

Danubius Awards 2020

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Vienna 2020

Imprint

Media owner, publisher and editor:
Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research
Minoritenplatz 5, 1010 Vienna
+43 1 531 20-0
bmbwf.gv.at

Authors: Department for International Research Cooperation and Science Diplomacy
Picture credits: © private
Design: BKA Design & Grafik
Print: Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research
Vienna 2020

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Background of the Danubius Awards

The Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) and the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM) created the **Danubius Award in 2011** with the intention to honour persons with extraordinary merits in their scientific activity and output in relation to the Danube Region. Within a rotation system in one year achievements in the fields of social sciences and humanities are awarded, in the following year achievements in the fields of life sciences.

Previous award winners were Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Klaus Roth (Germany), Prof. Dr. Miroslav Veskovíc (Serbia), Prof. Dr. András Inotai (Hungary), Em.O.Univ. Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Dr.nat.techn. Dr.h.c. Leopold März (Austria), Prof. Dr. Ingeborg Fialová (Czech Republic), Prof. Dr. Maroš Finka (Slovak Republic), Prof. Béla Greskovits (Hungary) and Prof. Jiří Balík (Czech Republic).

Since 2014, this award is complemented with a specific prize for young scientists—the so-called “**Danubius Young Scientist Award**”. The award seeks to encourage young scientists to engage themselves in the scientific examination of problems and questions specifically related to the Danube region and to stimulate the scientific community in the region. Universities, Academies of Sciences and Research Institutions in all 14 countries of the Danube Region have been encouraged to nominate suitable and promising candidates that then have been assessed by an international expert jury. The highest ranked candidate of each of the countries that submitted eligible nominations will now be awarded with the prize.

Since 2018 there is a new prize category—the so-called “**Danubius Mid-Career Award**”, which was introduced to close the gap between the two already existing categories, the promising young scientists at the beginning of their careers on the one side and the senior researchers with well- established careers on the other side. The new prize category will highlight and support young ambitious scientists, who successfully took the first steps on their scientific career ladder and are on the best way to the top in their research field.

The Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) and the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM) are glad to announce the Danubius Award winners of 2020:

Danubius Award in the field of Social Sciences and Humanities



Andrei Pippidi

Romania

Andrei Pippidi, (born March 1948) is a Professor Emeritus of the Bucharest University and chief-editor of the *Revue des Études Sud-Est Européennes* at the South-East European Studies Institute in Bucharest. He is also a corresponding member of the Romanian Academy.

Professor Pippidi's research topics cover South-Eastern European history of the 15th–19th century, the intellectual history of the Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period, and the relationship between South-Eastern Europe and the West. He also took a stand to defend Romania's heritage -first from the Communist regime, then from the unregulated development of the transition period, becoming a popular columnist on the topic of Bucharest heritage. He also served as President of the Romanian National Heritage Foundation.

Andrei Pippidi holds two PhD degrees, from the universities of Oxford and Cluj Napoca. As he had not been a Communist party member he could become a professor of the Bucharest University only after 1989. He was a Visiting Professor at Collegium Budapest, L'École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Amsterdam University, and Central European University.

His main books in international languages are "Hommes et idées du Sud Est européen à l'aube de l'âge moderne", Bucharest / Paris (Editura Academiei / Ed. du C.N.R.S.) 1980 ; "Byzantins, Ottomans, Roumains. Le Sud-Est européen entre l'héritage impérial et les influences occidentales", Paris (Honoré Champion) 2006, ISBN 2-7453-1293-6. and "Visions of the Ottoman World in Renaissance Europe", London (Hurst 2012 ; Oxford University Press 2013), he has authored over other ten books in Romanian and over 150 articles in various languages.

Danubius Mid-Career Award



Danijela Dolenec

Croatia

Danijela Dolenec is Associate Professor of Comparative Politics at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, with a doctorate in political science from ETH Zürich and a Master's in public policy from the London School of Economics. She is the recipient of several prestigious scholarship programmes including the Chevening Scholarship, the Fulbright Scholarship, and the Swiss Federal Government Scholarship. As part of her doctoral and post-doctoral studies she has spent research periods at Harvard University (2007–2008, 2011) and the University of Oxford (2018).

Danijela Dolenec currently leads the project *Disobedient Democracy: A Comparative Analysis of Contentious Politics in the European Semiperiphery*, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, which explores how protests and social movements advance democracy. She also currently collaborates on the project *Social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 Pandemic*, funded by the Croatian Science Foundation, headed by the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb. Danijela is on the editorial board of the *Croatian Political Science Review* and she served as Head of Comparative Politics Department (2018–2020).

In her work Danijela has contributed to diverse academic fields, publishing on democratization and the political economy of post-socialism, on European party systems, contemporary social movements, the politics of climate change and political ecology, and on higher education policy in Europe. Her book *Democratic Institutions and Authoritarian Rule in Southeast Europe* (ECPR), received the National Science Award in 2013, and some of her recent work has appeared in *East European Politics and Societies*, *Europe Asia Studies* and the *Review of Radical Political Economics*.

Danubius Young Scientist Awards



Laura Wiesböck

Austria

Laura Wiesböck, PhD, is a Post-Doc researcher and author in Vienna. In December 2017 she earned her doctorate at the University of Vienna with “magna cum laude” honors for her dissertation “Facets of Cross-Border Commuting in the Central European Region and the (Re)Production of Inequalities”.

Wiesböck's current research interests fall mainly in the field of forms, origins and effects of social inequality with a focus on poverty, gender and migration. In her teaching she also devotes herself to topics like “Coolness as a Cultural Practice” or “Sociology of Love”. For her academic work she was awarded the Theodor Körner Prize, the Bank Austria Research Prize and the Kurt Rothschild Prize.

Laura Wiesböck has a strong interest in the exchange of academic results in the international scientific community. She gained profound personal experience with presentations at conferences in Budapest, Berlin, Bilbao, Manchester, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Yokohama, Istanbul and Jerusalem. Furthermore she deepened her integration in international academic networks during her Erasmus exchange at the UCL Université Catholique de Louvain La Neuve in Belgium, as a Visiting Academic at The Graduate Center CUNY in New York City, as a participant at the Maxwell Summerschool of the University of Syracuse in the United States, as a Marietta-Blau fellow at Oxford University as well as an Erasmus+ teacher at the University of Ghana.

In September 2018 her monography “In besserer Gesellschaft. Der selbst-gerechte Blick auf die Anderen” has been published and sold several thousand copies in the German-speaking region. Recently she finalized an edited volume on the shrinking middle class in Austria with Prof. Roland Verwiebe for the German publishing house Springer VS.



Mitar Simić

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Mitar Simić, PhD, assistant professor at the University of Banja Luka, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, was born on 17th October 1987. In 2010, he was the third laureate student of his year to graduate from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering at the University of East Sarajevo. In 2017 he defended his PhD thesis in the field of sensors and electronics at the University of Novi Sad.

By May 2020 he published 9 papers in international peer-review journals, participated on more than 20 international and national scientific conferences with more than 30 papers. Also, he was an organizing committee member for two international conferences (ECCTD2017 and PDeS2021), acts as a reviewer of IEEE Sensors Journal and MAPAN Journal, and works on several national and international scientific and professional projects. For example he has been part of an EU co-funded project called SENSEIVER-SENSor / transcEIVER that brought together partners from three universities, two institutes and two companies from six different European countries (AT, RO, RS, PL, PT, DE).

Moreover, he has been visiting researcher at the Institute of Electron Technology in Krakow, the Technical University Gheorghe Asachi in Iasi and the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Computer and Information Sciences.

He keeps actively volunteering in the promotion of science and establishing connections between research teams from B&H and countries of Danube Region. He is active in teaching Bachelor, Master and PhD level courses. He is a non-smoker, married and father of one child. He enjoys reading, martial arts practicing and spending time with his family and friends.



Diyana Kinaneva

Bulgaria

Diyana Kinaneva, PhD, works as an assistant professor at the University of Ruse “Angel Kanchev” at the department of Telecommunications.

She is part of the University of Ruse since 2008, when she was enrolled in the Bachelor Program “Telecommunication networks”. During her studies, she showed exceptional dedication in various network-related courses and topics, like communication networks, routing and switching, network security, wireless technologies for data transfer, etc.

In 2017, she defended her PhD Thesis in the field of Software-Defined Networks and applied for the position of full-time Assistant Professor and joined the academic staff of the Telecommunications Department. Her educational activities are related to several BSc as well as MSc courses. In 2019 she founded a MikroTik Academy at the University of Ruse and is currently the only certified trainer in the academy.

The scientific activities of her initially focused on topics related to the telecommunication networks but they are now widened to areas like Artificial Intelligence, Neural Networks, Machine Learning, 3d-digitalization and visualization, development of educational computer games, photography and photogrammetry and others. In the last 5 years, she has more than 45 scientific publications in various national and international conferences, as well as in renowned journals.

She was one of the key experts in the project ROBG-9 “Ancient roman cultural heritage interactive visualization environment for the cross border

area between Bulgaria and Romania” (ARCHIVE), where she was involved in the 3d-scanning and photo-shooting of more than 160 artefacts from 10 museums in Romania and Bulgaria, as well as to the digitalization activities of 16 Roman fortresses in the lower Danube area. Another project, with significant involvement from Dr. Kinaneva, is project “Forest Monitoring System for Early Fire Detection and Assessment in the Balkan-Med Area (SFEDA) where she is leading the team that is developing a computer vision algorithm for real-time processing of video information and on-board use on unmanned aerial vehicles.



Ivan Rubinić

Croatia

Ivan Rubinić, PhD, born in Rijeka on 13th August 1988, currently holds an assistant lecturer and postdoctoral researcher position at the Economics Department of the Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka.

With a formal background in political economy, and under the mentorship of Prof. Dr. Maks Tajnikar, he defended his PhD thesis in Economics at the University of Ljubljana, School of Economics and Business, in February 2020. For his dissertation on economic inequalities of the Euro Area, he was awarded the 2019 Union for Radical Political Economics Dissertation Fellowship, the prestigious award granted to one candidate globally. Upon successful completion of his studies, he became the sole recipient of the University of Ljubljana's 2020 Certificate of Recognition for the Best Study Achievements at the doctoral level.

He has more than six years of experience in lecturing political economy, economic policy, and public sector economics. He is the recipient of the 2019 Certificate of Appreciation for promotion, advancement, and improvement of the reputation of the University of Rijeka. His work has been recognized by many renowned publishers such as Palgrave Macmillan, Routledge, and Oxford University Press. His scholarly record is comprised of numerous peer-reviewed scientific publications, he has presented at more than 15 international conferences and has attended a number of high-ranking schools and mobilities. He is an editor-in-chief of the economic journal *Review of Economics and Economic Methodology*, reviewer for multiple scientific journals and member of various Committees and advisory bodies.

With a research interest focused on the topics of political economy of the European integration and economics of inequality, his academically rigorous and critical approach aims to progressively transcend the ideological oppositions to comprehensively improve the economic science. He is a passionate advocate of economic pluralism working toward the advancement of a genuine and admirable alliance of the European countries in pursuit of equality, cohesion, and solidarity.



Jiří Černý

Czech Republic

Jiří Černý, PhD, works at the University of Pardubice and at the Regional Museum in Olomouc. He specialises in print media, book culture and German written literature of the 15th and 16th centuries. Černý attained two master's degrees and in 2017 he graduated in German literature and he also studied and researched abroad. He taught and worked as an assistant professor at the universities of Olomouc, Brno, and Prague. At the Faculty of Restoration of the University of Pardubice he participated in the project NAKI II called "Blind Witnesses of Time". The main output of the project is a database dealing with the Czech blind tooling and stamping of book bindings from the Renaissance period. Černý is also currently working on a smaller project "Tassilo to go", focused on a unique girdle book from the Kremsmünster monastery and its engravings.

Jiří Černý was one of the first students at Palacký University in Olomouc that systematically studied Older German literature. While his master's thesis dealt with German texts from the 13th century, his Ph.D. thesis concerned German Reformation pamphlets from northern and northwestern Bohemia. Černý, thus, explores the time and space that tends to be missed (not only) by Germanist medieval studies. His research not only fills in the gaps in the knowledge of the culture of the Czech Lands, but it also interconnects this region with the neighbouring states. In the field of art history, Černý focuses on single-leaf prints, thus, being the only expert in the Czech Republic who systematically studies this specific type of printed image.

Černý has published numerous papers in Czech, German, and English, i.a. a study on the apologies of Mikulov anabaptists published in the series "The

Medieval Translator“ by Brepols in 2018. Furthermore, he translates from New and Old German. He is currently finishing the publication of his Ph.D. thesis. He has not only participated in several projects, but he also became an associate member of the ERC starting grant OVERMODE affiliated to the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna (ÖAW Wien).



Nils Ostermeier

Germany

Nils Ostermeier, PhD, born on 6 October 1982 in Zeven, is working as research assistant at the University of Würzburg, Department of Prehistoric Archaeology, since 2016.

In 2009, he finished the M.A. (Magister Artium) in Prehistoric Archaeology, Medieval Archaeology and Preservation of Monuments at the University of Bamberg; the topic of his thesis were Late Bronze Age hilltop settlements in the Bavarian territories north of the Danube.

Between 2009 and 2016, he worked as a freelancer for different excavation companies, museums, research institutes and State Offices for the Preservation of Monuments in South, Central and North Germany.

In 2019, he defended his PhD thesis at the University of Würzburg about the prehistoric fortified hilltop site 'Stadtberg' of Neuburg in the Bavarian Danube region. From 2013 to 2016, his studies were supported by a fellowship of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

Already working in archaeology since 1998, he participated in different international research and fieldwork projects in Germany, Spain, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Slovakia.

He is author or co-author of more than a dozen publications, the latest one being "Der Stadtberg von Neuburg an der Donau – Eine Höhensiedlung der Urnenfelderzeit, der Hallstattzeit und der Frühlatènezeit im oberbayerischen Donauraum". Würzburger Studien zur Vor- und Frühgeschichtlichen Archäologie 5".

Moreover, he is teaching seminars focusing on archaeological prospection, geophysics, excavation technology, 3d-scanning, 3d-modelling, GIS, CAD and traditional archaeological topics.



Laura Jurecska

Hungary

Laura Jurecska, PhD, is currently research fellow at the Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) Faculty of Science Department of Microbiology.

She graduated as an environmental scientist in 2010, the topic of her diploma thesis was biological treatment of coke plant effluent wastewater. In 2011 she was awarded with the Pro Scientia Gold Medal. In 2015 she defended her PhD thesis in the field of intensification of “living machine” wastewater treatment technology. She studied physico-chemical characteristics of polymer fiber based biofilm carriers and removal of organic micro-pollutants applying cyclodextrin-based filters.

In cooperation between the Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania and ELTE she participated in the examination of several special aquatic habitats in Transylvania (Lake Ursu, Lake St. Ana, Mohos peat bog lake, etc.). She was involved in the chemical and microbiological investigation of soda pans and steppe lakes (both in Hungary and in Kazakhstan). She studied well waters and contributed to in situ measurement of precipitation in the Buda Thermal Karst System.

She is currently working on a bioremediation project aiming at the removal of short chain chlorinated hydrocarbons from groundwaters. Applying the bioactive inoculum developed by their team complete trichloroethene degradation was achieved in a pilot area.

Her teaching activity is related to wastewater treatment, environmental and bioinorganic chemistry. By 2020 she published 15 papers in international peer-review journals. She has a strong interest in science communication.



Lilia Anghel

Republic of Moldova

Lilia Anghel, PhD, a researcher at the Institute of Chemistry (State University of Moldova), was born on 12th December 1986. In 2008, she was a top student of her year to graduate from the Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technology at the Moldova State University.

In 2009 she entered the Master Program at the Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technology at the Moldova State University and started her work as a junior researcher at the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (Russia), gaining experience in using nuclear spectroscopic methods to study the soft condensed matter for 4 years. In 2016 she defended her Ph.D. thesis in the field of physical chemistry with her dissertation on “Physico-chemical aspects of the process of microbiological synthesis of iron nanoparticles”.

Over the years, Ms. Anghel has gained experience in studying the protein modifications induced by various extrinsic factors and understanding the relationship between the protein structure, dynamics, and properties.

By 2020 she has published 10 papers in international peer-reviewed journals, participated on more than 15 international and national scientific conferences, and has successfully participated in 8 experiments approved by the Scientific Panel of research facilities such as IBR2 at the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (Russia), FRM II Reactor, (Germany), and most recently “SAXS beamline @Elletra/TUGraz” at Elletra-Sincrotrone (Italy) and “SAXS facility@TUGraz” at Graz University of Technology (Austria).

Currently, her work is focused on associative interactions between proteins for expanding advent insights deployable in the design of new functional foods and delivery systems for various bioactive compounds and subsequently is involved in supervising bachelor thesis and laboratory training for students.



Bojan Baća

Montenegro

Bojan Baća, PhD, is a Re:constitution Research Fellow at the Max Weber Institute of Sociology, Heidelberg University. As of September 2021, he will be a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow at the Department of Sociology and Work Science, University of Gothenburg. He was previously an Ernst Mach Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Southeast European Studies, University of Graz; a Visegrad Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute of Sociological Studies, Charles University; a UEFISCDI Award Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study, New Europe College; and a Junior Research Fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies of Southeastern Europe, University of Rijeka.

He received his PhD in Sociology from York University, to which he still remains affiliated as an External Research Associate in the Global Digital Citizenship Lab. In addition, he received his BSc in Political Science from University of Montenegro and his MA in Sociology and Social Anthropology from Central European University. In 2019, the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts recognized him as the best young Montenegrin scholar in the areas of social sciences and humanities.

His scholarly work on social movements, contentious politics, activist citizenship, civil society, and postsocialist transformation was published in academic journals such as *Antipode* and *Europe-Asia Studies*, as well as in the edited volumes *Resistances: Between Theories and the Field*, *Activist Citizenship in Southeast Europe*, *Changing Youth Values in Southeast Europe: Beyond Ethnicity*, *The Democratic Potential of Emerging Social Movements in Southeastern Europe*, *A New Eastern Question? Great Powers and the Post-Yugoslav States*

(forthcoming), and *When Students Protest, Vol. 2: Universities in the Global South* (forthcoming).

He also writes op-ed pieces and delivers political commentary for media in the post-Yugoslav region, as well as provides expertise to local and international non-governmental organizations.



Romulus-Dumitru Costache

Romania

Romulus-Dumitru Costache, PhD, scientific researcher at the National Institute of Hydrology and Water Management of Romania, was born in Bucharest on 5th December 1989.

He has a bachelor degree in Meteorology and Hydrology obtained in 2011 at the Faculty of Geography, University of Bucharest. Then, he graduated the master program Climatology and Hydrology, at the same Faculty, in 2013 with a master's thesis entitled "Manifestation potential of hydrological risk phenomena, floods and flooding, across the Subcarpathian sector of Buzău river basin". In 2016 he defended his PhD thesis in the field of Geography at the University of Bucharest. Since June 2018 he is a postdoctoral researcher at the Research Institute of the University of Bucharest, Romania.

He is specialized in assessing the hazard to flash-floods and floods through an integrated application of GIS techniques and the algorithms specific to Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence.

So far, he managed to publish a number of 28 ISI papers (Web of Science), from which 16 are in journals included in the first quartile (Q1) of Clarivate Analytics Ranking according to their impact factor and another 6 in journals included in the second quartile (Q2). In 3 of these papers Costache Romulus-Dumitru is the only author, in another 13 he is the first author, while in another 12 he is co-author. Among the journals in which the articles were published, is Journal of Hydrology (I.F. = 4.405), Science of The Total Environment (I.F. = 6.551), CATENA (I.F. = 3.851), Journal of Environmental Management (I.F. = 5.647),

Water Resources Management (I.F. = 2.924) which are included on Elsevier and Springer platforms.

Costache Romulus-Dumitru was invited to be part of the Topic Editorial Board of Geosciences journal (MDPI—CiteScore Scopus: 2.1) and Editorial Board of the Journal of Mining and Earth Sciences published by Hanoi University of Mining and Geology, Vietnam.



Teodora Jovanović

Serbia

Teodora Jovanović, MA, research assistant at the Institute of Ethnography of Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, was born in Belgrade on 22nd May 1993.

In 2017 she defended her master thesis at the Department of Ethnology and Anthropology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade. The same year, she enrolled in her PhD studies at the same department, focusing on anthropology of forced migration. For her doctoral thesis, she is conducting an ethnographic fieldwork in reception centers for asylum seekers in Serbia.

In 2016, she began to get acquainted with the issue of forced migration during her practical work in “Refugee Aid Miksalište” humanitarian center in Belgrade. In 2017/2018, she was involved in “Refugees in Towns”, project of Feinstein International Center at Tufts University, Boston as a local case study researcher. She is involved in non-governmental organization “Re Generation” from Belgrade as a coordinator for the research in the area of drug policy and harm reduction.

Currently, she collaborates with international migration and border regime scholars on two scientific projects: “The European Irregularized Migration Regime at the Periphery of the EU: from Ethnography to Keywords,” led by the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research (Croatia), and “The Western Balkans—A ‘Double Transit’ Room”, led by Viadrina Center B/ORDERS IN MOTION (Germany).

By September 2020, she published three scientific papers in international peer-review journals, one report, one student paper, two chronicles, and one book review. Her work was presented at one international scientific conference, two international summer schools, and one regional student conference. Also, she was an organizing committee member for one international conference. She speaks English (B2), Farsi (A2), and German (A1).



Ivana Kozelová

Slovak Republic

Mgr. Ivana Kozelová, PhD, works as a junior research scientist (postdoc) at the Institute of Landscape Ecology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, specializing in remote sensing, socio-economic factors and ecosystem services.

She is currently working on a project called “DREAM SK-AT: Danube River Research and Management in Slovakia and Austria”. She is an active member of the Slovak Ecological Society (SEKOS) and the National Committee of Future Earth. Additionally, she participated in projects such as a grant of Slovak Research and Development Agency called “New possibilities of use of drainage canal systems with taking into account the protection and use of a landscape” (years 2016–2019), or grants of Slovak Environmental Agency and Ministry of Environment of Slovak republic called “Regional Territorial Systems of Ecological Stability—districts Bratislava, Trnava, Malacky, Pezinok and Gelnica” (year 2019) and “Methodology of Local Territorial Systems of Ecological Stability” (year 2020).

She has been working for the Institute of Landscape Ecology since September 2016. During her PhD study she focused on remote sensing and socio-economic factors causing land use changes. She received her PhD in August 2016 and her dissertation was “The Development of the Secondary Structure of the City of Nitra in the Context of Socio-economic Landscape Changes”.

In addition, Ms Kozelová has experience with using ILWIS software used for Spatial Multicriteria Analysis for Environmental Decision-Making. She has also experience with organizing international conferences like Global megatrends and Landscape—REGIORESOURCES 21-2018 (17.–19. April 2018)

where she was a leader of the organization team. She was also a member of organization teams of OpenNESS International Conference (20.–23. March 2017) and 18th International Symposium Smolenice (23.–27. April 2019). She is also actively participating on popularization activities like GreenWeek or European Researchers' Night.



Simon Malmenvall

Slovenia

Simon Malmenvall (born in 1991), PhD, graduated in history and Russian studies (2012) and obtained a master degree in history (2014) at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts; at the Faculty of Theology of the same university he defended his doctoral thesis (2018) on the Christian historical consciousness of the East Slavs during the middle ages. The University of Ljubljana awarded him (2018) the prestigious Solemn Charter for Young University Teachers and University Associates.

Malmenvall worked as a junior research fellow (2016–2018) at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Theology. He works (2018–) as the assistant professor (docent) of philosophy, religious studies and applied ethics, head of research and library at the Catholic Institute, Faculty of Law Business Studies. He is also assistant professor (docent) (2019–) of religious studies and religious anthropology at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Theology. He is the head (2019–2021) of the postdoctoral research project “Ruler Saints (Martyrs) on the Periphery of Medieval Europe: Kievan Rus’, Norway, Dioclea” financed by the Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS).

Malmenvall published over one hundred academic and popular scientific works and translations. His main research interest covers the history and theological thought of the East Christendom and Catholic-Orthodox relations. He is the author of the scientific monograph *Culture of Kievan Rus’ and Christian Historical Consciousness* (2019); he was one of the contributors preparing the first Slovenian edition (2015) of the main East Slavic medieval chronicle, *Tale of Bygone Years*, and the edition (2019) of other representative East Slavic medieval texts; he translated into Slovenian language (2019–2020) the

monumental work *Ways of Russian Theology* (1937) by the Russian theologian and historian Georges Florovsky.

Malmenvall actively speaks Slovene, Russian, English, Italian, and Serbian language, he is a passive speaker of German, Ukrainian, Latin, and Church Slavic (the last two being historical languages).



Oleksii Laguta

Ukraine

Oleksii Laguta PhD, born on 30th September 1989, currently works as a postdoctoral researcher at the Central European Institute of Technology (CEITEC) in Brno, Czech Republic.

He obtained PhD degree in Lasers, Molecules and Atmospheric Radiation from the University of Lille (France) in 2016. After that he spent 18 months as a postdoctoral researcher at Stuttgart University (Germany) working on the development of the rapid scan electron spin resonance spectroscopy. In 2019, he moved to Brno to continue the topic, and since 2020 he's been working on the application of this technique to the studies of electron spin dynamics at terahertz frequencies under his own project supported by the European social fund.

His specific research interests include

- Magnetic resonance at low and high frequencies
- Optical spectroscopy
- Magneto-optical effects and spectroscopy
- Physical properties of nanoscale materials
- Structure and properties of solids and glasses
- Dynamic nuclear polarization—mechanisms and polarizing agents.

O. Laguta is a (co-)author of more than 10 papers published in peer-reviewed international journals. He took part in organizing the international school on electron spin resonance spectroscopy which had brought over 100 students from all over the world for one week to Brno. He has been involved in teaching basic and advanced practical courses in thermodynamics, electrochemistry, kinetics, statistics and spectroscopy and is currently supervising Master and

PhD students in (HF)EPR spectroscopy and also participates in numerous science popularisation events organized by CEITEC.

