#### The Department of Central and East European Intercultural Studies at the University of Warsaw is pleased to invite you to participate in the International Scientific Conference

#### *Multiculturalism of Central and Eastern Europe: Experience of the Past and Challenges of the Present.* *On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Department of Central and East European Intercultural Studies*

Warsaw, October 13-14, 2022

Under the patronage of His Magnificence, Rector of the University of Warsaw

**Purpose of the conference:**

The development of modern civilization is accompanied by accelerated processes of cultural changes, which pose new challenges for mankind. In the scientific discussions of recent years, the question returns whether economic and ideological or cultural issues will be the axis of possible future conflicts. Russia's aggression against Ukraine gives this issue a topical and dramatic dimension. It is precisely on the basis of the criterion of cultural identity that Samuel P. Huntington in his book “*The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order”* distinguishes seven civilizations: Chinese, Japanese, Hindu, Latin American, African, Western and Orthodox.

The experience of Central and Eastern Europe, which has always been a specific civilization and cultural borderline, where different cultures and religions coexisted side by side, proves that such categorical theses are a simplification.

Over the centuries, there was a mutual penetration and cultural exchange here, which contributed to a significant cultural enrichment of the entire European continent. This process left a lasting mark on the modern nations that arose in Central and Eastern Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries, whose identities to a varying degree synthesized the values of Western (*Latina)* and Eastern (*Orthodoxa*) cultures. It shaped the specificity of the civilization of this region and left its mark on the experience of its inhabitants.

It is also obvious that the path of intercultural dialogue has not always turned out to be effective in overcoming conflicts, which, in turn, have been instrumentally used many times in the implementation of the policy of great powers.

Therefore, the main goal of the conference will be an attempt to make a symbolic balance of profits and losses, ups and downs of the multicultural identity of Central and Eastern Europe, as well as searching for answers to bothering questions about the history and the present day of intercultural relations in the region.

In particular, we would like to focus on such issues as the specificity of nation-building processes in our region, the role of languages and religion in shaping the identity of its inhabitants and external factors influencing cultural and national relations in Central and Eastern Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries. We also want to take a closer look at the cultural challenges that our region has to face today.

The conference will be interdisciplinary, which will make it easier for representatives of various scientific fields to share their reflections and the results of the latest research on the cultural development of Central and Eastern Europe.

**We invite** historians, political scientists, cultural scientists, literary scholars and linguists dealing with the broadly understood issues of the region of Central and Eastern Europe

**to participate in the conference.**

**The main topics and issues of the conference:**

- The specificity of nation-building processes in the region of Central and Eastern Europe in the 19th-20th centuries (cultural dimension)

- Language and identity: shaping contemporary national languages in Central and Eastern Europe

- Religion and identity: interfaith relations in the region (dialogue, problems, perspectives)

- Land and identity: national and ethnic minorities in Central and Eastern Europe (conflicts and relations)

- Bridge builders: the role of the person in the dialogue of cultures

- New cultural challenges in the region at the turn of the 20th and 21st centuries

**Working languages of the conference:** Polish, English, all languages of the region.

**Deadline for applications**

Please send your submissions to the following address: ksi@uw.edu.pl by August 31, 2022.

The Organizing Committee of the Conference will confirm the receipt of the application by email and will inform about the acceptance or rejection of the application by 10/09/2022. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to reject applications that do not correspond to the subject of the conference.

**Conference fee:**

After receiving information about the qualification of the application, the conference fee should be paid in the amount of PLN 400. The deadline for paying the conference fee is 09/25/2022. The account number to which the payment is due will be provided to you at a later date. The conference fee covers the costs of publishing a multi-author monograph (journal).

In justified cases, the possibility of exempting participants from the conference fee is taken into account.

The conference will be conducted in a hybrid form (stationary and remote).

The duration of the presentation is 20 minutes.

Publication of conference materials is foreseen. A multi-author monograph published by a publishing house from the list of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education will contain texts that will be positively assessed by the Reviewers.

**Contact:**

Please send any questions to the following email address: [ksi@uw.edu.pl](mailto:ksi@uw.edu.pl)

**Organizing Committee of the Conference:**

Prof. dr hab. Joanna Getka

Dr hab. Jerzy Grzybowski, prof. ucz.

Dr hab. Grzegorz Gąsior