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ABSTRACTS

“UNGARIA ET VALACHIA”: THE WALLACHIAN PROMISES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VENICE IN THE 1470s

IOAN-AUREL POP, ALEXANDRU SIMON

The present article brings new documents from foreign archives concerning Stephen III of Moldavia's relations with Venice in the framework of the anti-Ottoman war efforts. Moldavia entered the vast area of Venice's interests in 1459–1460, at the time of the Congress of Mantua, convened by Pope Pius II. Venice's attention for Stephen increased after the republic was forced to go to war with the Ottoman Empire (1463). The progressive reconciliation between Stephen and Matthias Corvinus, the main inland ally of the republic, and Stephen's domination over Chilia (1465) further enhanced the Moldavian ruler's role at the mouths of the Danube and the Dniester. Stephen's importance in the anti-Ottoman strategy grew after the failure of the Moscow-Tatar plans crafted by the Holy See and Venice and, especially, after Mehmed II's victory over Uzun Hassan. Against this background, the article brings new data and revisits published documents on Stephen's claims and favors received from Venice, among which the issue of being granted Venetian citizenship.

ON THE EVE OF THE ROYAL DICTATORSHIP INSTAURATION. NOTES FROM THE DIARY OF PETRE G. PAPACOSTEA. I (JANUARY–JUNE 1937)

ȘERBAN PAPACOSTEA, SIMION GHEORGHIU

The diary we publish now for the first time belongs to Petre G. Papacostea, political secretary of General and, later, Marshal Alexandru Averescu – an outstanding military and political personality in the first half of the twentieth century. The diary provides interesting information on the political negotiations during the year preceding the abolition by King Charles II of the multiparty regime and the instauration in Romania of a monoparty government. The political tensions and the changing attitudes of the *dramatis personae* are reflected in the pages of the diary, which was not meant by its author to be published but exclusively to serve for his personal interest. We reached the decision to publish it in order to provide more information to historians interested in this important turning point in the contemporary history of Romania.

THE ORIGINS OF A CONTROVERSY: ALEXANDRU TZIGARA-SAMURCAȘ DURING THE OCCUPATION (1916–1918)

RADU TUDORANCEA

The present article examines the most significant aspects of a prolonged controversy concerning one of the key figures (namely, Alexandru Tzigara-Samurcaș) of the Romanian academics and intellectuals of the first decades of the twentieth century. Focusing on the origins and background of that particular intellectual opprobrium centered on Tzigara-Samurcaș, the paper equally examines the main features as well as the most significant vectors and themes of the wide campaign that focused on the conduct of Professor Alexandru Tzigara-Samurcaș during the WWI German occupation of a part of Romania's territory. The analysis tackles the above mentioned controversy in a wider context, starting from the evolutions triggered by the war itself upon society and continuing with the plethora of perceptions and reactions of the Romanian intellectual circles during the sensitive and profound moral debate regarding *those who left* (in Moldova, after the dramatic loss of the capital city of Bucharest) and *those who stayed* (in the occupied territory). The study was based on the use of new archival funds, especially on documents and photos of the Samurcaș Archive.

PAN-LATINISM IN THE ROMANIAN-ITALIAN RELATIONS DURING THE NEUTRALITY PERIOD

RALUCA TOMI

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, with the formation of the Triple Alliance and of the Triple Entente, pan-nationalist doctrines were found to serve both the geo-strategic interests of the great powers and the peoples' aspirations to national states. The paper looks at pan-Latinism in the cultural space of the Romanian Kingdom substantiated by the activity of cultural associations exalting the Roman origin of the Romanian people and of the Romanian language, the strengthening of links with France and Italy, the activity of some prominent advocates of pan-Latinist ideas, etc.

During the neutrality period, pan-Latinism was employed to promote Romania's adherence to the Entente and influence the general public in this direction. The idea of belonging to a common Latin civilization and the wish to create a confederation of the Latin states are well documented at the time. Pan-Latinism was also employed as a means for counter-balancing pan-Germanism and pan-Slavism.

ROMANIA'S NEUTRALITY IN MEMOIRS FROM THE BANAT (1914–1916)

IOANA MIHAELA BONDA, OANA MIHAELA TĂMAȘ

This article discusses how Romanian neutrality until 1916 was perceived by elite intellectuals in the Banat, against a background of heightened expectations. Just as significant became the reaction of these same intellectuals when Romania entered the war. In conducting this research, we employ as sources the memoirs of these Banat intellectuals who took part in the conflict.

As a consequence of changes in the military-political sphere during the First World War, the intellectual horizons of the Romanian inhabitants of the Banat and Transylvania also began to shift, particularly at the start and end of the conflict. Romanian officers in the Austro-Hungarian army had a crisis of conscience, caught between national feelings and obligations of loyalty towards the Austro-Hungarian throne.

Intellectuals in the Banat region were close observers of the political life in the Old Kingdom of Romania. However they were not familiar with all the political details of diplomatic talks held in Romania between the government and the belligerent countries in the First World War. This helps explain why the decision of the Romanian authorities not to enter the conflict in August 1914 in fact caused dissatisfaction and a sense that the country was being indecisive, a view held both by intellectuals in the Banat region and by some officers in the Romanian army.

During the first two years of the war, up to 20,000 Romanian men of military age migrated from the Banat and Transylvania to the Old Kingdom. Romanian intellectuals in Bucharest meanwhile argued for the Romanian kingdom's entry into the war on the side of the Entente, helping to shift public opinion in general in this direction.

Romania's entry into the war in 1916 was then highlighted by all the press in Transylvania and the Banat. This occurred despite the Romanian language press in both territories having been either closed down or tightly censored since the start of the war. In an editorial published on 21 July/3 August 1916 for example, the editors of "Drapelul," which continued to be published in Lugoj, expressed confidence in the decision making of the government of Romania, remarking that "Romanian politicians have always distinguished themselves by their wisdom, and their recent actions leave no cause to believe that this wisdom has left them."

"PEASANT-CITIZEN-SOLDIER": BODY CULTURE, WAR, AND PREJUDICE IN 1913 ROMANIA

BOGDAN POPA

During the nineteenth century, the relation between war and body training was influenced by the (re)discovery of gymnastics and sport. The nation-state, more than its citizens, was supposed to be the final beneficiary of the well-trained body. To be a good, brave, and victorious soldier, the male citizen was supposed not only to learn gymnastics in school and in the military, but also to keep his own body fit, in order

“to answer the call of the motherland.” Romania and the other South-Eastern European states were not exceptions. Questions regarding the actual physical fitness of the Romanian army were already being raised before the beginning of the Second Balkan War. As this article shows, the dominant prejudice, that a nation of peasants does not need “Western” sports and gymnastics, was unsuccessfully challenged by the 1913 campaign.

**DEVELOPMENTAL IDEOLOGY OR REGENERATIVE
NATIONALISM? COMPETING STRANDS OF THE ROMANIAN
RIGHT BEFORE WORLD WAR II.
II. FASCIST MODERNISM ACROSS THE
LAGS OF DEVELOPMENT**

VICTOR RIZESCU

The second part of the article continues to check the validity of recent views on generic and Romanian fascism advanced in comparative international bibliography against the local historical record. Having pondered the place occupied by the developmental ideological discourse patterned around the corporatist design within the texture of the local Right (and rounding up, in the first section, the depiction of local corporatist advocacy as emerging at the borderline between the varieties of liberalism and the trends of the Right), it goes on now to measure the relative influence exerted by the same discourse, as against the rhetoric of chiliastic nationalism pointing to the objective of the regeneration of national society, on the right-wing ideological families. In connection to this, it takes issue with a view depicting fascism as both a form of regenerative nationalism and an outgrowth of the avant-garde modernist culture. There emerges from this an evaluation of the local culture of the Right as having a non-modernist nature, together with a suggestion for approaching comparatively the problem of fascist modernism across the European lags of development.