

**KEITH HITCHINS (1931-2020).  
AN ACADEMIC BIOGRAPHY**

Biographical and Professional Information<sup>1</sup>

April 2, 1931 in Schenectady, New York – November 1st, 2020, Urbana, Illinois.

**BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

Vasile Pușcaș, *Keith Hitchins, Historian of the Central Southeastern European Area*, "Transylvanian Review", Vol. 6, No. 1 (Spring 1997), pp. 99-130.

Idem, *Professor Keith Hitchins at Seventy*, Bucharest, Editura Enciclopedică, 2001, 75 pp.

Idem, *Professor Keith Hitchins at Seventy-Five*, Bucharest, Editura Enciclopedică 2006, 86 pp.

Idem, *Keith Hitchins și istoria românilor*, "Vatra", Târgu Mureș, Anul 33, Nr. 424 (July 2006), pp. 29-87.

Lucian Boia, *Un interviu din 1973 cu Keith Hitchins*, "Vatra", 33 (424), pp. 36-37.

Virgil Nemoianu, *Keith Hitchins din Illinois*, "Vatra", 33 (424), pp. 49-50.

Iacob Mârza, *Keith Hitchins. Portrait of the Historian*, "Colloquia", Vol. 15, Cluj-Napoca, 2008, pp. 139-158.

*Interview with Keith Hitchins*, Initiated by Maria Crăciun, Ovidiu Ghitta, and Mária Lupescu Makó, "Colloquia", Vol. 15, Cluj-Napoca, 2008, pp. 159-168.

Iacob Mârza, *Prag în istoria națiunii române. Dialog cu istoricul Keith Hitchins*, "Transilvania", Sibiu, No. 12 (2008), pp. 55-56.

*Hitchins, Keith*, in Dorina N. Rusu, "Dicționarul Membrilor Academiei Române 1866-2010", București, 2010, pp. 475-476.

*Keith Hitchins at 80*, Bucharest, Encyclopedica Publishing House, 2011, 100 pp.

Vasile Pușcaș, *In honorem Keith Hitchins --80*, in "Activitatea Științifică la Institutul de Istorie "George Barițiu" din Cluj-Napoca", Bucharest, 2011, pp. 175-224.

Interviuri: *Keith Hitchins, profesor de istorie*, "România Liberă", Bucharest, June 26, 2013.

**ACADEMIC**

Union College (Schenectady, N.Y.), A.B. (1952).

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<sup>1</sup> Published in "Society for Romanian Studies Newsletter", vol. 42, no. 3, fall 2020, p. 5-9.

Phi Beta Kappa Harvard University, A.M. (1953), Ph.D. (1964) University of Paris, French history, Romanian language and literature (1957–1958) University of Bucharest, Romanian history (1960–1961) University of Cluj, Romanian history (1961–1962)

Nicolae Iorga Prize of the Romanian Academy for The Idea of Nation (1985)

Honorary Member of the Institute of History "A. D. Xenopol" of the Romanian Academy, Iași, 2008. Honorary Member of the Institute of Southeast European Studies of the Romanian Academy, Bucharest, 2010.

Honorary Member of the Institute of History "George Barițiu" of Cluj-Napoca of the Romanian Academy, 2010.

Honorary Member of the Romanian Academy, 1991 5

Doctor Honoris Causa, University of Cluj, 1991

Doctor Honoris Causa, University of Sibiu, 1993

Doctor Honoris Causa, University of Alba Iulia, 2001

Doctor Honoris Causa, University of Târgu Mureș,

2005 Doctor Honoris Causa, University of Timișoara,

2008 Doctor Honoris Causa, University of Iași,

2008 Doctor Honoris Causa, "Andrei Șaguna" University of Constanța,

2009 Doctor Honoris Causa, University of Bucharest, 2012

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Instructor and Assistant Professor of History, Wake Forest University, 1958-1965

Assistant Professor of History, Rice University, 1965-1967

Associate Professor of History, University of Illinois, 1967-1969

Professor of History, University of Illinois, 1969-2019

## **FIELDS OF INTEREST**

History of the Romanians

Southeastern Europe

Modern Hungarian history

The Habsburg Monarchy, 1700-1918

Modern nationalism

Central Asia

History and Literature of the Tajiks

History of the Kurds

The Caucasus

## **LANGUAGES**

French, German, Romanian, Russian, Hungarian, Bulgarian, Spanish (very good reading knowledge) Albanian, Serbo-Croatian, Slovak, Turkish,

Modern Greek, Kurdish, Tajik, Persian, Kazakh, Uzbek, Azerbaijani, Georgian  
(good reading knowledge)

### **EDITOR**

Rumanian Studies, 1970–1986

Studies in East European Social History, 1977–1981

Journal of Kurdish Studies, 1995–2008

### **AWARDS**

University Scholar, University of Illinois, 1985

Diploma for contributions to furthering a knowledge of Romanian culture and civilization abroad, Fundația Culturală Română, 1995

Lifetime achievement award for contributions to Slavic Studies, American Association for the advancement of Slavic Studies, 2000

Ordinul Național "Pentru Merit" în grad de Comandor, President of Romania, 2000

Crucea Casei Regale a României, King Michael I of Romania, 2008

Pentru Merit în grad de Mare Ofițer, conferred by the President of Romania, 2016

### **CONSULTANT**

Council for International Exchange of Scholars, East European Advisory Committee, Washington, D.C., 1970–1979

International Research and Exchanges Board, East European Committee, New York, 1972–1975

Joint Committee on Eastern Europe of the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council, New York, 1982–1989

East European Selection Committee, American Council of Learned Societies, New York, 2008, 2010, 2011

East European Summer Language Institute of the Joint Committee on Eastern Europe, 1985–1987

Committee on Bibliography, Information Retrieval, and Development of the Joint Committee on Soviet Studies, New York, 1986–1989

Chairman, Project on Eastern Europe between the World Wars, Joint Committee on Eastern Europe, 1987–1989

Committee on Soviet and East European Collections in the United States, Social Science Research Council, 1992 and 1993

Editorial Board, Slavic Review, 1980–1991

Editorial Board, Colloquia. Journal of Central European History, Cluj, Romania, 1994-2019

Sponsors Committee, Studia Kurdica, Paris, 1985-2019

Comité Consultatif, Revue Roumaine d'Histoire, Bucharest, 1995–2019

Consulting Editor for Caucasian Studies, *Encyclopaedia Iranica* (Columbia University), 1998-2019

Consulting Editor for Kurdish Studies, *Encyclopaedica Iranica* (Columbia University), 2011-2019

Consulting Editor for Central Asian Literatures, *Encyclopaedia of World Literature in the 20th Century* (St. James Press), 1999–2019

Consiliul Științific, *Studia Universitatis Petru Maior, Târgu Mureș*, 2004-2019

Editorial Committee, *Annales Universitatis Apulensis, Series Historica*, Alba Iulia, 2006-2019

Comitato Scientifico, *Il Mar Nero* (Rome), 2006-2019

Executive Editor, *International Journal of Humanistic Ideology* (Cluj), 2008-2019

Comitetul Științific, *Anuarul Institutului de Cercetări Socio-Umane "Gheorghe Șincai"*, Târgu Mureș, 2009-2019

Board of Editors, *History and Politics*, Chișinău, Moldova, 2009-2019

Board of Editors, *The Scientific Journal of Humanistic Studies* (Cluj), 2009-2019

International Advisory Board, *Eastern Journal of European Studies* (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iași, Romania), 2010-2019

Advisory Board, *International Journal of Communications Research* (Iași, Romania), 2011-2019

Editorial Committee, *East European Politics and Societies* (New York: ACLS), 2013-2019

Editorial Advisory Board, *Kurdish Studies* (London), 2013-2019

Colegiul Științific, *Studii și Materiale de Istorie Modernă* (Romanian Academy, Institute of History, Bucharest), 2012-2019

Editorial Board, *Dictionary of Intercultural Philosophy*, 2013-2019

Comitato Scientifico, *Krypton. Identità, Poteri e Rappresentazioni* (Rome), 2013-2019

Advisory Board, *History of Communism in Europe* (Bucharest), 2013-2019

Scientific Committee and Editorial Board, *Nuova Rivista Storica* (Milano), 2013-2019

Editorial Board of the series: *Biblioteca della "Nuova Rivista Storica"* (Milano), 2014-2019

Colegiul de Redacție, *Analele Științifice ale Universității "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" din Iași* (serie nouă), *Istorie*, 2010-2019

#### **PAPERS PREPARED FOR CONFERENCES**

1967. Bratislava, Czechoslovakia. Conference on the Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867: “The Rumanians of Transylvania and the Ausgleich, 1865–1869”

1968. Toronto, Canada. Annual meeting of the American Historical Association: "The Russian Revolution and the Rumanian Socialist Movement, 1917–1918"

1969. Berkeley, California. Symposium on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Hungarian Soviet Republic: "The Rumanian Socialists and the Hungarian Soviet Republic"

1977. Berkeley, California. Symposium on Social Change in Rumania, 1860–1940: "Gândirea: Nationalism in a Spiritual Guise"

1978. Mainz, West Germany. Conference on the Berlin Congress of 1878: "International Aspects of the Rumanian National Movement in Hungary, 1967–1895"

1979. Ankara, Turkey. Fourth Congress of Southeast European Studies: "Rumanian Intellectuals: The West and National Consciousness, 1830–1848"

1981. New Haven, Connecticut. Yale Conference on Early Modern Nationalism in Russia and Eastern Europe: "The Rumanian Orthodox Peasantry and the Uniate Clergy in Transylvania, 1730–1780"

1982. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association: "The Caucasian Albanians and the Arab Caliphate"

1985. Washington, D.C. Third Congress of Soviet and East European Studies: "Rumanian Peasantism between the Two World Wars"

1987. Boston. Annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies: "The Rumanian Idea of Autonomy in Transylvania, 1867–1906."

1988. Amsterdam, The Netherlands. International Institute for Social History: "The Rumanian and Hungarian Socialist and Labor Movements, 1870s to 1914."

1988. Ráckeve, Hungary. Conference on Models of Development and Theories of Modernization: "Rumanian Peasantism: The Third Way."

1989. Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia. Conference on National Identity in Eastern Europe in the Period between the World Wars: "Orthodoxism: Polemics over Ethnicity and Religion in Interwar Rumania."

1990. Amsterdam, The Netherlands. International Institute for Social History. Conference on Socialist and Labor Movement, 1870–1914: "The Peasant Question in European Socialist Thought and Action."

1991. Berlin, Germany, The Free University of Berlin. Conference on Rumania in the 1990s: "The Rumanian Orthodox Church in the Twentieth Century."

1992. Amsterdam, The Netherlands. International Institute for Social History. Conference on the Comintern and Communist Parties: "Two papers: "The Communist Movement in Hungary, 1918–1944" and "The Communist Movement in Rumania, 1917–1944."

1992. Paris, France, The International Association of Labour History Institutions and L'Institut de Coopération Sociale Internationale. International Colloquium on the History of Mutualism: "Mutual Benefit Societies in Hungary, 1830–1941."

1993. Paris, France, Institut National des Langues et Civilisation Orientales and Institut Kurde de Paris. Conference on the Kurdish Language in Society. "The Language Question in Eastern Europe and among the Kurds. A Comparative Study."

1994. Amsterdam, The Netherlands. International Institute for Social History. Conference on Social Democracy and the Peasantry, 1870–1914: "Rumanian Social Democracy and the Peasantry, 1870–1914."

1996. Bucharest, Romania. Institutul de Istorie "N. Iorga". Conference on the Jews in Rumanian History. "Jewish Cooperatives in Bessarabia and Integration into Romanian Society, 1920–1940."

1997. Sacramento, California, Vryonis Center for Hellenic Studies. Conference on the Enlightenment in Southeastern Europe: "The Romanian Enlightenment in Transylvania."

1997. Cluj, Romania, University of Cluj and University of Milan. Conference on the Lessons of Yalta: "Yalta in American Historiography."

1998. Bucharest, Romania. Conference on Culture and the Politics of Identity in Modern Romania sponsored by the Journal of the History of Ideas: Keynote address, "The Identity of Romania."

2000. Cluj, Romania. Conference on the 300th Anniversary of the Church Union with Rome in Transylvania: "The Romanian Clergy before the Church Union with Rome in Transylvania."

2001. Bucharest, New Europe College, Conference on "Nation and National Ideology": "The Emergence of the Idea of Nation among the Romanians of Transylvania, 1700-1849."

2003. Târgu Mureș, Romania. Conference on the Cultures of Post-1989 Central and Eastern Europe: (With Corina Teodor), "The Orthodox Churches (18th to 20th Century) in Post-1989 Romanian and Bulgarian Historiography."

2006. Erbil, Kurdistan Regional Government, Iraq. First World Congress of Kurdish Studies. "Kurdish Nation-formation in Comparative Perspective."

2006. Iași, Romania. Symposium on Romanian Cultural Identity in the Context of European Integration. "History and Ethnicity in the Novels of Ion Druță."

2006. Târgu Mureș, Romania. Symposium on the Enlightenment in East Central Europe. "Samuil Micu, Philosophe?"

2006. Heidelberg, Germany. Conference on Monarchische Herrschaftsordnung im europäischen Kontext. Die Dynastie von Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen in Rumänien 1866-1947 und die deutsch-rumänischen Beziehungen. "The Romania of the Kings."

2007. Bloomington, Indiana. Hour of Romania International Conference. "Notes on Romanian Historiography, 1948-2007."

2007. Bloomington, Indiana. Conference on Strategies of Identity Construction. Ethnic Politics, Minorities, and European Integration in Transylvania. "Erdélyi Fialatok: The Hungarian Village and Hungarian Identity in Transylvania in the 1930s."

2007. Vienna, Austria. Conference on the Church Union with Rome of the Romanians of Transylvania in the Eighteenth Century. "The Policy of the Court of Vienna toward the Romanian Orthodox, 1744-1759."

2007. New Delhi, India. Conference on the History of Religions. "Religion and Nation."

2008. Timișoara, Romania. Conference on "European Romania": "Major Cultures and Minor Cultures: The Romanians' Debate about Europe, 18th Century to 1989."

2008. Cluj, Romania. Conference on National Entanglements: The Romanians and Hungarians in Transylvania: "Accommodation or Separation: Romanians and Hungarians in Transylvania, 1867-1940."

2008. Bucharest, Romania. Conference on Modernism and Anti-Modernism: "The Challenge of Modernism in Interwar Southeastern Europe: The Orthodox Response."

2009. Timișoara, Romania. Conference on Romanian Social-political Concepts: "Liberalism, 1821-1866."

2010 Bucharest, Romania. Conference on The Balkans and the Caucasus at New Europe College: "Great Powers, Small Powers: Wallachia and Georgia Confront the Eastern Question, 1768-1802."

2010 Bucharest, Romania. Conference at the Romanian Academy on 130 years of diplomatic relations between Romania and the United States: "Internationalism and the Nation-State: The United States and Romania at Versailles and Yalta."

2011 Baku, Azerbaijan. Conference on the Albanians of the Caucasus: "The Caucasian Albanians, the Arab Caliphate, Religious Controversy: The Crisis of Survival in the 7th and 8th Centuries."

2011 Târgu Mureș, Romania. Conference on the Italian Risorgimento and national movements in Europe: "The Romanian Risorgimento: Union and Independence in the Principalities: Autonomy in Transylvania, 1840-1866."

2012 London. Lecture at the Romanian Cultural Institute: "Applied Liberalism in Romania: Ion I. C. Brătianu."

2012 Tbilisi, Georgia. Conference on Representing History: Theoretical Trends and Case Studies: "The Idea of Nation and the Role of Intellectuals: Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia, and the Kurds of Anatolia, 1860-1940."

2014 Bloomington, Indiana. Annual Romanian Studies Conference at Indiana University: "Europe as the Touchstone of the Romanian Essence: The Criterionists."

2015. Venice, Italy. Conference on *Memorialistica e letteratura della Grande Guerra*. *Parallelismi e dissonanze*: "Romania's Role in the First World War" (Keynote Address).

2015. Philadelphia. Annual Convention of ASEEEES. Panel: "Spirituality and Social Change in Southeastern Europe, 1880-1939.": Paper: "Religion and National Identity in Interwar Southeastern Europe."

2016. Washington, D.C. Annual Convention of ASEEEES. Panel: Secret Police Targets Encounter Their Files." Paper: " 'We Need to Know Everything about Everybody': The Romanian Securitate and American Scholars."