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Director  
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## CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDY SOFIA 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

### I. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### I.1. Acquisition of a proper office space

In January 2009 CAS took the long-awaited important step towards its institutional sustainability – the acquisition of its own premises. The new CAS home is located in the very heart of the capital on 7, Stefan Karadja St., entrance 3, floor II. The office space and seminar hall have a total net area of 145 sq. m. The new office underwent significant internal reconstruction and renovation. The work was completed at the beginning of the 2009/2010 academic year, in early October 2009, and CAS vacated its previous premises on 70, Neofit Rilski St. The new area provides sufficient space for hosting the usual small seminars, lectures, conferences and other academic meetings. The select CAS Library is accommodated in the seminar and reception halls. The seminar hall is equipped with a state-of-the-art conference system – a sophisticated audio system and an inbuilt beamer and screen. The repair that is still pending is the renovation of the currently dilapidated façade of the whole building. CAS has teamed up with the other concerned proprietors in a search of appropriate and economical options for the completion of this task and the renovation of the façade is scheduled to begin in the middle of May.

#### I. 2. Personnel development

##### *I.2.1. Academic personnel*

The permanent academic personnel of CAS currently comprise four Academic Associates – Prof. Pepka Boyadjieva (Sociology), Assoc. Prof. Georgi Ganev (Economy), Prof. Georgi Kapriev (Medieval Philosophy) and Assoc. Prof. Diana Mishkova (History). No changes have been made since the last Board meeting in this department.

##### *I.2.2. Administrative personnel*

A new member of the CAS administrative team is Mr. George Vladev who undertook the Office Management responsibilities on a full-time basis. This position substituted that of CAS former Administrator Silvia Velinova, whose contract was terminated due to her taking a position at the Spanish Embassy in Sofia.

### I.3. Financial data

Total	426 853.08 Euro
Research Expenses	324 527.73 Euro
Institutional Expenses	102 325.35 Euro

### I.4. Partnerships and cooperation

Over 2009/2010 CAS established and sustained partnerships with a number of local and international institutions, among them: the National Science Fund of the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science, the New Bulgarian University (Sofia), the Centre for Liberal Strategies (Sofia), Sofia University, Fribourg University (Switzerland), NetIAS - most actively, the New Europe College in Bucharest and the Central European University (Budapest). Decisively, the established institutional partnership with Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin kept its pace during the past academic year, and we would like to take the present opportunity to thank Prof. Luka Giuliani and Dr Katharina Biegger for the fruitful cooperation and crucial backing.

In 2009 CAS has gained the confidence of yet another important funding institution - the America for Bulgaria Foundation (AFB). This organisation is a new donor in Bulgaria. Its mission is to assist the development of a vibrant private sector in Bulgaria and to help the country realize its full potential as a successful, modern European actor. To accomplish this, the Foundation supports projects in the areas of: civil society, agriculture, arts and culture, economic development and education.

CAS Director held a number of meetings with representatives of the AFB management board and provided advice on a wide range of topics thus succeeding in establishing constructive working relations with the donor. The project supported by AFB allows for independent fellowships for Bulgarian scholars - an idea we have been pursuing for a long time but have only now been able to implement. (For more information on the programme, please see section II. 2. of this report.) So far, the AFB provides solely funding for Bulgarian Fellows but we hope that based on the project results they would eventually consider extending the support to foreign Fellows as well. Still, as it is, the *Advanced Academia Project* presents a very important step for our institution towards fostering truly independent research.

In 2009 CAS became a member of the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI), which is located at the John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute, Duke University, USA. CHCI is a network for circulation of information and best practices related to the organizational and management dimensions of humanities centres and institutes. CHCI currently has a membership of 154 organizations in the USA, Europe, Asia, and Pacific Rim. In January 2010 CAS Director Diana Mishkova was elected full member of the CHCI International Advisory Board for a period of five years - a clear indication of CAS' reputation, both as an institution of high scholarly standards and as an important regional player in the field of humanities research.

## II. ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

### II.1. CAS Fellows

In the course of 2009/2010 CAS had an unprecedented high number of Fellows – **41 Fellows from 18 countries** – Bulgaria, Hungary, Greece, Sweden, Serbia, Slovenia, United Kingdom and United States of America, Slovakia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, Albania, Croatia, Romania, the Czech Republic, Poland, Russia.

## **II. 2. Ongoing and newly launched projects**

### ***II.2.1. Negotiating Modernity: History of Modern Political Thought in East-Central Europe***

The five-year *Negotiating Modernity* Project, supported by the European Research Council Agency (ERCA), completed its second year in April 2009. The project's objective is to map the history of East and Central European political thought from the late eighteenth to the early twenty-first century. During the reporting period the project team had five working meetings, two of them combined with international workshops:

- 6-10 May 2009, Prague, Workshop & 5th Core Group Meeting;
- 11-13 September 2009, Belgrade, 6th Core Group Meeting;
- 6 November 2009, Budapest, Workshop on Croatia, Slovakia and Poland;
- 26-28 November 2009, Amsterdam, International Workshop on 19th Century Nationalism; Liberalism and Romanticism & 7th Core Group Meeting;
- 29-30 March 2010 Sofia, 8<sup>th</sup> Core Group meeting.

The active work schedule allowed the team to start building up the contents of the synthetic volume which will be the final result of this project. The participating scholars based their work on the contents structure developed during the first project year.

The Core Group attracted a total of nine external scholars to contribute to the preparation of the volume. Updated information on participating scholars and progress is being regularly uploaded on the Project website - [www.negotiating.cas.bg](http://www.negotiating.cas.bg).

With regard to the administrative management of the project, CAS filed the first financial report within the deadlines and met all financial requirements set by the ERCA which approved the report without any objections.

### ***II.2.2. The Advanced Academia Project***

In 2009 CAS was successful in winning the support of ABF for an independent fellowship programme and received 150 000 Euro for this purpose. Within a period of three years CAS will grant 24 five-month scholarships to 12 young and 12 established Bulgarian scholars without any thematic restrictions.

The project was launched in October 2009. The first four months were dedicated entirely to the selection of Fellows. The call for applications was widely disseminated through CAS electronic academic portals and internet page; announcements were posted at all major Sofia universities. The 21 applications (9 senior and 12 junior) underwent a rigorous selection process. The CAS Academic Advisory Council selected 4 junior and 4 senior Fellows who will work in two groups – the first one from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 till 30<sup>th</sup> July 2010, and the second – from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 till 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

Notwithstanding the different fellowship periods, the two groups will meet jointly for each Fellow's presentation and will be involved in all academic events organised by CAS. The first

organizational meeting within this project took place on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010. Its purpose was to introduce participants to each other, discuss contract details and agree on the schedule of the next meetings. The representatives of the America for Bulgaria Foundation, who were present at the meeting, expressed their satisfaction with CAS' professionalism and efficiency.

The first-group interim discussions of individual projects are scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May 2010 and July 2010. In the meantime, CAS has already distributed the second call for applications under the programme. The new Fellows will be selected by the end of February 2011.

### ***II.2.3. The Living Archive of Communism Project***

At the beginning of 2009 the America for Bulgaria Foundation proposed to CAS to host what was dubbed as the Living Archive of Communism Project. The goal of this Project is to foster the reconstruction of Bulgaria's recent past by collecting the memoirs and diaries of historical actors who have played a key role during Communism and the transition period. CAS will provide methodological guideline to the memoir writers (with special attention to oral history). Furthermore, CAS will conduct in-depth interviews and will provide consultations with experienced scholars to place the individual writings against the historical background. The first project phase will last from 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2010 to 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2011 and will amount to € 36 783.

### ***II.2.4. Regimes of Historicity and Discourses of Modernity and Identity, 1900-1945, in East-Central, Southeast and Northern Europe***

This two-year research project of CAS, supported by the Volkswagen Foundation, the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, Germany, and the Bank of Sweden Tercentenary Foundation, Sweden, is currently in its second and final year. The project is convened by Prof. Diana Mishkova, and includes three more Senior Fellows (Prof. Antonis Liakos and Dr. Balazs Trenszenyi for the whole duration of the research, and Prof. Bo Stråth until October 2009) and Junior Fellows selected on an annual basis. The research focus is on the comparative analysis of the various ideological traditions thematising the connection between modernity and historicity in the post-romantic era 1900 - 1945 in three "small-state" regions: East-Central, Southeastern, and Northern Europe. The research programme offers nine-month research fellowships for young post-docs and late PhD students each year.

The second year of the *Regimes of Historicity* (ROH) project started with the announcement of the second call for applications (February 2009) followed by the selection of Fellows by the CAS Academic Advisory Council (April 2009). Nine junior researchers (two from Serbia, two from Bulgaria, one from Greece, Britain, USA, Slovenia, and Sweden) were granted fellowships. Additional four fellowships (only five were envisaged in the initial budget) were made possible due to the generous support of the Volkswagen Foundation; the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, and the Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft (Porticus Foundation).

The launching session of the *Regimes of Historicity* project took place in Sofia on October 30 - 31, 2009. All nine junior Fellows presented their research agendas under the supervision of the present senior participants (Prof. Diana Mishkova and Prof. Antonis Liakos). The workshop included a guest lecture by Professor Zoran Milutinović, Senior Lecturer in South Slav literature and culture and Head of Department of East European Languages and Culture at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London. The lecture

entitled “*The Construction of Europe in Serbian Culture 1913 -1945*” analysed selected writings of leading Serbian writers and intellectuals who by the outbreak of the Second World War, had constructed the image of ‘Europe’ in twentieth-century Serbian culture. Prof. Ulrich Schmid from the University of St. Gallen and Dr. Katharine Biegger from the Wissenschaftskolleg Berlin participated in the discussions too.

Following a four-month period of individual work, all Fellows presented their interim results on March 26 - 27, 2010 at the 2<sup>nd</sup> working session of ROH. Each report was extensively discussed by an appointed peer-reviewer. The working session was attended by the guest-lecturer Professor Dr Dimitrios Stamatopoulos from the Department of Balkan, Slavic and Oriental Studies, University of Macedonia. The topic of his lecture was “*The Byzantium after the Nation: the problem of the continuity in the Balkan Historiographies*”.

The Final ROH Colloquium is scheduled for June 24 - 29, 2010 in the mountain resort of Ribaritzza (Northeast of Sofia, near Lovech). The event will gather all Fellows from the first and second year, as well as the Fellows from the *Modernity and Identity* Programme, plus guest commentators – a total of 30 participants). The idea behind this forum is to spur intensive exchange between Fellows on different stages of their research, with different thematic focus and methodological “takes”, as well as to provide external expert contribution immediately prior to the finalization of the 2009 - 2010 Fellows’ researches.

The 1<sup>st</sup> year Fellows have already submitted their final research papers in publishable format. The project outcomes are expected in the form of a collective volume. We are especially pleased that a keen interest in publishing the collection has already been expressed by the prestigious publishing house Brill Academic Publishers (Leiden).

#### ***II.2.5. Modernity and identity***

The *Modernity and Identity* project is a two-year programme directed by Prof. Diana Mishkova and supported by the Bulgarian Science Fund. It stretches over 2008 - 2010 and offers three nine-month research fellowships annually for young Bulgarian researchers from the fields of the humanities and the social sciences. Similar to the above-presented *Advanced Academia Project*, there are no rigorous thematic, disciplinary or other restrictions to the applications, the academic portfolio of the candidates being the prime criterion. The programme is implemented “hand in hand” with the *Regimes of Historicity* research project, with the goal of providing international embedment for the Bulgarian scholars.

Currently, the project is in its second year, which started with announcing a call for applications in December 2008, receiving 28 proposals by young Bulgarian scholars. The CAS Academic Council selected three promising researchers, who introduced their research plans at the 2<sup>nd</sup> working session of the ROH project (27 - 28 March, 2009). They participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Colloquium within the *Regimes of Historicity* project, which took place in the village of Krapetz (24 - 29 June, 2009), and contributed to the discussions of the finalized reports of the ROH Fellows.

Besides participating in the regular working meetings, two of the Fellows utilized the opportunity offered by the programme for short research visits abroad. At the beginning of the academic year 2009/2010, the *Modernity and Identity* Fellows participated in the first working session of the *Regimes and Historicity* project in October.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> call for applications was announced in October 2009, yielding 24 applications. Three new Fellows were selected by the CAS Academic Council. Their first public presentations were delivered at the 2<sup>nd</sup> working session of the second year ROH Fellows in March 26-27, 2010.

In early 2010, the project administrative team submitted the first-year report to the funding body.

#### ***II.2.6. The Memory of Byzantium: The Byzantine “Memory Machine” - research agenda***

*“The Memory of Byzantium: The Byzantine “Memory Machine”* is a circle of Bulgarian former Mellon scholars, who work in the framework of a cooperation between the Centre for Advanced Study Sofia, Fondation Maison des Sciences de l’Homme-Paris and Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”. The Group’s activities (funded under a 2009-2012 grant received from the Andrew W. Mellon foundation, USA) encompass a variety of topics related to the regional legacy of the Byzantine empire, particularly in the fields of history and culture. On 26-29 November 2009 its members organized a four-day international conference under the title “Memory and Oblivion in Byzantium” at Sofia University. The publication “Homo Byzantinus?”, containing 13 papers from the 2008 colloquium on the same topic, was presented at the conference. A special reception exploring medieval cuisine and original culinary recipes taken from Crusader-period manuscripts was organized under the motto “The Forgotten Taste of the Middle Ages”. Subsequently, a local two-day workshop entitled “The Blank Spaces in the Bulgarian Cultural Memory” was held in April 2010 at CAS.

### **II.3. Completed projects**

#### ***II.3.1. Shaken order: Authority and Social Trust in Post-Communist Societies - Case Studies in Law***

The general goal of this collective interdisciplinary research project was to investigate the tendency towards deterioration of authority and social trust in the social field of law in the overall context of globalisation, with a special accent on the (European) post-totalitarian societies.

In the course of this two-year project with funding of 155 209 USD, CAS granted fellowships to 12 scholars from different fields and nationalities. To support the Fellows in their work, CAS organized six workshops whereat the Fellows discussed their work-in-progress in a challenging yet supportive academic environment. In addition to the workshops, the project convenors also organized a discussion series to deliberate on topical (“politically hot”) issues related to the project’s main focus.

The last workshop of the *Shaken Order* Project took place on 18-20 June 2009 and gave the Fellows an opportunity to discuss their final research papers, the challenges they faced and the overall experience of their research at CAS.

### **II.4. Submitted applications**

#### ***II.4.1. Independent CAS applications***

#### ***II.4.1.1. Studying Competing Forms of Statehood in South-Eastern Europe***

This project proposal was developed by a team of three former CAS Fellows – Ilia Iliev, Vintilă Mihăilescu and Slobodan Naumovic. Its major objective is to study the strategic uses of state ideologies by citizens and social groups the ways they switch between different uses and how they oppose one state ideology to another. In the last decades South-Eastern Europe has experienced several state forms in - a Soviet-type high modernist state; a neoliberal state; a protective European welfare state; a collapsed state; and territorial enclaves where global corporations or Islamic activists regulate the everyday life of local communities. Instead of replacing each other – as the transition theories would imply – they are currently coexisting and competing in many local societies, making the discussion of the nature of the state a matter of ‘everyday reflexivity’ (cf. Biehl, Good, and Kleinman 2007), an issue of everyday experience and discussion between individuals living there. The project was submitted before the Leverhulme Trust in April 2010.

#### ***II.4.1.2. The Innovative Human Action: Between Causal Constraints and Existential Self-Realisation (Rethinking the Sociological Heritage in the Light of Aristotle’s Concept of Human Action and its Byzantine Interpretation) project proposal***

This new 5-year project application was submitted under the ERC Advanced Grants 2010 Call in April 2010. Authors of the proposal are Prof. Georgi Kapriev (Academic Associate of CAS, expert in Medieval Philosophy and Byzantine Studies) and Assoc. Prof. Ivan Tchalakov (distinguished sociologist of science at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences). The project aims at: 1) theoretical critique of the sociological concept of human action from the point of view of change, innovation and the specific ‘passivity’ (the endurance to external and internal pressures) related to it; 2) developing the resources inherent in Aristotle’s notion of causal and existential action, especially its interpretation in the framework of the Byzantine philosophical tradition; 3) elaboration of new methods of empirical study that bear upon the supposed inherent duality of human action.

#### ***II.4.1.3. Religion and Social Space: Public Islam and Christianity in the Near East and Southeastern Europe Project proposal and workshop***

This 5-year project was submitted under the ERC Starting Grants Call in December 2009. It is authored by Simeon Evstatiev, Assoc. Professor at Sofia University – a well-established specialist in the History of the Arab World and Islam, having participated in, or led, a number of research projects on a national and international level. He is also a member of a number of international academic organizations, such as the Union Européenne des Arabisants et Islamisants (UEAI), the European Association for Middle Eastern Studies (EURAMES), Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft (DMG) and Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft Vorderer Orient für gegenwartsbezogene Forschung und Dokumentation (DAVO). For UEAI and EURAMES, he is also the national representative for Bulgaria and the coordinator for Southeast Europe (since 2004).

The proposed project seeks to open up a new academic direction for the study of the role of religion in society by challenging prevailing and conventional public sphere theories. Adopting an interdisciplinary perspective, our team proposes a translocal diachronic and synchronic cross-cultural comparison between Islam and Orthodox Christianity in the Near East and Southeastern Europe. The team offers a methodological shift with the aim to search for continuities and discontinuities, outlining a *longue durée* perspective for the analysis of the present situation. Within this type of research the scholars propose to undertake a greater

attention to the significance of the contextual framework. Thus, the project entails a new insight into the public sphere as a space not only of competing 'voices' but also of meaningful 'silence'. The principal outcome from the project is expected to be a coherent volume, projected as the end-product of a transnational negotiation process within the team, and not as a collection of country-based chapters. It will be a reference book on the history and the present forms of those distinctive religion-based public spheres mapped and explored during the implementation of the project that make a difference as vehicles of social cohesion. A set of interrelated case studies from the Near East and Southeastern Europe is envisaged, elucidating how public spheres are shaped around key religious imperatives thus reconfiguring the boundaries of social space. The methodology combines the in-depth analysis of primary sources with a theoretical analysis of the existing literature and concepts, involving also text-based approaches as well as qualitative methods and techniques. The proposal has already successfully passed the first evaluation round. Final decision is expected in the summer of 2010.

A thematically related exploratory workshop with Prof. Dale Eickelman (Dartmouth University, USA, currently Fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin), was conducted at CAS on 12 March 2010, under the heading "Religion and the Public Sphere: Interdisciplinary Approaches".

#### ***II.4.2. Applications in partnerships***

##### ***II. 4.2.1. EUBORDERSCAPES - Transforming Borders as Symbols of European Integration and Identity***

In February 2010 CAS took part in a joint application under the Collaborative Project Scheme of Framework Programme 7. EUBORDERSCAPES focuses on borders, their symbolic uses and the roles these play in forming notions of European identity. Equally importantly, the transformation of borders is both a symbol of and a challenge to European democracy. More specifically, the project team is interested in studying images of Europeanness and European identity that are present both in contemporary debates on European borders and in the multifaceted uses of borders as 'sites of Europeanisation'. Based on several in-depth studies, EUBORDERSCAPES will attempt to understand how and to what extent symbolic uses of European borders by different groups contribute to strengthening notions of European identity. The project will specifically focus on cross-border cultural initiatives that have been targeted at creating a sense of Europeanness and transnational community. The proposal was developed by the University of Eastern Finland (principal coordinator) in cooperation with 10 other academic institutions, including CAS. The proposal was submitted on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2010; Evaluation is expected to take place in May 2010.

#### ***II.5. Other academic activities***

##### ***II.5.1. CAS Discussion Series. Consolidation/Disintegration of Public Institutions and the Political Process***

In the course of the *Shaken Order* project the team leader Dr Ivo Hristov and other Bulgarian legal experts initiated a discussion series related to the project research area. In the series' framework, scholars from different fields and disciplines discuss the institutional changes resulting from Bulgaria's accession to the EU in 2007. The participating scholars have found these discussions very useful and will continue them after the completion of the *Shaken Order* project in October 2009. The first discussion from the renewed series took place on March 24,



2010. It was entitled “*The President’s Impeachment - a glimpse behind the façade*” and was moderated by Ivo Hristov and CAS *Shaken Order* Fellow Atanas Slavov.

### ***II.5.2. Discussion Series “The 30s Club”***

The purpose of this project is to deepen the knowledge of a turbulent decade (the 1930s) and, through juxtaposing various professional opinions, to try to construct a more cohesive narrative about the roots of the Bulgarian political and social changes occurring at that time. The third decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, or more precisely the years between the Great Depression and the imposition of the communist regime in Bulgaria, still deserves a thorough examination. Until now, the period has been a field of ideologically conflicting mythologemes. The 1930s are important for several reasons. In this relatively narrow chronological span Bulgarian society seemed to develop the potential for breaking away from its previous social model characterized by unsustainable growth and blocked social modernization. This decade also emerged as a catalyst for speeding up some earlier social processes such as education. The social experiment, in which Bulgaria was involved in the course of 1944 - 1947, on the other hand, raises certain counterfactual questions, such as: what would have been Bulgaria’s developmental trajectory within a different geopolitical configuration after World War II? The project’s ambition is to generate rigorous debates and produce a series of interconnected texts exploring different views (political, ideological, social, economic, etc.) on the major processes marking the 1930s. These research texts are to be published in a special collection. “The 30s Club” comprises scientists from various research fields. The symbiosis of various scientific methodologies and approaches is expected to lend bigger depth and coherence to the analysis of the findings.

### ***II.5.3. Book presentation: Historical Dictionary of the Republic of Macedonia***

On January 5<sup>th</sup> 2010 CAS Sofia hosted the presentation of the book: *Historical Dictionary of the Republic of Macedonia* by Dr. Dimitar Bechev (Centre for European Studies, St Antony's College - Oxford). The book was presented by the former CAS Fellow Tchavdar Marinov and was organised in view of the on-going heated debates in the Bulgarian academic community regarding the interpretation of the place of Macedonia in Bulgaria’s past and present. The event roused considerable public interest.

## **II.6. Publications**

### ***II.6.1 Childhood under Socialism – Political, Institutional and Biographical Perspectives***

The studies collected in this publication come as a result of the CAS seminar series “*Childhood under Socialism*”, which was organized in the broader framework of the two-year-long *Atelier for Biographical Research*. The surveys display a variety of views on the topic of the political projects on childhood imposed by the socialist regime in the course of the different stages of communist governance, the translations of ideological visions into institutional policies and the memories about socialist childhood in its public and private domain. The underlying idea of the book is the definition of a thematic field at the intersection of two recently developing areas – studies of socialism and childhood. The ambition of the authors has been, on the one hand, to present the multifaceted viewpoints on the period (political, social, existential, etc.) and on the other, to provoke scholars’ thinking and their prospective research in this area.

### ***II.6.2. CAS Publication “Homo Byzantinus”***

The collection "*Homo Byzantinus?*", comprising the outcomes from the first cycle of research focusing on the history culture and after-life of the Byzantine Empire and its legacy, is currently under print and is expected soon on the book market. The publication is a result from the *Homo Byzantinus* international workshop funded under the first grant by the A. W. Mellon Foundation.

#### **II.6.3. "Rules and Roles. Fluid Institutions and Hybrid Identities in Transformation Processes (1989 – 2005)"**

The volume "*Rules and Roles. Fluid Institutions and Hybrid Identities in Transformation Processes (1989 – 2005)*" comprising the results from the same research project and edited by the project's team leaders A. Kiossev and P. Kabakchieva came out in January 2010. In March 2010 a public presentation of the volume was organised in Sofia University.

#### **II.6.4. "Modernism - Creating National States"**

"*Modernism - Creating National States*" is the third volume under the series that resulted from the CAS project *Discourses of Collective Identity in Central and Southeast Europe (1770-1945)*. It is edited by CAS former Fellows Vangelis Kechriotis (Boğaziçi University, Istanbul), Maciej Górny (Warsaw University), Ahmet Ersoy (Boğaziçi University, Istanbul) and published by CEU Press. The volume is currently at a proof-reading stage and will come out this summer in two parts due to the large size of the text (900 pages).

#### **II.6.5. "We, the People", CEU Press, 2009**

The introductory chapter of "*We, the People. Politics of National Peculiarity in Southeastern Europe*", entitled "Towards a Framework for Studying the Politics of National Peculiarity in the 19<sup>th</sup> century" and written by the editor Dr. Diana Mishkova was published in full by the outstanding Bulgarian periodical "*Critique & Humanism*", 2009, volume 29, issue 2, pp. 7-46.

#### **II.6.6. Reviews of "We, the People"**

In 2010, the *Journal of Southeastern Europe* – a peer-review publication of Brill Publishers (Leiden) will present an extensive review of the volume "*We, the People. Politics of National Peculiarity in Southeastern Europe*" and the collection "*The Balkan Nineteenth Century. Other Readings*".

Another review of "*We, the People*" will be published in *Südost-Forschungen*, an edition authored by Südost-Institut München and Deutsches Auslandswissenschaftliches Institut (Berlin) and published by, S. Hirze. (Leipzig)

#### **II.6.7. CAS Working Paper Series**

The *CAS Working Paper Series* comprising the outcomes from the project *Roles, Identities and Hybrids. Multiple Institutional Cultures in Southeast Europe within the Context of European Unification* was published on CAS website. It includes the final papers of the 24 scholars who had participated in the project.

#### **II.6.8. CAS publications in the C.E.E.O.L.**

The CAS Library has already established excellent partnership with Central and Eastern European Online Library (C.E.E.O.L), which resulted in inclusion of CAS publications within the database for periodicals C.E.E.O.L. This once again confirmed the quality of the research work done at CAS. C.E.E.O.L. provides an excellent opportunity for the wider distribution of

CAS Fellows' research outcomes. CAS Working Papers as Open Access documents in CEEOL have been downloaded 4.626 times. During the year 2009, the second issue of the *CAS Sofia Working Paper Series* under the title "*Roles, Identities and Hybrids. Multiple Institutional Cultures in Southeast Europe within the Context of European Unification*" was uploaded in C.E.E.O.L.

## **II.7. CAS Library**

The CAS Library was totally rearranged during the year 2009 following the opening of the new office. Book collections are currently displayed on library shelves in the main hall and in the conference hall, thus forming separate subject areas: reference section, including dictionaries and encyclopaedias, section for bibliographies, section for new acquisitions, CAS Fellows and Associates' publications and the main collection of books in the field of the social sciences and the humanities.

### **II.7.1. Development of book collections**

The CAS Library collections were enriched during 2009, thanks to purchases of books within the following projects: *Shaken Order*, *Regimes of Historicity* and *Modernity and Identity*. On the one hand, the books significantly assist the researchers in their work, while on the other, the Library enriches its collections of monographs and relevant collective volumes.

The CAS Library made a subscription for *Blackwell Collection Manager* to facilitate the process of collecting old and rare editions of valuable books. The Collection Manager offers an ever-growing database of over seven million records of printed and electronic books from around the world, as well as book ordering capabilities from major aggregators and publishers. Thus, the CAS Library can easily reach rare editions, which are seldom provided by online bookshops.

### **II.7.2. Databases**

A major investment in collecting online accessible periodicals was made through preliminary subscription of the following databases: SAGE, JSTOR, Encyclopedia Britannica Online Academic; Voprosy Istorii; ACLS Humanities E-Book, Questia, EBSCO. The subscription for all databases costs approx. 5000 Euro per annum and it will be valid until the beginning of 2012. Free access to CEEOL was gained thanks to the signed contract for participation of CAS Working Paper Series within the database. CAS also gained free trials for *Cambridge Journals HSS* and *Oxford Journals*.

The overall databases usage statistics shows that CAS Library users performed a significant number of searches in the databases (e.g. **2532 times**), which indicates that these databases are among the most valuable resources of the Library. This is one of the main reasons why CAS Library will continue to stick to its policy toward collecting periodicals of outstanding traditional paper versions with electronic versions uploaded in databases.

## **II.8. CAS Electronic Projects - Bridging Academic Excellence and Virtual Access**

Context: Along its traditional academic initiatives (research projects and scholarship schemes) CAS strives to develop a flexible and active communication policy using modern internet technologies. Through up-to-date and open electronic channels CAS tries to expand further its popularity and outreach among the scientific community.

Strategic Goal: CAS long-term objective is to create the prerequisites for building up a stable bridge between academic interactivity characteristic of the up-and-coming generations of scholars, internet culture and the scientific capital of senior researchers for sharing professional experiences and achievements.

**PhDGate** (Integrated Electronic Database of the PhD Students in Bulgaria – [www.phdgate.net](http://www.phdgate.net)) gives opportunity to young researchers from all scientific fields to present their personal and academic profile and provides them with virtual access to specialized information, creates newsgroups and flexible mailing lists. Three hundred new PhD students registered in the database (2100 active users in total). Monthly the average unique visits to the site are 7 000 and 16 000 pages are viewed. The project is currently funded via CAS' institutional resources.

The **CAS Academic Gateway for Humanities and Social Sciences** ([www.gate.cas.bg](http://www.gate.cas.bg)) grants the academic community with internet space for its publications, comments and information exchange. During the fourth year of its existence the coordinator continued the accumulation of useful and targeted information and its regular distribution through weekly newsletters to all registered users. To date, there are 345 registered users – from students to full professors. The average unique visits are nearly 1 400 per month, and more than 4 800 pages have been viewed. The project is funded by CAS' institutional resources.

**Bulgarian Communism: Critical Readings** ([www.red.cas.bg](http://www.red.cas.bg)) In addition to the catalogue of people, projects and institutions dealing with the *critical* reading of communist history and in addition to the adequate informational flux in this area CAS aims at stimulating a wider and more active debate on the issues of communist legacies, their interpretation in nowadays social and media environment. The portal contains regularly updated bibliography filed within different topics and genres (books, articles and archive documents – 658 titles). The web-page is regularly fed with news from the targeted research field. Statistics show that monthly it is visited by 900 users and 2400 pages are viewed. This online project is also supported via CAS' institutional funds.

### **III. VISIBILITY AND PUBLIC IMPACT**

In 2009/2010 CAS continued to pursue its visibility policies through its *Newsletter* which is being printed and uploaded on our website. The popular *electronic projects* (see previous section) and the regular *CAS electronic bulletins*, targeting different generations of scholars at home and abroad, continue to contribute to the Centre's publicity and popularity among scholars. CAS' publication of research results via its electronic *Working Paper Series* and via C.E.E.O.L. are other forms of scholarly dissemination reaching a vast international audience. Apart from these electronic dissemination channels, CAS intends to also pursue as many hardcopy publications of scholarly research as justified and possible. The variety of *international public events* – workshops, conferences, guest-lectures – is yet another venue for promoting the work of the Centre.