



“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași
Institute of Interdisciplinary Research – Department of Social Sciences and Humanities
Centre for Biblical and Philological Studies “Monumenta linguae Dacoromanorum”,
Romanian Association of Philology and Biblical Hermeneutics
Metropolitanate of Moldavia and Bukovina
“A. Philippide” Institute of Romanian Philology

are pleased to invite you to the

**“INVESTIGATIONS INTO ROMANIAN AND EUROPEAN BIBLICAL TRADITIONS” INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
13th Edition
Iași, 30 May - 1 June 2024**

The Symposium aims to encourage multi- and interdisciplinary debates on the issues raised by the publication, translation, interpretation, dissemination and reception of sacred texts into Romanian and other modern languages.

Sections

1. Philological Challenges

- Publication of the biblical texts. Textual criticism and palaeography. Sacred texts computerization and digitization.
- The biblical text as a reference point in the diachronic study of language. Lexicology and biblical semantics. Biblical phraseology. Biblical onomastics.
- Lesser known, partial translations of the Bible: books and book fragments kept in old manuscripts from the 16th and 17th centuries, and their textual relationship with popular Romanian versions.
- Stylistic interference and demarcation: biblical, liturgical and theological-sapiential varieties of clerical styles. The role of the Bucharest Bible (1688) in the creation of the Romanian clerical style in the 18th and 19th centuries.

2. Translation Challenges

- Typology of biblical translations. Literal and free translation. Translation theory and sacred texts.
- Unique source vs. multiple source. The “original texts” of the Bible – different textual traditions reflected in the Romanian translations.
- Relationships among successive biblical versions: the Sibiu Gospels (1551-1553) and the Coresi Gospels; the Coresi Gospels and Epistles and the Bălgrad New Testament (1648); the Bucharest Bible (1688) and the Blaj Bible (1795); the Blaj Bible and the Șaguna, Filotei editions and the 1914 Bible, the Cornilescu versions etc.
- Reference works for all time Bible translations: lexicons, dictionaries, concordances, critical editions, auxiliary versions, etc.

3. Biblical Hermeneutics

- Confessional and theological choices and conditioning (dogmatic, canonical, clerical, worship-related etc.). Theological censorship, political censorship.
- Patristic tradition – reference points and criteria for sacred texts' interpretation.
- The Bible and the literary clerical system: relationships and determinations between the sacred text and clerical hymnography, worship-related literature, iconography, exegetic and homiletic literature.

4. Sacred Texts' Historical Reception

- Integration, dynamics and stylization of biblical quotations in Romanian and other literatures.
- Dissemination of Romanian Bible versions. Historical references and main Romanian biblical versions criticism (the Bucharest Bible, the Blaj Bible etc.). Textual relationships (borrowing, "corrections", adaptations etc.) between different biblical versions.
- Romanian culture and the Bible. Biblical motifs, symbols, structures and characters.
- Cultural interferences and mentalities impacting the reception of sacred texts: anthropological, sociological, political or philosophical aspects.

In addition to the traditional sections, for this edition the organizers propose two thematic sections:

5. Dosoftei – translator of sacred texts: 400 years since his birth

Dosoftei, Moldavian Metropolitan, is a special personality in the history of Romanian culture in the second half of the 17th century, fully justifying Ion Neculce's characterization of him: "In our country, at this time, there is no man like that". Dosoftei's comprehensive literary activity confirms the existence of a coherent program for the introduction of the Romanian language into the Church; we owe to him the translation of the main books of worship (*Psalter*, *Prophetologion*, *Liturgikon*, *Euchologion*, *Octoechos*, *Synaxarion*, *Akathist Hymn*), works with particular energy and remarkable lexical (and in some cases even textual) inventiveness. The revision of the first Romanian translation of the *Septuagint* is also attributed to Dosoftei (Nicolae Spătarul Milescu's version), which will be included in the Bucharest Bible (1688). There is also an unclear link between Dosoftei's school in Iași and the first Romanian editions of *Evangelion* (1682) and *Apostolos* (1683). His entire work shows a constant concern for building a subtle and refined linguistic veil, in a true "program of intensive ennoblement of the Romanian literary vocabulary" (Eugen Munteanu).

Four centuries after the birth of Dosoftei, we invite interested specialists to explore this complex and still insufficiently known universe, through contributions that address Dosoftei's translations, the sources used, the hypotheses regarding his authorship of some translations, the cultural environment in which he was formed, the translation school he led, his collaborators, Dosoftei's legacy in the history of the Romanian language and literature, as well as any other theme related to the biography and activity of the Moldovan scholar.

6. Poet Dumitru Ichim at 80

On the occasion of his 80th birthday, a section of the symposium will be dedicated to the poet, prose writer, and essayist Dumitru Ichim. Doctor of Theology at Princeton (1973), animator of Romanian cultural life on the American continent in the last half century, and priest in Kitchener (Canada) from 1974 up to the present, Dumitru Ichim is the author of a rich poetic work of biblical inspiration. His lyrical universe, with emphasis from *The Song of Songs* and *The Book of Job*, has as its main form of expression the literary psalm, a genre of search in a metaphysical dialogue. In the same biblical notes, in the extension of Voiculescu's lyricism, Dumitru Ichim cultivated the psalm-sonnet, as well as forms of poetry that are new to Romanian literature (haiku, tanka).

We also welcome other interpretations of the Conference theme.

The official languages of the Symposium will be Romanian, English and French. The organisers invite all interested participants to fill in the registration form and send it at simpozionmld@gmail.com. After a peer-review process, the selected papers will be published in *Reception of the Holy Scriptures: at the crossroads between philology, hermeneutics and translation studies* (“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University Press, Iași), a CEEOL indexed journal.

The conference fee is 180 RON / 40 Euro (100 RON for AFHBR members). Payment information:

- Account holder: Asociația de Filologie și Hermeneutică Biblică din România;
- IBAN code: RO72BRDE240SV57759112400;
- Bank: BRD, Agenția Copou, Bd. Carol I, nr. 8, Iași

(Please include Investigations into Romanian and European Biblical Traditions Symposium in the transaction details, and kindly e-mail a scanned copy of the bank receipt to simpozionmld@gmail.com)

Important dates:

April 1st, 2024 - abstract submission

April 10th, 2024 – notification of acceptance

April 15th, 2024 - fee payment (180 RON / 40 EUR; for AFHBR members: 100 RON)

May 30th - June 1st, 2024 - conference days

July 30th, 2024 - full paper submission for the proceedings of the conference

Information about previous editions of the symposium:

<http://mld.uaic.ro/simpozionMLD.html>

Scientific Committee:

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