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**The Eastern Question and the British policy in the Romanian Principalities in the First Half of the Nineteenth Century.  
A Historiographical Review**

**Eusebiu Diaconu\***

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**The Eastern Question and the British policy in the Romanian Principalities in the First Half of the Nineteenth Century. A Historiographical Review**

*Abstract: The aim of this study is to analyze the perception of the “Eastern Question” concept as we find it in the historiography. Furthermore, we will try to capture how the British policy changed due to the outbreak of a new episode in the Eastern crisis between 1833-1841 and moreover, how Great Britain`s policy reached in the Romanian Principalities due to this great international crisis.*

*Keywords: British policy, Eastern Question, historiography, Romanian Principalities, Russian Empire.*

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## Vizita marelui duce Nicolae Mihailovici în România (1912)

Codruța Șoroagă\*

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### Grand Duke Nicholas Mikhailovich's visit to Romania (1912)

**Abstract:** *This article analyzes the implications of grand duke Nicholas Mikhailovich's visit to Romania in the autumn of 1912 (November 27/December 10 – November 29/December 12). The grand duke was charged by Tsar Nicholas II to deliver to King Charles I the marshal's baton of the Russian army. The visit was not politically important but was perceived as an attempt to improve Russian relations with Romania. This gesture of courtesy was interpreted in Romania as a recognition of the military merits during the russo-turkish war, but also as proof that Russia approves the Romania's attitude towards the situations in the Balkans. The article presents the details of the organization of the visit, and the protocol, and analyzes the key moments and implications for the relations between the two states.*

**Keywords:** *Charles I, Grand Duke Nicholas Mikhailovich, Romanian-Russian relations, Tsar Nicholas II, Balkan Wars.*

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## **Romania's Neutrality and Path to the Great War reflected in *The Austro-Hungarian red book***

**Mihai Tudosă\***

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### **Romania's Neutrality and Path to the Great War reflected in *The Austro-Hungarian red book***

**Abstract:** *Based on the studying of The Austro-Hungarian red book, a wartime pamphlet containing telegraphic messages sent by Austro-Hungarian diplomats in 1914-1916 and its corroboration with other contemporary sources, the current study presents a new, greater extent perspective about Romanian neutrality and its path to war. Its main characteristics are showing how good the Central Powers espionage was organised and how well it functioned (as the diplomats knew very well, sometimes in detail, about the Romanian secret talks with the Entente) and giving insights on several important events from Romania's neutrality from the first crown council during the July crisis to its first days of war, sometimes with extensive descriptions about the evolution of Romanian key figures like Ionel Brătianu, kings Carol and Ferdinand, queens Elisabeth and Mary or Titu Maiorescu.*

**Keywords:** *Ottokar Czernin, Count Berchtold, Ionel Brătianu, Constantin Stere, Alexandru Marghiloman, Romanian neutrality, war preparations.*

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## Conflicte la graniță: confruntări între grănicerii țariști și locuitorii din Costești în anii 1849-1850

Mihai Adauge\*

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### Conflicts at the Borders: Confrontations between Tsarist Border Guards and the Inhabitants of Costesti from 1849-1850

*Abstract:* After a century of Turkish administration of Hotin fortress, while the village of Costești was desolated and its former residents barely could return home from the mouth of the Ciuhur river, Moldova was occupied and annexed to the Russian Empire. At the beginning of 1849, the villagers of Costești refused to pay the imposed taxes (a.k.a. claca), and were seeking to let Bucharest know about their complaints. On November 5, 1849, they started a rebellion against the guard's brigade on the Sculeni border. The brave fighting spirit of the villagers continued and an even bigger rebellion took place in Costești in February 1850. The rebellion was against the border guards and military officers who were abusing the locals. After one of the guards shot and wounded a man, the villagers got mad, beat the guards up and unarmed them. This event was a resonant one since many high-ranked officials from the Russian empire investigated it, including the military governor of Basarabia, the Russian empire minister of internal affairs and finances, and even the Russian emperor Nicolai I.

*Keywords:* Costești village, border guards, Prut river border, the natives rebellion.

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## Relațiile româno-sârbo-bulgare în deceniul șapte din veacul al XIX-lea. Obiective și acțiuni comune\*

Liviu Brătescu\*\*

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### Romanian-Serbian-Bulgarian Relations in the Seventh Decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Common Objectives and Actions

*Abstract:* After the revolution of 1848, the 19<sup>th</sup> century was marked by the national problem present on the European political agenda, especially in the Balkans. For the peoples of South-Eastern Europe, the project of creating a nation-state was a vital one. The present study analyzes the evolution of Romania's foreign relations from 1866 to 1875 and how the new monarch, Carol I, together with the political leaders around him, managed to make Romania an attraction for the surrounding peoples, especially for the Bulgarians, and Serbs. Another objective of the text is to capture how the Great Western powers have positioned themselves towards the Romanian problem, in particular, and the national problems in Southeast Europe, in general.

*Keywords:* Ottoman Empire, Habsburg Empire, Greece, Bulgaria, Carol de Hohenzollern, I. C. Brătianu.

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\* Acest text este o formă modificată și restrânsă a cercetărilor pe această temă din cadrul tezei de doctorat publicată în lucrarea *I. C. Brătianu și politica externă a României 1866-1888*, Iași, Editura Universității „Al. I. Cuza”, 2014.

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## Corespondenții de presă britanici din România și cenzura sovietică în anii 1944-1945

Alexandru D. Aioanei\*

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### British Press Correspondents in Romania and Soviet Censorship in 1944 and 1945

*Abstract:* During the war, the consumption of print media in Britain exploded. The newspapers competed to provide breaking news from war zones but also from European capitals where various negotiations were taking place. The change that took place in Romania on August 23, 1944, aroused the interest of British newspapers, which immediately sent correspondents to Bucharest, without the prior consent of the Soviets. This created a series of tensions; Moscow imposed a very harsh censorship regime and demanded that some journalists leave Romania. The Foreign Office supported the presence of journalists in Bucharest and tried to support their work, avoiding entering into a direct dispute with the Soviet Union. It was only after the Potsdam Conference that London became heavily involved in the issue of censorship of journalists by the Soviet authorities. The present research presents the difficulties encountered by the British press correspondents in Romania in the 1944-1945 years and how they influenced the Soviet-English collaboration.

*Keywords:* censorship, Alfred Cholerton, Archibald Gibson, Reuters, Daily Mail, Daily Express.

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## Propagandă și schimburi culturale româno-americane în domeniul cinematografilei și radioteleviziunii, la finalul epocii Gheorghiu-Dej

Paul Nistor\*

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### Propaganda and Romanian-American Cultural Exchanges in the Field of Cinematography, Broadcasting and Television, at the End of the Gheorghiu-Dej Era

*Abstract: The financial agreement and the cultural arrangement from 1960, paved the way for the normalization of relations between communist Romania and the United States of America, two countries belonging to different political blocs. Hoping more for obtaining Western technologies and privileged economic relations, the Romanians also accepted the bilateral cultural exchange, for which the Americans insisted. In the first phase, this type of connection opened doors, built bridges, diminished mutual suspicions and made the two peoples know each other better. Romanian-American cultural collaborations started timidly, although they focused on several fields of interest (science, music, fine arts, exhibitions, television and cinema, exchanges of books and publications, development of tourist and sports relations). On this area both sides felt they could abandon ideological harshness and political precautions in the face of a tenacious adversary. Beyond the clashes on major issues: capitalism – communism, colonialism – anti-colonialism, pacifism – militarism, culture could offer everyone the opportunity to show a human face, even in the Cold War. After almost two decades in which everyone tried to take his opponent out of the human sphere, they showed each other to the world only in the pattern of bestiality; music, film, arts, books helped the parties to see people beyond politics and ideology.*

*Keywords: Cold War, Communism, Cultural Diplomacy, Communist Romania, United States of America.*

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## „Războiul Rece” și repercusiunile lui în istoriografia română\*

Andi Mihalache\*\*

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### The “Cold War” and its Impacts in Romanian Historiography

*Abstract: he research talks about the cultural and ideological redefinition of the political regime in Romania after 1948 in relation to international political events. Romanian communism built its identity on the visceral opposition to the West, on the rejection of any previous spiritual and cultural concepts and constructions. Romanians were forced to assimilate new founding myths, to rewrite a part of history and align it with the Soviet discourse. The main theme taken over by the Romanian culture and historiography after 1948 was the guilt of the West. From the East came peace, development, freedom and from the West war, misery and oppression. The changes at the international level and at the level of the USSR leadership had a direct influence how the communist regime in Bucharest rewrote its own history. What were the tools by which this process occurred and with what effects, the present study will be analyze.*

*Keywords: ideology, imperialism, nationalism, Mihail Roller, Petru Constantinescu-Iași.*

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\* Preluat, cu acordul autorului, din volumul *Istorie și practici discursive în România „democrat-populară”*, București, Editura Albatros, 2003, p. 113-142.

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## **Procesul de repatriere a copiilor greci din republicile socialiste și implicarea Organizației Națiunilor Unite**

**Mihaela Gheorghiu\***

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### **The Process of Repatriation of Greek Children from the Socialist Republics and the Involvement of the United Nations**

***Abstract:** One of the most tragic aspects of the Greek Civil War was the situation of Greek children. The scale of these actions (more than 18,000 children were taken by Greek communists and sent to the states behind the Iron Curtain) has led the Athens government to call for UN involvement in resolving the issue. Although postponed several times due to the veto of the Soviet Union delegation, the issue of Greek children remained of interest. Thus, in November 1948, the UN commissioned the International Red Cross to deal with their repatriation. In collaboration with the national Red Cross organizations in the states where the children were, the International Red Cross and the Greek government compiled lists of the children to be repatriated. Yugoslavia worked with the Greek executive and the International Red Cross for the repatriation of children. Romania was among the states that did not accept that the International Red Cross delegation visit Greek children. The attitude of the Bucharest authorities appears, most probably, as a result of Romania's failed attempts to become a UN member. However, the Romanian authorities cooperated, through the Red Cross of the RPR, in the repatriation of Greek children, with priority given to those whose parents were in Greece.*

***Keywords:** Greek children, Greek Civil War, Cold War, United Nations, Red Cross, Iron Curtain.*

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## **Aderarea României la Fondul Monetar Internațional (1967-1972)\***

**Mihaela Botnari\*\***

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### **Romania's Accession to the International Monetary Fund (1967-1972)**

***Abstract:** Addressing Romania's accession to the International Monetary Fund, this paper focuses on Romania's political and diplomatic actions and approaches to joining the international financial organizations. The period under investigation ranges from 1968 when the first negotiations took place and 1972, when the decision to join was taken and when Romania joined the IMF. During this period, the Romanian authorities launched a series of actions on several levels, to identify the opportunities offered by a possible IMF accession. Romanian embassies in Western countries prepared information about the activity of these institutions, organized official and informal meetings between representatives of the Romanian government and the IMF officials, and established diplomatic discussion channels. The NBR organized working groups and followed closely the activity of neighbouring socialist countries that were founding members or that were in talks with the IMF. The research will highlight the reasons and expectations of the Romanian government for the collaboration with the International Monetary Fund, the reasons for joining the International Monetary Fund, the decision-makers involved, and the institutions involved in the negotiations. Furthermore, the research will monitor the economic situation and will describe the general economic context as well as Romania's economic development plans, with mentions of how the economic and technology exchanges were established. The international economic situation and the opening of international financial assistance institutions favoured Romania's negotiations and accession to the IMF. The study will observe closely using archival resources, to whom this initiative belonged and who made accession possible and what problems arose during the negotiations.*

***Keywords:** International Monetary Fund, Clod War, Communism, Economic Relations, Romanian government.*

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**România, între Istoria și prezentul său geopolitic**  
– *Elevul cel bun al clasei de băieți răi*  
(și o anumită graniță la Marea Neagră) –

Adrian Cioroianu \*

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**Romania, between History and its Geopolitical Present – *The Best Student in the Class of Bad Boys (and a Certain Border on the Black Sea)* –**

*Abstract: The European Union faces a series of challenges that directly affect Romania as well. In the increasingly politically agitated East, Bucharest leaves the impression of an island of stability and predictability, without major crises and with decent economic growth. Moreover, Romania was one of the few countries in the European Union that, until the last parliamentary elections, did not have extremist parties in Parliament. However, the crises that neighbouring countries are going through force Romanian political leaders to seek solutions to a multitude of challenges. And the most important of these is the fluidity of borders. Maps are becoming more and more important, and Romania needs to understand this.*

*Keywords: Geopolitics, War, European Union, OTAN, Black Sea, Romania.*

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