Rural History 2023, 6th biennial conference of the **European Rural History Organization** (EURHO), **Cluj-Napoca, Romania,** **11 to 14 September 2023**

Panel: Margins of Rurality: The Changing Meanings of the Rural Between Nature and Culture, the Global and the Local

Organized by Dietlind Hüchtker, University of Viennaand Pavla Šimková,, Ludwig Maximilian University Munich

What does rurality mean? What are the imaginations of the rural? The word may evoke a village, agricultural work with combine harvesters, grazing animals, or farm buildings. These more or less romantic pictures can then be replaced by other images of the rural: the smell of dung, endless fields of corn or rice, laying batteries, social control, poverty and migration, agrarian politics and peasants’ protest.

The images that the term “rurality” evokes differ depending on topics and perspectives. The starting point of the panel is the hypothesis that not only the ways in which rurality is formed have changed over time and space, but also rural itself. Rurality is not a given, existing on its own: it is a practice. To discuss the implications of this concept we want to analyze rurality from its margins: rural migrants coming to a city, the rural and the climate crisis, environmental politics and peasants’ economies, nature conservation, landscape and tourism, development aids, trade and global commodity chains, industrialization. We want to search for rurality between urbanity and nature, romanticism and economy, agriculture and trade, environment and wilderness, tourism, and landscape.

The presentations will discuss the concept of rurality, its margins and/or empirical examples from different places and epochs.

Contributions:

Kata Tóth, University of Vienna: “... usque ad vertices alpium.” Marking Land Ownership in the Southern and Eastern Carpathians (15th-17th Centuries)

Iurii Zazuliak, Ukrainian Catholic University, L’viv: State-Building and Peasant Uprising in Poland-Lithuania during the Late 18th Century. A View from the Ukrainian Perspective

Sofia Carlfjord, Swedish University of Agriculture, Uppsala: Rural Modernization Through Local Politics 1863-1915

Dietlind Hüchtker, University of Vienna: Protest, Consumption, and Lifestyle: The Borders of Rurality in Social Studies in Socialism (The People’s Republic of Poland)

Anna Varga, University of Pécs: History of the Role of Pasture and Pastoral Activities in Childhood and their Relation to Environmental Education

Pavla Šimková, Ludwig Maximilian University Munich: Chair and Discussant