



Department of Translation Studies, Faculty of Arts, Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra, would like to invite you to two lectures of dr. Ivan Dodovski (Skopje, Macedonia) dedicated to the issues of language, culture and literature.

Dr Ivan Dodovski is Associate Professor in Critical Theory and Literature at University American College Skopje, Macedonia. He studied general and comparative literature with American studies in Skopje, where he also obtained his MA degree in theory of literature and narratology. He holds a PhD from the University of Nottingham, UK. His current research interests include the relationship between politics and literature and the representations of identity in contemporary fiction and drama. In addition to academic papers, he has published three poetry books and a collection of short stories (also translated into German). He has edited several volumes on multiculturalism, European cultural studies and identity politics. Previously he has worked as a translator, theatre critic and cultural policy expert.

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Lecture: From Xenophobic Fortress to Dystopian Supermarket, or How Balkan Playwrights Imagined Europe at the Turn of the Second Millennium

Wednesday, 25 Apr 2018, 11.00
Room ŠT 127 (Štefánikova 67, Faculty of Arts)

Balkan scholars since the 1990s have for the most part endeavoured to analyse and deconstruct western negative perceptions of the Balkan cultures. However, only a few thorough efforts have been dedicated to examining the Balkan perspectives on Europe or the West in general. In this paper we examine aspects of Balkan imagining of Europe, as manifest in several plays written by two prominent dramatists – Goran Stefanovski from Macedonia and Biljana Srbljanović from Serbia. Two specific tropes are being discerned: Fortress Europe; and Europe as a post-historical dystopia. These contrasting imageries were produced almost simultaneously, in the 1990s and early 2000s, when the idea of Europe and the prospect of integrating the Balkan countries in the European Union attained a high currency in the public discourse, sometimes even becoming a substitutive ideology for the post-communist societies. However, the contradictions that are highlighted do not appear to serve as just a corollary of the painful and equivocal transition from one social paradigm to another. They can also be seen as a sign of the emerging agency of the local subject who moves from frustration with imputed Balkanness and exaltation in view of the European prospect, to an attitude of scorn for western hollowness and critical deliberation with regard to a common future for Europe and the world.



Lecture: Argumentation Strategies and the Fallacies of Reasoning

Thursday, 26 Apr 2018, 11.00
Room ŠT 213 (Štefánikova 67, Faculty of Arts)

Critical writing on a controversial topic requires specific skills. This lecture is designed to introduce the participants to several argumentation strategies and to the usual fallacies of reasoning and critical thought. Special attention is given to the elements of composition, such as developing an engaging introduction and an effective conclusion, as well as dealing with counter arguments. *Saepe stylum veritas iterum quae digna legi sint scripturus.* (Horatius)

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