



UNIVERSITATEA BABEŞ-BOLYAI
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BABEŞ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITÄT
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TRADITIO ET EXCELLENTIA

Tradiție și Excelență prin
Cultură - Știință - Inovație din 1581



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UNIVERSITATEA DE
MEDICINĂ ȘI FARMACIE
IULIU HAȚIEGANU
CLUJ-NAPOCA



Bridging Perspectives and Connecting Threads on Historical Health Inequalities

GREATLEAP Milestone Conference

Cluj-Napoca
11-13 May 2026



Karolina State Hospital, a postcard. Creator: Emil Schuster, Kolozsvár (Cluj), No. 18 – 1915. Holder: Brukenthal National Museum – Sibiu. <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>. (Image processed from the original).

**Opening ceremony: Aula Magna, Babeş-Bolyai University,
1 Mihail Kogălniceanu Street
Sessions: Faculty of History and Philosophy, 11 Napoca Street**

This event is supported by the COST-Action GREATLEAP (CA22116), and by a grant of the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitization, CNCS-UEFISCDI, project number PN-IV-P1-PCE-2023-0339, within PNCDI IV.



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Organizers

Babeş-Bolyai University, Centre for Population Studies & Faculty of History and Philosophy

In collaboration with *University of Medicine and Pharmacy, The Museum of Cluj Medical School, „Iuliu Hațieganu”*

Scientific committee

Tim Riswick (Radboud University)
Ciara Breathnach (University College Cork)
Elena Crinela Holom (Babeş-Bolyai University)
Michail Raftakis (University of Bologna)
Grażyna Liczbińska (Adam Mickiewicz University)
Alice Reid (University of Cambridge),
Mayra Murkens (University of Groningen)
Kaspar Staub (University of Zurich)
Maarten van Wijhe (Roskilde University)
Věra Slováková (Charles University)
Edward Morgan (Office for National Statistics)

Organising committee

Elena Crinela Holom (Babeş-Bolyai University)
Tim Riswick (Radboud University)
Lumița Dumănescu (Babeş-Bolyai University)
Nicoleta Hegedűs (Babeş-Bolyai University)
Angela Lumezeanu (Babeş-Bolyai University)
Mihaela Hărăguș (Babeş-Bolyai University)
Daniela Mârza (Romanian Academy)

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General Overview

Monday 11 May

Locations: Aula Magna, 1 Mihail Kogălniceanu street, 2nd floor & Aula Ferdinand, 11 Napoca Street, 1st floor

Time	Session
8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:20	Welcome and Progress GREATLEAP
9:20-9:30	Book launch
9:30-10:30	Keynote session A
10:30-11:00	Coffee break
11:00-12:30	Session 1 'Roots and potential prospects of population health trends: different perspectives'
11:00-11:50	School activity
12:30-13:30	Lunch break
13:30-15:00	Session 2 'Missing data and causes of death'
15:00-15:30	Coffee break
15:30-17:15	Session 3 'New methods for causes of death'
17:30-	Welcoming dinner

Tuesday 12 May

Location: Aula Ferdinand, 11 Napoca Street, 1st floor

Time	Session
9:00-10:30	Session 4 'Roundtable Historic Strings of Causes of Death'
10:30-11:00	Coffee break
11:00-12:30	Session 5 'Creating Categorisation of Causes of Death'
12:30-13:30	Lunch break
13:30-14:30	Keynote session B
14:30-15:00	Coffee break
15:00-16:30	Session 6 'From Mortality to Morbidity'
16:30-18:00	Museum Visit & Exhibition



Wednesday 13 May

Locations: Aula Ferdinand & Francisc Pall, 11 Napoca street, 1st floor

Time	Session		
9:00-10:30	Troubleshooting coding	Session 7 'Flash Presentations by ITC/YRI'	
10:30-11:00	Coffee break		
11:00-12:30	Session 8 'Multiple causes of death'		
12:30-13:30	Lunch break		
13:30-15:00	MC Meeting	Main Workshop	
15:00-15:30	Coffee break		
15:30-16:30	Follow-Up Workshop	Shorter Workshop	WG (co-)leaders Meeting
16:30-17:30	Keynote session C		
17:30-	Refreshments		



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Full Programme Details

Monday 11 May

Aula Magna, 1 Mihail Kogălniceanu Street, 2nd floor

Welcome and Progress GREATLEAP (9:00-9:20)

Adrian Petrușel (Vice-Rector, Research-development-innovation, Relationship with doctoral degrees, Babeş-Bolyai University)

Ioan Bolovan (Director of the Centre for Population Studies, Babeş-Bolyai University)

Tim Riswick (Radboud University)

Book launch (9:20-9:30)

Towards the Elimination of Cholera Epidemics. From Past to Contemporary Societies

Grażyna Liczbińska (Adam Mickiewicz University)

Keynote session A (9:30-10:30)

Chair: Tim Riswick (Radboud University)

Please note every keynote has 25 minutes to present and 5 minutes for Q&A.

1. TBA

Diego Ramiro Fariñas (Institute of Economics, Geography and Demography (CSIC)CCHS)

2. From the Coast to the Jungle: Disease Ecology and Health Inequality in Brazil (1930s-1970s)

Matheus Alves Duarte da Silva (King's College London)

Coffee break (10:30-11:00)

Session 1 'Roots and potential prospects of population health trends: different perspectives' (11:00-12:30)

Chair: Jon Anson (Ben-Gurion University of The Negev)

Please note everyone has 15 minutes to present and 5 minutes for Q&A.

Presenters: Katarina Matthes (University of Zurich), Ondrej Holy (Tomas Bata University),

Magdalena Muszyńska Spielauer (Vienna Institute of Demography)

School activity 'An interactive historical demography talk using England's mortality history' (11:00-11:50)

George Coșbuc High School, Cluj-Napoca: 'An interactive historical demography talk using England's mortality history'.

Host teacher: Robert Binder

Organizers: Edward Morgan and Daniela Mârza



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Lunch break (12:30-13:30)

Aula Ferdinand, 11 Napoca Street, 1st floor

Session 2 ‘Missing data and causes of death’ (WG3) (13:30-15:00)

Chair: **TBA**

Commentator: Maarten van Wijhe (Roskilde University)

Please note everyone has 15 minutes to present and 5 minutes for Q&A.

- 1. When Evidence Disappears: Informed Missingness of Suicide Notes in Medico-Legal Records and Its Implications for Inequality Research**
Alena Lochmannová (Police Academy of the Czech Republic)
- 2. Death registration incompleteness and demographic structure obscure the inequality of Alaska Natives in the 1918 influenza pandemic**
Hampton Gaddy (London School of Economics)
- 3. Who is counted? Methodological problems of vital ethno-statistics in Serbia**
Nevena Trnavčević (University of Belgrade)
- 4. Historical cause-of-death data in Antwerp (1820–2000): what do we know about the unknown causes?**
Wouter Ronsijn and Isabelle Devos (Ghent University)

Coffee break (15:00-15:30)

Session 3 ‘New methods for causes of death’ (WG3) (15:30-17:15)

Chair: **TBA**

Commentator: Isabelle Devos (Ghent University)

Please note everyone has 15 minutes to present and 5 minutes for Q&A.

- 1. On the Use of Survival Curves and Cox Regression to Study Cause-Specific Mortality Among Children in Trondheim, Norway, 1820-1920.**
Doris Tove Kristoffersen (The Arctic University of Norway)
- 2. Bridging the Gaps or Obscuring the Past? Artificial Intelligence in Historical Health Inequality Research: Methodological Opportunities and Challenges**
Elif Kiran (Tekirdag Namik Kemal University)
- 3. Research into Cause(s) of Death: Back to Square One Methodological Uncertainty, Health Inequalities, and Cross-disciplinary Education**
Neslihan Önder Özdemir (Bursa Uludağ University)

Welcoming dinner provided by organizers (17:30-)

Location: **TBA**



Tuesday 12 May

Location: Aula Ferdinand, 11 Napoca Street, 1st floor

Session 4 ‘Roundtable Historic Strings of Causes of Death’ (WG2) (9:00-10:30)

Chair: **TBA**

Please note every presenter has 10 minutes to present and 10 minutes for Q&A.

- 1. From a thesaurus toward a Spanish Historic Strings of Causes of Death**
Michel Oris (Spanish Research Council)
- 2. Dutch Historic Strings of Causes of Death**
Mayra Murkens (University of Groningen), Wieke Metzlar (Radboud University), Sanne Muurling (Radboud University), Tom Hacha (Ghent University), Sarah Heynssens (Ghent University), Philippe Paeps (Ghent University), Evelien Walhout (Leiden University), en Tim Riswick (Radboud University)
- 3. Greek Historic Strings of Causes of Death**
Michail Raftakis (University of Bologna) Vasilis Gavalas (University of the Aegean), Angeliki Presvelou (Harokopio University of Athens)
- 4. Creating a multilingual historical cause-of-death database for Hungary and Transylvania (Romania) using the ICD10h system**
Levente Pakot (HCSO Institute for Quantitative Population and Economic Research), Péter Óri (Hungarian Demographic Research Institute), Ágnes Jónás (HNM-PCC Hungarian Natural History Museum, Mátra Museum), Sándor Lakatos (Babeş-Bolyai University), Nicoleta Hegedűs (Babeş-Bolyai University), Elena Crinela Holom (Babeş-Bolyai University)

Coffee break (10:30-11:00)

Session 5 ‘Creating Categorisation of Causes of Death’ (11:00-12:30)

Chair: Isabel Tiago de Oliveira (Iscte - Instituto Universitário de Lisboa)

Commentator: Grażyna Liczbińska (Adam Mickiewicz University)

Please note every presenter has 15 minutes to present and 15 minutes for Q&A.

- 1. Comparing the Spanish Classification of Causes of Death with ICD10h**
Diego Ramiro Fariñas (Institute of Economics, Geography and Demography (CSIC)CCHS)
- 2. Classifying deaths in old age**
Tom Hacha (Ghent University), Alice Reid, Michail Raftakis (University of Bologna), Veera Schroderus (University of Turku)
- 3. A classification for use with child mortality**
Michail Raftakis (University of Bologna) and Tim Riswick (Radboud University)



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Lunch break (12:30-13:30)

Keynote session B (13:30-14:30)

Chair: Elena Crinela Holom (Babeş-Bolyai University)

Please note keynotes have 25 minutes to present and 5 minutes for Q&A.

- 1. A closing-widening gap: health and mortality inequalities, Central and Eastern Europe in the 19th and early 20th century**
Péter Óri (Hungarian Demographic Research Institute)
- 2. Causes of death and associated factors. An analysis of individual level data from 2006-2018 in Romania**
Mihaela Hărăguș (Babeş-Bolyai University)

Coffee break (14:30-15:00)

Session 6 'From Mortality to Morbidity' (15:00-16:30)

Chair: **TBA**

Commentator: Ciara Breathnach (University College Cork)

Please note everyone has 15 minutes to present and 15 minutes for Q&A.

- 1. Causes of morbidity in occupational sources: the case of the United Kingdom in the nineteenth century**
Harry Smith (University of Exeter)
- 2. Health insurance and causes of morbidity: experiences from Swedish sickness funds and disability pensions in the early 20th century**
Helene Castenbrandt (Lund University)
- 3. Hospital records as a source on morbidity and mortality in the past: Copenhagen's epidemic hospital and its patient journals, 1879 to 1910**
Maarten van Wijhe (Roskilde University)

Visit and exhibition at the The Museum of Cluj Medical School, „Iuliu Hațieganu” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, 13 Emil Isac street (16:30-18:00)

Exhibition title: *Glimpses into Health, Disease, and Medical Institutions in Transylvania (19th–20th Centuries)*

Organizers: Oana Habor (Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy), Elena Crinela Holom (Babeş-Bolyai University), Luminița Dumănescu (Babeş-Bolyai University), Nicoleta Hegedűs (Babeş-Bolyai University), Angela Lumezeanu (Babeş-Bolyai University)



Wednesday 13 May

Locations: Aula Ferdinand and Francisc Pall, 11 Napoca Street, 1st floor

Troubleshooting coding (9:00-10:30)

Questions about coding can be discussed with Alice Reid (University of Cambridge), Mayra Murkens (University of Groningen) & Michail Raftakis (University of Bologna)

Session 7 ‘Flash Presentations by ITC/YRI’ (WG4) (9:00-10:30)

Chair: Anna Lodberg Sparre (University of Copenhagen) & Gumral Alirzayeva (Tallinn University)

Commentators: Věra Slováková (Charles University) & Tim Riswick (Radboud University)
Please note everyone has 10 minutes to present and 5 minutes for Q&A.

- 1. Suicide in the Poznań Province, 1873–1902: Social, Demographic, and Seasonal Patterns**
Karolina Kowalska (Adam Mickiewicz University)
- 2. Mortality and morbidity characteristics of the population of Gyergyóújfalu in the 18th and 19th centuries**
Ágnes Éva Jónás (HNM-PCC Hungarian Natural History Museum, Mátra Museum)
- 3. In-utero exposure to the 1957-58 Asian Flu Pandemic and negative mental health outcomes in Switzerland**
Octavio Bramajo (University of Zurich)
- 4. Child mortality and cause-of-death in a market town in Southern Hungary, Kalocsa, 1852-1910**
Levente Pakot (HCSO Institute for Quantitative Population and Economic Research)
- 5. Exploring the generalized automation of cause-of-death coding using machine learning**
Lucas Emil Bülow Mortensen & Elias Dahl Lunøe (Technical University Denmark)

Coffee break (10:30-11:00)

Session 8 ‘Multiple causes of death’ (WG2) (11:00-12:30)

Chair: Pavlos Baltas (National Centre for Social Research)

Commentator: Paulo Teodoro de Matos (ISCTE - University Institute of Lisbon)

Please note every speaker has 10 minutes to present and 5 minutes for Q&A.

- 1. Assigning an underlying cause-of-death from multiple ICD10h codes**
Hampton Gaddy (London School of Economics), Alice Reid (University of Cambridge), Viviana Albani (Newcastle University), Michail Raftakis (University of Bologna), Mayra Murkens (University of Groningen), Linda Robertus (Radboud University)
- 2. Multiple causes of death in nineteenth century British sources**
Alice Reid (University of Cambridge), Hampton Gaddy (London School of Economics)



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3. Multiple causes of death in historic Greek sources

Michail Raftakis (University of Bologna), Hampton Gaddy (London School of Economics)

4. Multiple causes of death in historic Dutch sources

Mayra Murkens (University of Groningen), Hampton Gaddy (London School of Economics)

5. Multiple Causes of Death in the City of Cluj (1919-1924)

Daniela Mârza (Romanian Academy)

Lunch break (12:30-13:30)

MC Meeting (13:30-15:00)

This meeting is for MC members only.

Main Workshop 'From Research to Story: Crafting Narratives for Wider Impact' (13:30-15:00)

Organizer: Edward Morgan (Office for National Statistics)

Coffee break (15:00-15:30)

Short Workshop 'From Research to Story: Crafting Narratives for Wider Impact' (15:30-16:30)

Organizer: Edward Morgan (Office for National Statistics)

Follow-Up Workshop 'From Research to Story: Practical Applications (15:30-16:30)

Organizer: Věra Slováková (Charles University)

WG (co-leaders) Meeting (15:30-16:30)

This meeting is only for WG (co-)leaders. Other participants are expected to join the workshop.

Keynote session C (16:30-17:30)

Chair: Ciara Breathnach (University College Cork)

Please note every keynote has 25 minutes to present and 5 minutes for Q&A.

1. Bioarchaeological approaches to morbidity and mortality in industrial-era populations in England

Jo Buckberry (University of Bradford)

2. Health Inequalities in a Multiethnic Province: Evidence from the Transylvanian Health Database

Luminița Dumănescu (Babeş-Bolyai University), Nicoleta Hegedűs (Babeş-Bolyai University), Angela Lumezeanu (Babeş-Bolyai University), Elena Crinela Holom (Babeş-Bolyai University)

Refreshments (light food) and drinks (drinks cannot be covered) (17:30-)

Location: TBA



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Practical information

Venues:

The conference will take place at **the Faculty of History and Philosophy, 11 Napoca Street, on the 1st floor** (11–13 May). Please use the side entrance from Fortăreței Street.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/7iRiaRqD3kuPuLdE6>

The official opening of the conference on 11 May will take place in the main building of **Babeş-Bolyai University, 1 Mihail Kogălniceanu Street, 2nd floor**.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/ogd9RtK64LEEVJa67>

School activity at **George Coșbuc High School, 70–72 Avram Iancu Street**, a 12-minute walk from 11 Napoca Street.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/iWkLyfiZ9mQzPcBWA>

Visit and exhibition at the **The Museum of Cluj Medical School, „Iuliu Hațieganu”, University of Medicine and Pharmacy, 13 Emil Isac Street**, a 7-minute walk from 11 Napoca Street.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/2RJTbZfnAUFnwyVe7>

Travel to Cluj:

The city of Cluj (Cluj-Napoca) is located in Romania, in the center of the region of Transylvania, approximately 450 km from Bucharest and 460 km from Budapest.

For more information about the city of Cluj-Napoca, please visit the local tourist board website: <https://visitcluj.ro/>

Airport:

Cluj is connected by regular flights with major cities in Europe and indirectly (especially via Bucharest or Munich) with numerous destinations on other continents.

For more destinations with flights to Cluj-Napoca, please visit the local airport's website:

<https://www.airportcluj.ro/en/informatii-zboruri/destinatii/>

Public transportation:

Cluj Airport is located approximately **10 km from the city center** and can be reached by direct public transport lines: **trolleybus line no. 5, line no. 8, and bus A1E**. The bus A1E leaves from the terminal; the bus station for lines no 5 and 8 is outside the airport premises (slightly to the right from the exit).



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The journey time is **20–30 minutes**, depending on traffic, and you can pay using your card directly in the bus (the fare is **3.50 RON/approx. 0.70 EUR**). You don't need to check out when getting off the bus.

More information about the bus timetables are available here:

<https://ctpcj.ro/index.php/en/timetables/urban-lines/linia-5>

<https://ctpcj.ro/index.php/en/timetables/urban-lines/line8>

<https://www.airportcluj.ro/en/transport-si-acces/transport-public/>

Taxi:

Taxi services between the airport and the city center are also available, with fares typically around **60–120 RON (12–24 EUR)** depending on traffic and the exact destination. Common taxi companies include **Diesel Taxi, Pritax, and Daniel Taxi**, and ride-hailing apps such as **Uber or Bolt** are also widely used.

When traveling to the airport at the end of your stay, please allow extra time due to traffic, especially if you are traveling during rush hours (approximately 7:30–9:00 AM and 3:00–7:00 PM).