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ISCSC President's Report: Two Exciting Events Coming Up

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ISCSC President's Report: Two Exciting Events Coming Up

Spring 2023

Dear Readers of the *Comparative Civilizations Review*:

Why was the International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations created more than a half century ago by UNESCO and what has guided our comparative civilizations endeavors from then to these days?

- **Mission:**
To provide means of cooperation among all persons interested in the advancement of the comparative study of civilizations
- **Vision:**
Civilizations Matter
- **Goal:**
To achieve scholarly recognition as the primary source of knowledge and wisdom on the comparative study of civilizations
- **Strategy:**
Organizing annual international conferences for scholar leaders of the comparative study of civilization and publishing the *Comparative Civilization Review*, *Conference Proceedings*, books on Civilizational Themes

As we seek to strengthen our achievements and build on our purposes, we are delighted to announce two upcoming events, both held on the borders of Eastern Europe, not far from the center of world attention this year. Both are scheduled for this summer and seek to address our organization's mission, goals and objectives. One is to be held at the beginning of the summer, in early July, and the other near its apogee, in early September. Everyone is encouraged to register and to attend both events.

July 2-7: A Joint Congress on Civilizations

The first World Congress for the Comparative Study of Civilizations, entitled *Crossroads of Civilizations*, will convene in Bucharest, Romania, from July 2 to July 7. This Congress is being organized jointly by the Dimitrie Cantemir Christian University, located in Bucharest, and on other campuses in Romania; the International Society for the Comparative Studies of Civilization; and the Asian Politics and History Association. The event is being graciously hosted by DCCU on its lovely main university campus. It is being organized pursuant to an agreement signed by all parties two years ago, seeking the enhancement of wisdom in world affairs.

The goal of the World Congress is to provide a venue for scholars in the fields of the comparative study of civilizations, cultural and social studies, comparative literature, history and humanities to meet and to exchange views. Innovative methods, multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary approaches are especially welcome.

In addition to plenary presentations, the Congress will incorporate scholarly panels and a final debate to be mounted on the concluding day.

The Four panels are to be as follows:

- Panel 1. Defining “civilization”: theories of history; past civilizations; and their art, literature, and economies
- Panel 2. Contemporary civilization: globalization, sovereign states, human and national security and the clash of civilizations
- Panel 3. Dimitrie Cantemir and Europe as the crossroads of civilizations
- Panel 4. The modern challenge: a new enlightenment?

Culminating Debate and Vote:

Are we on the cusp of a new enlightenment or are we approaching the death of Western civilization?

I am happy to report that among the social events to be held in conjunction with the World Congress are a welcome reception preceding the start date, a banquet on the final day, and a choice of excursions which will offer a set of unique cultural experiences.

- Cantacuzino Castle, wine tasting, winery tour & lunch
- Peles Castle, Sinaia Monastery & lunch
- Bucharest art galleries, historic sites & traditional dinner

Please note that information concerning registration, abstract, submittal, primary and secondary themes, and additional details of interest are all available at the following URL: <https://www.civilizations2023.org/event/>

September 13-17: IS CSC’S 2023 52nd Annual Conference

The 52nd Annual Conference of our organization is to be held in a beautiful, comfortable, impressive setting in Warsaw, Poland. It will be entitled: *Civilizational Security: Clashes of Civilizations, Clashes within Civilizations, and Stable Global Futures.*

The conference will be hosted by ISCSC Board Member Dr. Greg Lewicki and held at the following location:

War Studies University
Al. Gen. Chruściela "Montera" Street 103
00-910, Warszawa (Warsaw), Poland

The Conference Program Chair this year will be our very own ISCSC vice president Dr. Michael Andregg of Minnesota. Suggested arrival date is Wednesday, September 13, 2023. However, please plan to come earlier if you desire.

The academic program is scheduled to begin on Thursday, September 14, and to continue on both Friday, September 15 and Saturday, September 16. A field trip and a final banquet will be held on Saturday, September 16. The suggested departure date is Sunday, September 17.

The Call for Papers, Rules for Abstract Submittal, and other details are currently posted on the ISCSC website at <https://iscsc.org/2023-conference.html>. We anticipate that this will be a very popular conference, our first ever in Poland. Therefore, **submit abstracts as soon as possible** and in all cases before the deadline of May 20, 2023. Please try to follow the submittal criteria as described on the website links. Abstracts can be submitted before registering for the conference.

Registration details will be posted as details are made available. I am very pleased to announce that the very modest overall registration price of approximately \$330 U.S. will include participation in the full conference program, the opportunity to present approved papers, lodging, most meals, the field trip and other amenities. Transportation to and from Warsaw will be on your own.

My suggestion is that scholars avail themselves of the opportunity to attend both the World Congress and the 52nd Annual ISCSC Conference. So, do not miss either the *First World Congress: Crossroads of Civilizations* or the ISCSC 52nd Annual Session: *Civilizational Security: Clashes of Civilizations, Clashes within Civilizations, and Stable Global Futures*. Your attendance will make a difference!

Finally, here's a quote to guide you on your way to these conferences: "I want to know what were the steps by which men passed from barbarism to civilization." – Voltaire

See you in Bucharest and in Warsaw.

Lynn Rhodes
President