



University of St.Gallen

Center for Governance
and Culture in Europe



GCE-HSG Annual Conference

"Environment, Energy and Economy in the Black Sea Region"

Constanța, Romania, 14-16 September 2023

Organizers:

Center for Governance and Culture in Europe, University of St.Gallen

Museum of National History and Archaeology Constanța

Accommodation: Hotel Continental Forum Constanta

(Strada Mircea cel Bătrân 39B-41, Constanța)

Venue: Museum of National History and Archaeology (12 Piața Ovidiu,
Constanța)

Conference [Zoom Room Link](#)

Contact: Anna +4793043008 (WhatsApp), gce-info@unisg.ch,

anna.chebotarova@ilos.uio.no

Conference program

Conference procedure: paper presentation – 15 min, discussant remarks – 10 min, Q&A – 30 min.

13 September

Arrival of participants

14 September

8.30-10.50 **City walk with Silvana Rachieru** (University of Bucharest)

11.00-11.20 **Opening remarks by Ulrich Schmid** (University of St.Gallen)

11.20-12.50 Panel 1. **Natural Resources and Economy of the Ottoman Empire**

Chair: Anna Chebotarova (University of Oslo)

Akın Sefer (Kadir Has University, Istanbul): Forests, Peasants, and the State:
Struggles Over the Procurement of Timber in the Ottoman Black Sea

Serkan Keçeci (Dokuz Eylul University, Izmir): The Russo-Ottoman Rivalry in the
Black Sea: Colonization, Geography and Trade in the First Quarter of the
Nineteenth Century


Cafer Sarıkaya (Boğaziçi University, Istanbul): Samsun as a Greek City in the late
Ottoman Empire

Discussant: **Silvana Rachieru** (University of Bucharest)


13:00-13:50 Lunch

14.00-15.30 Panel 2. **Imperial Agricultural and Economic Projects in the
Black Sea Region**

Chair: Oleksandra Tarkhanova (University of St.Gallen)

 **Göktuğ Ipek** (independent researcher, Prague): The Black Sea-Danube Road
as a New Trade Route between Turkey and Europe

Hikmet Kuran (Cappadocia University, Nevsehir): Canal Istanbul Project:
Unraveling the Economic, Ecological, Political Controversies

 **Volodymyr Kulikov** (University of Texas in Austin): Cereal Monoculture in
Ukraine (Late 19th and Early 20th Century)

Discussant: **Constantin Ardeleanu** (New Europe College / Institute for
South-East European Studies, Bucharest)

15:30-16:00 Coffee break

16.00-16.20 **Presentation of the GCE-HSG and its Black Sea Projects by Alexander Meienberger** (University of St.Gallen)

16.30-18.00 **Keynote lecture**

Viktor Karamushka (National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy):
Environmental Damages and Risks Caused by the War in Ukraine

18:30 Dinner

15 September

9.30-11.00 Panel 3. **Romanian Environmental History**

Chair: Alexander Meienberger (University of St.Gallen)

Constantin Ardeleanu (New Europe College / Institute for South-East European Studies, Bucharest): "For the Health of the Nation". Fish Diplomacy in South-East Europe (Late 19th – Early 20th Centuries)

Cosmin Minea (New Europe College, Bucharest): The Promotion of Rural Architecture and the Discovery of the Natural Landscape in Interwar Romania

Silvana Rachieru (University of Bucharest): Energy and Altered Destinies: The Impact of the Construction of the Iron Gates Power Plant on the Adakale Community

Discussant: **Katharina Biegger** (University of St.Gallen)

11:00-11:20 Coffee break

11.20-12.30 Panel 4. **Wooden Fuel as a Resource and Practice**

Chair: **Anna Chebotarova** (University of Oslo)

Deren Ertas (Harvard University): The Charcoal Tax: Mining, Deforestation, and the Monetization of Wood Energy Networks in the Ottoman East, 1720-1775

Nataliia Pohorila (Polish Academy of Sciences): Heating with firewood: necessity or cultural norm?

Discussant: **Viktor Karamushka** (National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy)

12:30-13:20 Lunch


13.30 – 15.20 Panel 5 **Environmental, Economic and Security Challenges in the Black Sea Region**

Chair: **Oleksandra Tarkhanova** (University of St.Gallen)

Bogdan Kolesnyk (independent researcher, Basel): Economic Rhetoric in the Ukrainian public sphere

Rafal Riedel (Vienna School of International Studies / Opole University): Differentiated European Integration and Market Economy Transition in the Black Sea Region

Tamriko Natchkebia (Legal Aid Service, Tbilisi): Energy and Environmental Cooperation in the Black Sea Region: The Enguri Dam Case Study

 **Sezen Kaya Sönmez** (Kadir Has University, Istanbul): Challenges of Energy and Environmental Security in the Black Sea Region

Discussant: **Elena Denisova-Schmidt** (University of St.Gallen)

15.30-16.00 **Final discussion**

16.30-18.00 „**Spotlight**”: **Film screening and discussion by Karina Gaibulina and Ágnes Eröss** (Opole University)

18:30 - Dinner

September 16

Guided tour to the Port of Constanța by Constantin Ardeleanu (New Europe College / Institute for South-East European Studies, Bucharest)