



CALL FOR PAPERS

International RefoRC Conference

Changes, (Dis)Continuities, Traditions and Their Invention During 500 Years of Reformation
The Perspective of Long Reformation applied to the History of the Central and Eastern
European Region

Date: October 27–28., 2017

Location: Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj/Kolozsvár, Romania

The Babeş-Bolyai University together with the Institute for Literary Studies, RCH, HAS organizes an international multidisciplinary REFORC conference in order to conclude and summarize the scholarly undertakings (2012–2017) of the REFO500 partner institutes of the region and to introduce a new project focussed on the concept of *Long Reformation*. For our intention is to comprise and integrate the ongoing disparate research projects of this region into a common conceptual framework focalized on the idea of Long Reformation in Central and Eastern Europe and sustain their progress from 2017 onwards.

As suggested by its title, the main goal of the conference is to provide an unbiased and reliable overview of the process during which Reformation with all its known or still uncovered historical, social, cultural, and confessional implications has been bringing about changes for the last 500 years. Our approach, refusing from the start any apologetic intent or triumphant overtones, seeks to reflect on the process of Reformation(s) as an alteration and transformation of (re)invented and extant traditions, without proposing discussable hierarchies of confessional communities and their spiritual heritages. As the organising institutes possess a multifaceted group of experts, both faculty members and research fellows, we intend to devote similar attention to all the historical confessions (Lutheran, Calvinist, Unitarian, Greek and Roman Catholic, etc.) of our region so that we can foster the examination of their diverse cultural memory and cultural identity as well. In addition we intend to reflect on the discrepancies and overlapping regional particularities of the Eastern and Western Christianity relevant for Central and Eastern Europe. Finally, *Long Reformation* as an explanatory concept fitting in this historical and methodological context would act as a shared perspective for the complex analysis of all the confessions and their particular traditions. We expect that the concept of *Long Reformation* including both the traditional conviction of „*ecclesia semper reformanda*” and the methodological novelties displayed in the

examination of a Long European, English or, quite recently Scottish Reformation¹ will bring us closer to a thorough understanding of the Reformation(s) as a common and determining process shaping our European history.

We expect 25–30 minute papers reflecting upon the following major issues:

- Long Reformation*: methodological and theoretical perspectives and consequences
- The history of confessionalization: its processes and patterns
- Building confessional identities: historical, theoretical and pragmatic reflections
- Confessional bias and confessional thinking: validating or disregarding hierarchies and exclusivist discourses?
- The reform and its components (theology, liturgy, spirituality, and cultural discourses) under scrutiny; why was possible that they acted as differentiating and integrating forces of the Reformation?
- Appropriation of traditions: strategies and modalities of (re)inventing, (re)evaluating, and (re)defining the common heritage
- Confessional tolerance and pluralities: stereotypes and defence mechanisms in full action.
- Early modern Catholicism: revisiting the concept and its applications in the historical and cultural contexts of both Catholic and Reformed traditions.
- Reformation(s) and Post-Reformation: uses and applications
- Literacy, writing culture, book history and Reformation
- The comparative argument: similarities and differences between the Hungarian and the international scholarship on Reformation
- Realms of memory at the interactions between confessions and cultures
- Semper reformanda (?): reflections and perspectives.

The official languages of the conference are English, Hungarian and Romanian. Paper proposals (not exceeding 300 words) should be sent by email to: claudiopolis.2017@gmail.com. The deadline for submitting a paper proposal by e-mail is: **March 31, 2017**. We shall provide you with further details about the planned programme of the conference, travel, lodgement, and practical matters regarding the publishing of the proceedings of the conference in the circular letters to be sent out.

For further questions do not hesitate to contact Dr. Csilla Gábor (gaabor.csilla@gmail.com), and Dr. Zsombor Tóth (toth.zsombor@refo500.com).

Cluj/Kolozsvár, October 15. 2016.

On behalf of the organizers
Dr. Csilla Gábor, BBU, Refo500 project coordinator
Dr. Zsombor Tóth, RCH, HAS
Refo500 Central and Southeastern coordinator

¹ Peter G. WALLACE, *The Long European Reformation: Religion, Political Conflict, and the Search for Conformity, 1350–1750*, (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004); *England's Long Reformation 1500–1800*, ed. Nicholas TYACKE, (London: UCL Press, 1998); *Scotland's Long Reformation. New Perspectives on Scottish Religion, c. 1500-c. 1660*, ed. John MCCALLUM (Leiden: Brill, 2016).