

**PARADOXUL POLITICII EXTERNE A LUI NICOLAE CEAUȘESCU
ȘI MOTIVELE ERODĂRII IMAGINII INTERNAȚIONALE
A REGIMULUI SĂU**

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**THE PARADOX OF NICOLAE CEAUȘESCU'S FOREIGN POLICY
AND THE REASONS FOR THE DEPRECIATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL IMAGE OF HIS REGIME**

Abstract

This article attempts to find and highlight the most important reasons that determined the deterioration of the international image of the communist regime from Nicolae Ceaușescu's Romania. Although after 1968 –, the year when the Romanian leader publicly condemned Czechoslovakia's invasion by the Red Army – Romania's image in the Western countries was very favourable, during the 80s the whole capital of sympathy completely disappeared. Nicolae Ceaușescu's anti-Soviet foreign policy made him a so-called "spoiled child" of the West. In 1989, the Romanian dictator remained the only Stalinist leader from European countries, paradoxically an anti-Soviet Stalinist leader.

In our opinion there were three very important events that determined the irreversible degradation of the regime's image abroad: Helsinki Final Act in 1975; General Ion Mihai Pacepa's (vice-leader of Foreign Information Department of Romanian Intelligence) run to the U.S.A. and last but not the least, Mihail Sergheevici Gorbaciov's election as general secretary of the Soviet Union Communist Party.

Cuvinte cheie: *Nicolae Ceaușescu, Uniunea Sovietică, neostalinism, politică externă, paradox*

Key words: *Nicolae Ceaușescu, Soviet Union, neo-stalinism, foreign policy, paradox*