

Call for Papers

Two contemporary developments – the recent paradigm shift in the social sciences, arts and humanities as well as the renewed relevance, due to the wars in Ukraine and Gaza, of theoretical frameworks of the 1990s such as the history of ideas and colonial/postcolonial studies – led us to dedicate the forthcoming 2025 issues of the Balkanistic Forum to the ongoing debates on War, Peace, Justice. We intend to focus on the affects and their potential to change and challenge the norms and conventions, the political order, and social institutions by fostering and hindering the progress of individuals and communities, on the one hand. On the other hand, we seek to address the matters from both micro and macro perspectives related to the Cold War and its ensuing effects on contemporary societies.

The first thematic issue (April 2025) “**War, Sorrow, and Justice**”, editors Snezhana Dimitrova and Giovanni Levi, has been published in print and online at CEEOL <https://www.ceeol.com/search/journal-detail?id=1069>

The editors of the second thematic issue of the Balkanistic Forum – “**War and Peace: Experience and Representations**”, Snezhana Dimitrova and Jay Winter will welcome original papers in English from different fields of social sciences, arts, and humanities and scholars are invited to send their reflections on the following research topics, relevant to the Balkans and Central and Eastern Europe: the experienced war (with emphasis on the refugees, veterans, prisoners, interned civilians), the humanitarian organizations and their “political neutrality”, the peace as an idea, ideology, and practice. A special attention will be given to the policy of memory at all institutional levels (family, community, society, and state) and to the process of actualizing and ritualizing postmemory due to the current war conflicts. We also expect contributions on the dynamics of the representations of war and peace and their role in forming cultural and political identities, including papers with specific research on the war correspondents.

The deadline for submission of the papers is **30 July 2025**.

The third issue of the Balkanistic Forum - “**Postwar Societies: Trauma and Reconciliation**”, by editors Snezhana Dimitrova, Janja Jerkov, and Ana Luleva, will be focused on societies in transition and on their social and political transformations. We welcome papers addressing the relations between victims and persecutors (with emphasis on the new identities, the victim), shock and traumatic past, trauma, memory, and history, as well as the institutions of reconciliation, and transitional justice. Is forgiveness possible? The researchers from social sciences, arts, and humanities are called to submit the original papers in English regarding the past and present of the Balkans and Central and Eastern Europe within this thematic register and prospect.

We welcome papers of researchers from different spheres, working within specific analytical perspectives and theoretical approaches.

The deadline for submission of the papers is **1st November 2025**.

Please send your papers to bforum@swu.bg