

**APPLICATION FOR AN ESTONIAN-BULGARIAN
JOINT RESEARCH PROJECT**

UNDER THE AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE ESTONIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND
THE BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
2022-2023

COVERSHEET

Important. This coversheet should not be detached from the application form. Applicants are required to complete this coversheet and the following parts of the form. Please type or write CLEARLY. Any additional material submitted with this application will be disregarded.

Project Title (maximum of 10 words):

Religious Notions, Traditional Beliefs and the Opposition Nature – Culture.
(New Realities, Theoretical Approaches and Interpretations)

ESTONIAN COOPERATING INSTITUTION AND PROJECT LEADER (name, full address):

Mare Kõiva
Department of Folkloristics, Estonian Literary Museum
Vanemuise Str 42,
51003 Tartu, Estonia
www.kirmus.ee: www.folklore.ee
Tel No: Tel No: +372377735; +372-56218119
E-mail: mare@folklore.ee

BULGARIAN COOPERATING INSTITUTION AND PROJECT LEADER (name, full address):

Ekaterina Anastasova
Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum, Leader:
6 a, Acad. G. Bonchev Str.,
1113, SOFIA
BULGARIA

Tel No: +35987717565
E-mail: ekaterina_anastasova@yahoo.com

PART I PROJECT DETAILS

1. Give a brief account of the project proposal (maximum of 50 words):

The aim of the project is to analyze religious beliefs and traditional notions in their relationship with contemporary global challenges, their mutual influence and the consequences of this symbiosis. The project will articulate and explore the most popular religious and traditional beliefs and ideas, their promoters ("actors"), their place and influence on vital aspects of individual and social life.

2. Summarise the length and nature of previous contact between the two groups:

The project develops and deepens the already existing research cooperation between Bulgarian and Estonian folklorists and ethnologists.

During previous periods The project's seminars (held in Bulgaria or Estonia) are regular.

- Regular joint seminars (1-2 per year);
- Field trips
- Lectures at the doctoral school
- Both sides participate at the academic conferences in Estonia and Bulgaria,
- Also the communication based on the joint projects within the Academic Exchange Programme – Bulgarian Academy with Estonia (Estonian Literary Museum), Latvia (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, University of Latvia) and Lithuania (Lithuanian Institute of History), and the joint international conference series "Balkan and Baltic states in United Europe - History, Religion, and Culture": held four times already (Sofia - 2 times, Vilnius and Riga), 2022 will take place in Estonia.
- The results of the project (reports, articles, reviews, etc.) are published in authoritative national and international peer-reviewed publications, as well as in the international journal "The Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies", created and published within the framework of international Academic Exchange Programme – indexed in SCOPUS)

3. Outline the scientific aims of the joint project; include details of how the project objectives are to be met and the timescales involved:

The problem of the interactions between traditional ideas and beliefs, in the context of the modern perception of the opposition nature / culture, is especially relevant, It concerns both the conservation of nature and its diversity, on the one hand, and the challenges that threaten the human population and culture, on the other. These issues are becoming particularly important

against the background of climate change, declining species diversity, epidemic and pandemic phenomena, etc., facing new challenges for humanity. This issue has become increasingly relevant in recent years. Numerous scientific publications and forums in the academic world are dedicated to her

In Bulgaria and Estonia, religious ideas and traditional beliefs largely determine the national mentality and its manifestations in response to contemporary challenges. They influence the attitude towards traditional / academic medicine. Based on "God's help" and "the power of herbs", etc., religious and traditional beliefs (the most striking examples are the so-called anti-vaccines and the failure of vaccination campaigns in the EU); to natural objects and characters facing the challenges of industrial and post-industrial culture, etc. They are often interpreted through the prism of traditional folklore (eg the belief in the migration of souls to trees - Estonia, under pressure from local communities determining the highways), religious concepts such as sin, punishment, apocalypse, etc.

The aim of the project is to analyze religious beliefs and traditional notions in their relationship with contemporary global challenges, their mutual influence and the consequences of this symbiosis. The project will articulate and explore the most popular religious and traditional beliefs and ideas, their promoters ("actors"), their place and influence on vital aspects of individual and social life.

The research will be based on the existing data, reflecting the religious and traditional notions, characteristic for the worldview of the modern Bulgarians and Estonians, highlighting specific, typological and universal features and mechanisms.

The pillars and dynamics of the development of religious and traditional beliefs, accepting modern challenges (which often turn them into "conspiracy theories" and the subsequent reactions) and the dialogue between them will be the subject of research.

The project, dedicated to one of the most current topics in the modern humanities and social sciences, will answer a number of questions related to the reactions of complex societies to modern realities. It will contribute to the development of the theory and methodology for understanding the modern post-industrial mentality not only in Bulgaria and Estonia, but also to modern science in general.

Plan for the 2022

The project is based on field research conducted by the team, work with archival data (and the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore - BAS and the Estonian Literary Museum have rich archival funds on the project) and published materials on the project:

- virtual meetings 3 times, plus preparation of the special questionnaire
- field research in both countries;

- archiving, systematization is analysis of field materials;
- work in libraries and archives in both countries;
- consultations with colleagues;
- preparation of publications;
- presentation of the results at national and international forums.

In the first year will be implemented:

- fieldwork of the Bulgarian team in Estonia (3 people for 10 days - 30 days) - work in the library and archives of the Estonian Literary Museum, field research;
- fieldwork of the Estonian team in Bulgaria (3 people for 10 days - 30 days) .- work in the libraries and archives of IEFEM - BAS (AIF and AEM), field research;
- processing, systematization and archiving of field materials;
- holding of the international conference "Balkan and Baltic States in UE - History, Religion, and Culture, in Estonia

Preliminary research plan for the second year

- fieldwork of the Bulgarian team to Estonia (3 people, 10 days);
- fieldwork of the Estonian team in Bulgaria (3 people, 10 days)
- verification studies and formulated conclusions will be conducted during the business trips. In Bulgaria, Sofia - IEFEM, a final workshop on the project will be held.
- publications in national and international indexed editions;
- special issue of The Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies (Volume 6, 2023

4. Explain the benefit to both sides from this cooperation

It will contribute to the development of the theory and methodology for understanding the modern post-industrial mentality not only in Bulgaria and Estonia, but also to modern science in general.

The cooperation between the scientists from Bulgaria and Estonia is related to joint publications and conducting scientific discussions at international forums of various formats (seminars, workshops, conferences), which in comparative terms presented a rich empirical material on which scientific analyzes based. As a result, analyzes and research presented the current situation in both countries (both in the EU and the global world). In this way, new information

was and will entered the scientific community, as well as methodological and theoretical guidelines based on the interaction traditional / modern through the prism of current global challenges. Research and publications on the project, presented at important national and international forums, published in referenced and indexed scientific journals will contribute to the promotion of Bulgarian and Estonian science, on the one hand, and will help to understand the complex processes taking place in the modern world.

PART II ESTONIAN PROJECT LEADER'S PERSONAL DATA

1. Name: KÕIVA , MARE leading researcher, head of the department
(family name) (first name) (title)
2. Date of birth: 26.02.1954
3. Place of birth: Kohtla- Järve, Estonia
4. Present appointment (give the starting date, title and institution):
Leading reasercher, head of the department of folkloristics, Estonian Literary Museum,
Head of the Centre of Competence in Estonian Studies (TK 145)
5. Positions held in last five years:
Leading reasercher, head of the department of folkloristics, Estonoian Literary Museum,
Head of the Centre of Competence in Estonian Studies
6. Academic qualifications (please state field and type of degree(s), year of obtaining and the issuing institution):
1990 Folklore studies, PhD.: Estonskie zagovory. Klassifikatsia i zhanrovye osobennosti
(Estonian Charms. Classification and genre specific features (sup. Ülo Tedre), Institute of the
Estonian Language, High Attestation Committy of the USSR.
7. Title and reference of up to six key publications relevant to this project (articles in peer-reviewed journals and/or monographs) during last five years:

Kõiva, Mare. (2021). Intangible Culture, Community Art, and Data Sets. *Intangible Cultural Heritage. Current Problems: "Current Problems in the Study of Intangible Cultural Heritage and the Implementation of Convention 2003. Contribution of the Scientists from BAS", dedicated to the 150th anniversary of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences Sofia, 17–18 October 2019*. Ed. Mila Santova, Valentina Ganeva-Raycheva, Iva Stanoeva, Miglena Ivanova, Milena Lyubenova, Stela Nenova, Mirena Staneva, Daniel Fokas. Sofia: Prof. Marin Drinov Publishing House of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 96–108.

Kõiva, Mare; Kuperjanov, Andres; Vesik, Liisa (2018). Sacred Places - Destinations of Travel and Pilgrimage in Bulgara. In: Anastasova, Ekaterina; Toncheva, Svetoslava. (Ed.). *Balkan And Baltic States In United Europe: History, Religion, And Culture III* (121–134). Sofia. (Balkan And Baltic States In United Europe: History, Religion, And Culture; 2).

Kõiva, Mare; Anastasova, Ekaterina (eds.) (2017). *Balkan and Balticum. Current Studies in the Postsocialist Space*. ELM Scholarly Press. DOI: [10.7592/Sator.2017.18](https://doi.org/10.7592/Sator.2017.18).

Kõiva, Mare (2018). *Inventing Sacred Places Ii: Wooden Sculptures And Placemaking Of Contemporary Landscape*. *Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies*, 1 (1), 61–76. DOI: [10.7592/YBB-S1.05](https://doi.org/10.7592/YBB-S1.05).

Kõiva, Mare (2016). *Поклонничеството в секуларизираното общество – възраждане и особености*. *Български фолклор*, XLII (1), 64–77.

Kõiva, Mare (2009). *Time and Space in Estonian and Bulgarian Incantations*. In: Anastasova, Ekaterina; Kõiva, Mare (Ed.). *BALKAN AND BALTIC STATES IN UNITED EUROPE: HISTORY, RELIGIONS, AND CULTURES* (14–23). . Sofia, Tartu: Bulgarian Academy of Science.

PART III
BULGARIAN PROJECT LEADER'S PERSONAL DATA

1. Name: Anastasova Ekaterina, PhD
(family name) (first name) (title)
2. Date of birth: 1962, April 19, 3. Place of birth: Ukraine
8. Present appointment (give the starting date, title, and institution):
Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (from 1989).
9. Positions held in last five years:
Associate professor, Head of the Department of Comparative Folklore Studies, IEFSEM - BAS
10. Academic qualifications (please state field and type of degree(s), year of obtaining and the issuing institution):
PhD, 1996, Institute of Folklore Studies, High Attestation Committy of the Republic of Bulgaria
Senior Researcher; Associate professor, 2002, Institute of Folklore Studies, High Attestation Committy of the Republic of Bulgaria
11. Title and reference of up to six key publications relevant to this project (articles in peer-reviewed journals and/or monographs) during last five years:
- 2018 Anastasova, E. Circular Mobility and Neo-Paganism (Estonian Case). The Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies, 1, 1, ELM Scholarly Press, 2018, ISSN:2613-7844 (printed); 2613-7852 (pdf), DOI:<http://doi.org/10.7592/YBBS1.04>, 45-60.
- 2019 Anastasova, E., M. Koiva, Z. Shaknis (Eds.). Balkan and Baltic States in EU – History, Religion, and Culture. – The Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies, Vol.1. DOI:<http://doi.org/10.7592/YBBS1>
- 2019 Anastasova, E., M. Koiva, Z. Shaknis (Eds.). Balkan and Baltic States in EU – History, Religion, and Culture. – The Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies, Vol.2. DOI:<http://doi.org/10.7592/YBBS2>
- 2019 Anastasova, E./Анастасова, Е. Estonian Spells. Healing Words: Publication Experience. Медицинская антропология и биоэтика/Medical Anthropology and Bioethics, 18, 2, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology RAS, 2019, ISSN:2224-9680, DOI:<https://doi.org/10.33876/2224-9680/2019-2-18/04>
- 2020 Anastasova, E. L. Gergova, V. Voskresenski, Y. Gergova (eds.). Transborder Commemoration Routes and Rituals Sofia: Paradigma, 2019, 262 pp.. The Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies, 3, 1, ELM Scholarly Press, 2020, ISSN:2613-7844 (printed); 2613-7852 (pdf), DOI:<https://doi.org/10.7592/YBBS3.15>, 252-254.
- 2021 Anastasova, E. Old Believers in the national context of Balkans and the Baltic States. – Studia Religiosa Rossica, 2021, N 2, 12-25, https://srr.rsuh.ru/jour/article/view/112?locale=en_US <https://doi.org/10.28995/2658-4158-2021-2-12-25>

PART IV OTHER PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

Give names, titles and job status of other project participants (both in Estonia and Bulgaria):

Estonian Team

Senior research fellow, PhD Piret Voolaid
Senior research fellow, PhD Reet Hiimäe
Researcher, MPhil Andres Kuperjanov
Researcher, PhD Nikolay Kuznetsov
Researcher, PhD student Katre Kikas

Bulgarian Team

Assoc. prof. Ekaterina Anastasova, PhD – coordinator;
Assoc. prof. Evgenia Troeva-Grigorova, PhD
Assoc. prof. Stanoy Stanoev, PhD
Assist. prof. Iva Stanoeva, PhD
Assist. prof. Milena Lubenova, PhD
Assist. prof. Svetoslava Toncheva, PhD

PART V OUTPUTS

Please state the policy agreed between the two groups concerning publication of results and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).

The research process will conform to all aspects of research ethics. Folkloric material will be collected and research published in accordance with the Estonian and international codes of ethics (<http://www.afsnet.org/?page=HumanSubjects&hhSearchTerms=ethics+and+code>). Data collection will not harm the interests of the participants, who will be informed of the aims of the study. The informants' interests (including confidentiality and anonymity) are protected according to the laws, the material will only be published with informants' consent. Confidentiality and anonymity of delicate personal data is guaranteed, and the material will only be publicly accessible with consent from the informant.

The cooperation between the scientists from Bulgaria and Estonia is related to joint publications and conducting scientific discussions at international forums of various formats (seminars, workshops, conferences), which in comparative terms will present a rich empirical material on which scientific analyzes will be based. As a result, analyzes and research will be presented on the current situation in both countries (both in the EU and the global world). In this way, new information will enter the scientific community, as well as methodological and theoretical guidelines based on the interaction traditional / modern through the prism of current global challenges. Research and publications on the project, presented at important national and international forums, published in referenced and indexed scientific journals will contribute to the promotion of Bulgarian and Estonian science, on the one hand, and will help to understand the complex processes taking place in the modern world. Another Publications in national and international indexed editions;

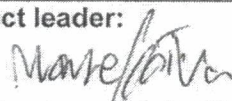

- special issue of The Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies (Volume 6, 2023)



**PART VI
EXPECTED VISITS UNDER THE PROJECT**

Please give details of the visits scheduled from both sides according to the guidelines:

Part VI.		From Estonia to Bulgaria	From Bulgaria to Estonia
Year 1	Number of days Number of visits	30	30
Year 2	Number of days Number of visits	30	30

**PART VII
SIGNATURES (please add date of signing)**

Estonian project leader: Mare Kõiva	
Head of Estonian research institution: Tõnis Lukas	
Bulgarian project leader: Ekaterina Anasrtasova	
Head of Bulgarian research institution: Vladimir Penchev	

Applicants are asked to **submit the completed form** by 31 October 2021 by e-mail: ylle.raud@akadeemia.ee

NB! Your Bulgarian partner has to submit the application to the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences by the deadline set by the BAS and using the application form required by the BAS. For an application form required and further information, the Bulgarian partner is welcome to contact **Mr Dimitar Denev**, e-mail: denev@cu.bas.bg phone: (+359 2) 9795236.

Please address any inquiries you might have to Ms. Ülle Raud (tel. +372 6451925, e-mail: ylle.raud@akadeemia.ee)