In the winter of 1918 as the first global conflict with its hitherto unmatched and unimaginable death toll and destruction was over, the period of stability did not return immediately to the Central and Eastern Europe. The aftermath of World War I lasted much longer than in Western countries.

Italian governments and power elites fostered ambitions to become a great power. They considered as Italy’s immediate and vital sphere of influence the Balkan region and Central Europe, particularly the territories of the former Kingdom of Hungary. Italy was a member of the Allied Commission in Hungary; it had annexed several former Habsburg territories, maintained a military mission in Czechoslovakia and pursued an active policy towards successor states of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. Although the Italian ambitions interfered primarily with the regional interests of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (the later Kingdom of Yugoslavia), they also clashed with the geopolitical concepts and plans of France and the USA. However, this new period of instability came to an end in the early 1920s.
The Italian ambitions weren’t fulfilled and the expression “mutilated victory” was born.

**The manuscripts should focus on the following topics:**

- Political, diplomatic and military history of the transition period
- The economic transformation
- The cultural diplomacy
- The demilitarization of society
- Migration, transportation, accommodation of repatriates and refugees
- Infrastructural projects in New Europe
- The situation at the local level
- The individual stories

Both case studies and comparative analyses are welcome.