

Babe -Bolyai University
Cluj-Napoca

Habilitation Thesis

**Faiths, Lands, Powers and Humans:
Methods and Sources for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Middle
Ages**

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PhD in History

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Overview and Forthcoming Activities and Publications

Abstract

From its title, the thesis aims to reveal the accomplishments, the potential(s), as well as the limitations of a “medieval based” project. The present project follows the lines of the main topics that the candidate has worked on and intends to focus on in the years to come. It emphasizes the main evolutions and changes occurred, prior and after the defense of the PhD thesis in 2008, and the developments that the candidate expects. The primary goal of this project is to reveal the amount of information gathered and the interpretative perspectives offered. The present presentation consists of the two major parts (I. <Overall> Main Research Activities, Projects and Publications <from the beginnings to the present-day>, II. Development and Prospects: Main Research Activities, Projects and Publications <after the defense of the PhD thesis>). An introduction (General Presentation) and a prospective summary (Overview and Forthcoming Activities and Publications), precede, respectively conclude the main core of the thesis. Each of the two major parts starts with A. Selective Inventory and Overview of the Main Publications, Researches, Grants and Projects, and is – In both cases – followed by B. Topical Structure of the Main Research Interests and Publications. The research, educational and administrative activities were arranged into four major categories that also form the title of the thesis: I. [*Faiths*] Late Medieval Crusading and the Byzantine Legacy; II. [*Land*] Evolving Geopolitics: Practical and Symbolical Constructions and Re-Constructions of Space and Power; III. [*Powers*] State-building and Decision-making Processes: Social Structures (Communities and Elites) and Power Networks; IV. [*Humans*] The Field of Socio-Humanities in Interdisciplinary Context. Each of these units is subdivided into five recurrent categories: I. Relevant Monographs, Synthesis and Volumes; III. Relevant Studies and Articles; III. Relevant Lectures and Conferences; IV. Main Relevant Researches in European Archives and Libraries; V. Relevant Public and Private National and International Research Projects and Fellowships. The subdivisions are meant to emphasize the work devoted to the four main topical units that form the main directions to be followed after the defense of this thesis. They are also intended to underline the variety of information used and to be used for an in-depth analysis of the main objects of interest of the candidate, as well – through repetitions – the fact that well-documented and balanced papers and lectures can – interdisciplinary – serve multiple scientific purposes in various fields. In these last respects, special attention has been given to archival researches and to international co-operations and projects, two vital instruments for a present-day researcher and professor.