



Democracy Society South-East
Europe Balkans Vision Region
Romania Democracy Society South-
East Europe Balkans Vision Region
Romania Democracy Society

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Democracy Society South-East

**REPORT
2019-2020**

The Ratiu Forum is a joint initiative of the Ratiu Family Charitable Foundation and the London School of Economics IDEAS think tank.

The priority areas of interest of the Ratiu Forum are Romania and the Balkan region. Included in the Central and South-East Europe Programme of LSE IDEAS, the Forum focuses on strengthening cooperation in the region, supporting academic research and freedom, and on developing projects that promote civic engagement.

The Central and South-East Europe Programme focuses on the connectivity between the states of the region and their interaction with global forces. The programme organises conferences, academic workshops and collaborations with various partners from Central and South-East Europe with the primary goal of generating a rich understanding of the region's history, geopolitics and current affairs.

2019-2020

2	IN-PERSON EVENTS
11	ONLINE EVENTS
10	BLOG POSTS
920	NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS
4 851	WEBSITE TOTAL PAGEVIEWS**
504	FACEBOOK LIKES*
390	AVERAGE DAILY TOTAL FACEBOOK REACH**
472	AVERAGE DAILY TOTAL FACEBOOK IMPRESSIONS**
319	TWITTER FOLLOWERS*
12 360	AVERAGE MONTHLY TWITTER IMPRESSIONS**
22 000	WEBSITE TOTAL IMPRESSIONS**

* measured on 1 March 2021

**measured for the 1 February 2020 - 1 February 2021 interval

MESSAGE FROM THE RATIU FAMILY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION CHAIRMAN



There were so many positive and satisfying aspects to our pre-COVID lives we automatically took for granted I suspect we will find it a challenge to rebuild our new 'normal' following the lifestyle-altering experience of the last 12 months. Let me briefly remind you of how life used to be. In May 2019 we launched the Ratiu Foundations' cooperation with LSE IDEAS to establish the RATIU FORUM with our first joint event at the Ratiu Centre in Turda, 'The Ratiu Dialogues on Democracy 2019' - our enhanced former 'The Ratiu Friends and Family Weekend.'

Professors, speakers and friends arrived from around Europe and the United States to participate in fascinating discussions themed on democracy in the Balkan region. Lord Owen delivered a talk on his latest book, "Hubris, The

Road to Donald Trump, Power, Populism, and Narcissism" - which intensified further - and Professor Christopher Coker from LSE Think Tank IDEAS gave an outstanding lecture entitled: "Is Europe divided in two?" Over 4 days we enjoyed a packed programme of lectures and debates interspersed with our annual awards for Journalism and Mental Health, lunches, dinners, concerts, a book launch - Vol III of Ion Ratiu's diaries - even a film showing. A reminder of how life used to be - and which, I'm sure, can eventually, certainly partially, return, although no doubt in some hybrid form that we will jointly devise.

When the COVID-19 pandemic did take hold early in 2020, we at the Ratiu Forum responded in several ways. First, it was clear that we would have to suspend all our in-person events until it was safe to resume them - and they remain suspended for the time being. Second, we strongly embraced the possibilities that online working offers and expanded our work to online events to great success. These you will find listed and described further in our Review by Megan Palmer who resolutely and tirelessly gathered and coordinated an

extraordinarily talented and stimulating list of speakers throughout 2020 and beyond.

With the pandemic still with us the threats and challenges facing liberal democracy in our region may have been knocked off the front pages but they still persist and in some areas fester and grow, requiring careful analysis and confrontation by our experts from around the world. Through our regular, rich and active programmes, run in cooperation with LSE IDEAS, the Ratiu Forum will continue to seek and share with our participants the further knowledge we gain as well as to explore new original ideas about crucial elements of national, regional and international topics pertaining to the strengthening of liberal democracy - all central to the Ratiu Forum's purpose.

We welcome you to stay with us and/or join us for 2021!

Nicolae Rațiu

RFF Chairman

MEGAN PALMER, PROGRAMME MANAGER LSE IDEAS



2020 saw LSE IDEAS' partnership with the Ratiu Family Charitable Foundation and our Ratiu Forum activities flourish despite the extraordinary global conditions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Where in-person events were cancelled or moved online, we were able to work with the Forum to expand our activities in new ways, such as through our '20:20 Visions online discussion' series and by establishing a new blog on the Forum's website, dedicated to exploring the impact of COVID-19 on democratic resilience in the region.

In mid-February 2020 we ran an in-person pilot workshop on the teaching of history for Romanian schoolteachers. The convenor was John Lotherington, Programme Director at Salzburg Seminar, and he did a wonderful job facilitating discussions and stimulating ideas throughout the weekend. Professor Christopher Coker, who

designed the workshop, also spoke at the event. The workshop was very successful and we will be working with the Ratiu Forum on a similar workshop in 2021.

In June we launched an online series of discussions, '20:20 Visions: Conversations on the Future of Democracy'. This provides an excellent platform for LSE IDEAS' network to share their expertise and explore important regional issues. The talks have attracted large international audiences, and viewing figures for the recordings for the events have reached the thousands in some cases.

In addition to our event series, we held several independent events. Most importantly, we moved the Dialogues on Democracy series online as a three-day event. We also held a one-off event looking at the life and legacy of the Romanian-born international relations scholar David Mitrany, and an event examining the EU's successes and failures in improving the experiences of Romani people across the Union with Romeo Franz MEP as our guest speaker and Dr Angela Kocze, a Ion Ratiu Democracy Awardee.

We continued and expanded our journalism programme, too. We held our annual journalism workshop online

on 6-8 November, led by renowned journalist John Lloyd. Our special guest speaker was Professor Michael Ignatieff, Rector of CEU. The workshop was another success, from which we plan to build in 2021.

In addition to the workshop the Forum added a series of short online webinars for professional journalists. We held two sessions in 2020: Alison Mutler and Alexandru Alexe led the workshop 'Getting the Facts', which discussed the best ways to report on the pandemic; and Kit Gillet and Andrew MacDowall led a session called 'Freelance: how to pitch editors at international publications'.

The Ratiu Forum has overcome the challenges of 2020 through its resilience and determination. 2020 was the first full year of Ratiu Forum activities since our partnership was formed in 2019, and both its expansion and the measurable success of our activities are testament to its enormous value in Romania and further afield. We at LSE IDEAS have been deeply impressed by the passion, commitment and talent shown by the entire team at the Ratiu Forum and it has been a pleasure for us to work together over these past twelve months. We look forward to continuing and deepening our collaboration in 2021.

THE RATIU FORUM ADVISORY BOARD

Radu Albu-Comănescu, PhD in History and Lecturer at the Faculty of European Studies of the Babeş-Bolyai University, teaches EU Governance and Theories of European Integration, European and International Negotiations, and a Cultural Heritage Management. His fields of research extend to the history of Europe, history of political and religious thinking, cultural, economic and public diplomacy, as well as governance, state-building and networks of power. He is active in various NGOs and think-tanks dedicated to public policies; a member of the executive board of the Ratiu Democracy Centre, he is at times also a columnist for "Ziua de Cluj", Romania's largest regional newspaper.

Dennis Deletant

Dennis Deletant is an Emeritus Professor of Romanian Studies at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College, London. Between 2011 and 2020 he has been Visiting Ion Ratiu Professor of Romanian Studies at Georgetown University. He was also Professor of Romanian Studies at the University of Amsterdam (on secondment from UCL) between 2003 and 2010. He was appointed to the board of the British Government's 'Know-How Fund for Central and Eastern Europe' in 1990 and was actively involved in its work in Romania and in the Republic of Moldova until 1999. For this service he was made an officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1995. He was

awarded 'Ordinul pentru merit' with the rank of commander for services to Romanian democracy on 1 December 2000 by President Emil Constantinescu of Romania. Between 2000 and 2001 he was Rosenzweig Family Fellow at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC. He is the author of several monographs and volumes of studies on the recent history of Romania, among them 'Ceauşescu and the Securitate: Coercion and Dissent in Romania', 1965-89 (London; New York, 1996), 'Romania under Communist Rule' (Bucharest, 1998), 'Communist Terror in Romania: Gheorghiu-Dej and the Police State', 1948-1965, (London; New York, 1999) and 'Ion Antonescu. Hitler's Forgotten Ally' (London: New York, 2006). He is currently researching a study of British clandestine operations in Romania during World War II.

John Lloyd co-founded The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism at the University of Oxford in 2006, where he was Director of Journalism and a Senior Research Fellow. He is a Contributing editor at The Financial Times, and Chairman of the School of Civic Education (Russia). Lloyd was a freelance reporter in Belfast in the early 1970s. He was a reporter on LBC Radio, worked at London Weekend TV as a reporter on the London Programme and producer on Weekend World. At the Financial Times, he has been Labour Editor, Labour and Industrial Editor, East Europe

Editor, Moscow Bureau Chief; and founding editor of the FT Weekend Magazine. He has edited both Time Out and the New Statesman.

Slobodan G. Markovich, MBE is Full Professor at the School of Political Science of the University of Belgrade where he lectures Political Anthropology, Political History of South-East Europe and Image of European Other. He is also Full Professor at the Institute for European Studies in Belgrade. He has been Research Associate at LSEE/LSE since 2012, and at LSE IDEAS since 2018. He has been the head of the Centre for British Studies at the School of Political Science in Belgrade since 2017. His published monographs include a book on Freud's pessimism: 'Pessimistic Anthropology of Sigmund Freud' (Belgrade, 2012), on Serbian economist, politician and diplomat 'Chedomille Miyatovich. A Victorian among Serbs' (Belgrade, 2006), and a monograph on British-(Balkan) Serbian relations: 'British Perceptions of Serbia and the Balkans 1903-1906' (Paris, 2000, in English). His (co-) edited collections of papers in English include 'British-Serbian Relations from the 18th to the 21st Centuries' (Belgrade, 2018), Problems of Identities in the Balkans (Belgrade, 2006), and 'Challenges to New Democracies in the Balkans' (Belgrade, 2004). He has been the coordinator of annual meetings 'Psychoanalysis and Culture' since 2016. His research interests include Construction of Ethnic/National and Religious Identities in the

Balkans, British-Balkan Relations, psychoanalytic anthropology, and History of European Pessimism.

Alison Mutler studied Romanian literature and language at the University of London and graduated in 1987. She first reported from Romania, Bulgaria and Moldova before communism ended, and was in Romania, working for British television station ITV, during the 1989 anti-communist revolt.

She moved to Romania in 1991 and joined the Associated Press which she left last year after 25 years. She has been president of the now-defunct Foreign Press Association.

She is now a correspondent for Romanian startup news site, universul.net. She occasionally freelances for Coda Story and Radio Free Europe among others.

Wojciech Przybylski is the editor-in-chief of Visegrad Insight and chairman of Res Publica Foundation in Warsaw. Previously Wojciech has been the editor-in-chief of Eurozine – a magazine representing a network of European cultural journals, and – a Polish journal Res Publica Nowa.

He has launched and leads the 'New Europe 100' project that is networking and bringing forward a community of successful innovators from CEE across the fields of business, research media, NGO and public administration run jointly by Res Publica, Financial Times and Google. He is a member of the advisory board of the

European Forum of New Ideas. His expertise includes European and transatlantic affairs as well as policies related to innovation and culture. He has been published in Foreign Policy, Politico Europe, Journal of Democracy, EUObserver, VoxEurop, Hospodarskenoviny, Internazionale, Gazeta Wyborcza, Dziennik Gazeta Prawna and several others. His new book 'Understanding Central Europe' (co-ed. with Marcin Moskalewicz) was published in 2017 by Routledge.

Richard Ralph CMG CVO is a retired professional British diplomat. He joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office after graduating from the University of Edinburgh with a degree in politics and international relations in 1969. In the course of his career, he served in the British embassies in Laos, Portugal, Zimbabwe, and Washington, before being appointed successively ambassador to Latvia, Governor of the Falkland Islands, ambassador to Romania and Moldova, and, finally, ambassador to Peru.

Ovidiu Vanghele Ovidiu Vanghele started his career in 2002 at MEDIAFAX Agency. During his ten years in the press agency he gradually became interested in more detailed subjects, closer to investigative journalism. He then joined the Pro TV news team. Less than a year later, he chose to leave mainstream media, founding the Center for Investigative Media, the entity he has headed ever

since. In the last seven years, Ovidiu published several press investigations tracing millions of euro spent pointlessly, illegally or simply stolen. His best known investigations focused on the abuses from mental health centers, the Romanian Academy monetary frauds, the National Railway Company's contracts. Most of these also became judiciary investigations. He has spent almost the entire 2016 documenting, together with Ana Poenariu (Rise Project), the series 'Toți oamenii generalului', tracking the personal and financial development of Gabriel Oprea. In 2017, together with Vlad Stoicescu, he set up [a journalism platform](#) aiming to better understand the relationship between the Churches in Romania and state institutions. Funded by its readers, the online project 'Let there be light!' is, to many, an example of how journalism can survive in these tough times. He also teaches journalism at the University of Bucharest.

Vlad Zigarov is European Affairs Associate at LSE IDEAS and senior adviser on foreign policy at the European Union in Brussels. He holds an MSc in International History from LSE and an MA from the School of Slavonic and East European Studies at UCL. He previously studied Philosophy, History, and International Affairs at the University of Bucharest and worked for various state and private organisations in Romania, the UK and Belgium.

FRIENDS, COLLABORATORS, GUEST SPEAKERS

Remus Anghel

Babeş-Bolyai University

Tiberiu Anghel

Chief Strategy Officer of CyBourn

Dr Radu Albu-Comănescu

Babeş-Bolyai University

Alexandru Alexe

Communication expert

Lucian Ashworth

Memorial University of Newfoundland

Dimitar Bechev

Institute of Human Sciences in Vienna

Dr Eric Beckett Weaver

University of Debrecen

Bob Blackman MP

Prof Michael Burleigh

Engelsberg Chair 2019/20 at LSE IDEAS

Prof Carol Căpiţă

University of Bucharest

Prof Michael Cox

Founding Director of LSE IDEAS

Cristi Danileţ

Judge and coordinator of EDUIURIS

Krzysztof Dzieciolowski

Freelance journalist, film director and founder of Vision House

Dr Spyros Economides

London School of Economics Michal Garapich, University of Roehampton

Kit Gillet

Freelance journalist based in Bucharest

Euan Grant

Partner at Grant and Gutsell

Cristiana Grigore

Roma Peoples Project at Columbia University

Michael Ignatieff

Rector of CEU

Prof Janne Haaland Matlary

University of Oslo

Caroline Hornstein Tomić

Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar

Prof. Valur Ingimundarson

University of Iceland

Dr Yu Jie

Senior Research Fellow at Chatham House; Associate at LSE IDEAS

John Lotherington

Programme Director at Salzburg Seminar

John Lloyd

Founder of the Oxford Reuters Institute for Journalism

Sena Marić

European Policy Centre

Andrew MacDowall

Independent consultant and writer focusing on Central and Eastern Europe

Prof. Slobodan G. Markovich

University of Belgrade Wojciech Michnik, Jagiellonian University

Inta Mieriņa

University of Latvia

Alexandru Nedea

Journalist at Recorder.ro

Dr Arkadiusz Nyzio

Department of National Security, Jagiellonian University

Diana Oncioiu

Journalist at Dela0.ro and Să fie lumină

Tena Prelec

Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford

Paul Radu

Co-executive director of the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project

Corina Rebegea

Center for European Policy Analysis

Maxim Samorukov

Carnegie Institute Moscow

Louisa Slavkova

Director of Sofia Platform

Emilia Şercan

Independent journalist

Ivan Vejvoda

Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna

Vuk Vuksanovic

Associate of LSE IDEAS

Bogdan Zawadewicz

LSE IDEAS and Geschwister Scholl Institute of Political Science

PROJECTS OVERVIEW



In **mid-November 2019**, we co-hosted with LSE IDEAS the **Ratiu Forum Journalism Masterclass** in Turda, Romania, at the Ratiu Conference Centre. The overall purpose of the session was to explore the current situation of Romanian journalism as compared to other Central European states. The workshop was coordinated by John Lloyd, East Europe editor and Moscow Bureau Chief for the Financial Times.

Another event we co-hosted with LSE IDEAS at the Ratiu Conference Centre was **The Teaching of History Workshop**, which unfolded in **February 2020**. Tackling the teaching of history for Romanian school teachers, it was coordinated by John Lotherington, Programme Director at Salzburg Seminar.

In **April 2020** we launched the Ratiu Forum [blog](#), curated by LSE IDEAS and dedicated to exploring the impact of COVID-19 on democratic resilience in the region. The blog series continues in 2021, expanding the array of covered topics.

In March 2020, all our activities have relocated online in the pandemic context. Thus, we launched in **June 2020** the online talks series **20:20 Visions: Conversations on the future of democracy**. Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS, the discussion series addresses the current challenges to democracy faced by Central and Eastern Europe — from immigration in the region to the impact of the USA elections. Five online talks took place in 2020; the series continues in 2021.

In **June 2020** we also co-hosted with LSE IDEAS and The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Romania an online panel discussion on Romania's place as a frontline state in the new Black Sea security environment. The event was introduced by Bob Blackman MP, Chairman of APPG Romania.

In **July 2020** we selected the recipient of the 2020 Ion Ratiu Journalism Award: Diana Oncioiu, a

reporter at the alternative publication [Dela0.ro](#), nominated for her investigation on the trialling of sexual abuses against minors by Romanian courts. The Award was offered in partnership with The Ratiu Family Charitable Foundation and the Ratiu Democracy Centre.

In **September 2020** we ran the online edition of the **Ratiu Dialogues on Democracy**, a series of lectures aiming to strengthen discussions and visions on democracy, reuniting professionals with diverse backgrounds. During this three day event, our panellists discussed the faith of liberal democracy in Central and Eastern European politics, if and how liberalism failed to deliver on its promises, and how populist media and historical narratives are creating a crisis of self-belief in Western liberal democracies.

Two Ratiu Forum journalism webinars took place in **October** and **November 2020** and were coordinated by experienced professionals like Alison Mutler, Alexandru Alexe, Kit Gillet and Andrew MacDowall.

In **November 2020** we also ran a three-day **Investigative Journalism Workshop**, coordinated by John Lloyd. The speakers list included, among others, top Romanian journalists like Ovidiu Vanghele, Emilia Șercan and Diana Oncioiu - all three recipients of the Ion Ratiu Journalism Award. Michael Ignatieff, President and Rector of Central European University, joined the event as a special guest.

In **December 2020** we selected 12 young journalists to participate in the **Ratiu Forum Journalism Mentorship Programme**. The mentees will work under the coordination of experienced journalists for at least three months. The mentors are: Emilia Șercan, Alexandru Nedea, Diana Oncioiu, Paul Radu, Ovidiu Vanghele, Alison Mutler, and Kit Gillet.

More details are available in the next pages.

2019-2020 EVENTS

IN-PERSON EVENTS



16-17 NOVEMBER 2019

JOURNALISM MASTERCLASS

Workshop for journalists
Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS

PANELLISTS

Christopher Coker
Michael Burleigh
Wojciech Przybylski
Carol Căpiță
Ovidiu Vanghele
Cristi Danileț
Alison Mutler
Kit Gillet

COORDINATOR

John Lloyd

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

'The nature of Romanian journalism'
'Journalism in Central Europe'
'The power and the story'
'Reporting the state of the world'
'The coverage of corruption'
'Dark spaces in journalism'

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

23 journalists from local, national and international media outlets

21-23 FEBRUARY 2020

THE TEACHING OF HISTORY WORKSHOP

Workshop for Romanian teachers
Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS

PANELLISTS

Christopher Coker
Wojciech Przybylski
Eric Beckett Weaver
Carol Căpiță
Slobodan G. Markovich
Louisa Slavkova
Valur Ingimundarson

COORDINATOR

John Lotherington

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

'Why teach history?'
'How have political changes and political forces in other countries shaped history teaching since 1989?'
'What does the future hold for national history teaching?'

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

20 teachers from 9 counties in Romania

ONLINE EVENTS

LSE Ideas
RATIU FORUM

20:20 VISIONS: CONVERSATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

ONLINE DISCUSSIONS ON CHALLENGES TO DEMOCRACY FACED BY CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Immigration into Eastern Europe: new challenges

27 JULY 2020 13:00 (UK TIME), 15:00 (RO TIME)

Panelists:
Remus Anghel
Migration Studies Center, Babes-Bolyai University, Romania
Michal Garapich
University of Southampton
Caroline Hornstein Tomić
Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar, Croatia
Inta Mieriņa
University of Latvia, Center for Diaspora and Migration Research

Event Chair:
Megan Palmer
LSE IDEAS

Free registration

08 JUNE 2020

3.00 – 4.30PM EET

WILL DEMOCRACY SURVIVE IN POLAND, HUNGARY AND SERBIA?

20:20 VISIONS: CONVERSATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

Public lecture

Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS

Speakers: Slobodan Markovich, Eric Weaver, Wojciech Przybylski, Nicolae Ratiu

Chair: Megan Palmer

Total attendees via Zoom: 69

22 JUNE 2020

8.00 – 9.30PM EET

MALIGN INFLUENCES IN THE BLACK SEA REGION

Public lecture

Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS and The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Romania

Speakers: Tiberiu Anghel, Euan Grant, Corina Rebegea, Bob Blackman MP

Chair: Megan Palmer

Total attendees via Zoom: 62

LSE Ideas
RATIU FORUM

20:20 VISIONS: CONVERSATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

ONLINE DISCUSSIONS ON CHALLENGES TO DEMOCRACY FACED BY CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Will Democracy Survive in Poland, Hungary and Serbia?

MONDAY, 8 JUNE, 13:00 UK TIME (15:00 RO)

Panelists:
Slobodan Markovich
University of Belgrade, LSE IDEAS
Eric B. Weaver
University of Delaware
Wojciech Przybylski
Visegrad Insight, Res Publica Foundation

Free registration fees

29 JUNE 2020

3.00 – 4.30PM EET

GEOPOLITICS IN THE BALKANS

20:20 VISIONS: CONVERSATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

Public lecture

Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS

Speakers: Bogdan Zawadewicz, Maxim Samorukov, Sena Marić, Yu Jie

Chair: Megan Palmer

Total attendees via Zoom: 64

27 JULY 2020

3.00 – 4.00PM EET

IMMIGRATION INTO EASTERN EUROPE, NEW CHALLENGES

20:20 VISIONS : CONVERSATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

Public lecture

Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS

Speakers: Caroline Hornstein Tomić, Michal Garapich, Remus Anghel, Inta Mieriņa

Chair: Megan Palmer

Total attendees via Zoom: 41

LSE Ideas
RATIU FORUM

20:20 VISIONS: CONVERSATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

ONLINE DISCUSSIONS ON CHALLENGES TO DEMOCRACY FACED BY CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Geopolitics in the Balkans

MONDAY 29 JUNE 2020 13:00 UK TIME (15:00 RO)

Panelists:
Yu Jie
Senior Research Fellow on China in the Asia-Pacific Programme, Chatham House
Sena Marić
European Policy Centre
Maxim Samorukov
Carnegie Institute Moscow
Bogdan Zawadewicz
LSE IDEAS and Geschwiter School Institute of Political Science

Event Chair: Megan Palmer, LSE IDEAS

15, 16 & 18 SEPTEMBER 2020

RATIU DIALOGUES ON DEMOCRACY

Public lecture series

Speakers: Slobodan Markovich, Radu Albu-Comănescu, Arkadiusz Nyzio, Spyros Economides, Michael Burleigh, Michael Cox, John Lloyd, Christopher Coker, Janne Haaland Matlary

Agenda highlights: ‘The end of the end of history’; ‘Contemporary challenges to democracy’; ‘Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe?’

Total attendees via Zoom: 116

2 OCTOBER 2020

6.00 – 7.00PM EET

RUSSIA AND CHINA IN SOUTH-EAST EUROPE

20:20 VISIONS : CONVERSATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

Public lecture

Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS

Speakers: Dimitar Bechev, Tena Prelec, Vuk Vuksanovic

Chair: Megan Palmer

Total attendees via Zoom: 127



15 OCTOBER 2020
7.00 – 8.00 PM EET

GETTING THE FACTS

Journalism workshop with limited places

Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS

Speakers: Alison Mutler, Alexandru Alexe

Total attendees via Zoom: 14

20 OCTOBER 2020
6.00 – 7.00 PM EET

DAVID MITRANY, ROMANIA AND THE SEARCH FOR A NEW EUROPEAN ORDER: LESSONS FOR TODAY

Public lecture

Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS

Speakers: Lucian Ashworth, Michael Cox

Chair: Spyros Economides

Total attendees via Zoom: 45



6-8 NOVEMBER 2020 INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM WORKSHOP

Journalism workshop with limited places

Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS

Speakers: Emilia Șercan, Alison Mutler, Kit Gillet, Wojciech Przybylski, Krzysztof Dzieciolowski, Cristiana Grigore, Michael Ignatieff, Christian Coker

Coordinator: John Lloyd
Agenda highlights: Journalism in Central Europe; Reporting during a global pandemic; Covering corruption; Representing minorities in the media

Total attendees via Zoom: 16



26 NOVEMBER 2020
4.00 – 5.00 PM EET

FREELANCE: HOW TO PITCH EDITORS AT INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Journalism workshop with limited places

Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS

Speakers: Kit Gillet, Andrew MacDowall

Total attendees via Zoom: 23

27 NOVEMBER 2020
6.00 – 7.00PM EET

THE IMPACT OF THE US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION ON CENTRAL AND SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE

20:20 VISIONS: CONVERSATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

Public lecture

Co-hosted with LSE IDEAS

Speakers: Wojciech Michnik, Corina Rebegea, Ivan Vejvoda

Chair: Christopher Coker

Total attendees via Zoom: 114

BLOG POSTS

WORDS THAT WORK IN TIMES OF COVID-19 CRISES

Written by: Radu Magdin, Analyst, consultant and trainer

Read [here](#)

COVID-19 – HAVE WE GOT IT ALL WRONG?

Written by: Tomas Ries, Associate Professor at the Swedish National Defence University in Stockholm

Read [here](#)

A NATIONAL ANSWER TO A GLOBAL CHALLENGE: THE CASE OF BULGARIA

Written by: Lyubomir Kyuchukov, Director of the Economics and International Relations Institute, Sofia

Read [here](#)

POLISH ELECTORAL GAMES IN TIMES OF PANDEMIC

Written by: Professor Pawel Laidler, Political scientist and lawyer at the Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora, Jagiellonian University in Krakow

Read [here](#)

FEAR DRIVES THE STATE'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19 IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE NOT THE IMPORT OF A CHINESE MODEL

Written by: Vuk Vuksanovic, PhD researcher in International Relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science and an associate of LSE IDEAS

Read [here](#)

POST-CORONAVIRUS RESILIENCE: NO BOUNCING BACK

Written by: Artur Gruszczak, Professor of Social Sciences, Chair of National Security at the Faculty of International and Political Studies, Jagiellonian University

Read [here](#)

ONE CRISIS TOO MANY: POWER GRABBING IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Written by: Mădălina Mocan, Civil society professional associated with the Center for the Study of Democracy and the CSEEP Desk at the Faculty of Political, Administrative and Communication Science, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca; Kinga-Koretta Sata, Lecturer in the Political Science Department, Babeş-Bolyai University

Read [here](#)

A TALE OF TWO LOCKDOWNS: ILLIBERAL DEMOCRACY IN POLAND, PSYCHO-TECHNOCRACY IN THE UK

Written by: Maciej Smółka, Cultural studies scholar at the Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora, Faculty of International and Political Relations, Jagiellonian University Kraków

Read [here](#)

TIME IS GOLD – THE TIMING OF THE SERBIAN ELECTIONS

Written by: Vuk Vuksanovic, PhD researcher in International Relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science and an associate of LSE IDEA

Read [here](#)

WHAT NOW, WHERE TO, AND HOW DO WE GET THERE? MOVING FORWARD WITH EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AFTER THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Written by: Camille Dobler, PhD candidate at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków and a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow in the Innovative Training Network PLATO

Read [here](#)

FUNDING SUMMARY

2019

SOURCE (DONATIONS)	TYPE	AMOUNT
Ratiu Family Charitable Foundation	GRANT	RON 106,000
Ratiu Family Charitable Foundation	DONATION	RON 46,689
TOTAL		RON 152,689

2020

SOURCE (DONATIONS)	TYPE	AMOUNT
Ratiu Family Charitable Foundation	GRANT	RON 107,000
CTP Invest	SPONSORSHIP	RON 25,368
TOTAL		RON 132,368

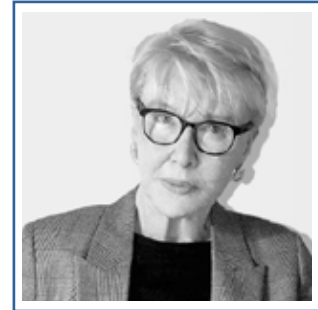
THE RATIU FORUM TEAM



Nicolae Ratiu
Chairman of the Ratiu
Family Charitable
Foundation



Christopher Coker
LSE IDEAS Director



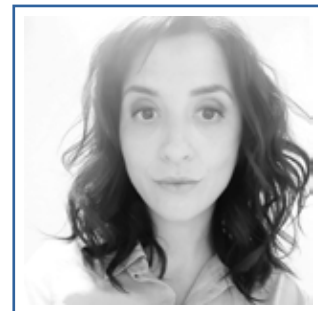
Pamela Roussos Ratiu
Director to Romania of
the Ratiu Forum



Emilia Knight
Centre Manager of
LSE IDEAS



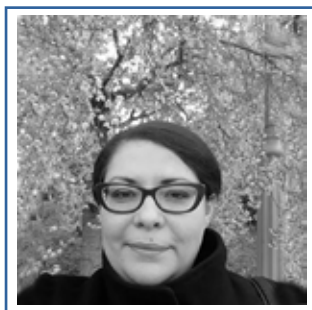
Megan Palmer
Programme Manager
Ratiu Forum



Dana Stoica
Communication Coordinator
for Ratiu Forum



Oana Bakos
Project Manager
for Ratiu Forum



Alis Costescu
Project Manager
for Ratiu Forum



Nicoleta Bucur
Design and Website Manager
for Ratiu Forum



Democracy Society South-East
Europe Balkans Vision Region
Romania Democracy Society South-
East Europe Balkans Vision Region
Romania Democracy Society

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