

CURRICULUM VITAE

Alexandra Ghiț

PhD, Central European University

Personal Information

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Current Position

2020 - Present Postdoctoral Fellow, ZARAH: Women's labour activism in Eastern Europe and transnationally, from the age of empires to the late 20th century. (ERC Advanced Grant; project start date 1 February 2020; Project director: Susan Zimmermann)

- Project title: Women Against Paternalism and Exploitation: Gendered Work and Entangled Organizing in the Tobacco Industry, in "Greater Romania", 1890s to 1980s.

Previous Position

August – December 2019 Global Teaching Fellow, Asian University for Women (Bangladesh)

Education

2020 PhD in Comparative Gender Studies, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
Thesis title: Loving Designs: Gendered Welfare Provision, Activism and Expertise in Interwar Bucharest.
Supervisor: Susan C. Zimmermann

2011 Master of Arts, Matilda Erasmus M.A. in Gender and Women's History Central European University (Hu) and University of Nottingham (UK)
Thesis: "Mobilizing Gender for Modernity: The Work of One Transylvanian Chapter of the Union of Anti-Fascist Women and the Democratic Union of Women in Romania Between 1945 and 1953." MA Thesis, Central European University, 2011.

2009 Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, School of Political, Administrative and Communication Studies, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj, Romania.

Languages

Romanian	native
English	fluent
French	advanced
German	advanced
Italian	intermediate
Hungarian	beginner

Research Experience

- 2016 - 2018 Researcher, "Women and Trade Unions in Europe, 19th to 21st century"
- Bibliographic and archival research on historiography of women and trade unionism in Romania for preliminary Project Questionnaire
 - Participation and presentation at Women and the Workplace: Activism and Politics in Central, East Central, and South Eastern Europe, and internationally, 1860s to 1990s. Workshop and Meeting, Oberstaad, 8–15 September 2017
- 2015 - 2017 Sub-Editor, Habsburg Empire cluster, "Women and Social Movements in Modern Empires" digital database, Alexander Street-ProQuest
<https://search.alexanderstreet.com/wasg>
- Identified, digitized and wrote detailed introductions for 50 archival and published sources on Romanian women's political organizing in Transylvania (circa 1860 to 1933); Contributed to the historiographical essay introducing the Habsburg Empire cluster of documents: Bader-Zaar, Birgitta, Susan Zimmermann, Michaela Königshofer, Alexandra Ghit, Jitka Gelnarová, and Ágoston Berecz, *Women and Social Movements in the Habsburg Empire* (Alexandria, VA: Alexander Street, 2018)
- April - May
2012 Research Assistant, Prof. Susan Zimmermann, Pasts Inc.
Alexandra Ghit. Troubled waters. Potentials and realities, paradigms and trends in women's and gender history. Paper given at the Workshop/Conference "Twenty Years of Change: Post- Communist Historiography in/on Central, Eastern, and South- Eastern Europe," Budapest, 15–16 September 2011 (together with Susan Zimmermann)

Institutional Responsibilities and Professional Service

- 2020 – present ZARAH Lead responsibility: ZARAH DB Database (admin and public interface development coordination; technical documentation; team tutoring and support; team/IT developer interfacing; database entry management)
<https://public.zarahdb.eu/>
“For Researchers” essay - <https://public.zarahdb.eu/for-researchers>
- 2018 Member, Organizing Committee for the “Looking Forward through the Past” Conference of the Society of Romanian Studies, Bucharest, 26-30 June 2018.
- 2016 - 2018 Graduate Student Representative, Executive Board, Society for Romanian Studies (elected position)

Peer review for Nationalities Papers, Historical Materialism, History of Communism in Europe

Scholarships, Fellowships, Awards

- 2022 – Fellowship, Imre Kertész Kolleg Jena, January – June 2022 (on leave from ZARAH);
- 2019 – Global Teaching Fellowship, Asian University for Women, August – December 2019;
- 2016 – Short-term Research Grant, CEU;
- 2016 – Conference Travel Grant, Association of Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS);
- 2015 – Travel Grant to attend Duke Feminist Theory Workshop, Duke University;
- 2014 – Research Grant for Doctoral Candidates and Young Academics and Scientists at Leipzig University 2014/2015, Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD);
- 2013 – Short Research and Travel Grant, CEU;
- 2012 – Grant for Participation in the New School of Social Research Transnational Summer School Wroclaw, East West Women’s Network;
- 2011 – Study Grant at the University of Nottingham, Erasmus;
- 2010 – Academic Pro-Rector’s Excellence Award, CEU;
- 2007 – Undergraduate Exchange Program Fellowship at Duke University 2007/2008, Open Society Institute.

Other Academic Achievements

- 2022 "Overlaying Histories of Women's Labour Activism: Women's Organizing in the Bucharest Belvedere Tobacco Factory (1906 – 1955)." Paper presented at the Third ZARAH International Workshop, Vienna, 10-12 October 2022.
- 2022 (With Görkem Akgoz) "Peripheral to Industrial Work? Gendered Bodies and Sexualities in Post-1945 Labour's Discourses, Turkey and Romania Compared." Paper presented at the 23rd International Congress of Historical Sciences, Poznań, 24 August 2022.
- 2022 "Welfare Work Without Welfare: Rural Servant Women and Women Welfare Activists in Great Depression Bucharest." Paper presented in the colloquium of Imre Kertész Kolleg Jena, 16 May 2022.
- 2022 "Romanian-speaking Middle-Class Women, Nationalism and Empire in Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Transylvania." Lecture at the Ratiu Forum on the Teaching of History Webinar, January 2022. (via Zoom)
- 2021 "Gendered Work and Women's Labour Activism in the Cluj Tobacco Manufactory in Transnational Perspective (1890s to 1930s)." Paper presented at the ZARAH Second International Workshop, Vienna, 11-13 October 2021.
- 2020 "Not So Humble: Women's Work and Labour Activism Around Tobacco Growing in Interwar Romania". Paper presented in the ZARAH First International Workshop, Vienna, 14 -17 October 2020.
- 2018 "The Work of Crisis: Women's and children's work and impact on labour and social policy regimes in interwar Romania". Paper presented at the Society for Romanian Studies Conference. Bucharest, 27 June 2018.
- 2017 Workshop presentation. "Women and the Work-place: Activism and Politics in Central, East Central, and Southeastern Europe, and internationally, 1860s to 1990s". Workshop and Meeting, Oberstaad, 8–15 September 2017.
- 2016 "'Years of struggle': A reading of Romanian state socialist historiography on women and gender as gendered 'new labor history'". Paper presented at the European Social Science History Conference. Valencia, 2016.
- 2015 "Tangling Themes: Gender, Social Policy and the 'Interwar Conjuncture' in the (Semi) Periphery". Paper presented at "Repositioning in a Globalizing World" International Summer School, GSGAS Leipzig University, 8-11 June 2015
- 2015 "Stretching the Truth: Linking Transnationally Postwar Romania's Discourses on the 'Woman Question'". Presentation at the Society for

- Romanian Studies International Conference. Bucharest, 2015.
- 2014 “(Re)Constructing Work: Popular Discourses on Gender and Labour in Post- War Romania (1945-1953).” Paper presented at the “The Value of Women’s Work: Between the Subjective and the Economic” Workshop, European University Institute. Florence, 2014.
- 2013 “‘The Public Now Understands (...) by Grace of New Conceptions of Good Deeds’: Citizenship and the Education of Compassion in 1920s Romania.” Paper presented at the “State, Society and Citizen: Cross-disciplinary Perspectives on Welfare State Development” Nordwel and REASSESS International Summer School. Reykjavik, 2013.
- 2011 (With prof. Susan Zimmermann) “Troubled Waters. Institutionalization, Paradigms, and Trends in Women’s and Gender History.” Presentation at the 20 Years of Change: Post-Communist Historiography in/on Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, 1989-2009, Budapest, September 16, 2011.

Publications

Articles and book chapters

- 2022 Alexandra Ghit, “Biography and Context - Ecaterina Arbore: The Working Woman in the Struggle Towards Emancipation,” in *Texts and Contexts from the History of Feminism and Women’s Rights. East Central Europe, Second Half of the Twentieth Century*, ed. Zsófia Lóránd et al. (Budapest, Hungary: Central European University Press, 2023). (Under review)
- 2022 “Empire, Industrial Paternalism and Activism: Women Tobacco Workers Shaping State-Building in Transylvania (1880-1940),” in *Tobacco in Global Perspective. Trade, Knowledge and Labor, 1780-1960*, ed. Alexander van Wickeren, Jean Stubbs, and William Clarence Smith. (Under review)
- 2022 “Serving Fewer by Design: Romania’s Austerity Welfare Politics during the Great Depression,” in *The Liminality of Failing Democracy: East Central Europe during the Interwar Slump*, ed. Klaus Richter, Anca Mindru, and Jasmin Nithammer. (Under review)
- 2018 “Professionals’ and Amateurs’ Pasts: A Decolonizing Reading of Post-War Romanian Histories of Gendered Interwar Activism.” *European Review of History: Revue Européenne d’histoire* 25, no. 1 (2018): 21–44.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13507486.2017.1376619>.

- 2017 "Emoțiuni mecanice': Familia femeii muncitoare din urbanul românesc în anchetele sociale și sanitare interbelice (1924-1939) ['Mechanical emotions': The Urban working woman's family in interwar social and sanitary inquiries (1924-1939)]." In Familia în România -O Incursiune diacronică pluridisciplinară [The Family in Romania- A Diacronic pluridisciplinary incursion], edited by Anca Dohotariu, 121–60. Editura Universității București, 2017.
- 2016 2016. "Partisan Potential: Researching Communist Women's Organizations in Eastern Europe." *Aspasia: The International Yearbook of Central, Eastern, and Southeastern European Women's and Gender History* 10.
<https://www.berghahnjournals.com/view/journals/aspasia/10/1/asp10010.xml>.

Book reviews

- 2021 Book Review: Kristen Ghodsee, *Second World, Second Sex: Socialist Women's Activism and Global Solidarity during the Cold War*, (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2018), *International Review of Social History* 66, no. 2 (2021): 304–08.
- 2020 Book Review: Chiara Bonfiglioli, *Women and Industry in the Balkans: The Rise and Fall of the Yugoslav Textile Sector*. *Aspasia: The International Yearbook of Central, Eastern, and Southeastern European Women's and Gender History* 14, no. 1 (April 2020): 162–65.
<https://doi.org/10.3167/asp.2020.140113>
- 2016 Book Review: Luciana Jinga, *Gen și reprezentare în România comunistă, 1944–1989* (Gender and representation in communist Romania, 1944– 1989). *Aspasia: The International Yearbook of Central, Eastern, and Southeastern European Women's and Gender History* 10 (April 2016).

Community Service

- 2018 – 2021 Editor, LeftEast (online publication), lefteast.org