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Academia Română

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DOMENIUL MAJOR DE INTERVENȚIE 1.5 *Programe doctorale și postdoctorale în sprijinul cercetării*
Titlul proiectului: *Științele socio-umaniste în contextul evoluției globalizate – dezvoltarea și implementarea programului de studii și cercetare postdoctorale*. Contract: POSDRU 89/1.5/S/61104

Partener 2

Academia Română
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București

Tema 2

Christianity and Islam

From the very beginning of the Arabian conquest, in territories from Asia, North Africa and Iberia, the contacts between Christianity and the Islam were a permanent presence in the world history. Many times these contact were conceived like a collision which could not be avoid. The last decades gave a lot of nuances to this debate, and the most important fact was the idea that the Christian world and the Islam couldn't live a continuous war, and, besides the conflicts, was also a lot of peaceful contacts, commercial exchanges and, the most important of all, cultural influences.

This theme, as a part of *Nicolae Iorga* Institute's post doctoral program, aims to encourage the researches focused on the very complex problems, concerning the two civilization areas, since the 7th century to our days. Topics are waited from different fields of research. It is the question of those traditional, such as: Arabian conquest, crusades (in classical age or in the late period), and the relations between Byzantine Empire and Orthodoxy with Muslim world. Also a new approach of the commercial exchanges and the merchants experience, related with the travel accounts, are important, and, equally, the *image of the other*, understood as a connection between the construction of the identity and the image of the stranger.

The projects about modern and contemporary studies are, also, waited with interest, because the medieval issues are important to understand a large area of civilization, from Pacific Ocean and Africa, to the Balkans territories, from our days. It is not only a confrontation between tow universal religions – originated, equally, from the Jewish Bible – but also it is the collision between two cultures, or between West and East.

The problem is how much, in the modern and contemporary history, the relation is one of conflict, and how it was possible an understanding. The model of the Ottoman Empire and after that the example of modern Turkey is classical. Besides that, we have to deal with many other issues of the colonial world, of the renewal of Islam fundamentalism, and terrorism, with important petroleum resources in Persian Gulf and economic conflicts, with a lot of regional conflicts from Palestine, to Iran and Iraq, etc.

Considering all these possible approaches, *Nicolae Iorga* Institute of History will encourage the projects that, by sources, methods and topics, can give a major contribution to the development of the knowledge in this field.