

AUTHORS' SHORT BIOGRAPHIES / DATE DESPRE AUTORI

BLASEN, Philippe Henri, born in 1987, Luxembourg, has been a researcher with the A. D. Xenopol Institute of History in Iasi, Romania, for the past three years, as well as of the Centre de Documentation sur les Migrations humaines, Dudelange, Luxembourg, since 2006. Since 2009, Blasen has been studying the status of ethnic and religious minorities in Transylvania and Bukovina in 19th-century Austria-Hungary and 20th-century Romania. In 2020, he defended his dissertation regarding the labour rights of ethnic minorities in Romania during the regime of King Carol II (1938-1940). His tutor was Prof. Sorin Mitu from Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj, Romania. Blasen's research focuses on the relations between Romanians and Ruthenians, as well as between the Orthodox and the Catholic Church in late 18th and early 19th-century Austrian Bukovina. Blasen is a member of the PLURAL association.

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Budapest. For a number of years, he has been working on issues related to Bessarabia's symbolic geography, the competing Russian and Romanian visions of this contested region in the second half of the 19th and early 20th century, as well as on broader issues of Russian and Romanian intellectual history. During the academic year 2006-2007 he was a Fellow at the New Europe College in Bucharest. From September 2008, he was a Lecturer at the Department of History and Geography of the "Ion Creangă" State Pedagogical University. Between September 2015 and January 2016 Dr. Cusco was a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the Department of History, University of Maryland (College Park). From April 2021, he is a Fellow at the Imre Kertesz Kolleg (Jena). Dr. Cusco's first major publication is a book on the history of Bessarabia as a borderland of the Russian Empire (*Bessarabia as a Part of the Russian Empire, 1812-1917*), co-authored with Victor Taki and published at the *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie* Press (Moscow) in 2012. His second book – *A Contested Borderland: Competing Russian and Romanian Visions of Bessarabia in the Late 19th and Early 20th Century* – was published at the CEU Press in October 2017.

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