STUDIES AND ARTICLES

THE HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
OF JITIANU MONASTERY

Alexandrina Bădescu (Pădurețu), Veronica Gheorghiță

Abstract

The historical monuments with religious items are, essentially, a spiritual and material portion for every nation. They highlight the artistic skills and present certification of social, historical, political, economic and religious life. Every monastery and historical monument highlights the past, and offers in present, the acknowledgement of the founders and events of that time.

The monasteries aren't just a place for pray, but a shrine, of a high spiritual value that contributes to creation and cultivation of national culture of a nation, where are the highest national ideals and the finest traditions.

Jitianu Monastery is one of the oldest monasteries of county Dolj, which now has a valuable collection of religious art, various genders, painting on wood, painting on glass, sculpture, silverware, embroideries of old Romanian artistic creations and traditional art, this collection being the fruit of the action of Oltenia Metropolitans Firmilian Marin, Teoctist Arăpaș and Nestor Vornicescu.

Key words: *Jitianu Monastery*, *Oltenia*, *architectural elements*, *collection of icons*, *church*

ENGLISH TRAVELLERS IN THE ROMANIAN AREA
(18TH CENTURY)

Iulian Oncescu

Abstract

Out of the numerous foreign testimonies written by foreigners about the Romanians in the 18th century, some of the most important are those left behind by English travellers. Out of the English travellers who went through the Romanian area and wrote about the Romanians in the 18th century, we shall mention: Edmound Chishull, William Lord Pagett de Beaudesert, James Jeffries, John Bell of Antermony, Sir James Porter, Lady Clarrissa Porter, Frederick Calvert Lord Baltimore, William Eton, John Petty, Jeremy Bentham, Lady Elisabeth Craven, Sir William Sidney Smith, Robert Townson, John Sibthorp, James Dallaway, John B.S. Morritt, Robert Stockdale, Randle Wilbraham, Philip Jackson, John Jackson, Tomas Hope. Our study only aims to highlight the main 18th century travellers in the Romanian area and a few of their testimonies about the Romanians.

Key words: *English travellers, Romanian area, 18th century, foreign testimonies, Romanians*

A MODERN "ODYSSEY" – THE "ELGIN MARBLES"

Florian Olteanu

Abstract

The article reveals the main aspects concerning the way of a group of sculptures from the Parthenon, which were selected by Lord Elgin a British Diplomat accredited at Constantinople who conducted an expedition in Athens bribing the Ottoman authorities. The modern "Odyssey" started in 1800, until 1803, when Elgin tried to move the marbles on a ship which sank in the Greek waters. After the recuperation of marbles, Lord Elgin took them in Great Britain. Having great financial problems, he decided in 1816 to sell the marbles at the British Museum.

The article offers fragments of three documents in which we intend to show that the Lord Elgin tried using non-orthodox methods to remove the marble structures from their original place and to take them away to transport by sea in Great Britain.

Key words: *Lord Elgin*, *Parthenon*, *sculptures*, *expeditions*, *Athens*

ASPECTS OF THE ROMANIAN-SPANISH RELATIONS
BETWEEN 1869-1870

Denisa Victoria Dragomir

Abstract

The article *Aspects of the Romanian-Spanish relations between 1869-1870* is based on the reports of the Romanian diplomatic agent in Paris, I. Strat referring to the General Prim's attempt to establish a Consulate General in Bucharest in 1869 and the intervention of the Romanian diplomacy in the Leopold of Hohenzollern's candidacy to the Spanish throne.

The controversial nomination of Viscount D'Ecquevillier as Consul-General put the Romanian diplomacy in a perdicament, but the establishment of the Consulate was dropped because of Prim's concerns to find a King for Spain. The Hohenzollern candidacy brought gradual deterioration of Napoleon III trust in the good intentions of the Romanian Prince and Strat quickly intervened to ward off threats to the political stability of Romania.

Key words: *Viscount D'Ecquevillier, Hohenzollern candidacy, Romania, Spain, I. Strat*

THE BRITISH MODEL OF GOVERNMENT:
A GUIDE FOR THE ROMANIAN TWO-PARTY SYSTEM (1866-1914)

Cosmin-Ștefan Dogaru

Abstract

The two-party system of government was used in Great Britain and was later assumed by other European states along history. This model of government was also used in Romania beginning with the reign of Charles I. Here, this system was created gradually, along several stages which included the two political parties governing alternatively and, later, the birth of the two governmental parties, the National-Liberal Party (1875) and the Conservative Party (1880). Charles I supported the idea that the liberals and the conservatives should come alternatively to power and managed to establish the two-party system, rotating the two parties at power, with the purpose of maintaining a steady climate in the Romanian political regime.

Key words: *two-party system*, *British model*, *Charles I*, *liberals*, *conservatives*

ROMANIANS AND ITALIANS: CULTURAL CONVERGENCES DURING THE SECOND HALF OF THE 19TH CENTURY

Laura Oncescu

Abstract

The second half of the 19th century offered the young Romanians the possibility of travelling to different parts of Europe in order to continue or complete their studies, in order to take over cultural models or simply to get in touch with their civilization and culture. Traveling also to Italy, these young people – of whom we shall remind here of Simion Bărnuţiu, Alexandru Papiu Ilarian, Iosif Hodoş, Vasile Alecsandri, Ciprian Porumbescu, Elena Ghica – interacted with various Italian personalities and brought to Romania models of a culturally advanced society. In their turn, many of the Italian scholars – including Niccolo Tommaseo. Giovenale Vegezzi Ruscalla, Marc Antonio Canini, Angelo de Gubernatis, Brute Amante, Tullio Massarani, Carlo Tenca, Gabrielle Rosa, Cesare Correnti, Aleardo Aleardi, Giovanni Prati, and Adolfo Tossani – were interested in the origin of the Romanian people and published in their works a series of studies in this sense. The common origin of these two peoples, the sharing of the same national ideals but also their permanent affinity permitted, in time, the development of some intense relations that will crystalize, later on, during the second decennium of the 20th century, into the creation of the Romanian School of Rome.

Key words: *cultural convergences*, *Romanians*, *Italians*, 19th *century*, *modernization*

THE AUTONOMY OF ALBANIA UNDER PROTECTORATE
AND ADMINISTRATION OF AUSTRO-HUNGARY DURING THE WWI

Selim Bezeraj, Bujar Dugolli

Abstract

This paper attempts to show the way in which Albania progressed towards independence under the auspices of Austro-Hungary. The paper also explores the declaration of autonomy of Korca, the development of the war against the Central Block, and the reduction of the Austro-Hungarian influence on the Albanian people, the main premises that stirred much resentment in order for Austro-Hungary to take its decision leading to 23 January 1917 for a special announcement to put Albania under its protectorate. Also, it highlights the movement of the Austro-Hungarian army which conquered most of the territory, passing the Albanian border in pursuit of the Serbian and Montenegrin army, and later passed into central and southwestern Albania.

In particular, the remainder of this paper focuses on the manner in which the Albanians accepted the presence of the Austro-Hungarian army in the Albanian territories, as well as what the image of Albanians was to the Austro-Hungarians. Also, what was the level of cooperation between Albanians and the Austro-Hungarian administration and what were their administrative practices? The paper concludes with identifying inconsistent and frustrating points between the Austro-Hungarian administration in Albanian territories and the population which responded to the regime of the Austro-Hungarian military authorities.

Key words: *Autonomy, Albania, Austro-Hungary, the Protectorate, influence*

GRANTING CITIZENSHIP TO JEWS IN ROMANIA
AFTER THE GREAT UNIFICATION OF 1918

Adi Schwarz

Abstract

After the Union of 1918, the issue of granting citizenship to Jews from Romania enters its final phase. Under the influence of including Jews from the former historical provinces of Romania in 1918, it was necessary to take quick action to resolve the problem of the Jews from the Old Kingdom, who had been able to obtain citizenship only by individual naturalization. The ratification documents of union of Bessarabia, Bukovina, Transylvania, Banat, Crişana, Maramureş with Romania imposed the adoption of a transitional decree on granting citizenship to Jews from the Old Kingdom. This culminated in the decree law of 28 May 1919. In Europe, Romania will sign also the minority Treaty on 10 December 1919, after some disputes, which however were not related to the granting of political rights of national minorities.

The main measures that led to granting citizenship to Jews from Romania in 1919 are presented in this article.

Key words: *Israelites, Great Union, citizenship, Old Kingdom, Decree-Law*

STORIOGRAFIA DELLE RELAZIONI DIPLOMATICHE
TRA ROMANIA E ITALIA (1914-1947)

Ionuţ Şerban

Abstract

The period in question was one of the most turbulent for the two Latin countries, which in the past had always supported in their struggles having as ultimate goal the unity and independence, a European alliance and territorial interests.

The beginning of the twentieth century was, as natural, for Romania and Italy a period of major transformations. For Romania it was a period of accumulation and statement on the European level and on the Balkanic one. In this period that Romania was perfected as a nation-state, the legitimate desire of the Romanian people, which marked the beginning of a new phase in the history of Romania. For Italy, this period is very important because its influence on the European scene will grow, it will complete the unity of the state taking back the inhabited territories by Italians but under the control of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and manages to establish itself as a great power in the Adriatic and the Eastern Mediterranean.

Key words: *Diplomatic relations*, *historiography*, *Romania*, *Italy*, *international relations*

ROMANIA AND THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION CONFERENCES OF THE SECOND INTERWAR DECADE (THE 1930s)

Gheorghe Sbârnă

Abstract

During the second interwar decade, the Inter-Parliamentary Union kept on holding its annual Conferences – organized in different European capital cities – in order to debate the hottest issues of the international relations. The most debated issues were: issues concerning the decrease of the number of weapons, disarmament and protection of State security; international codification of law; evolution of the representative regime; economic, social and financial problems etc. The Romanian Delegates hosted the 27th Inter-Parliamentary Conference in 1931, and, during the following years, they kept on bringing their outstanding contributions to the Union Conferences, by elaborating reports, by an active participation to the debate of the issues on the agenda and by adopting resolutions.

Key words: *Inter-Parliamentary Union, Inter-Parliamentary Conference, disarmament, peace-related law, parliamentary group*

ROMANIAN DIPLOMATIC ATTACHÉS IN LONDON
ON POLITICAL CRISIS IN EUROPE (1936-1939)

Marusia Cîrstea

Abstract

The article refers to the way Romanian diplomats and politicians generally, but especially attachés in London, reacted during the political crisis in Europe. The 1936-1939 events – the invasion of the demilitarised area of the Rhineland (7 March 1936), the introduction of compulsory military service in Austria (1 April 1936), the beginning of the Spanish Civil War (17 July 1936), the establishment of the Berlin-Rome Axis (25 October 1936), the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia (1938-1939), the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact (23 August 1929) et alii – led to a dangerous turn, especially for the countries in Central and Eastern Europe. To cope with the looming threats, Romanian diplomats championed for the conclusion of agreements on political and military strategy, to ensure real and effective support for Romania, under all circumstances.

Key words: *the remilitarisation of the Rhineland, the Spanish Civil War, the Anschluss, the Munich agreement, the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact*

THE ROMANIAN CABINET UNDER THE AUTHORITARIAN REGIME OF KING CHARLES II (1938-1940)
PROLEGOMENA: THE LONG WAY TOWARDS AUTHORITARIANISM

Mihai Ghiţulescu

Abstract

The institutional change brought by the authoritarian regime of Charles II (1938-1940) is often described but very little analyzed. In this study, we focus on the executive power and we try to show that the new arrangement was broadly a formalization of some old practices. This is why, in the first part bellow we will shortly present the Romanian tradition of government, the first eight years of Charles's reign, the normative consecration of the Cabinet as a political institution and the constitutional framework of the new regime.

Key words: *Romania, Charles II, Government, Cabinet, authoritarianism*

THE POLITICIZATION OF THE GERMAN LIBRARIES
BETWEEN 1933-1945

Septimiu Lucian Jurca

Abstract

The aim of this article is to analyze the German libraries' relations with the National Socialist Regime between 1933 and 1945. The research will approach the activity and the attitude of university and regional libraries directors, such as the Prussian State Library, the Bavarian State Library and the German National Library, mentioning, in the same time, the share in which these directors were members of the National Socialist German Workers' Party. Additionally, we will emphasize the changes introduced since 1933 in the education for librarianship, the discrimination of the librarians based on political and racial grounds, the forced retirements, the disciplinary measures and the criteria of staff promotion in order to identify the consequences of the personnel policy and the reactions of the librarians to the abusive measures.

Key words: *libraries, Germany, National Socialism, antisemitism, political discrimination*

ROMANIA AND THE PEACE PROCESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST
(1965-1990)

Daniela Osiac

Abstract

The article entitled *Romania and the peace process in the Middle East (1965-1990)* presents Romania's position in the problem of the Near East conflict, emphasising that: "Romania never targeted for one moment a unilaterally advantageous solution and neither a provisional or circumstantial one, but an enduring, definitive, main solution to enable the peoples in the region to lead a normal, peaceful life". The article also presents – succinctly but relevantly – the involvement of Romanian diplomacy in the negotiations between the conflicting parties, meant to achieve a climate for peace in the Middle East.

Key words: *the Middle East, Romania, Israel, Palestine, Nicolae Ceaușescu*

THE ROMANIAN DETENTION SYSTEM DURING THE COMMUNIST REGIME: BETWEEN THE RULE OF LAW AND THE SOCIAL REALITIES

Cristina Ilie Goga

Abstract

This article, based on a thorough analysis of social documents (books, articles, legislative acts, archives), aims to emphasize the characteristics of detention during the communist period (1945-1989) in Romania. However, the first part of the research highlights the changes of the repressive system prior to the communist regime; by presenting the legislative acts which regulated the system during that period and by analyzing the events of the Second World War which affected the organization of Romanian penitentiaries. The second part of the research, consisting of an analysis of the communist period, presents the defining elements of communist detention and moves on to analyze the main laws and events which characterized the detention system between 1945 and 1989.

Key words: *detention*, *the Romanian communist regime*, *political detention*, *legislation*, *Romanian penitentiaries and labour camps*

HISTORICAL CONDITIONS OF THE RISE OF COMMUNISM IN THE CENTRAL EUROPE

Jan Bureš

Abstract

The article deals with the process of formation of communist regimes in Central Europe after the Second World War. The author traces the causes of the rise of these regimes in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and East Germany. This process analyzes with the comparative method, and trying to show the similarities and differences between developments in these countries. The analysis is based on a comparison of conditions in frame of three keys factors: experience / inexperience with parliamentary democracy, social and economic conditions after WW2, and the way of establishment of a communist regime in the relevant country.

Key words: *rise of communism, Central Europe, Second World War, social transformation, democratic experience*

OUTLOOK ON THE HISTORY OF MIGRATION
IN THE XXTH CENTURY'S EUROPE

Alexandra Porumbescu

Abstract

For a long time in history, human migration has been a global phenomenon, linking remote geographical areas. But, until the recent events involving large population movements, there is no other period in history so rich in evoking international migration like the XXth century. And the most targeted region of the world in those ages was Europe, especially the western developed countries. The aim of this article is to review the major events regarding migration, and to set them in the specific contexts in which they occurred. In order to do so, we divided the paper in five distinct parts. The first two of them focus on the presentation of migration as a historical phenomenon, also introducing previous attempts to divide the history of these processes. The last three parts approach the evolution of the size or migratory flows related to the evolution of the European destination countries.

Key words: *migration, Europe, history, countries, migration flows*

UNEVEN INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING AND MAKING OF DEMOCRACY CULTURE: AN INTRODUCTION FOR THE 2000s

Anca Parmena Olimid

Abstract

The present article aims to present the historical and political patterns of the state-building theories that accompanied the international relations and political literature recently. The analysis presents the contemporary debate and contextualisation of the institutional capacity building and making of the democracy culture. The article contributes to the explanation of the institutional capacity building in the international community at the beginning of the 2000s through an analysis of the ongoing research theories and studies. The main findings of the article will help to better integrate the capacity-building-development-governance-administration and jurisdiction relations. Furthermore, it also appears significantly to analyse the transformative findings of the liberal theory of democracy culture and the state governance as topics to uneven interpretative approaches.

Key words: *state-building, theory, international relations, state governance, democracy*

A SHORT HISTORY OF "DISENCHANTMENT":
THE GIFT AND THE SOCIAL RELATIONS

Eugenia Udangiu

Abstract

The paradigm of "social exchange" and the paradigm of "the gift" apparently describe the same form of human interaction whether it is about goods, ideas or feelings exchanges. Only that, throughout history, ritual exchange gifts described by Marcel Mauss in his famous essay, lost part of its symbolic load and altered his essence. Although archaic forms of distribution and redistribution of the "gifts" can still be easily identified in our modern or post-modern societies, they have lost their spiritual dimension and kept only the pragmatic one. Is Mauss's essay a "history of secularization, a history of disenchantment of the world through the disenchantment of the gift" as Camille Tarot wrote? Is this the reason why we feel so often lonely and uprooted? This study aims to answer these questions using the history of "gift – giving" from a sociological point of view.

Key words: *gift*, *social exchange*, *externalization of control*, *types of solidarity*, *disenchantment*