

Ginel Lazăr, MNIR (*Digitizarea, conservarea și valorificarea colecției de manuscrise medievale, carte veche tipărită și documente istorice ale Muzeului Național de Istorie a României*) a oferit o expunere asupra modului în care MNIR încearcă digitizarea și valorificarea documentelor medievale prin diverse programe precum *Exponatul lunii*, prilej cu care se și restaurează documente sau obiecte și li se confecționează casete de depozitare. O altă modalitate de valorificare o constituie diversele colaborări cu numeroase muzee din țară, având în vedere că spațiul expozițional al muzeului este unul restrâns. De asemenea, s-a remarcat contribuția la proiectul de digitalizare *Medievalia* organizat de către Universitatea din București în colaborare cu Arhivele Naționale.

Imago Romaniae este un proiect de digitalizare al MNIR care încearcă să pună la dispoziția publicului colecția de imagini a muzeului, până în prezent fiind disponibile 9.800 de imagini, încărcate de-a lungul ultimilor ani, începând cu 2011 de către o echipă de muzeografi din care face parte și Cristina Păiușan Nuica, care a prezentat proiectul. Axat în primul rând pe fototeca muzeului, acesta include însă și materiale de bibliotecă, acoperind perioada sec. al XVI-lea-1951. O serie de publicații conexe au fost editate pornind de la acest efort de digitalizare, între care un album referitor la orașele Valahiei. Tot C. Păiușan Nuica a prezentat ulterior și proiectul de digitalizare foto al MNIR referitor la perioada comunistă și accesibil la adresa www.comunismulinromania.ro. Un alt proiect al Muzeului, de această dată monografic, dedicat Marelui Război, <http://www.marelerazboi.ro/>, a fost prezentat de către Nicoleta König, acesta debutând în 2013 și cuprinzând peste 1.900 de itemi.

În ultima parte a sesiunii, Bogdan Sandric, director al CIMEC, a oferit o interesantă incursiune într-un proiect de digitizare a crucilor de piatră din județul Prahova, care s-a desfășurat în 35 de localități. Relatorul a identificat până în acest moment 155 de cruci și 25 monumente de eroi în 8 luni, toate acestea fiind fotografiate și cartografiate folosind diverse tehnici precum GIS sau RTI. Tot B. Sandric, în ultima expunere a sesiunii, a vorbit despre **biblioteca digitală a publicațiilor culturale**, un proiect ambițios prin amploarea sa, poate tocmai de aceea și foarte dificil de finalizat.

Radu Stancu

The Medieval Chronicle, Lisbon, July 2017

It was in 1999 when *The Medieval Chronicle Society* was founded, as an international and interdisciplinary organization, at the initiative and guidance of Erik Kooper, professor of English Studies at the Utrecht University.

From that moment on, the society has published a prestigious periodical entitled "The Medieval Chronicle" (now edited by Erik Kooper and Sjoerd Levelt) and has organized various conferences held in Utrecht, the Netherlands (1999,

2002), Reading, UK (2005), Belfast, UK (2008), Pécs, Hungary (2011), Liverpool, UK (2014) and finally Lisbon, Portugal (2017). A new conference would take place in Poznan, Poland.

Indeed, “alongside annals, chronicles were the main genre of historical writing in the Middle Ages. Consequently they have always been of great importance to historians. The extent to which they are also of interest to students of medieval literature or of historical linguistics was only fully realised in the latter part of the 20th century. Since many chronicles are illustrated, they are also a fruitful object of study for art historians.”¹ Taking this interdisciplinary dictum into consideration, the organization had the possibility to gather an impressive number of experts from all over the world, encouraging the debates in well organised forum focusing upon the medieval chronicles. Thus, it resulted a variety of methodological approaches, but also a great number of case studies, dealing with particular cases of chronicles written especially in Europe during the centuries.

The main topics that the society has encouraged refer to:

- The chronicle: history or literature?
- The function of the chronicle
- The form of the chronicle
- The chronicle and the reconstruction of the past
- Text and image in the chronicle

The conferences in Lisbon continued this tendencies to a high degree. it was held on July 10-15, 2017, hosted by Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas da Universidade Nova de Lisboa. Beside the papers delivered by the keynote speakers (Inés Fernández-Ordóñez, Universidd Autónoma de Madrid, *Actores and auctores in Medieval Iberian historiography: a three centuries overview*; Georges Martin, Université Paris-Sorbonne, *La part des femmes dans la production historiographique et le développement de la pensée politique au royaume de León (XIIIe-XIIIe siècles)*; José Carlos Miranda, Universiade do Porto and Maria do Rosário Ferreira, Universidade de Coimbra, *Past and Present in Pedro de Barcelos*) and the roundtable organized by Erik Kooper, which topic, *Chronicles and their texts: the importance of variants*, attracted many participants. the conference enjoyed the delivery of a number 68 papers delivered from scholars representing institutions from 19 countries, as follows: Austria (University of Vienna); Belgium (University College in Leuven-Limburg; University of Antwerp; Royal Library in Brussels; Ghent University); Canada (University of Western Ontario); Czech Republic (Charles University in Prague; University of Ostrava); France (Paris-Sorbonne; University of Pau; University of Lorraine in Nancy; University of Rennes); Georgia (George Chubinashvili National Center for Georgian Art History and Heritage Preservation); Germany (Free University in Berlin; University of Munich; University of Hagen; University of Konstanz; University of Frankfurt); Iran (University of Kashan); Ireland (Trinity College in

¹ <https://medievalchronicle.org/>

Dublin); Italy (University of Milan; Federico II University in Naples; Institute of Art History in Florence; Romanian Institute of Culture in Venice); Luxembourg (University of Luxembourg); Poland (University of Warsaw; Institute of Slavic Studies in Warsaw); Portugal (Instituto de Estudios Medievais in Lisbon; Universidade de Lisboa; Universidade do Porto; Universidade de Évora); Romania (National Archives of Romania); Spain (Complutense University of Madrid; Biblical and Oriental Institute in Madrid; University of Santiago de Compostela; British Council in Madrid); Sweden (Stockholm University); Turkey (Boğaziçi University in Istanbul); UK (University of Oxford; University of Cambridge; University of Leeds; University of St Andrews; University of Warwick; University of Chester; University of Exeter; Balliol College in Oxford; University of Manchester); US (University of Pittsburgh; University of Notre Dame; Brown University; University of Pennsylvania; Bay Path University; Drury University; University of Georgia; Morehead State University; Baylor University; Temple University; Texas A & M University; University of Texas at Austin; Western Connecticut State University). To them, one could add the presence of one independent scholar.

I must confess that the session titles were not quite happily selected, sounding rather as simple keywords applied on the run: “Medieval Europe”, “*Brut* Tradition”, “Religious Identity in Chronicles”, “Chivalric Ideology and Prowesses”, “Austrian Chronicle of 1454-1467”, “Battles, Chivalry and Epics”, “Alexander the Great”, “*Translatio* and Translations”, “Violence in Words and Actions”, “Religious Texts and Chronicles”, “Annals and their Developments”, “Fostering Identities”, “Chronicles and Archives”, “Medieval Persian”, “Crusades”, “Urban Chronicles”, “Reassessments”, “Comparing Versions”, “Authors and Authorship”, “History under the Spanish Catholic Monarchs”, (again) “Medieval Europe”, “Queens and Queenship”, “Structure and Ideology”.

Among these sessions, I would like to emphasize the session dealing with “Chronicles and Archives, which gathered the papers delivered by Claire Macht, University of Oxford (*Archival reflections of monastic identity in the Chronicle of Meaux*), Carlos Pio, University of Pennsylvania (*Pere, Conestable de Portugal: patronage and legacy in Barcelona*) and Néstor Vigil Montes, Universidade de Évora (*Le rôle du document diplomatique dans les chroniques médiévales: le cas du document de la diplomatie*).

The number of methodological topics was rather scarce, being clearly surpassed by the papers that preferred the case studies of particular chronicles or group of chronicles². I note these few cases of methodological approaches regarding the medieval chronicles: Catherine Blunk, Drury University, *How Did Chroniclers Record Pas d’armes?*; Pierre Courrux, University of Pau, *Remarks on the Use of Numbers during Battles in Medieval Chronicles*; Alison Stones, University of Pittsburgh, *History and Legend in Multiple Illustrated Copies: Problems of Method*;

² When referring to group of chronicles, I regard here the geographical dimension.

Mariana Leite, University of Porto, *Translatio Imperii, translatio linguarum? On the Linguistic Choices in Medieval Universal Chronicles*; Dale Copley, University of Chester, *Insult as a Literary Convention in the Medieval Chronicle*; Ramunė Markevičiūtė, Free University of Berlin, *Rethinking the Chronicle. Modern Genre Theory Applied to Medieval Historiography*; Joan Holladay, University of Texas in Austin, *The Structure of the Past: Genealogy as Illustration of Chronicle Texts*; Cornelia Logemann, University of Munich, *Reenactment: Tournaments, Chronicles and Visual History*.

All in all, the papers gathered on the occasion of the conference in Lisbon advanced a huge variety of topics, which led to fruitful debates afterwards.