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The fallen for the *Cause of Fiume*. The Austro-Hungarian Background of Local Fascist Italy Martyrs

In 1934, in the former Hungarian port-city of Fiume, at that time part of fascist Italy, a new catholic church was inaugurated. The function of the Votive Temple of Saint Romuald and All Saints, constructed on a small hill towering the city, was to mark the landscape, symbolizing the allegedly unquestioned and eternal Italian character of the recently annexed city. The essential element of the religious building was an ossuary, constructed beneath the temple a few years before, guarding the remains of almost 500 deceased Italian soldiers, among whom 40 individuals fallen for the *Cause of Fiume*.

Focusing on biographies and family networks of locals buried or whose names are mentioned in the crypt, the aim of this paper is to point out the, unsurprisingly, composite national and ethnic background and social networks of these figures. Elevated and venerated as simultaneously martyrs of the fascist regime and the Italianity of the city, the trajectory of these individuals and their families testifies rather the history of migration to and development of Fiume as an Austro-Hungarian port-city. Additionally, the exclusion or the late recognition of other deceased as national meritorious, allows us to grasp the social and economic relevance of certain families in the local context. Behind the pompous national and fascist façade, traces of unintended Austro-Hungarian heritage might be unraveled.

From Corfu to Vienna: The Ionian Islands, Habsburg Influence, and the Mediterranean Intellectual Sphere

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The Ionian Islands are a fascinating case study of the early nineteenth-century complexities. The islands were positioned at the intersection of empires, cultures, and shifting political boundaries and were historically linked to the Venetian Republic until the Treaty of Campo Formio (1797). They also maintained deep connections to Ottoman Greece through the linguistic and religious affiliations of their inhabitants with the Rum Millet. While existing historiography has explored the islands' ties to Venice and the Ottoman world, their connections to the Habsburg Empire remain understudied, leaving fertile ground for further investigation.

This paper examines these Habsburg connections, focusing on the profound mobility and destabilization experienced in Southern Europe during the Age of Revolutions. It centers on two scholars from Corfu, Maria Petrettini and Isabella Teotochi Albrizzi, and their efforts to fashion themselves as *salonnières* of the former Venetian Republic. Against the backdrop of Venice's oscillating status—shifting between the Habsburg Empire, Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy, and Austrian rule once more—their lives and intellectual contributions illuminate how individuals navigated the disorienting and fluid geopolitical landscape of the time.

Through a biographical lens, the paper reconstructs the experiences of Petrettini and Albrizzi, demonstrating how their work and self-fashioning transcended conventional national and territorial boundaries. This microhistorical approach, though grounded in specific lives, reveals broader insights into alternative periodizations and spatial configurations. Its analysis contributes to our understanding of intellectual and cultural networks in the Mediterranean during a transformative era and illustrates the Mediterranean ties of the Habsburg Empire.

Borderland war without brutalization. War veterans in the conflict for Burgenland in 1921

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This paper investigates the borderland conflict of Burgenland in 1921. During the last decade, there has been a growing academic interest towards the post-1918 borderland conflicts of East- and Central Europe. These studies argue that these wars played a pivotal role in the brutalization of WWI veterans and thus in the radicalization of interwar politics in the region. Burgenland however seems to challenge this assumption, since unlike Carinthia, Silesia or the Italian Littoral, this region never became the high castle of either the Hungarian or the Austrian right-wing nationalist movements. Focusing on the war veterans of the Burgenland conflict, this paper investigates why this region followed a different path than the other above-mentioned borderlands. Which factors did prevent the brutalization of the war veterans in this conflict?

The paper intends to answer these questions by focusing on three main themes. First, it briefly presents the pre-history of the conflict, presenting how Burgenland remained relatively unimportant in the eyes of both Austrian and Hungarian political elites till the outbreak of the conflict. Second, it focuses on the war veterans themselves and examines their social background and the various methods used to mobilize them. The last part of the paper explores the political agenda of the participating forces. It discusses both their foreign political aims as well as their domestic political plans. The last section summarizes the results and points out the most important similarities and differences between the borderland war in Burgenland and in other East-Central European regions. Using this example helps to paint a more nuanced picture of the radicalization process of war veterans in East Central Europe and allows us to understand the key factors which led to the brutalization of certain groups of war veterans.