

26-27 May 2021

ESA RN 15 MIDTERM CONFERENCE 2021

**Global Social
Change: Ideas,
Beliefs and
Interests**



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26-27 May 2021 – Online conference

Programme and Abstracts

Culture, consumption and the arts in global perspective

Pierluca Birindelli, Gonzaga University

Home-worlds and abroad: Media Images of Florence (Tuscany, Italy)

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, 2020-2021 will probably represent a watershed, a liminal time. Is this a turning point towards the decline of academic mobility? Is it a temporary pause? In this module the key question is not a quantitative one: it is not about the 'how much' of the trend, but the 'what' and the 'who'. What will decline or resurge? What is the individual, collective and institutional significance of studying abroad? Although such meanings appear to be obvious, almost given, academic mobility is an axiom that needs to be questioned, now more than ever. To discover the real social and cultural meanings of academic mobility we need to hear students' stories and explore the implications of educational travel within the broader context of their lives. This paper presents some findings of the qualitative and comparative study *The Cultural Experience of International Students: Narratives from North and South Europe*. Through the analysis of 25 narratives I will share and interpret international students' images of Florence/Tuscany/Italy. In the research I asked what kind of images they had of the host city/country before their arrival abroad—along with the source of such representations (books, movies, etc.).

Milica Resanovic, University of Belgrade

Novels from periphery in the contexts of literary globalisation: How Serbian novelists enter the centre of the global literary field?

In this article, we analyse how novels written on peripheral languages access the centre of the global literary world. The empirical section of this paper focuses on the case of the contemporary novels primarily written in Serbian, their circulation beyond national borders and linguistic and social obstacle that determine the circulation. Based on qualitative analysis of interviews with thirty Serbian authors we investigate their strategies and challenges that they face during the process of translation of their novels and finding publishers abroad. The analysis points to power relation in global literary field, and variety of factors (political, economic, cultural, and social) that influence translation process and publishing mechanisms. The article also suggests that position in the local field, in terms of distinction between the small-scale or large-scale production, affects writers' willingness to participate in the centre of the global field and their interpretations of the global literary market and its logics. On the theoretical level, using Bourdieu's field theory and concept of symbolic capital developed in postbourdieusian studies of the global market of translation, helps explaining power relation in the local and global literary field, as well as opportunities and limitations experienced by Serbian novelist in connection to entering the centre of the global literary field.