

THE CULTURES OF POST-1989 CENTRAL AND EAST EUROPE

Gheorghe Sincai Research Institute of the Social Sciences and the Humanities of the Romanian Academy of Sciences and Petru Maior University (Targu Mures)

Date: August 21-24, 2003.

Place: Targu Mures, Romania.

Deadline for submission: March 31,
2003.

Contact: Carmen Andras:
prognose@cjmures.orient.net or
carmen_andras@yahoo.com and
Steven Tötösy:
totosy@medienkomm.uni-halle.de
or clcweb@purdue.edu.

Abstracts of 200 words in English, German, or French with a biographical detail of 200 words are invited in the following areas of post-1989 Central and East European culture, whereby comparative papers are preferred:

- Culture in general and including literature, the arts, film, music, etc.;
- Comparative media studies (aspects of television, radio, film, journalism, etc.);
- The politics of culture and cultural policy;
- The histories of post-1989 Central and East Europe;
- Cultural traditions and European integration;
- Intersections of society and socialization;
- Globalization, economics, and culture;
- Aspects of minorities, the marginal, and marginalization.

Further topics and proposals of thematic panels are also welcome.

The theme of the conference is contemporary Central and East European culture after the 1989-90 demise of the Soviet colonial period. A debated notion, Central and East Europe is defined here as a geographical region stretching from Austria and the former East Germany (incl. *Mitteldeutschland*) to Romania and Bulgaria, the Baltic countries, Serbia and the Ukraine, etc., including the Habsburg lands and German influence and their spheres of interest at various times including now. Since the events of 1989-90 and the demise of the Soviet empire, the cultures of Central and East Europe have been engaged in a restructuring of their political, economic, social, and cultural environments and societies. While this reshaping of the region is still going on, there is a new Central and East Europe in place now, politically, socially, economically, and culturally.

The objectives of the conference include explorations into aspects of the social, cultural, media, political, historical, etc., situation of the new Central and East Europe: The conference at Targu Mures is a continuation of previous gatherings such as the international conference *Central European Culture Today*, organized by Steven Tötösy and hosted by the Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies (Univ. of Alberta, Canada, 1999) and the symposia *Comparative Culture and Hungarian Studies* at the 24th Annual Conference of the American Hungarian Educator's Ass. (John Carroll Univ., USA, 1999) and *Comparative Cultural Studies and Post-1989 Central European Culture* of the Hungarian Discussion Group at the Annual Convention of the Modern Language Ass. of America (Washington/D.C., USA, 2000), organized by Steven Tötösy (see at <http://www.cultureonline.org/library/mla2000.html>). Selected papers from these conferences are published in *Comparative Central European Culture* (Purdue UP, 2002), ed. Steven Tötösy de Zepetnek (CV and list of publications at <http://clcwebjournal.lib.purdue.edu/totosycv.html>), in vol. 1 of the *Purdue Series of Books in Comparative Cultural Studies* (see at <http://www.thepress.purdue.edu/compstudies.html> and <http://clcwebjournal.lib.purdue.edu/ccs-purdue.html>). Selected papers of the conference at Targu-Mures are planned to be published in the *Purdue Series of Books in Comparative Cultural Studies*.