

**International Scientific Conference: From the Black Sea to the Danube: Balchik
Readings
17th – 19th of June 2026**

In the Memory of Darin Kanavrov and Prof. Angel Angelov

Balchik History Museum and Sofia University

Scientific organizer: Prof. D.Sc. Martin Ivanov

Wednesday, 17th of June 2026

Arrival and accommodation

*possibility of accommodation in the Samara Complex Hotel in Balchik <https://samarabalchik.com/>
or at the choice of the participants*

Thursday, 18th of June 2026

9:00-9:30 Official Opening (session held at TCIC *Melnitsata*–Balchik, 6th floor, at 1, Captain Georgi Radkov Square)

Nikolay Angelov, Mayor of Balchik: Greetings to the participants

Prof. D.Sc. Martin Ivanov (Sofia University): Opening Words

Radostina Encheva (Director of the Balchik History Museum): Opening Words

9:30-10:30 moderator: Asst. Prof. Peter Dobrev (session held at TCIC *Melnitsata*, 6th floor)

Asst. Prof. Peter Dobrev (Sofia University): *The Memory of the Treaty of Craiova*

Prof. Florin Angel („Ovidius” University of Constanța): *Places of memory in Southern Dobrudja During the Romanian Administration: Refugee, Relocated and Missing Statues (Autumn 1940)*

Asst. Prof. Andreas Lyberatos (Panteion University, Athens) *Migration and Interethnic Relations in Dobrudja at the End of Ottoman Rule: Evidence from Greek Sources*

Prof. Daniel Cain (director of the Institute for Southeast European Studies of the Romanian Academy): *The Memory of a Name: The Poet Panait Cerna and the Emigration of Bulgarians from the Village of Cerna (1940)*

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break (TCIC Melnitsata, 6th floor)

11:00-12:30 moderator: Assoc. Prof. Nikolay Todorov (session held at TCIC Melnitsata, 6th floor)

Prof. D.Sc. Vera Boneva (UniBIT): *Pairing Memory: The Monument to Lyuben Karavelov in Ruse and Balchik by Boris Karadjov*

Assoc. Prof. Nikolay Todorov (director of Silistra Regional History Museum/Ruse University), *Socio-Economic Profile of Constanta in the 1860s-1870s*

Radostina Encheva (director of the Balchik History Museum): *Dobrudja and Balchik in the 20th century: Politics, Society and Cultural Heritage*

Assoc. Prof. Dimiter Gyudurov (New Bulgarian University): *The Health Status of the Southern Dobrudja Population and the Hospitals in Balchik, Tutrakan and Dobrich (1940-1950)*

Assoc. Prof. Zhivko Lefterov (Institute for Historical Studies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences): *The Claims of the Greek State for Ownership of the "St. St. Constantine and Helena" Church in Balchik during 1950s.*

11:00-12:30 moderator: Asst. Prof. Kiril Gospodinov (session held at TCIC Melnitsata, 3rd floor)

Prof. D.Sc. Ivelin Ivanov (Veliko Tarnovo University): *Shabla and its Surrounding Area in Nautical Maps from the 14th to the 19th century*

Assoc. Prof. Marina Koleva (Institute for the Study of Arts at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences): *Images of Cybele from the Temple of the Pontic Mother of the Gods in Dionysopolis*

Assoc. Prof. Margarit Damyanov (National Archaeological Institute with Museum at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) *Dionysopolis in the context of Greek colonization of Western Pontus*

Assoc. Prof. Albena Milanova (Center for Slavic-Byzantine Studies at Sofia University): *Early Byzantine Architectural Details from Balchik*

Dr. Igor Lazarenko (director of Varna Regional History Museum) *Were Coins with the Image of Pan Minted in Dionysopolis?*

17:00-18:30 moderator: Prof. D.Sc. Martin Ivanov (session held at TCIC Melnitsata, 6th floor)

Prof. D.Sc. Pencho Penchev (University of National and World economy): *Towards the Building of Bulgaria's State Capacity after 1879*

Prof. D.Sc. Veselin Yanchev (Sofia University): *Banditry in Northeastern Bulgaria from the Liberation to the 1920s*

Prof. D.Sc. Milko Palangursky (Institute for Historical Studies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences): *Balchik MPs from the Liberation to the 1920s*

Assoc. Prof. Svetoslav Zhivkov (Sofia University): *Parliamentary Elections in Balchik, 1878-1912*

Assoc. Prof. Vladimir Stanev (Sofia University): *The Experiment: Communist Partisan Movement in Dobrudja*

19:00 Reception (TCIC Melnitsata, 6th floor)

Friday, 19th of June 2026

9:00-10:30 moderator: Assoc. Prof. Simeon Simeonov (session held at Melnitsata, 6th floor)

Assoc. Prof. Simeon Simeonov (Institute of Balkan Studies with a Center for Thracology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences): *The Austrian Consular Network and the Bulgarians between Revolution and War (1848-1856)*

Dr. Constantin Ardeleanu (Institutul de Studii Sud-Est Europene/ Colegiului Noua Europă): *Western Consular Sources on the History of the Bulgarian Community in Tulcea after the Crimean War*

Assoc. Prof. Emanuel Plopeanu („Ovidius” University of Constanța): *A Romanian Effort to Imagine the Present and the Future of the Balchik: Opinions in the Local Journal “Coasta de Argint” (1928-1929)*

Dr. Nicolae Dragusin (“Elie Wiesel” National Institute for the Study of the Holocaust in Romania): *The Legal System Enacted for the Dorogea Region (before and after the Annexation of Cadrilater in 1913)*

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break (TCIC Melnitsata, 6th floor)

11:00-12:30 moderator: Radostina Encheva (session held at TCIC Melnitsata, 6th floor)

Prof. D.Sc. Krasimira Mutafova (Veliko Tarnovo University), Assoc. Prof. Maria Kalitsin (Institute of Balkan Studies with a Center for Thracology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), Asst. Prof. Kiril Gospodinov (Sofia University): *Ottoman Documents about Balchik and the Region from the 16th to the 19th Centuries: Main Highlights in an Upcoming Publication*

Assoc. Prof. Михаил Грыев (chariman of Archives State Agency): *Newly Received Documents about Balchik from the Romanian Archives*

Dilyana Fudulova (head of Department of the Archives State Agency in Dobrich): *Balchik in the documents stored in Dobrich Archive*

Donka Nikolova (head of Department of the Archives State Agency in Dobrich): *Balchik in the documents stored in Varna Archive*

11:00-12:30 moderator: Asst. Prof. Martin Valkov (session held at TCIC Melnitsata, 3rd floor)

Asst. Prof. Martin Valkov (Sofia University): *Hero or War Criminal? Gen. Todor Kantardzhiev and the war in Dobrudja in 1916*

Dr Metin Yomer („Ovidius” University of Constanța/Institutul de Studii Sud-Est Europene) *Between Homeland and Diaspora: The 1935 Visit of the Crimean Tatar Delegation from Turkey to Dobrudja and the Reaffirmation of National Identity*

Cristian Cealera and Florentina Bozintan (National History and Archaeology Museum Constanta): *The British Community and its Contribution to the Development of the Region between the Danube and the Black Sea (19th century)*

Andreea Andei (National History and Archaeology Museum Constanta): *Balchik, a source of inspiration in the artworks from the collection of the „Dinu and Sevasta Vintilă” Art Museum in Topalu (Constanta County)*