) holds degrees from the Queensland University of Technology in Business (Management - Marketing & Economics) and in Applied Science (Built Environment - Interior Design). Her work – both in the public and private sectors, as well as in consultancy – has primarily been within museums and galleries.

Since 1990, Danica has also been actively involved in voluntary service projects and roles for various Serbian organisations including the St Sava Serbian Orthodox College (formerly, the St Sava Association). Selected projects here include: Co-curator and Exhibition Designer, *Srpski Zlatovez*, St Sava Serbian Orthodox College (Sydney, 2019); Coordinator for Cultural Events and host for the visits of Prince Tomislav Karadjordjević (Melbourne, 1993) and Princess Jelisaveta Karadjordjević (Melbourne, 1992); Co-curator, *Crossing the Line: Brisbane to Belgrade*, Ethnographic Museum (Belgrade, 2003). During this time, Danica continues to contribute cultural heritage-related articles to the newspaper, *Srpski Glas* (Melbourne and online).

Construction of archival memory: narratives of power in understanding and Yugoslav and post-Yugoslav interethnic relations diversity in archival practice

Nina Čolović, Vinko Korotaj Drača, Stella Maria Varga
Archive of Serbs in Croatia, Croatia

This paper explores archival materials and theoretical frameworks concerning the minority community of Serbs in Croatia, aiming to understand the model of production of interethnic relations, history, and memory in the Archive of Serbs in Croatia. The research will draw from Michel Foucault's conceptualisations of the archive to examine power dynamics, and knowledge production in archival practices.

The overview encompasses a comprehensive examination of theoretical perspectives shaping archival systematisation and interpretation of the social context, with a specific emphasis on personal fonds preserved in the Archive of Serbs in Croatia. Personal fonds offer a perspective on the functioning of discursive regimes in the distribution of resources structured by gender, class, and ethnicity.

A case study centered on the fonds Divna Zečević, an ethnologist, serves as a focal point for this exploration. Divna Zečević's fonds offers a rich tapestry of archival materials reflecting not only her scholarly contributions but also her experiences as a woman navigating within academic and societal structures. The examination of Divna Zečević's fonds illuminates various aspects of archival practice. It underscores the importance of incorporating diverse voices and perspectives into archival fonds/collections, challenging traditional notions of authority and representation within the archival domain.

Drawing upon these insights, the paper concludes by advocating for a new archival perspective – one grounded in feminist and post-custodial models. Embracing a feminist approach entails acknowledging the inherent power dynamics, and social justice. Similarly, adopting a post-custodial model emphasises collaborative and participatory frameworks, empowering communities to assert control over their own narratives and archival materials.

In essence, this paper seeks to underscore the significance of minority communities in shaping archival practices and theoretical paradigms. By focusing on marginalised voices and experiences, it endeavours to pave the way for a more equitable and inclusive archival profession, one that reflects the rich tapestry of human diversity in Europe and beyond.

Nina Čolović is a PhD candidate in Linguistics at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb. Her doctoral research concerns the adaptation and development of the methodology of critical discourse analysis in the educational context. Since 2015 she has been employed as part of the research department in the Serbian National Council in Zagreb, where her research contributes to the understanding of the historical and present-day situation in the (post-)Yugoslav context. From 2019 to 2023 she also had the responsibility of head of the programme of education in the same institution.

Vinko Korotaj Drača was born in Zagreb in 1989. He holds a bachelor's degree in journalism, a master's degree in contemporary history and a PhD in the modern and contemporary history of Croatia in the European and global context from the University of Zagreb. In 2024 he published a book titled: *Glasovi iz tame: psihijatrijski diskurs u hrvatskom društvu na prijelazu iz 19. u 20. stoljeće* (Voices from the dark: psychiatric discourse in Croatian society at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century). He is currently working in the Archive of Serbs in Croatia, where he is exploring the effects of war trauma and the transition from socialism to neoliberal capitalism.

Stella Maria Varga was born in Varaždin in 1997. She holds a bachelor's degree in information science and a master's degree in museology and heritage management, and information science from the University of Zagreb Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. In 2019 to 2020 she worked on the digitisation project at the Večernji List Archive. In 2021, she worked at the Croatian State Archives on an EU project for digitising cultural heritage. From 2021 to 2023, she collaborated on the Museum of Trešnjevka Neighbourhood project and currently works at the Archive of Serbs in Croatia as an archival researcher as well as on the Non-Aligned Movement Archives project in collaboration with the Jutro Cultural Association.

Archival material on Jews in Srem - Remembering the life of a people -

**Dejan Mostarlić, senior archivist
Srem Historical Archive, Sremska Mitrovica**

Certain fonds of the Srem Historical Archive in Sremska Mitrovica contain archival material related to the lives of the Jewish population in the areas of Srem within the current administrative region, which includes the city of Sremska Mitrovica and the municipalities of Šid, Ruma, Stara Pazova, Irig, Indija, and Pećinci. Given the all-too-well-known historical circumstances and the Holocaust during the Second World War, which led to the disappearance of the Jewish population from the areas of Srem under the rule of the Independent State of Croatia, the available archival material is a valuable monument in preserving the culture of remembrance for the members of the community who left a significant mark in the history of these areas. Data on the life of Jews in the Srem region dates back to the 18th century, and their more substantial settlement, which had previously been prohibited by imperial decree of the Habsburg court, began after the abolition of the Military Border in the last decades of the 19th century. They mainly came from Eastern European countries, as well as from neighbouring parts of the Empire. The Jews settling in Srem were mostly merchants, but also included craftsmen, and later industrialists, doctors, lawyers, and other prominent citizens. They were predominantly present in Sremska Mitrovica, Ruma, and Šid, as evidenced by preserved archival material, including fonds containing many cultural goods of exceptional value. The Jewish population in Srem was at its highest at the beginning of the 20th century, gradually declining over time until the global persecution they endured with the outbreak of the Second World War. Therefore preserved archival material, in addition to Jewish cemeteries, architectural monuments, oral tradition, and symbolic material remains the most immediate historical source on the life and work of Jews in the Srem region. An exposition on the mentioned archival material would be designed such that, after a historiographical introduction and explanation, the most important archival documents selected by the author would be presented as a paradigm of the existence and role of Jews in various

areas of public and private life. The systematisation of this knowledge was first carried out under as part of the international Jeruša project conducted in 2020, in which the author personally participated, with a wide range of possibilities for further detailed research, in view of the fact that the Srem Historical Archive is the only institution of this type in the Srem district and has over 1400 archival fonds. The proposed concept would involve historical and archival representation of the most important historical sources, such as the registers of the Israelite religious community in Sremska Mitrovica (1869 – 1924) or the Jewish religious community in Erdelj (1809 – 1940). This would be followed by a chronological overview of the oldest archival fonds containing data on Jews, mainly administrative and judicial fonds, as well as fonds of economic and educational provenance. The presentation would include a display of the original documents, as well as interpretations of the historical circumstances of their creation and explanations of significant personalities of the Jewish people and their contribution to the history of life in the towns and settlements of Srem, accompanied by quotes from selected documents. Emphasis would also be placed on archival material from the Second World War, which is not preserved in significant quantities but contains several important lists and censuses, as well as evidence of the actions of the state apparatus of the occupying authorities towards the members of the Jewish population. The methods for acquiring, preserving, and archiving the mentioned historical sources would be demonstrated through exposition and presentation.

Dejan Mostarlić was born in Sremska Mitrovica on January 16, 1977. He completed his education at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad, majoring in history. He began his career as a history teacher. Since 2006, he has been employed at the Srem Historical Archive, where he served as director from 2006 to 2010. He also gained some experience in journalism. He obtained the title of senior archivist in 2019. He is the author of numerous professional and scientific papers in the field of archival science and historiography. He has participated in the creation of numerous projects aimed at improving archival practices. In the Department for Arrangement of Archival Fonds of the Srem Historical Archive, he worked on the arrangement of a large number of economic archives, about which he has written several papers. He has also conducted research on archival theory and practice, church registers, and archival materials of the Jewish community in Srem, as well as

studying local and regional history from the 18th to the 20th century and the significance of individual valuable archival documents.

Inclusive memory culture and the new challenges for archival pedagogy

Miško Stanišić

Director and co-founder of Terraforming, Novi Sad, Serbia

In response to new needs, archives are adapting to provide services to local and global communities. A massive modernisation is happening in the area of archival pedagogy. Still, archival pedagogy has not yet been systematically organised. As a result, most of the smaller historical archives in Central Europe and the Balkans still do not have specific educational outreach strategies or departments specialising in archival pedagogy. In parallel, the evolving European cultural heritage infrastructure of digital humanities is rapidly creating new spaces and opportunities for exchanging and presenting the rich and multilayered European culture and heritage. In this process of shaping new European identities and narratives, there is a growing interest in the interaction between micro and macro levels of history and culture. If we strive to build inclusive societies, we have to develop an inclusive remembrance culture. In Vojvodina, this means the inclusion of specific microhistories and local experiences. We have to produce an overview of the complex tapestry of narratives, memories, and microhistories to achieve that. We need public institutions and professionals capable of unfolding complex history to guide people in a meaningful, understandable, and accessible way in close cooperation with the stakeholders and local communities. We need a space where local communities will learn about each other's experiences. We need competent educators and relevant teaching materials.

Miško Stanišić. As director and co-founder of Terraforming, a Novi Sad-based NGO, Miško Stanišić is the facilitator and creative mind

behind its long-term strategies and project activities on promoting and improving teaching and learning about the Holocaust and combating antisemitism, antigypsyism, and other forms of xenophobia, targeting teachers, archivists, librarians, museum workers, policymakers and students both in Serbia and internationally. Miško studied general law at Sarajevo University and digital media and pedagogy at the MKFC College in Stockholm. During more than 15 years working in the field of memorialisation and education, as a pedagogue and digital media specialist, Miško has developed numerous resources, exhibitions, training courses, and internationally acclaimed projects. He is the author of the International Library Platform for Holocaust Education, awarded the Yehuda Bauer Grant award by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance IHRA, and Tajsja – a series of video podcasts about the persecution of the Roma communities around Europe. Miško is a member of the delegation of the Republic of Serbia to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance IHRA, where he participates in the Education Working Group. Since 2022, he has chaired the IHRA expert team in developing Recommendations for Teaching and Learning about the Persecution and Genocide of the Roma during the Nazi Era. Miško is a steering committee member of the Berlin-based European Network for Combating Antisemitism through Education ENCATE and spokesperson of the European Practitioners Network against Antisemitism EPNA.

**Shaike Dan and Yugoslav-Israeli (in)formal contacts:
a document detailing the utilisation of individual Jewish
contacts to bolster Yugoslav Middle-East policy**

Igor Rakić

Archivist at the Historical Archives in Niš, Serbia

This paper presents a significant historical document from the Archives of Yugoslavia regarding complex relations between Yugoslavia and Israel,

facilitated through notable Jewish individuals, spanning the years 1946 to 1968. The document is important for understanding the history of Jewish migration to Palestine via Yugoslavia and how it influenced Yugoslav foreign policy, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East during the first two decades of the Cold War.

Yugoslavia's stance towards Jewish migration to Palestine and Israel carries immense historical weight, reflecting not only the complexities of Cold War geopolitics but also the pragmatic positions taken by Yugoslav leadership under Josip Broz Tito. By examining this document, we gain valuable insights into Yugoslavia's informal contacts with Israel through the Jewish community and the pragmatic considerations underlying its policies towards Middle Eastern affairs.

Furthermore, the document sheds light on the evolving nature of Yugoslav-Israeli relations, which underwent various phases influenced by global power dynamics, regional conflicts, and domestic political considerations. Understanding the nuances of these relations provides crucial context for comprehending Yugoslavia's broader foreign policy objectives and its role within the Non-Aligned Movement.

Of particular significance is the mention of Shaike Dan, a prominent figure within the Jewish community, who served as a key contact for Yugoslavia even after the breakup of formal relations. Dan's role underscores the enduring connections between Yugoslavia and the Jewish/Israeli community, highlighting the complexities of diplomatic engagement amidst shifting geopolitical landscapes.

Moreover, this research illuminates Yugoslav Middle East policy, offering fresh perspectives on how Yugoslavia navigated the complexities of the Arab-Israeli conflict while maintaining its independence and pursuing its national interests. This paper contributes to a deeper understanding of Yugoslavia's role as a bridge between East and West, its commitment to anti-colonialism, and its efforts to carve out a unique path in international affairs.

Igor Rakić is a historian and archivist at the Historical Archives in Niš. He completed his undergraduate studies in history at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš, in 2013 (title: October War 1973). He earned his master's degree in 2016 (title: Yugoslavia and the Arab-Israeli War 1973). In 2017, he gained the title of curator, and the title of archivist in 2022.

He has conducted research on archival materials at the Military Archives of the Serbian Armed Forces (restricted collection), the Archives of Yugoslavia, the Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia, the Historical Archives of City of Belgrade, the National Archives of United Kingdom, the University College of London's Archives, the Austrian State Archives, the Central State Archives in Sofia (Bulgaria), the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, the National Archives of Portugal (Arquivo Nacional da Torre do Tombo), and the Historical Archives of the Municipality of Cascais (Arquivo Histórico Municipal de Cascais) in Portugal. Since May 2021 he has been employed at the Historical Archives in Niš, working on archival digitisation.

Project E-ROUTES – Time Travel Routes through Europe

Sonja Ivanović, Olivera Krivošić
Matica Srpska Library, Novi Sad, Serbia

This paper will present the E-Routes project (2022-2025), conducted under the EU Creative Europe programme and dealing with cultural heritage and contemporary artistic production related to travel experience. The project objective is to collect digitised material from various cultural institutions (galleries, libraries, archives, museums – GLAM) in order to create thematic travel routes in four European countries: Croatia, Italy, Serbia, and Slovenia. Given that modern travellers are looking for something more than ordinary tourist information, the E-Routes project sheds light on cultural heritage in a different way. The idea is to establish links between old travelogues, diaries, maps, and pictures with contemporary cultural, creative or artistic experiences related to the topic of travel and travel routes through project activities. Each of the selected locations will be accompanied by interesting stories and historical parallels, as well as digitised images or artistic representations from the past (places, objects, historical events, toponyms, personalities, biographies, quotations from literary works, and so on). In addition to the creation of a multilingual application that will guide users

through cultural and historic routes, in-residency programs for artists from all four participating countries will be organised, as well as two international conferences.

The project will provide an innovative platform for cooperation and connection that can increase capacities in the cultural and creative sectors and improve lifelong learning and professional development. The results of the project can be easily applied in other European countries, enabling an enhanced international presence for European cultural heritage.

Partners in the project are the Serbian Library Association (coordinator), ICARUS from Croatia, the National and University Library from Slovenia, and UNINA-Centro MUSA (Musei delle Scienze Agrarie) from the University of Naples Federico II in Italy. The associated partner from Serbia is the Matica Srpska Library from Novi Sad, from Italy it is ICARUS Italy APS, and from Croatia the Prelog Library and Reading Room.

Olivera Krivošić library advisor in the aquisition and exchange department of the Matica Srpska Library, Novi Sad, Serbia

Olivera graduated in English language and literature from the Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade. She has worked at the Matica Srpska Library in Novi Sad since 2002, first in the department for cataloguing and bibliography, and then in the Reference Centre and research and development department. Today she works in the acquisition and exchange department as a library advisor for the aquisition and exchange of publications in English and other languages. She also works as a translator and English language editor of monographs and scholarly journals published by the Matica Srpska and the Matica Srpska Library. Olivera is a member of the Serbian Library Association and a member of the editorial board of the scientific journal *Bibliotekar* (Librarian) issued by the Association.

Sonja Ivanović senior librarian in the aquisition and exchange department of the Matica Srpska Library, Novi Sad, Serbia

Sonja was born in Sarajevo. She graduated in French language and literature from the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad. She has worked in the aquisition and exchange department of the Matica Srpska Library as a senior librarian since 2007. She is also a member of the Serbian Library Association. Sonja focuses on literary translation.

Creative Europe programme in Serbia

Bojan Milosavljević

Project manager, Creative Europe Desk Serbia
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia

Creative Europe is a programme of the European Union that provides financial support to institutions and organisations in the cultural sector in order to preserve, develop and promote European cultural and linguistic diversity and heritage, and boost the quality and economic potential of cultural activities, especially in the audiovisual field.

Creative Europe is a key EU programme supporting and developing the cultural sector, primarily international cooperation and exchange projects. We will present some of the calls for project proposals and projects by organisations from Serbia that are supported under the programme, as well as the support provided to applicants by the Creative Europe Serbia Desk at the Serbian Ministry of Culture. <http://www.kreativnaevropa.rs/>

Bojan Milosavljević completed undergraduate studies in theatre directing and master's studies in political science – new public management. He has also attended an alternative study programme at the Centre for Women's Studies in Belgrade and a master's programme in contemporary performing arts at MAPA (Moving Academy for Performing Arts), Amsterdam. As a theatre director he has directed theatre plays in Serbia and other countries in the region. Over the last ten years he has coordinated and participated in more than 20 international projects as part of EU programmes – Creative Europe, CERV and Erasmus+. He has worked as a coordinator of international cooperation projects for several institutions, including the Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture Foundation. He currently works as a project manager for the Creative Europe Serbia Desk at the Serbian Ministry of Culture.

The Heritage Innovation Marketplace – a platform for tools and services of relevance for cultural heritage stakeholders

Caroline Maximoff
ICARUS/TMO, Austria

In summer 2022 a project consortium consisting of 4 European partners (Friedrich Schiller University Jena (Coordinator), the Time Machine Organisation (TMO), ICARUS – International Centre for Archival Research, and Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision (NISV)) kicked off a common project co-funded by the European Commission as a Creative Innovation Lab. The intention behind this cooperation was to develop a virtual laboratory to showcase and work with digital tools for (further) education in the field of cultural heritage. The outcome of this initiative will be presented here, a comprehensive collection of digital applications for the interested public, such as museum applications, city guides and virtual exhibitions.

Caroline Maximoff holds a B.A. in History of Arts from the University of Vienna and started working for ICARUS in the year of its foundation in 2008, overseeing the association's (financial) administration and project management, supervising the day-to-day business as well as preparing project applications, submissions, financial reports etc. She supported the project administration of the EU-funded projects Central European Virtual Archives Network of Medieval Charters, CrArc – Crossborder Archives, ENArC – European Network on Archival Cooperation, co:op – Community as Opportunity, Creative Archives' and Users' Network and European Digital Treasures – Management of Centennial Archives in the 21st Century.

In early 2020 she moved to the newly-established Time Machine Organisation (TMO), taking over the financial administration of the association and later communication activities during the maternity leave of Chief Communications Officer Kerstin Muff. In TMO she is also involved in international cooperation projects, e.g with Europeana, focusing on the deployment of the common European data space for cultural heritage. Caroline is part of the project team of 5Dculture – Deploying and

Demonstrating a 3D Cultural Heritage Space and C4Education – Virtual Lab on the Collection and Commercialisation of Digital Tools for Citizen Education in Cultural Heritage, in which both ICARUS and TMO are partners.

In January 2024 Caroline resumed her previous duties at ICARUS, in addition to those in TMO.

Affiliation: ICARUS/TMO, Austria

Everything you need for the archive, library, museum and gallery

**Jovica Zekovic, Executive manager
Trevis d.o.o.**

With increased turnover in the handling of archival materials today and a prevailing desire to make archives sustainable, new technological solutions need to constantly be found in order to respond to these challenges. Space, a key resource of any physical archive, is becoming more and more expensive and unavailable, and new and innovative solutions need to be found for existing archive spaces that will contribute to significant savings in space and energy whilst enhancing the functionality of the space, and at the same time the safety of users and archival materials in multiple ways. Lately, archival institutions in the region have been offered high-rise abandoned industrial spaces for use as archival depots, which archives often do not want to take over. Alternatively, expensive buildings are constructed for use as depots, and these can be much cheaper if the right type of equipment is installed in them. The right type of equipment can also help in creating better climate conditions for archival materials and documents. In our presentation we will show, through visual examples, how our equipment can make maximum use of spaces over 5 m high and at the same time ensure safety in the relationship between archival materials and the user and achieve better climatic conditions.

Once archival material is safely accommodated it must be taken care of, and we will present a wide range of equipment and materials used for the purpose of conservation and restoration of paper documents.

Jovica Zekovic is Executive Manager with the company Trevis d.o.o., and for the past 14 years has been a leading advisor and project manager for the installation and furnishing of depot, office and expo spaces of galleries, libraries, archives, and museums throughout the Balkans. In recent times he has been involved in supplying necessary equipment and materials for paper conservation, restoration, protection and repair.

He has an MA (2006) as an agricultural engineer in crop production. At the moment he is pursuing PhD studies in agriculture. For a short time, from 2006 until 2009, he worked in several leading management positions which involved monitoring seed production, marketing and distribution. In the last 14 years he has dedicated himself to helping galleries, libraries, archives, and museums protect, store and exhibit their collections in a more secure way whilst saving costs in the process.

His latest area of interest is introducing compact storage equipment in agricultural production in order to increase horizontal production surfaces, as well as vertical farming systems aimed at increasing horizontal capacity for food production with the goal of helping prevent hunger in the developing world.

Approaching migration phenomena from the archival perspective: reflections on the AToM project

Vlatka Lemić, Tamara Štefanac
University of Zagreb, Croatia

The Creative Europe project called AToM – Archives and Traces of Migration (2022-2025) – deals with migration phenomena from the archival perspective. Project partners from Croatia, Spain, Hungary and the

Netherlands, reflecting different institutional and regulatory frameworks and professional practices in the archival community, have jointly placed a focus on the importance of collecting and preserving archival heritage documenting migration issues. The aim of AToM is to investigate and develop best practices for the appraisal, creation, and preservation of, and access to archival and other documentary heritage material relating to emigrants, immigrants, displaced persons and refugees, migrant workers, students, and other categories of expatriate and diaspora community. The project is oriented towards three main objectives: strengthening the capacity of archivists and other documentary heritage professionals in the area of historical and contemporary migrations; connecting archivists and documentary heritage professionals with respective migrant communities (e.g., descendants of immigrants, groups, and individuals); co-creating specific cultural products (e.g., finding aids, oral histories, exhibitions) with members of the respective communities. The authors will provide an introspective of project activities, placing an emphasis on the role of archives as focal points for communication among communities, cultures, and states across different historical periods.

Assistant Professor **Vlatka Lemić**, PhD, works at the University of Zagreb as head of the archival office. She is an archives advisor as well as professor at the Archival Studies Department of the University of Zagreb. She is actively involved in various international projects and initiatives in the field of information and archival sciences, culture and digital humanities (Creative Europe, Time Machine, DARIAH, AERI). She is vice-president of ICARUS, president of ICARUS Croatia, member of ICA EURBICA Executive Board and EGSHAH, Time Machine Ambassador and member of Europeana Advisory Board.

Tamara Štefanac works as a senior archivist in the National and University Library in Zagreb, the capital of Croatia. She holds an MA in art history, comparative literature, and archival studies and a PhD in information studies. Recently she was affiliated with the University of California Los Angeles as a Fulbright Visiting Scholar researching Croatian diasporic archival and documentary heritage.

Session: Topotheque

Topotheque – Collaborative portal for archives and communities

Vlatka Lemić
ICARUS Croatia, Croatia

The Topotheque is a digital platform – a collaborative online archive – giving access to digitised communal historic sources with the help of interactive IT tools for description, presentation and search. It was created by ICARUS as part of the Creative Europe co:op – Community as Opportunity project (2014-2018), as a tool for creating virtual archive collections of local history and/or themes. The Topotheque concept is based on the collaboration of heritage institutions with the community, as well as on the idea of inclusion of more citizens in the preservation, research and promotion of their history and tradition. From its creation Topotheque has become the largest community platform in Europe, with more than 430 virtual collections on local history, sights, events, and people from all around Europe and administrated by various organisations, groups and communities. It is used in various projects and programmes, local and international, dedicated to safeguarding private documents that are not always easily accessible and opening them up to the public, providing a contribution to building regional and historic identities of communities and their populations.

The workshop will provide an introspective of the development of the platform and its operation, the methodology and the participatory concept of integration of voluntary work and crowd sourcing in the platform workflow, as well as examples of unveiled community stories. Besides presenting past experience and lessons learnt, the idea is to explore perspectives and best practices of running Topotheque collections, in order to make the platform a better tool for community archiving.

Info: <https://www.topothek.at/en/>

Topotheque collections of the University of Zagreb

To celebrate its 350th anniversary, the University of Zagreb organised a range of activities dedicated to the presentation of the University's rich historical and cultural heritage, including the launch of virtual archives on the digital collaborative platform Topotheque. The University of Zagreb's Topotheque virtual archival collection gathers a variety of records related to the history, development, organisational changes, and activities of the University and makes it accessible to the public. These sources are preserved in various public, private, local, and specialised collections, and are searchable as individual records, via interactive maps or through thematic exhibitions and stories. This virtual archive is administrated by the University Archives and open to all interested in collaboration in collecting and publishing new records.

Topotheque They: Live Zagreb, which gathers photos, interviews, posters, documents, and other records documenting student life in Zagreb, was created as part of the Creative Europe project THEY: LIVE – Student lives revealed through context-based art practices (2020-2023), dedicated to documenting student life from the end of World War II to the present day. This virtual collection includes materials from the University of Zagreb Archive, archival collections of its components and various student associations, as well as private collections of former and current students.

Info:

<https://unizg.topoteka.net>

<https://they-live-zagreb.topoteka.net/>

Assistant Professor **Vlatka Lemić**, PhD, works at the University of Zagreb as head of the archival office. She is an archives advisor as well as professor at the Archival Studies Department of the University of Zagreb. She is actively involved in various international projects and initiatives in the field of information and archival sciences, culture and digital humanities (Creative Europe, Time Machine, DARIAH, AERI). She is vice-president of ICARUS, president of ICARUS Croatia, member of ICA EURBICA Executive Board and EGSHAH, Time Machine Ambassador and member of Europeana Advisory Board.

Topotheque: Heritage of Croats in Serbia – markers of ethno-cultural identity

Josip Bako

Institute for Culture of Croats in Vojvodina, Subotica, Serbia

The exceptionally rich cultural history of Croats in Serbia is the reason for launching the Topotheque ‘Heritage of Croats in Serbia’ in 2019, which is managed by the Institute for Culture of Croats in Vojvodina, and created in a collaborative and creative relationship with Croatian cultural associations and individuals. This is the virtual platform of the ICARUS center, which presents to the public photos, letters, maps, postcards and other documentary materials from the past and present which focus on the heritage of Croats in Serbia. This digital collection enables greater availability of materials for research and publication of the knowledge thus acquired about the Croatian community in Serbia. Our goal is to digitise the material on cultural and historical topics in order to preserve cultural heritage and popularise it. We will thus present the past and present state of traditions and renewed traditions as significant markers of the ethno-cultural identity of Croats in Serbia.

Josip Bako completed basic studies in 2008 at the Faculty of Economics in Subotica, studying agricultural economics and agribusiness. Completed graduate studies in 2011 at the same faculty, with a master’s degree in economics. He spent the second semester of his master’s studies at the University of Agricultural Sciences in Gembloux (Belgium), at the Department of Rural Economy, as a scholarship holder in the EU student mobility program TEMPUS. From 2010 to 2011 he worked as a field salesman, then in 2012 at a bank in the position of retail advisor and from 2013 to 2016 in commercial work. Since 2016 he has been employed at the Institute for Culture of Croats in Vojvodina as an administrative and business secretary.

A (partially) opened chest - Topotheque and the Archives of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Domazet Siniša, archival consultant
Archives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo

The Archives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in spite of their openness to researchers and the accessibility of a large number of fonds, has somehow been visible only to a narrow circle of historians and the occasional individual searching there for their long-lost certificates, private documents or diplomas. Such ongoing institutional obscurity may be attributed to a traditionally passive approach to the general public, which has resulted in insufficient publicity and a complete absence in the mass-media.

There has been an old-fashioned attitude that cultural and scientific institutions such as libraries, museums and archives should not be 'advertised' and that their educational role in society is sufficient in itself to be widely recognised.

But during riots in 2014 when the ground floor of the building of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina was set on fire it is very possible that none of our fellow citizens who came with molotov cocktails in hand even knew that the Archives of Bosnia and Herzegovina were situated there.

New times have brought new trends. It is now recognised that archives must go beyond depots, reading-rooms, and even specialised conferences and consultations, including those at the international level. The presence of the Internet in everyone's pocket has made it possible for archival material to be a click or two away from the most distant individual, and any quality software tool that would help with this is more than welcome. One of those tools is Topotheque, and the Archives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as its youngest user, has the opportunity for the first time to show off the visual and historical wealth it keeps in its depots in a new and accessible way.

Siniša Domazet works as Archival Adviser / IT Technician at the Archives of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo, where he is responsible for upgrading, monitoring and maintenance of IT equipment and databases, coordination

of the digitisation process, maintaining cooperation and contacts with other archives and related institutions and collaboration in research projects with partners from Bosnia and Herzegovina and abroad. He is a member of the expert team from BiH in charge for the implementation of the Agreement on the Succession of Archival Records for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Topotheque – seals from the Archives of Vojvodina fonds

Danijela Branković, archival consultant
Archives of Vojvodina, Novi Sad, Serbia

This topotheque was created as part of the ‘Seals from the Archives of Vojvodina fonds – Cities, market towns and villages on the territory of Bačka in the 18th and 19th century’ project, which aims to present both to the general public and scholars, in more detail and based on archival records, the most prominent examples of seals used during the 18th and 19th century, on the territory of today’s Bačka in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, which was once part of the former Austrian/Austro-Hungarian Empire and Habsburg Monarchy.

The goal of this project was through this presentation to make these seals significantly more available to the general public and scholars, bringing new incentive to the research of sphragistics, diplomacy and heraldry.

Seals and signets are a unique type of evidence of the period and society in which they were created, and are important for researching areas of the political and cultural history of a nation. The seals chosen for this topotheque are a part of the history of the Serbs, Germans, Hungarians, Bunjevci, Slovaks, Ruthenians and other people that lived on the territory of today’s Bačka in the 19th century.

The project leader is the Archives of Vojvodina in Novi Sad, project activities themselves began in April 2024, and completion of the project is planned for June 2024.

Danijela Branković graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Novi Sad and became a teacher of Serbo-Croatian language and Yugoslav literature. In 2008 she became a teacher of German language and literature at the same Faculty. From 1997 until the present day she has been working at the Archives of Vojvodina in Novi Sad (Serbia) where she works as a translator of archival materials and documents from German into Serbian. In 2013, she was promoted to archival consultant. She has published several books on archival activities and speaks German and Hungarian.

Topotheque – Almaški Kraj

Sara Samardžić, archival consultant
Historical Archives of the City of Novi Sad, Serbia

The Almas Quarter (Almaški Kraj) is part of Novi Sad, located in the vicinity of the city centre. In 2019 it was declared a protected cultural and historical quarter.

The Almaški Kraj Topotheque was launched in 2019 as a contribution to the promotion of this part of the city. It primarily contains archival documents and maps from various periods of the city's development. Another important part of the Topotheque are audio and video materials about life and customs in this part of the city, various photos as well as activities of the Almašani association.

Sara Samardžić is an archivist in the Historical Archives of the City of Novi Sad, employed since 2002 sorting and analytically processing archival materials written in German. She is the co-author of a multilingual dictionary for archivists and the author of several papers on local history, as well as one of the presenters of Topotheque – Almaški Kraj.



Session: MONASTERIUM WORKSHOP

The Monasterium.net charters portal

Karl Heinz, Daniel Jeller
ICARUS, Austria

The International Centre for Archival Research (ICARUS) has been operating the Monasterium portal (www.monasterium.net) for 20 years now. Its development began in 2004 with the digitisation of around 20,000 documents that were stored *in situ* in the monasteries and convents of Lower Austria and were only available to a limited extent for historical research. After these humble beginnings the database currently contains almost 670,000 documents and almost 930,000 images from a total of 184 archives in 15 countries.

In addition to the regular archival charter fonds, the database also includes so-called collections, which represent either digitised source editions or virtually reunited and reconstructed archives.

Karl Heinz is the co-founder of ICARUS and represents the association in his current position as deputy general manager at various national and international events. He holds degrees in auxiliary and archival sciences and history, also working as a freelance historian covering various fields, such as Lower Austrian local history, diplomatic and palaeographic research, Austro-Hungarian relationship, and humanism in East-Central Europe.

Within ICARUS he oversees the scientific support in connection with the Monasterium portal, member management and support, international representation, and networking. As part of the EU co-funded project 'European digital treasures – management of centennial archives in the 21st century' (2018-2022) he coordinated the curation of the international exhibition on 'Exiles, Migratory Flows and Solidarity' as well as scientifically supporting the other 2 exhibitions and accompanying catalogues.

Daniel Jeller is an Austrian historian and information technology expert and the head of digitisation and IT of ICARUS. He oversees the code repository and metadata management of the Monasterium platform.

Since its establishment in early 2020, Daniel has also been Chief Technical Officer of the Time Machine Organisation (TMO).

His work is currently focused on digitisation technologies and the effects of the so-called Digital Age, the increased use of computer technologies in every aspect of life, on the study of history and auxiliary sciences of history. He began pursuing this topic while working as digitisation technician for ICARUS, where he was employed during his studies at the University of Vienna. His experience gained during the various digitisation projects resulted in his master thesis 'Archival material in the age of its digital reproduction' at the Department of History in Vienna.

Almost from the outset, the Monasterium platform was conceived as an interactive medium that enabled subsequent additions or corrections to the metadata via an editing environment.

Currently, an EU-funded project ('DiDip – from digital to distant diplomatics' - <https://didip.hypotheses.org/the-project>) under the project management of the Centre for Information Modelling at the Karl-Franzens University in Graz is working on a complete technical redesign of Monasterium. In the course of this project, an attempt will also be made to significantly expand the document holdings accessible via the platform.

Analogue archives, digital future: the medieval monastic archives of Southern Italy on Monasterium.Net

Antonella Ambrosio
Professor of Palaeography and Diplomatics
at the University of Naples Federico II (Italy)

Maria Pia Tiseo
PhD student in Mediaeval History
at the University of Basilicata (Italy)

This paper proposal centres on the investigation of a specific type of archive: the mediaeval monastic archive. Our research perspective concerns the formal study of such archives as sources for the history of monasteries, a somewhat underexplored topic for Southern Italy. The ways in which documents were preserved in archives provide invaluable insights, both into the internal organisation of monasteries, their relationships with political and social entities and in general on the institution. For example, the presence of an ‘archival awareness’ within the monastery, the continuity or rupture in the forms and types of documents preserved, the presence of forgeries or copies, etc., can be indicative of significant aspects of monastic institutions. Therefore, while the form and content analysis of each archival piece represents a privileged field of investigation for the historian, the investigation into the formal structure of the archive and the composition of its documentation: charters, private deeds, accounts books, registers are equally useful.

To avoid an overly theoretical approach we will give a concrete example, referencing a doctoral thesis at the University of Basilicata within the framework of the PRIN, a national project in Italy that involves five universities, entitled ‘The cloister and power. Maps and destinies of Benedictine monasteries in Apulia, Campania and Basilicata in the 14th – 16th centuries: papacy, monarchy and feudality’. This doctoral project aims to create collections on the Monasterium.net portal and digital scholarly editions of Benedictine monastery archives.

Other cases will be presented from the activities of the Laboratory of Historical Documents on the Web (University of Naples Federico II),

primarily the creation of digital scholarly editions of the account books and registers of monasteries, with the aim of extracting paleographical, diplomatic and historical data regarding these religious institutions.

The main expected outcome at the end of these activities in two years will be functional to an exploration of medieval monastic history of Southern Italy, starting from the formal structure of the archives and the analysis of documents, to try to connect the archives and the monastic entities with the society in which they were embedded, of course taking up the challenges that computer technologies represent for humanities scholars.

Antonella Ambrosio is Associate Professor of Palaeography and Diplomatics at the University of Naples Federico II, where she is responsible for the Laboratory of Historical Documents on the Web, a member of the board of Digital Humanities, Open Science and Digital Transition in the Department of Humanities, as well as the university task force Human&Future. Her area of research focuses on documentation relating to Campania and Southern Italy. She has been active in the digital humanities sector since 2008: as a scientific director of European funded projects, in collaboration with the International Centre for Archival Research, ICARus, based in Vienna, she has published a virtual archive online and digital scholarly editions of documents. She currently oversees the Italian contributions to both “Monasterium.Net” (<https://www.monasterium.net/>)

Maria Pia Tiseo is a PhD Student at the University of Basilicata (Italy), with a project in Mediaeval History that employs a palaeographic-diplomatic approach to the analysis of historical documents, enhanced by the integration of digital technologies. Her project is part of a *PRIN* (Project of Significant National Interest), an initiative that involves five universities in Southern Italy. She is a member of *Laboratory of historical documents on the Web* in the Department of Humanities of the University of Naples Federico II, where she is involved in the creation of digital archives and scholarly digital editions, and contributes to the development of the Monasterium.Net portal (<https://www.monasterium.net/>). Additionally, she has had an international training experience, attending the masterclass Digital Scholarly Editing at the University of Saarbrücken (Germany). She has teaching experience at the School of Archival Studies, Palaeography and Diplomatics at the State Archive of Naples (Italy)

Archives of Vojvodina Collection of Charters and Diplomas

Zagorka Avakumović, senior archivist

Archives of Vojvodina, Novi Sad, Serbia

Among the archival fonds and collections kept in the Archives of Vojvodina, there is a prominent place set aside for the Collection of Charters and Diplomas (F.398), which is small in size but invaluable in its importance. The archival units (files) in this Collection stand out not only for their historiographical importance and age, but also in terms of their artistic and graphic features, materials, dimensions and bindings.

The paper provides a summary of the archival Collection of Charters and Diplomas (F.398). In addition to basic data about the Collection, information is given regarding the external characteristics and appearance of the archival units (files) it contains and the language in which the items were written.

The archival Collection of Charters and Diplomas (F.398) contains 50 archival units (files) from the period 1565 – 1861. The collection does not comprise an organic whole, but rather is made up of items obtained through purchase or as gifts, as well as items taken from other archival fonds and collections of the Archives of Vojvodina. The files in the Collection are mostly written in Latin and German, but also in Hungarian, Slavonic-Serbian, Greek, Italian and Slovak. They are mostly handwritten, except for a few which are in printed form. The Collection predominantly comprises items relating to the giving and bestowal of nobility on individuals, and there is also a small number of letters patent, city charters and charters of incorporation for trades. The charter bearing inventory number 1 is particularly valuable, not least because it is one of the oldest documents kept in the Archives of Vojvodina. So also is a group consisting of several charters filed under different inventory numbers that refer to Patriarch Josif Rajačić, comprising various appointments and decorations related to him.

These important and visually interesting archives are accessible by the general public in electronic form on the official website of the Archives of Vojvodina as well as on the Monasterium.net portal. In addition, a printed monographic work called *Zbirka povelja i diploma Arhiva Vojvodine* has been published (Zagorka Avakumović, Dejan Jakšić MA, Novi Sad, 2018), as

well as a paper in the journal of the Historical Archives of Požarevac *Zapisi* titled *Povelje i diplome u zbirci Arhiva Vojvodine* (Dejan Jakšić MA, Zagorka Avakumović, *Zapisi*, issue 4, p. 46-53, Požarevac, 2015).

Zagorka Avakumović is a graduate of the University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Philosophy, Department of History, from where she received the degree of professor of history. She is employed as a senior archivist with the Archives of Vojvodina in the Department for Organising and Processing Older Archival Records (pre – 1918) in Latin. Her work primarily involves analytical processing of county and related fonds that are categorised as archival fonds of exceptional importance. She also has a particular interest in organising archival records, while her main interests besides archival science are the history of the Habsburg Monarchy in the 18th and 19th centuries, primarily social circumstances.

- Tamiška županija (1779–1849). Katalog odabranih sadržaja dokumenata (1785–1790), XIV/3, Novi Sad, 2015 – publication author
- Tamiška županija (1779–1849), Katalog odabranih sadržaja dokumenata (1791–1795), XIV/4, Novi Sad, 2021 – publication author
- Author of themed exhibition and catalogue: Migracije naroda na području Bačke i Banata u 18. i 19. veku – kroz odabrane dokumente Bačko-bodroške, Tamiške i Torontalske županije;

THEMED EXHIBITION AND BOOK PRESENTATION:

To celebrate Archives of Vojvodina Day, we present the book **ADVOKATSKA KOMORA VOJVODINE** *Kroz odabranu arhivsku građu od 1875. do 1975. godine*, a publication resulting from a partnership between the Archives of Vojvodina and the Vojvodina Bar Association. The book has been written with the aim of introducing the reader to the origin, development and activities of the Bar Association and presenting information on the inestimable importance of this institution. We highlight the role of numerous prominent lawyers who participated in the Great People's Assembly in 1918, among them those who founded the Bar Association in 1921. We place special emphasis on the names of women in the lists of legal trainees and lists of lawyers of the Bar Association in the period between 1929 and 1941, i.e. up

until the Axis occupation. This section is of particular importance to us since it was only on the basis of the 1929 law that women won the right to practice law. We want to ensure that the names of these 47 women, whose work we have tracked and analysed through the correspondence in the fonds, are not forgotten. We believe that they made a significant contribution to the process of modernisation and the emancipation of women in Serbia in the interwar period.

An exhibition of the same name was also officially opened. At the exhibition we present selected documents on the establishment, operation and development of the Vojvodina Bar Association. The exhibition highlights the work of the Association in different social settings: the Austro-Hungarian period up until 1918, the period of the Kingdom of SCS/Yugoslavia from 1918 to 1941, and the period of socialist Yugoslavia from 1945 to 1975.

Book author Svetlana Ljubljanac, archives advisor

Expert advisor Višnja Nikolić MA, conservator/BA in Conservation of Paper

Exhibition and catalogue authors

Svetlana Ljubljanac, archives advisor

Leonila Pavlović, archives adviser

Višnja Nikolić MA, conservator/BA in Conservation of Paper

Svetlana Ljubljanac graduated in 1986 from the Faculty of Law in Banja Luka. She has been working in the Archives of Vojvodina since 1996, and attained the qualification of archives adviser in 2013. She is particularly interested in national legal history. She publishes in history and archival science journals.

СЕРВИС • ДРУГА ТИП

[Handwritten text in Cyrillic script, partially obscured by the torn edge of the paper]

**WORKSHOP OF ARCHIVES OF VOJVODINA:
CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF PAPER AND PARCHMENT
- A CASE STUDY**

**Preservation and protection of the written heritage
of the Visegrád countries
V4 project for the protection of archival materials**

Adrien P. Holl
Budapest City Archives, Budapest, Hungary

The budgets of cultural institutions allow conservation research and the development of new methodologies to a limited extent. The goal of the Visegrad Fund (V4), implemented by the Budapest City Archives in 2021-2022, was 'the preservation and protection of the written heritage of the Visegrad countries'. Funding through grants provided the opportunity for restorers, biologists and chemists working in the field of protection of archival materials, to join forces in order to preserve and save their collections more effectively. Conservation specialists shared their knowledge at workshops held in four cities of the four countries: Budapest City Archives (Budapest), Slovak National Library (Martin), Czech National Library (Prague), Warsaw University Biology Department (Warsaw). The result of the V4 project, implemented under the leadership of the Budapest City Archives, is the compilation of a professionally and scientifically based emergency protocol and the preparation of a five-language professional dictionary for archival materials protection. Thanks to effective teamwork we can be better prepared against disasters and the destruction of documents that also affect cultural institutions. The results of the project are available to everyone and can be downloaded free of charge at <https://bparchiv.hu/v4-project/>.

After the completion of the project, in 2023, the Budapest City Archives organised a fire-fighting exercise in which more than 25 people from the archives participated. With the involvement of the Museum Protection Committee, we continue our work with the preparation of the protection of archival materials, emergency rescue exercises and professional training materials, and we are looking for opportunities to continue the V4 project.

P. Holl Adrien is a specialist consultant for data protection, paper industry engineer. She graduated in 1992 from the Technical College of Light Industry as a paper industry engineer, and then started working at the National Széchény Library as a paper chemist. In 2008, she joined the Budapest City Archives as head of the department for protection of archival materials. In 2020, she completed cultural manager training at the Moholy-Nagy University of Arts, and in 2023 obtained a packaging technology engineering degree at the Sándor Rejtő Faculty of Light Industry and Environmental Engineering of the Óbuda University. From 2021, she has been an elected member of the committee of the Association of Hungarian Archivists and head of the Association's Archival Materials Protection Section. She took an active part in two projects initiated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary between 2010 and 2017 aimed at saving and digitising the documents of the Beregszáz archive (Berehova, Ukraine). In 2021-2022, she performed management duties on the V4 project called 'preservation and protection of the written heritage of the Visegrád Four' with the participation of four countries. As an instructor, she participates in courses of various higher education institutions relating to protection of archival materials and further training for archival specialists.

The protection and restoration of archival materials in the Hungarian National Archives

Nemes L. Ágnes

National Archives of Hungary, Budapest, Hungary

As the custodian of the national cultural heritage, the Hungarian National Archives bring written heritage closer to professionals and the general public through various media. Both traditional and electronic documents are stored, processed and published using modern methods by the specialists of the archives. Our institution is constantly developing its areas of activity in order to keep up with needs and international standards as much as possible.

The Department of Archival Protection and Preservation of Archival Materials of the Hungarian National Archives has a history going back 67 years. During this time we have worked to save thousands of documents and, thanks to our work, treasures of the Hungarian past have become accessible again. Restoration methods have changed a great deal in the recent past, but our dedication is unbroken. We are proud of our predecessors and we also try to contribute at the highest level to the preservation of our cultural heritage. The conservators simultaneously carry out the individual restoration of documents, research, and the management of large quantities of documents using mass procedures. All this requires great organisation and coordinated work.

In addition to mass restoration works, we continue to place great emphasis on our scientific activities and unique restoration works. In addition to daily planning work, the comprehensive activity of the protection of archival materials covers the control of climatic conditions in storage facilities, the selection and acquisition of storage devices for archival documents, as well as participation in exhibitions and loans in accordance with stock protection aspects. The preservation of archival materials is a particularly important activity from the point of view of the preservation of cultural heritage. The information and memories contained in the documents are valuable, and with proper handling and restoration we can preserve these assets for future generations in the long term.

Ágnes L.Nemes is a paper conservator and has been head of the Department for Preservation of the Hungarian National Archives since 2019. She has studied at the Hungarian University of Fine Arts in Budapest as an objects restoration artist, 2nd semester book and paper conservator, National Széchényi Library, as a bookbinder at Tótfalusi Kis Miklós Institute for Vocational Training in the Printing Industry, and Erasmus scholarship, Accademia Albertina delle Belle Arti, Turin, Italy. She has also participated in workshops such as the Inpainting and Loss Compensation on Paper workshop, Barcelona. Her professional experience includes senior restorer, paper and book restorer at the National Archives of Hungary, paper and book conservator at the Institute and Museum of Military History, and paper and book conservator at the National Széchényi Library. She is an active teacher, lecturing on archival protection and preservation at Eötvös Lóránd University, Budapest, archive specialisation, archival protection

and preservation at Ludovica University of Public Service, restoration and copying of wax seals, National Széchényi Library, *Budapest*, book and paper conservator training preservation, *National Archives of Hungary, Budapest*, archival assistant training workshops for restorers and seal reproduction, treatment of documents with ink corrosion. She also teaches workshops for children and adults on book binding (since 2018).

Visual examination of written heritage

Andreja Dragojević DSc

Croatian State Archives, Zagreb, Croatia

The research on written cultural heritage materials often encounters challenges due to restricted access to studying these materials. Paper is the main and the most common medium for this type of heritage containing information in various forms such as letters, colours and shapes. Despite being perceived as fragile, paper has proven stability and reliability throughout its history. Modern approaches to paper research permit non-destructive methods, allowing valuable insights without damaging the material. Visual examination, a non-destructive method, can yield significant information leading to new knowledge.

One aspect of visual examination methods involves analyses of the layout of sheets within book blocks. This examination provides insights into how paper sheets were stacked during printing, as well as the format of handmade papers. Additionally, watermark analysis and identification can provide clues about the age and place of origin of handmade paper. Understanding the paper's composition and quality is further enhanced by microscopic examination of its fibres and surfaces.

The analysis of the first printed edition of Euclid's book "Elementa geometriae" from 1482 serves as an illustrative example of research using visual examination. This book, which was printed in Venice by the renowned German printer Erhard Ratdolt, is regarded as a classic in the history of science and a masterpiece of early typographic techniques. It is

widely regarded as a noteworthy accomplishment of Renaissance printing and exhibits incredible typographic creativity.

Andreja Dragojević, conservator-restorer adviser, completed her PhD on the papers of Valvasor's print collection in 2020 with an emphasis on the characterisation of paper using non-destructive methods at the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering of the University of Ljubljana. From 1998 to 2014, she worked at the Croatian Conservation Institute as the head of the Paper and Leather Department, and since 2015 has been working at the Central Laboratory for Conservation and Restoration of the Croatian State Archives. Author of several professional and scientific articles, organiser and participant in conservation and restoration professional meetings.

Amino alcohol-based protic ionic liquids for fungi removal from paper heritage artefacts

Nataša Dimitrić

Library of Matica Srpska, Novi Sad, Serbia

One of the main directions for improving cooperation between artists (conservators) and scientists (chemists) is the improvement of existing conservation methods and techniques for cleaning paper materials, which is one of the most risky phases of conservation treatment. In this paper, a new approach to cleaning paper materials from fungi is proposed using new environmentally friendly solvents called ionic liquids. New protic ionic liquids (PILs) with 1-ammonium-2-propanol cation and nine different anions: formate, acetate, lactate, trifluoroacetate, chloroacetate, trichloroacetate, 3-chloropropionate, 4-chlorobutyrate and mandelate were prepared in order to study their antimicrobial activity and possible application for fungi removal from deteriorated paper heritage. Ionic liquids have excellent physico-chemical properties and can serve as a substitute for conventional volatile, corrosive, and toxic solvents that are widely used

today in the process of conservation and restoration of cultural heritage. They are also called design solvents since their structure can be adjusted during the synthesis itself, resulting in the desired properties such as non-volatility, non-toxicity, and non-corrosiveness, which significantly reduce the risk of environmental pollution and the harmful impact on the health of the conservator themselves.

Nataša Dimitrić was born in Zagreb on June 15, 1987. At the Faculty of Science in Novi Sad, she enrolled in basic academic studies in chemistry, majoring in biochemistry. After completing undergraduate studies lasting three years, she enrolled in Master's studies in chemistry, majoring in biochemistry, at the same faculty. On February 9, 2015, she was employed in the Department of Protection of Publications of the Matica Srpska Library, working on the conservation and restoration of library and archival materials. In the autumn of the same year, she enrolled in doctoral studies in chemistry at the Faculty of Science in Novi Sad, under the mentorship of Prof Slobodan Gadžurić PhD. On September 15th 2020 she completed her doctoral studies and obtained the academic title of Doctor of Science – Chemical Sciences. The title of her doctoral dissertation was 'Characterisation, toxicity, and application of newly synthesised ionic liquids for cleaning and conservation of paper archival material.' Since February 2020 she has been a member of the Serbian Society of Conservators.

In cooperation with the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad, she has assisted in the entire practical part of a student's Master's thesis under the mentorship of Prof Daniela Korolije Crkvenjakov, and gave a lecture on the topic 'Cyclododecane: an ideal fixative for water-soluble inks' to students studying for a Master's degree in conservation at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad. She gave a talk on 'New protic ionic liquids for fungi removal from paper heritage artifacts' at the online conference 'Written Heritage: New Challenges and Perspectives' organised by the European Research Centre for Book and Paper Conservation and Restoration. At the invitation of the Svetozar Marković University Library in Belgrade, she held a talk on the topic 'Protic ionic liquids as a new alternative in the disinfection of paper library and archive materials.' During 2024, she will conduct an accredited programme for continuous professional development in library and information activities called 'The Path of one book: the combination of modern scientific technology and traditional work processes.'

Conservation and restoration work on maps and plans in the Archives of Vojvodina

Višnja Nikolić, M.A.

Archives of Vojvodina, Novi Sad, Serbia

The collection of maps and plans of the Archives of Vojvodina comprises 1134 archival records of various formats, created between 1718 and 1956. The records are on paper, cardboard and canvas, and comprise plans of cities, church and secular buildings and infrastructure as well as administrative, geographical and demographic maps of historical territorial divisions and the surrounding regions.

The consequences of inadequate storage of archival records can be seen in the mechanical damage done to almost every file in the collection (caused primarily by multiple folding), deformities, dirt, and the proliferation of micro-organisms in one group of files which also needed disinfection treatment in order to halt these harmful processes, preserve the records and also safeguard the health of everyone who handles them.

Based on a list of priorities, work has been done so far on a total of 45 items from the collection.

The paper presents the conservation and restoration work done, using several selected items as examples. The methods used to repair the damage and achieve the desired aesthetic improvements were selected based on the extent and type of damage, as well as the properties of the material. After the conservation and restoration work appropriate protective packaging was made for each item in order to preserve the archival records in their unfolded state.

Višnja Nikolić. Born in Inđija on February 24, 1983. Graduated in 2005 from the Novi Sad Academy of Arts – majoring in the graphic arts, where she also completed her master's degree in 2010. In 2006 she was awarded a scholarship from KulturKontakt Austria to attend the Salzburg International Summer Academy of Fine Arts – Graphics Department. She gained the qualification of conservator-restorer having passed the required state board

exam for cultural heritage conservation professionals. Since 2007 she has been employed at the Archives of Vojvodina as a paper conservator. She has taken part in a number of international and local workshops and projects relating to the field of conservation and restoration, has participated and lectured at international and local conferences and seminars, and has been the author and co-author of a number of papers in the area of paper conservation published in national and international professional and academic journals. Since 2018, she has been the conservator and lecturer responsible for implementing part of the professional work experience programme for the subject of Conservation and Restoration of Paper 1 and 2 for students of the master study programme for conservation and restoration of works of fine and applied art of the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad. Lectures are held in the laboratory for the conservation and restoration of archival records at the Archives of Vojvodina. She is a lecturer for the vocational subjects 'conservation and restoration of archival and library records' and 'materials and techniques used in the production of archival and library records' for those working in archives on conservation and restoration and taking state board examinations.

Creating a copy of the Charter of Empress Maria Theresa on the establishment of the Great Kikinda Privileged District from 1774

Maja Jokmanović
Archives of Vojvodina, Novi Sad, Serbia

Austrian empress Maria Theresa established the District of Velika Kikinda on November 12, 1774. A special charter was issued on the occasion, guaranteeing autonomy of administration for the area centred around what was then Velika Kikinda. Thanks to this, the District and its inhabitants enjoyed economic and political privileges within the empire (political autonomy and autonomous administrative and judicial rights at the

municipal level, owning the land they cultivated and enjoying freedom from feudal obligations).

The charter is in the form of a book, written on parchment in German Gothic script. The cover of the charter is bound in dark red silk velvet. The ribbons with which the charter is tied are tucked under the cover and made of thicker, yellow silk. On the left side of the book holes are drilled in two places (through the cover and the entire body of the book) and a decorative braid passes through them.

Given that the charter is a record of exceptional importance, the Historical Archive of Kikinda requested a copy of it from the Archives of Vojvodina. The copy was created with the intention of putting it on permanent display in a glass case so as to protect the original charter and protect it from deterioration. The copy is modelled after the original charter, and materials of the highest quality were used, in appearance and characteristics faithfully imitating the original appearance of the 1774 Charter of Empress Maria Theresa on the establishment of the Privileged District of Velika Kikinda.

The video presentation shows all the steps that went into making the copy, including making the binding and headbands, dyeing silk strips and making the decorative braid.

Maja Jokmanović is completed primary and secondary school in Novi Sad. Graduated from the Academy of the Serbian Orthodox Church for Arts and Conservation in Belgrade in 2008, majoring in the area of conservation of easel paintings, on the topic 'Non-destructive analytical methods in conservation'. She served her internship at the Gallery of Matica Srpska in Novi Sad (2008-2009) and passed the state board exam at the National Museum in Belgrade in 2009. She gained her work experience in the field of conservation and restoration at the Academy of the Serbian Orthodox Church (2010-2012), at the Viminacium (Požarevac) archaeological site (2013), and at the Museum of Vojvodina (2014). She has attended numerous conferences and workshops in Serbia and abroad. Since 2014 she has been employed at the Archives of Vojvodina as a paper conservator.

The structure and conservation of springback bindings

Somogyi Márk

National Archives of Hungary, Budapest, Hungary

The presentation will discuss the historical background of the springback binding technique patented by John and Joseph Williamson in England in 1799, as well as the obstacles encountered in their conservation. Although the technique was widespread during the 19th and early 20th centuries, its decline in popularity led to a corresponding decline in the expertise of bookbinders and conservators. As a result, there is now very little information and literature on the subject. The presentation will detail the structural design of springback bindings, the crucial steps in their construction, and the mechanical properties of this type of binding. With this knowledge, the inherent structural causes of the mechanical deterioration will become clearer and their conservation will be more efficient.

Mark Somogyi is a multilingual professional, currently serving as a Book and Paper Conservator at the Hungarian National Archives since 2022. His role involves both interventional and preventive conservation work on archival materials, along with delivering condition reports and lecturing at accredited training programmes. His previous roles include being a Project Conservator at the Holocaust Memorial Centre and the Library of the University of Jewish Studies in Budapest, where he managed conservation projects funded by prestigious foundations. Mr Somogyi's career journey also encompasses internships at renowned institutions like the Museum of Applied Art and the Ludwig Museum in Budapest. With extensive experience, including one-year employment at Rita Udina's Book and Paper Conservation Studio and work in various bookbinderies in the United Kingdom, he has honed his skills in conserving diverse artworks. Furthermore, his tenure at the Hungarian National Museum from 2000 to 2005 enriched his expertise in conserving a wide array of cultural artefacts. He holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Preventive Conservation from Northumbria University and actively participates in seminars and courses across Europe. His dedication to preserving cultural heritage is

evident through his involvement in exhibitions, volunteering activities, and memberships in professional organisations like the Scottish Council on Archives and the Society of Hungarian Archivists.

Condition assessment of the Ráday Archives' medieval document collection, conservation-restoration decision-making and interventions

Katalin Orosz

Budapest City Archives, Budapest, Hungary

The Ráday Archives houses approximately 850 square meters of documents in 350 archival fonds. Approximately two-thirds of the documents are documents of the Danube Reformed Church District and its institutions. In addition, a very important part of the documents is the collection of family and personal legacies, with 105 documents from the Middle Ages. The latter valuable collection is the subject of a condition assessment and conservation project being carried out by the staff of the Budapest City Archives. The condition of the 46 parchments and 59 paper charters is quite different, the parchments are mostly in relatively good condition, they are characterised by deformation, minor damages, creases and dirt. On 16 parchment certificates, the hanging seal has been preserved, on some of them the remains of a wax seal can be observed, but in many cases only the remains of the hanging material are visible. The hanging seals are damaged, in many cases incomplete or broken. The diplomas are folded and placed in an envelope and stored in two archival boxes. Most of the storage materials (envelopes, palliums) are acidic paper containing wood shavings, which poses a chemical risk.

In addition, the current storage method does not ensure adequate physical protection of the charters and seals. The aim of the project is to undertake the physical and chemical stabilisation of the charters and their safe long-term preservation, which we plan to implement over several years. The

lecture describes the condition assessment and risk analysis process of the collection, as well as the management plan developed based on these and the conservation method used for some charters.

Katalin OROSZ is a paper and leather conservator, born in 1968 in Budapest, Katalin Orosz worked at the National Archives of Hungary between 1991 and 2009, at the Hungarian National Museum between 2009 and 2021 and since 2022, has been working at Budapest City Archives.

She specialised at the Museum and Object Conservation Department of the Hungarian University of Fine Arts (1998), and also studied at the National Széchényi Library (Book and Paper Conservation course). She obtained her DLA degree in 2009 from the Hungarian University of Fine Arts.

Beside working as a paper, leather and parchment object analyst and conservator, she has been dealing with the issues of artwork preservation and collection management and care since 2000. She also participated in international courses in these fields at University College London (2002) and the ICCROM – Canadian Conservation Institute (2003).

Between 2002 and 2004, she participated in the implementation and application of a Dutch statistical condition assessment method (UPAA) within the network of Hungarian archives, as well as in the elaboration of the Collection Management and Preservation Policy of the Hungarian National Archives.

In 2008, she was in charge of supervising the professional and safe handling of objects, as well as the definition of collection management and care guidelines during the digitalisation process of the charter collection and cadastral maps from the period preceding the Mohács Battle at the Hungarian National Archives.

Between 2009 and 2021, she was head of Paper Specialisation within the Applied Arts Conservation Specialisation at the Hungarian University of Fine Arts. She has also taught preservation and environmental conditions for artworks. At the request of the Metropolis University of Helsinki, she has held courses on issues dealing with book conservation and preservation. Currently she is involved in the conservation of archival records, plans, charters and photographs.

The treatment of anoxia for preventive protection and conservation of rare books from the fonds of the State Archive of North Macedonia (case study)

M.Sc. Elisaveta Markovikj

State Archives of the Republic of North Macedonia, Skopje

The term preventive protection refers to a number of measures, procedures and events taken to prevent, delay or at least mitigate damage to archival and library materials. In order to determine and select the most appropriate processes for preventive protection and preservation, it is essential to know and recognise the causes and factors responsible for the damage.

In general the causes of damage to archival materials, such as paper, parchment, papyrus and other natural materials are processes connected with natural aging, inappropriate environmental conditions, improper handling and mechanical damage, natural disasters and biodegradation.

Alongside knowledge of the originality and value of archival materials, which, in addition to new technologies, in the largest percentage globally, comprise materials placed on bases and materials such as paper, cellulose sheets, papyrus, parchment and woods that are subject to decay and damage, the preventive protection and physical security of written documents is still a formidable challenge and a topic of consideration for archivists, librarians and people involved in these processes and procedures.

One aspect of preventive protection and conservation of paper materials concerns problems related to and caused by the action of biological agents.

In the laboratory for conservation and restoration at the State Archive in addition to regular conservation and restoration procedures and activities, microbiological analysis and tests have been carried out to provide additional knowledge in the area of preventive protection against damage caused by various biological/microbiological agents.

Application of anoxia to some of the rare books found from the State Archive (case study)

The microbiological analysis and research were carried out in the conservation laboratory, in cooperation with the microbiological laboratory at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, and the effects of the application of anoxia in inhibiting the growth of microorganisms were examined in laboratory conditions. The aim of the research was to obtain knowledge or guidelines about the effects of this method that could be applied in the preventive protection and conservation of archival materials and fonds from biological agents, including cellulosic bacteria and fungi.

For the microbiological tests, samples from the archival material were used, from different periods and times, with paper differing in composition and quality.

In the selection for the isolation of microorganisms, samples were taken from the special collections of old manuscript books, Serbian recensions from the first half of the 15th century, a festive volume from the second half of the 16th century, Turkish sigil books and printed documents from the Registers from the first half of the last century, which are kept in the State Archive.

Paper under headings:

- The presence of microorganisms and their harmful influence (short overview);
- Disinfection – methods and techniques in the preventive protection of archival materials;
- List of the examined rare books (name, period and photography);
- Isolation of pure cultures of microorganisms from the examined samples (methods and techniques);
- Anoxia – meaning and purpose
- Applying anoxia conditions to examined samples (case study);
- Schematic representation of the obtained results;
- Conclusions

Elisaveta Markovikj MSc is employed in the State Archives of the Republic of North Macedonia as Head of the Department for Financial Affairs and Budget Coordination.

As a graduate engineer in biology, her professional career started at the State Archives in 1995 in the Laboratory for Conservation and Restoration.

During the period from 1995 till 2003, she devoted her time to the direct protection of archival documents, primarily to procedures for the conservation and prevention of potential damage to documents and restoration of already damaged archival materials, which earned her the title of senior conservator.

In the period from 1998 to 1999, she underwent specialist studies at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Department of Microbiology, where she worked on tests of anoxia methods and the use of inert gases to protect archival materials from microbiological damages.

From 2004 to 2019, she continued her professional career in the field of economics and logistics. During this period she also completed postgraduate studies in the field of economics, obtaining a master's degree in Economic Sciences.

Driven by the love, importance, and significance of archival activity, alongside her involvement in daily financial operations she also continues to work and provide her professional support in preventive protection, storage, conservation and restoration of archival materials and funds.

She has written several articles that have been published in the magazine Macedonian Archivist. In 2023 she actively participated in ICARUS Convention #31 with her presentation titled the 'Impact of material and physical archival and library protection for digitalising cultural and historical heritage'.

Conservation and Restoration Processes of a Geographical Map

Anđela Aćimović, Conservator-Restorer
Archives of Republic of Srpska, Banja Luka, Bosnia- Herzegovina

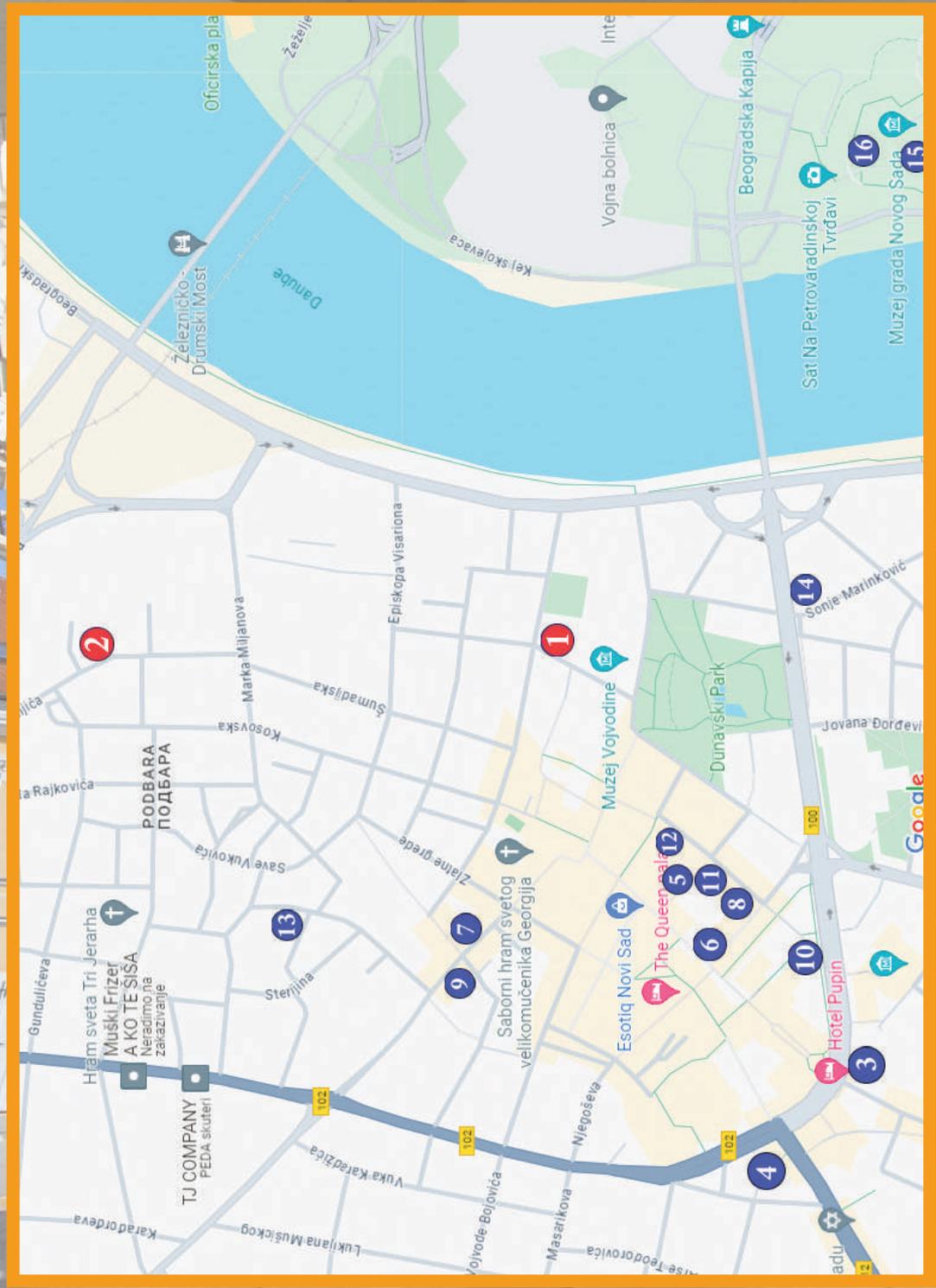
The wall map of Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1889 is part of the collection of the Branko Radičević National Library in Derventa. In June 2023, it

was delivered to the Archive of the Republic of Srpska for conservation-restoration treatment. The geographic map of BiH is printed on paper and mounted on cotton canvas. In addition to large accumulations of surface dirt, there is also mechanical damage in the form of paper and canvas tears at the folding points, dividing the map into 24 parts. After photographic documentation, analysis of colour solubility, and pH measurement of the substrate, mechanical removal of dirt was carried out using erasers, scalpels, sponges, and brushes. Since the canvas had completely lost its function, it was removed from the background during the cleaning process by immersing it in a water solution to remove adherent dirt. The remaining adhesive was removed using a tylose solution and a scalpel. After cleaning the map parts, the preparation of the canvas for mounting was undertaken. The canvas was stretched onto a handmade blind frame measuring 215 cm x 170 cm and moistened with water. Once the canvas was dried, it was removed from the blind frame and laid on a firm surface covered with melinex foil. Bookbinding glue (Mekol) was applied to the canvas using a roller. Strips of 24 g Japanese paper were then applied, also coated with glue, and previously soaked in water sections of the map. The entire map was covered with holtex paper, absorbent pads, and weights. The absorbent pads were regularly changed, and the map was completely dry after 5 days. Lacuna fillings were made with glue and Japanese paper. Retouching was done with watercolour paints. The edges of the new canvas were trimmed to the edges of the map on the left and right sides, while gaps of 5cm were left at the top and bottom to allow for the attachment of bars for the purposes of wall display. After conservation and restoration, photographic documentation was repeated, and the map was rolled up and deposited in a box made of archival-quality cardboard.

Andela Aćimović was born on June 13, 1997, in Bijeljina, Bosnia and Herzegovina. She completed her primary and secondary education in Sarajevo. In 2015, she enrolled in the Interdisciplinary Study of Conservation and Restoration at the University of Sarajevo. During her three-year undergraduate studies, she participated in the International Training Program over two courses at Opificio della Pietre Dure in Florence. She began her second cycle of studies in 2018, and during the third semester went to Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava as an Erasmus student. She completed her master's degree in October 2022 with a thesis

on the conservation of the Poljička Document Collection from the National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina, where she worked as an intern. Since November 2022, she has been employed at Archives of Republic of Srpska in Banja Luka.





Oficirska pla
Zezeje
Danube
Kejskolvaca
Vojna bolnica
Beogradska Kaplja
Sat Na Petrovaradinskoj
Tvrđavi
Muzej grada Novog Sada

Beogradski
Zeleznicko-
Drumski Most
Marka-Miljanova
Episkopa Visariona
Sumadijska
Kosovska
Dunavski Park
Sonje Marinković
Jovana Đorđević
Google
Zlatne grede
Save Vukovića
PODBARA
PODBARA
Sterijina
Saborni hram svetog
velikomučenika Georgija
Esotiq Novi Sad
The Queen's
Hotel Pupin
Gundulićeva
Hram sveta Tri Jerarha
Muški Frizer
A KO TE SIŠA
Neradimoina
zakazivanje
TJ COMPANY
PEDA skuteri
Vuka Karadžića
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Masarikova
Njegoševa
Vojvode Bojovića
Lukijana Mušickog
Kardorđeva

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4. Hotel Centar 4*, Uspenska 1.
5. Hotel Zenit 3*, Zmaj Jovina 8.
6. Hotel Vojvodina 3*, Trg slobode 2.
7. Hotel Veliki 3*, Nikole Pašića 24.
8. Hotel Putnik 3*, Ilije Ognjanovića 24.
9. Hotel Fontana 3*, Nikole Pašića 27.
10. Kombinat Rooms City Center 4*, Bulevar Mihajla Pupina 5.
11. Arhiv Boutique House Hotel, Ilije Ognjanovića 16.
12. Mediteraneo garni hotel 3*, Ilije Ognjanovića 10.
13. Garni hotel 11tica DM 3*, Matice srpske 11a.
14. Exit Labirint Centar, Bulevar Mihajla Pupina 24.
15. Hotel Leopold 4*, Petrovaradinska tvrđava
16. Dinner at Karlo restaurant, Petrovaradin Fortress

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