

**FF****UNIVERZA V LJUBLJANI**
Filozofska fakultetaOddelek
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Nationalist Polylingualism: Multiple Linguistic Loyalties and National Belonging in East-Central Europe and the Balkans

26 June 2024

University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts
Room 2-Rim.

Scholarship on nationalism in East-Central Europe and the Balkans has recently made great strides by problematizing nationalist narratives and focusing on national indifference, dynastic loyalty, and regional identity. Yet while scholars acknowledge the multilingualism and diversity of monarchical states or historic regions, they assume monolingual and monocultural national movements. This conference seeks to apply recent work on Central European polylingualism to the study of nationalism. Can ethnonationalism be multi-lingual? How did multilingual patriots understand their diverse linguistic competencies, or relate them to their national visions? Was the “national language” always understood as the language of public discourse, or scholarly investigation? What attitudes did linguistic nationalists take toward speakers of different yet related varieties? When and why are differences perceived as “merely dialectical,” and by whom, or alternatively how do differences come to be seen as defining distinct “national languages”? Since visions of a multi-lingual nation are more widespread than scholars have previously realized, this conference considers case studies in nationalist polylingualism.

This event is funded by the research program Slovene History at the University of Ljubljana and the ARIS bilateral grant "Managing Heterogeneity: The Case of the Habsburg Empire and the United States."

9:00 – 10:00

Dominique K Reill (University of Miami)

“Habsburg Europe: Its Languages and its Nationalists”

10:00 – 10:15 – Coffee break

10:15 – 11:45

Polylingual Nationalism from Below

Nikola Tomašegović (University of Zagreb)

“The Construction and Symbolic Emplacement of the Internal Other: The Illyrian Movement and the Kajkavian Tradition.”

Marcin Jarząbek (Jagiellonian University in Krakow)

“Polylingual Nationalism of Latecomers – The Idea of Upper Silesian Separateness after the First World War and the Language Question.”

Szabolcs Czáboczkó (Eötvös Loránd University; Forum Minority Research Institute, Budapest)

“Pro-Hungarian Attitudes among the German-speaking Society of Spiš during the First Czechoslovak Republic.”

Chair: Alexander Maxwell (Victoria University of Wellington, NZ)

11:45 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 13:30

Polylingual Hungarian Nationalism

Henrik Hónich (Ludovika University of Public Service, Budapest)

“The *Hungarus* Identity Construct around 1800 in Hungary.”

Alexander Maxwell (Victoria University of Wellington, NZ)

“Polylingual Hungarian Nationalism in History and Historiography.”

László Vörös (Institute of History SAS, Bratislava)

“Samuel Czambel: A Slovak Language Standardizer’s Plea for ‘Hungaro-Slovak Cultural Mutuality’.”

Chair: Dominique K Reill (University of Miami)

13:30 – 15:00 Lunch break

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15:00 – 16:00

Polylingual Writers and the Limits of a National Language

Stijn Vervaet (University of Oslo)

“Polyglot Nationalists in Imperial Borderlands: 19th c. South Slavic Writers between Linguistic Loyalty, Plurilingual Competences, and the Creation of a National Literature.”

Mariya Donska (University of Graz)

“Writing in Many Languages: Ukrainian and Belarusian Contemporary Poetry in the Postmonolingual Condition?”

Chair: Rok Stergar (University of Ljubljana)

16:00 – 16:15 Coffee break

16:15 – 16:45

Pieter M Judson (European University Institute, Florence)

“Concluding Remarks”