

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Multiculturalism, Morality, and Public Affairs in the Digital Age

15–16 June 2026 · Faculty of Philosophy, University of Bucharest
Amphitheatre Mircea Florian (First Floor)

All presentations: 20 min + 10 min Q&A | Location: Amphitheatre Mircea Florian (First Floor) — all sessions

DAY 1

Monday, 15 June 2026

09:30 – 9.45	Registration & Welcome Coffee, Amphitheatre Mircea Florian
9:45-10.00	Opening Ceremony Viorel Vizureanu, Dean, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Bucharest Bill Barbieri, Council for Research in Values and Philosophy Mihaela Pop, Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Bucharest Hu Yeping, Council for Research in Values and Philosophy Oana Șerban, PhD. Lecturer, Faculty of Philosophy & UNESCO Chair in Interculturality, Good Governance and Sustainable Development, University of Bucharest

10:00 – 12:30	Plenary Session I Moral Pluralism and Interculturality in the Digital Age: Democracy 2.0 and Its Axiological Discontents Chair – Professor Dr. William Barbieri Amphitheatre Mircea Florian	
Time	Presenter	Paper Title
10:00 – 10:30	João Vila-Chã <i>Pontificia Università Gregoriana, Italy</i>	The Other in the Algorithm: Trust, Recognition, and Moral Community in a Multicultural Digital Age
10:30 – 11:00	Gail Presbey <i>Professor & Chair, Department of Philosophy, University of Detroit Mercy, USA</i>	Pride, Humility and Ethnocentrism in the Process of Learning Multicultural Perspectives in Philosophy
11:00 – 11:30	Jesper Garsdal <i>Docent (Senior Associate Professor), Sustainability, Social Innovation and Education; Coordinator of PROFILVIN, Denmark</i>	The Three Gates – Self-Biography, Myth, and Intercultural Self-Critique, Exemplified through a Philosophy of Aging
11:30 – 12:00	Chryssoula Gitsoulis <i>Adjunct Assistant Professor, City University of New York & State University of New York, USA</i>	From Agora to AI: Rethinking Direct Democracy in the Digital Age (<i>online</i>)
12:00 – 12:30	Amit Mishra <i>Docent Prof. dr. Dept. of Pol. Science, Central Institute of Tibetan Studies</i>	Development of multiculturalism in India in the age of digitalization (<i>online</i>)

12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break
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13.30 – 15:30	Plenary Session II Religion and Multiculturalism: Spirituality, Recognition, and Faith Chair – Professor Dr. Joan Vila-Cha Amphitheatre Mircea Florian
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Time	Presenter	Paper Title
13:30 – 14:00	Tone Svetelj <i>Director, Minor in Philosophy & Liberal Studies Program; Beacon Program Coordinator, Hellenic College Holy Cross, USA</i>	Between Pluralism and Fragmentation: Multiculturalism, Moral Order, and Gnostic Consciousness in the Digital Age
14:00 – 14:30	Mohamed Ahmed Suleiman <i>Associate Professor, Medieval Christianity and Theology, Sohag University, Egypt; Visiting Associate Professor, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece</i>	The Christian-Islamic Discourse: From Multiculturalism to Coexistence and Interreligious Dialogue
14:30 – 15:00	Bogdana Todorova <i>Institute for Scientific Studies in Culture (ISSK BAS), Bulgaria</i>	An Ambassador of Peace: Following in the Footsteps of Augustine and the Ethics of Sufism
15:00 – 15:30	Ilham Mammadzada <i>Director, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Azerbaijan</i>	On the Philosophy and Epistemology of Research on Multiculturalism

15:30 – 15:50	Coffee Break
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15:50 – 18:20	Plenary Session III The Challenges of AI in a Multicultural World: Uprootedness, Disconnectedness, and the Public Sphere Chair – Dr. Ștefan Bârză Amphitheatre Mircea Florian
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Time	Presenter	Paper Title
15:50 – 16:20	Ghizlan Elalaoui <i>Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences, Moulay Ismail University, Meknes, Morocco</i>	Educating for the Global Village: Intercultural Communication Competence, Moral Plurality, and Education in the Digital Age
16:20 – 16:50	Samira Dadashova <i>Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Azerbaijan</i>	Is Multiculturalism Becoming Artificial in the Age of Artificial Intelligence?
16:50 – 17:20	Nora Dobre <i>PhD in Sociology, Babeș-Bolyai University Cluj; UNESCO Chair Alumna; HR Country Lead, Genpact, Romania</i>	Employer Branding, Public Affairs, and the Digital Construction of Organizational Identity in Multicultural Societies
17:20 – 17:50	Ouidad Infi	Navigating Dual Moral Selves: Ethical and Consumer Tensions in a Multicultural Digital Age

	<i>Université Moulay Ismail de Meknès, Morocco</i>	
17:50 – 18:20	Constantin Stoenescu <i>Faculty of Philosophy, University of Bucharest, Romania</i>	Cultural Neighborhoods, Interculturality and the New ICTs

DAY 2
 Tuesday, 16 June 2026

9:00 – 11:00	Plenary Session IV The Future of Philosophy in the Age of AI: New Paradigms of Critical Thinking, Identity, and Sensitivity Chair – Prof. Dr. Emanuel Salagean Amphitheatre Mircea Florian	
Time	Presenter	Paper Title
9:00 – 9:30	Victoria Chiriță <i>Doctoral School in Philosophy, University of Bucharest, Romania</i>	How Authenticity Became Performative: Digital Media and the Nihilistic Fate of an Ethical Ideal
9:30 – 10:00	Constantinos Athanasopoulos <i>FHEA, Open University, UK</i>	The AI as a threat to the Humanities and Arts education: Some preliminary thoughts
10:00 – 10:30	Oluwaseun Adeola Anifowose <i>Department of Philosophy, Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye, Nigeria</i>	Shaping Moral Narratives in Multicultural Societies amidst the Challenges of the Digital Age
10.30 – 11.00	Mihaela Pop <i>Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Bucharest, Romania</i>	Interculturality and Intermediality in Art: Artistic Myths Reinterpreted

11:00-11:20	Coffee Break	
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11:20 – 13:50	Advanced Junior Researchers Panel Cosmopolitanism and Globalization: Plural Identities, Social Atomization, and Cultural Approaches Chair – Professor Emeritus Mihaela Pop Amphitheatre Mircea Florian	
Time	Presenter	Paper Title
11:20 – 11:50	Alexandra Bica <i>Faculty of Letters, University of Bucharest, Romania</i>	"...And Next Time We See You, You Will Be a Serious Americanah": Some Notes on Identity Displacements in a Multicultural Context
11:50 – 12:20	Emanuel Sălăgean <i>Adventus University of Cernica, Romania</i>	The Responsibility of Knowledge in the Digital Public Sphere: Between Truth, Power, and Manipulation
12:20 – 12:50	Eva Ivan Heintz <i>The Research Center for the History and Circulation of Philosophical Ideas</i>	The Transcultural Superstyle in the Era of Digitalization and AI

12:50 – 13:20	Diana Ghinea <i>Faculty of Sociology and Philosophy, West University of Timișoara, Romania</i>	Kantian Cosmopolitan Right and the Challenges of Multiculturalism
13:20 – 13:50	Oana Șerban <i>Faculty of Philosophy, University of Bucharest (*research supported by SMOG and BIOART)</i>	A Biopolitical Approach to Sustainable Heritage: Reconnecting Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Age of AI

11:20 – 13:50 Doctoral Students Panel A Multicultural Social Contract: Soft Power, Resilience, and Creativity Chair – Dr. Gail Presbey Hall Tudor Vianu		
Time	Presenter	Paper Title
11:20 – 11:50	Andreea Nechifor <i>Doctoral School in Philosophy, University of Bucharest, Romania</i>	Applicability of Religious Principles in the Modern Corporate Environment: A Particular Regard to the Young Generation in Romanian Post-Communism
11:50 – 12:20	Cristian Cătălin Florea <i>Doctoral School, National School of Political and Administrative Sciences, Romania</i>	Moral Credibility Across Cultures: UNICEF and Influencer-Led Humanitarian Communication in the Digital Age
12:20 – 12:50	Dan Andrei Năfureanu <i>Doctoral School in Philosophy, University of Bucharest, Romania</i>	Hate Speech and Far-Right Propaganda in the Age of A.I.
12:50 – 13:20	Ioana Ciocoiu <i>Doctoral School in Philosophy, University of Bucharest, Romania</i>	Digital Art in Public Discourse: Aesthetic Pluralism, Subcultures and Weak Thought
13:20 – 13:50	Andreea Ioana Popa <i>Doctoral School in History, University of Bucharest, Romania</i>	Online versus On Stage Multiculturality: The Limits of Music Diplomacy in the Digital Era – George Enescu International Competition and Festival

13:50 – 14:20	Closing Ceremony & Farewell Amphitheatre Mircea Florian João Vila-Chã , Council for Research in Values and Philosophy Mihaela Pop , Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Bucharest Oana Șerban , PhD. Lecturer, Faculty of Philosophy & UNESCO Chair in Interculturality, Good Governance and Sustainable Development, University of Bucharest	
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14:20 15:30	Lunch
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After lunch, guests are invited to a two-and-a-half-hour walking tour along Victory Avenue (Calea Victoriei), with visual visits to the Coral Temple, Stavropoleos Monastery, the Royal Palace of Bucharest, and the Romanian Athenaeum.

In the next days, participants will have the opportunity to take part in a thematic cultural excursion connected to the conference topic, “Multiculturality in Romania. Past and Present.” The tour will include

visits to some of Romania's most significant cultural and historical landmarks, offering insight into the country's diverse heritage and intercultural legacy.

The itinerary includes Curtea de Argeș, renowned for its historic monastery and royal significance; Bran Castle, one of the most iconic medieval landmarks in Eastern Europe; the fortified church of Prejmer, a UNESCO World Heritage Site reflecting the Transylvanian Saxon tradition; the historic center of Brașov and the famous Black Church, representative of the region's Gothic heritage; and Sinaia, where participants will visit the royal residences of Peleş and Pelișor Castles, remarkable examples of Romanian royal architecture and history.