Institut für Kulturanalyse der Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt / Celovec) and ZRC SAZU / Institute of Slovenian Ethnology, Ljubljana

are organizing the

Symposium

# IN-BETWEEN: INDIFFERENT – HYBRID – POLYPHON? REFLECTING ON SITUATED EVERYDAY PRACTICES IN THE LONG 19TH CENTURY

Program and Abstracts edited by Jurij Fikfak and Klaus Schönberger

April 3–4, 2025

Gosposka ulica 13, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenija

## PROGRAM

#### 3.4.2025

12.45	Arriving and Welcome Saša Babič (Head of Institute of Slovenian Ethnology)
13.00	Jurij Fikfak / Klaus Schönberger Transition, Transformation, Emancipation,, In-Between
13.30	Janine Schemmer / Klaus Schönberger Doing In-Between in everyday practices – Approaches, concepts, and fields of application
14.00	Gábor Egry Contact personalities: embedding imperial business during times of economic nationalism
14.45	Break
15.00	Reinhard Johler Hybrid or In-Between: How to explain diversity in Istria and beyond (e.g. in the Alps-Adriatic Region)
15.45	Catherine Horel Variations of discourses and practices of irredentism in Trieste and Fium
16.30	Tullia Catalan Religious Communities in Trieste in the late 19th and early 20th Century. Spaces and Practices of Everyday Life
17.15	Break
17.30	Pieter Judson (online) Exploring the "In-between" in an Imperial State: Identification, Scale, Politics

19.00 Dinner

#### 4.4.2025

#### 9.00 Heidrun Zettelbauer

Reading Self-narratives of German-Nationalist Activists in the Habsburg Monarchy as Performances of Belonging. Between *Eigen-Sinn* and Structural Constraints

#### 9.45 Tamara Scheer

Everyday life in Roman Catholic Parishes: In-between Practices in the linguistically diverse Habsburg Austrian Alpine and Adriatic Region

- 10.30 Break
- 10.45 Rok Stergar

The people, the nationalists, and the state: Identifications between individual agency and the organizational grounding of nationalisms

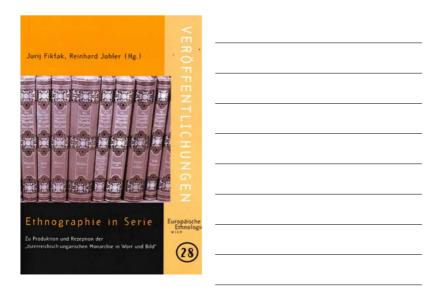
- 11.45 Summary / Roundtable
- 12.30 Adieu

### 13.00 Jurij Fikfak / Klaus Schönberger Transition, Transformation, Emancipation, ..., In-Between

This conference investigates the Alps-Adriatic region from 1815 to 1914, centering on Trieste, Ljubljana, and Klagenfurt as focal points of transformation. Featuring presentations, panels, and a keynote, it builds on Traditiones (vol. 53, no. 3), co-edited by Klaus Schonberger and me, exploring "Land und Leute" ethnographies. Historians, ethnographers, and cultural analysts convene to examine this period. The "long 19th century" was an era of transition: industrialization and urbanization drove transformation, while emancipation of different social actors reordered society. Identity stretched beyond class, with ethnicity and nationality evolving through a process of sensitizing to changing roles-ethnic belonging, gender, production positions. Jürgen Habermas's new public sphere, fueled by rising readership, school regulations, and education, heightened this awareness. In this multilingual, multireligious region, the aristocracy waned, the bourgeoisie rose through trade and learning, and daily life became a fluid space of adaptation and negotiation. Trieste's pluriculturalism wove a tapestry of parallel worlds—linguistic, religious, social; Ljubljana's cultural ascent and Klagenfurt's linguistic duality reflected this flux, sensitizing inhabitants to diverse affiliations. Traditiones captures this dynamic, revealing a region stepping into modernity. We invite you to ponder this era of emancipation, identity transformation, and societal renewal.

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**Jurij Fikfak**, PhD, is a researcher at the ZRC SAZU Institute of Slovenian Ethnology. He has organized several scientific conferences and edited numerous books and publications. He served as co-director of the course *Interpretation und Verstehen* at the IUC in Dubrovnik (2002–2010), editor-in-chief of the journal *Traditiones* (2004–2022), and is the editor of the series *Opera*  *Ethnologica Slovenica* and *Efka*. As an assoc. prof. he has lectured at universities in Vienna, Graz, Klagenfurt, and Ljubljana. He is a member of various ethnological and sociological associations, serves on the editorial boards of international journals, and is a member of the executive board of the IASS-AIS (International Association for Semiotic Studies).



### 13.30 Janine Schemmer / Klaus Schönberger:

### Doing In-Between in everyday practices – Approaches, concepts, and fields of application

At the beginning of the symposium, we would like to outline the core of our historical-anthropological approach from the paper 'Doing In-Between in the 19th Century in the Alps-Adriatic Region'. Our introductory theses are intended to explain both the basic theoretical assumptions and the methodological implications of the theoretical approach of Doing In-Between.

We would like to explain our proposal to reconstruct a mode of subjectivation that is expressed in practices of in-between. This approach emphasises the processual character, the ambivalence and the situational logic of actions that all subjects, whether nationalist or not, repeatedly perform in different constellations and contexts. For more, see: https://doi.org/10.3986/Traditio2024530302

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Janine Schemmer, PhD, is a cultural anthropologist currently working on the research project "Discourses and Practices of the In-Between in the Alps-Adriatic Region" and employed at the Department of European Ethnology, University of Vienna. From 2016 to 2023, she was a Senior Scientist at the Department of Cultural Analysis, University of Klagenfurt/Celovec. Her research and teaching focus on historical anthropology, memory culture, critical heritage studies, narrative research, anthropology of space, mobilities, transnational/ transcultural practices, and material culture. Her latest publications include: (in preparation) "Mediated Partisan Memory: Reframing and Extending the Narrative with Female Heritage," in Beretta, Cristina, Goran Lazičić, and Elena Messner (eds.), *Aesthetics of Resistance: Partisan Art and Feminist Partisan Cultural Practice in Yugoslavia and Carinthia*. In *Traditiones* 53(3) she published with Klaus Schönberger "Doing In-Between in the 19th Century in the Alps-Adriatic Region: Everyday Forms of Subjectivation Beyond Nationalising and Ethnicising Subjection," and with Ute Holfelder, Christian Frühwirth, and Gabriele Brunner, 2024, "The Alps-Adriatic Region – an 'Area of Transition': Doing In-Between in Travel Literature of the 19th Century."

Klaus Schönberger, Prof. Dr. 2005-2009, Academic Coordinator, University of Hamburg; 2009-2014: Professor in Theory at the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK: 2009-2014); since 2015 Professor of Cultural Anthropology at the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt/Celovec; 2018-2021: FWF project 'Performing Reality' - Dis- and Re-articulation of the Dispositive Carinthia/Koroška. An artistic-research and cultural studies co-production on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Carinthian plebiscite (https://volksabstimmung2020.aau. at/fwf-projekt/); 2016-2019: EU Horizon 2020 project TRACES - Transmitting Contentious Cultural Heritages with the Arts.2023-2026: Austrian-Slovenian FWF-ARIS research project 'Discourses and Practices of the In-Between in the Alpine-Adriatic Region' (https://inbetween.aau.at). 2019-2024: Chairman of the Austrian Society for Empirical Cultural Studies and Folklore (ÖGEKW).





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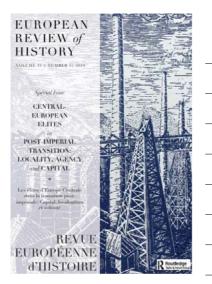
### 14.00 Gábor Egry Contact personalities: embedding imperial business during times of economic nationalism

This paper analyses the practices of how Austro-Hungarian imperial business interest were embedded within national and local politics and society before 1940. In doing so it focuses on the role of individuals – managers, interlocutors – and the various forms of capital they possessed in order to reveal how those persons created linkages with local business groups and decision-makers and helped fending off the effects of economic nationalism. Using examples from Czechoslovakia and Romania (before and after 1918) I make two, interrelated arguments. First, embedding relied on a specific moral economy of business netwroks that transcended ethnic boundaries. Second, successful "contact personalities" often had a socialization that provided them with the knowledge of norms and customs within multiple ethnic and social milieus and enabled them to move swiftly from one ethnic or social context to another. Moreover, these skills often reflected a form of "in-betweenness" from before 1918.

**Gábor Egry** is a historian, Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, currently Yehuda and Yehudit Elkana Fellow at Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin and director-general of the Institute of Political History, Budapest. During the Fall semester 2024 he was István Deák Visiting Professor at Columbia University His research interests are nationalism, everyday ethnicity, politics of identity, politics of memory, economic history in modern East Central Europe. He held fellowships at Imre Kertész Kolleg Jena, New Europe College, Bucharest, he was a Fulbright Visiting Research Scholar at Stanford University and Fernand Braudel Fellow at the EUI, Florence. Between 2018 and 2023 he was the Principal Investigator of the ERC Consolidator project *Nepostrans – Negotiating post-imperial transitions: from remobilization to nation-state* 

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consolidation. A comparative study of local and regional transitions in post-Habsburg East and Central Europe.



#### 15.00 Reinhard Johler

### Hybrid or In-Between: How to explain diversity in Istria and beyond (e.g. in the Alps-Adriatic)

The hype that has been evident in international cultural studies for some time now can easily obscure the fact that cultural hybridity was not only empirically described in the late 19th century, but was also theoretically elaborated to some extent by linguists, historians and folklorists as "hibridism", initially in Europe - more precisely: in Istria. This "hibridism" should therefore be introduced into the current hybridity debate as an original and early contribution. This is because the term "hybrid" initially had biological and botanical origins and was rarely used until the 19th century. It was first applied to humans at the beginning of the 19th century; from the middle of the century, in the context of colonialism, hybridity then took on the strongly negative connotation of the crossing of people of different "races". Istrian "Hibridism", on the other hand, has a distinctly different history: it emerged almost simultaneously in the inner-colonial center-periphery context of the Habsburg monarchy and, in cultural terms, encompassed "mixtures" that could be observed locally and thus named. These "mixtures" were known in contemporary jargon in various compounds as "Mischvolk", "Völkergemisch" or "Völkermischung". They belong at the forefront of the "inventory of Central European" - that is, the Habsburg-plural - "store of ideas" suggested by Robert Musil. "Mixture" is a 'key concept' that still had a positive connotation in the 19th century, but in the 20th (and also in the 21st) century it has often fallen into disrepute (in the political rather than in the scientific public). As such a key concept, Istrian "hibridism" is to be discussed as a form of "in-betweenness" - and thus of the Austro-Slovenian research project.

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**Reinhard Johler** has been a professor at the Ludwig Uhland Institut für Empirische Kulturwissenschaft at the University of Tübingen since 2002.

Since 2008, he has also been scientific director of the Institute for Danube Swabian History and Regional Studies. He was on the board of the Tübingen Collaborative Research Center 923 "Threatened Orders" and led four projects on hybridity in Istria from 2015 to 2023. His research interests are diversity, the history of hybridity, migration, and ethnography in the Habsburg monarchy.

#### GESCHICHTSWISSENSCHAFT



Beschreiben und Vermessen Raumwissen in der östlichen Habsburgermonarchie im 18. und 19. Jahrhundert

Reinhard Johler / Josef Wolf (Hg.)

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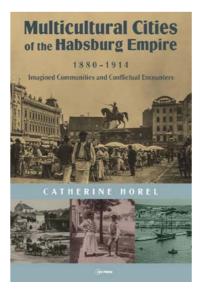
### 15.45 Catherine Horel "Variations of discourses and practices of irredentism in Trieste and Fiume"

Italian irredentism focused on two port cities on the Adriatic coast, Trieste and Fiume, whose administrative situation and ethnic composition had few similarities. In the dualist structure of the Habsburg Monarchy, the former belonged to the Austrian part, and was populated by an Italian majority and a Slovenian minority, while the latter represented Hungary's Adriatic outlet, with a relative Italian majority and a strong Croatian minority. In both cities, Italian action was directed against the central authority, but its main target was the Slavic minority. The conflict, both political and national, was reflected in the local administration and in cultural and associative life, and was widely commented on and reported by the local press of both communities. The close proximity of the Italian Kingdom and the size of the Italian community gave particular importance to the Triestine irredentist movement. On the other hand, Fiume's remoteness and isolation in an exclusively Croatian region made Italian action less effective. The paper attempts at comparing the evolution of the movement through a look at discourses and narratives, images and practices.

**Catherine Horel**, Ph. D., Research Director at CNRS/CETOBAC, Paris. President of the International Committee for Historical Sciences (ICHS). She deals with Contemporary History of Central Europe, her works focuses on Habsburg Empire and Hungary, their socio-political structures, urban, military history and Jewish history. Among her latest publications; *L'amiral Horthy*. *Régent de Hongrie*, Paris, Perrin, 2014; *De l'exotisme à la modernité*. Un siècle de voyage français en Hongrie (1818-1910), Montrouge, éditions du Bourg, 2018; Histoire de la nation hongroise. Des premiers Magyars à Viktor Orbán, Paris, Tallandier, 2021; With Bettina Severin-Barboutie (eds.),

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Population Displacements and Multiple Mobilities in the Late Ottoman Empire, Leiden, Brill, 2023; Multicultural Cities of the Habsburg Empire 1880-1914. Imagined Communities and Conflictual Encounters, Budapest, CEU Press, 2023.



#### 16.30 Tullia Catalan

### Religious Communities in Trieste in the late 19th and early 20th Century. Spaces and Practices of Everyday Life

During the second half of the 19th century, especially after the revolutions of 1848, the non-Catholic religious Communities in Trieste had to deal with a changed economic and social context and with new, rapidly changing political cultures. Jews, Greeks and Protestants, who until that moment had been an active part of the cosmopolitan bourgeoisie in Trieste, began to become politically active on various fronts, thus creating - as a result of their different political orientations - fractures especially in the public image of the local society, which until then had been mythicised on a European level for its great capacity for inclusion of cultures, languages, religions and traditions. This process involved above all the middle and upper middle class, mainly consisting of liberal professionals, teachers and high-ranking office workers. Outside the arena of politics, however, what was happening in the sphere of everyday life, in the private and public spaces of religion, education, work and leisure? It is on these spheres of action, linked above all to the private life of the individuals involved, that my paper will focus, in order to bring out that area of "In-Between" that was the result of constant negotiations within the religious groups examined here.

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**Tullia Catalan** is Associate Professor PhD of Contemporay History at the University of Trieste. Her research interests include: Racism in Europe (Anti-Semitism, Anti- Slavism); the Jewish emigration through the port of Trieste; the Critical Heritage in Borders Area. Actually she is involved as WP coordinator in two EU Projects: T4EU: https://transform4europe.eu/ and CU Remember (about racism and schools), that will start in March 2025. Among her recent publications: Conversions Paths of Trieste's Jews in 1938-1939, in "Quest. Issues in Jewish Contemporary History", n. 22, 2022. https://www. quest-cdecjournal.it/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/3-Q22\_08\_Catalan.pdf; L'Emigrazione ebraica attraverso il porto di Trieste tra Ottocento e Novecento. Spazi, pratiche, organizzazioni assistenziali, memorie in "STORIA URBANA " 172/2022, pp 37-57.

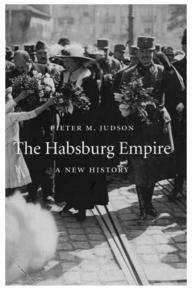


### 17.30 Pieter Judson (online): Exploring the "In-between" in an Imperial State: Identification, Scale, Politics

This lecture returns to the challenges of studying what we call "in-between" in an academic world whose concepts and categories are overdetermined by nationalist assumptions. In this lecture I examine issues of scale (local, regional, imperial) as we consider how to reveal and explore the "in-between" most effectively. At the same time, I analyze the effects of growing participatory politics in the late 19th century, seeing this as a mass phenomenon that sought to link scales seamlessly together by erasing the potential contradictions presented by local particularities.

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**Pieter M. Judson** taught at the European University Institute in Florence from 2014-2025 and at Swarthmore College (Philadelphia) as the Isaac Clothier Professor of History (1992-2014). Judson holds a Ph.D. from Columbia University (1987) and has authored several books on the history of Habsburg Central Europe, including *The Habsburg Empire: A New History* which has been translated into twelve European and Asian languages. He served ten years as editor of the *Austrian History Yearbook* and from 2020-2022 as President of the Central European History Society of North America. He has held fellowships from Guggenheim, Fulbright, the NEH, Marshall, the IFK (Vienna), the American Academy in Berlin, and Phi Beta Kappa. Together with Tara Zahra, their book *The Great War and the Transformation of Habsburg Central Europe* will be published in 2025. In 2010 the Austrian government awarded Judson the Karl von Vogelsang state prize.





#### 9.00 Heidrun Zettelbauer

### Reading Self-narratives of German-Nationalist Activists in the Habsburg Monarchy as Performances of Belonging. Between Eigen-Sinn and Structural Constraints

I examine how autobiographical constructions of activists in the German national milieu of the Habsburg Monarchy form individual practices in the sense of performances of belonging. I am interested in modes of autobiographical communication along the categories of gender, nation, class, race and body (Zettelbauer 2016). I consider gender in autobiography/biography as a 'modus operatum' and simultaneously as a 'modus operandi' that anticipates self-narratives and generates gender relations as a political practice in the act of self-writing (Dausien 1996; Bourdieu 1990). As a case study, I thereby analyse the autobiography of the German nationalist author Edith Gräfin Salburg. Salburg published her memoirs in three volumes under the title 'Memoirs of a Disrespectful Woman' (1927/28). I will ask how gender, nation, class and body functioned as modes of autobiographical communication. Against this background, I will also discuss fields of tension in theory and practice - on the one hand by referring to concepts that emphasise the agency of nationalist female activism in the sense of Eigen-Sinn (Lüdtke 2015), and on the other by referring to perspectives of gender theory and intersectionality that focus more on structural constraints in the context of processes of political subjectivation.

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**Heidrun Zettelbauer** is Professor of Cultural and Gender History at the Institute of History at the University of Graz since 2022. She is a member of the editorial board of the two peer-reviewed journals Zeitgeschichte and L'Homme. European Journal for Feminist History. Her research focuses on gender and cultural theory, gender history of modernity, gender-sensitive research on nationalism, German Nationalism, auto/biography, body history or museology. Heidrun Zettelbauer is currently working on self-narratives of German-Nationalist activistsin the Habsburg monarchy, on war welfare and gender politics in the 'Greater War' (1912-1923) as well as on homosociality.



#### 9.45 Tamara Scheer

### Everyday life in Roman Catholic Parishes: Inbetween Practices in the linguistically diverse Habsburg Austrian Alpine and Adriatic Region

I have recently started a larger research project that aims to analyze "Language Diversity and Dynamic Interdependencies between Roman Catholic Church Dioceses and Dualist Austrian State Institutions." particularly in Tyrol, Carinthia, Styria, Carniola, and Istria. Given the absolute majority of Roman Catholics in these Habsburg multilingual provinces, the population was usually distinguished by language use. Unlike other social practices that often focus on the middle and upper classes, church matters included the vast majority of the population, which was primarily peasants. This is why language practices in parishes might provide a more bottom-up view of the everyday than other spaces. As this project has only recently started, I would like to use the opportunity to discuss examples from already found primary archival material, including parish chronicles, autobiographical writings, and local newspapers to illustrate how daily life in linguistically mixed parishes was practiced, particularly in places where there was only one church. Who were the local driving factors behind practices of in-between? How were they argued? However, it is essential to examine the negotiation process from the perspective of both the excluded groups and those who resisted such practices while being part of the favored language group. Finally, it might become visible that in-between practices and the arguments from all sides were similar and did not differ according to the region and the languages involved.

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**Tamara Scheer** is a historian and Adjunct Professor (Privatdozentin) at the University of Vienna's Institute for East European History. She completed her habilitation in 2020 with a thesis on "Language Diversity and Loyalty in the Habsburg Army, 1867–1918" (https://utheses.univie.ac.at/detail/57914#). She has recently held a visiting professorship at the University of Hradec Králové (Winter term 2024-25). Since January 2025 she is leading an FWF-funded research project on "Language Diversity and Dynamic Interdependencies between Roman Catholic Church Dioceses and Dualist Austrian State Institutions" at the Department of Biblical Studies and Historical Theology/University of Innsbruck. Among her publications are four monographs: Die Sprachenvielfalt in der österreichisch-ungarischen Armee (1867-1918), Wien 2022. "Minimale Kosten, absolut kein Blut!:" Österreich-Ungarns Präsenz im Sandžak von Novipazar (1879-1908), Frankfurt et al. 2013. Die Ringstraßenfront: Österreich-Ungarn, das Kriegsüberwachungsamt und der Ausnahmezustand während des Ersten Weltkriegs, Wien 2010, as well as: Zwischen Front und Heimat: Österreich-Ungarns Militärverwaltungen im Ersten Weltkrieg, Frankfurt et al.: 2009.

#### Tamara Scheer

Friedensfurien Idalmatinischen Küstenrehen



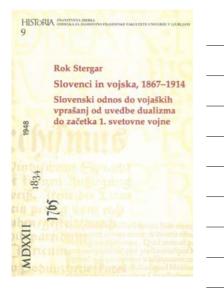
#### 10.45 Rok Stergar

### The people, the nationalists, and the state: Identifications between individual agency and the organizational grounding of nationalisms

As the nineteenth century progressed, sources indicate an increasing importance of national identifications, with nations becoming a part of social reality. However, sources also reveal that individuals retained their agency, enabling them to evade the frequently unrealistic demands that the nationalists were trying to impose. While numerous individuals certainly expressed their support for nationalist parties in certain situations and even joined nationalist organizations, nationalists were often unable to fully mobilize their alleged "compatriots." Nevertheless, the heightened potency of nationalisms at the close of the long nineteenth century is indisputable and can be explained by—among other factors—its organizational grounding. As nationalisms became increasingly embedded in the structures of the Habsburg state, they became nearly impossible to avoid entirely. This paper will examine the people, their agency, and its limits in the age of nationalism.

**Rok Stergar** is Professor in Modern History at the University of Ljubljana, Director of "Slovene History" research program, and a historian of the Habsburg Empire in the long nineteenth century, the First World War, and of nationalism. He is the author of two books and numerous articles on nationalisms in the Habsburg Empire, the First World War, and post-imperial transitions. His third book is under contract with the CEU Press. He has been a visiting professor at the University of Zagreb and L'École des hautes études en sciences sociales, and has held two research fellowships at the European University Institute. He is co-editor of the Purdue University Press book series *Central European Studies* and associate editor of the journal *First World War Studies*.

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# In-Between: Indifferent – Hybrid – polyphon? Reflecting on situated everyday practices in the long 10th century

(Project is a part of the Austrian/Slovenian bilateral project Discourses and Practices of the In-Between in the Alpine-Adriatic Region: Klagenfurt, Ljubljana and Trieste 1815-1914. A Transnational, Interdisciplinary Co-Research Project (2023–2026) is funded by the Österreichischer Wissenschaftsfond (FWF) and the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency (ARIS).

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Latest updates available at: https://inbetween.aau.at/news/

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# KULTURANALYSE





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