

Accessing Arcana Imperii

**Diplomatic Practices
of Early Modern
Small States
in Eastern Europe**



Venue: New Europe College, Bucharest

A conference organised by the project
“The Diplomacy of Small States in Early Modern
South-eastern Europe”

28–29 May 2024



The Diplomacy of Small States
in Early Modern South-eastern Europe

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28 May

9:45–10:00 Welcome address

10:00–11:00 Keynote speech: Giorgio Rota (Austrian Academy of Sciences):
Informal Diplomatic Agents and Go-Betweens between Catholic
Europe and Safavid Persia

11:00–11:20 Coffee break

11:20–13:00 **Uncharted Channels**

Chair: Radu G. Păun

Natalia Królikowska-Jedlińska (University of Warsaw): Knocking at the
Gate of Felicity. The Crimean Tatar Envoys to the Ottoman Empire
(1600s–1720s)

Zsuzsanna Hátori Nagy (HUN-REN Research Centre for the Humanities,
Budapest): The Diplomacy of a Deposed King: The Return of King
Elect John II on the Throne of Transylvania (1552–1556)

Zsuzsanna Cziráki (Austrian Academy of Sciences / University of Szeged):
Information Gathering in the Principality of Transylvania through
Informal Channels of Saxon Dignitaries in the Habsburg Monarchy
and the Ottoman Empire (Late 16th Century)

13:00–14:10 Lunch break


14:10–16:10 **Shifting Loyalties**

Chair: Lovro Kunčević

Ovidiu Cristea (Nicolae Iorga Institute of History, Bucharest): Changing
Allegiances: Diplomacy and Ceremonial during the Reign of Radu
Șerban of Wallachia. An Episode of 1603

Oles Kulchynskyy (Istanbul University): Invisible Friendship: Ukrainian
Cossack Traces in Ottoman Inner Policies

Marian Coman (Nicolae Iorga Institute of History, Bucharest / University
of Bucharest): Words of Betrayal. Wallachian 'Treasonous Letters'
(1462–1632)



Ágnes Szalai (HUN-REN Research Centre for the Humanities, Budapest):
Rebel or Prince-Candidate? Miklós Zólyomi and the Transylvanian's
Ottoman Diplomacy

16:10–16:30 Coffee break

16:30–18:00 **State or Non-State?**

Chair: Ovidiu Cristea

Domagoj Madunić (Zagreb University): Borderland Diplomacy: Negotiations
between the Republic of Venice and Montenegrin Communities
during the War for Crete (1645–1651)

Tetiana Grygorieva (National University Mohyla Academy, Kyiv): The Patriarch
of Jerusalem as the Diplomatic Intermediary and the Promoter of the
Emerging Cossack State

Gábor Kármán (HUN-REN Research Centre for the Humanities, Budapest):
Diplomat or Arch-Rebel? The Vicissitudes of Johannes Bocatius

29 May

09:30–10:30 Keynote speech: Schnettger, Matthias (Johannes Gutenberg
University, Mainz): Diplomacy with Limited Resources. Challenges
and Opportunities for Italian and German Small States in the Early
Modern Society of the Princes

10:30–10:50 Coffee break

10:50–12:50 Informality and Influencing

Chair: Marian Coman

Konstantinos Poullos (European University Institute, Florence): Accessing
Arcana Congressus. Informal Channels of Negotiation and
Communication During the Carlowitz Peace Congress (1698–1699)

Nikša Varezić (University of Split): *Ci sono note le lunghezze della corte romana...*

How to Hasten the Procedure and Achieve the Desired Diplomatic Success? Example of the Dispute between Ragusa and Rome from 1662

Michał Wasiucioneck (Nicolae Iorga Institute of History, Bucharest): How to Make Friends and Influence People in the Danubian Principalities: Radu Mihnea, Gavril Movilă, and the Covert Diplomacy of Moldavian-Wallachian Pretenders, 1615–1618

Giuseppe Pio Cascavilla (Independent Researcher): “Impenetrable Seas”? Connections and Stratagems Used by the Agents of the Republic of Ragusa to Reveal the “*arcani dei gabinetti*” (“Secrets of the Cabinets”) in the 1770s.

12:50–14:00 Lunch break

14:00–16:00 Go-Betweens, Foreign Agents and Renegades

Chair: Vedran Stojanović

Sándor Papp (University of Szeged): Zülfikar Aga: Dragoman and Collector of Documents

Liviu Pilat (University of Iași): Diplomacy and Social Drama: Ottoman Mission at Moldavian Court in the Summer of 1538

Ovidiu Olar (Austrian Academy of Sciences): Late Sixteenth-Century Plans and Visions of the Constantinopolitan Seraglio

Magdalena Jakubowska (HUN-REN Research Centre for the Humanities, Budapest): *„Without this Jew, We Wouldn't Have Known How to Satisfy the Court.”* The Merchants' Influence on Polish and Moldavian Diplomacy at the Ottoman Court in the 16th Century

16:00 Guided tour through the traces of early modern period in Bucharest

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