

ON THE FOREIGN MERCENARIES AND THE EARLY MILITARY
INNOVATIONS IN EAST-CENTRAL EUROPE. CASTALDO'S ARMY IN
TRANSYLVANIA AND THE BANAT

Florin Nicolae Ardelean

Abstract. In the middle of the 16th century, the House of Hapsburg extended for a while its domination over Transylvania and the Banat. The diplomatic negotiations were the main way to occupy those territories, but sending of military effectives was the way to keep them under the Hapsburgs' control. Those, during 1551 and after also, more detachments of foreign mercenaries (Germans, Magyars, Spanish, Italians, Czechs, etc.), under General Givanni Batista Castaldo's guidance arrived in Transylvania. The Hapsburgs' army had to face lots of difficulties: a hard supply, lack of pays, difficult climatic conditions, and the local inhabitants' hostility. Nevertheless the Austrian army short presence in Transylvania facilitated the military technology and know-how transferring from the western part towards the eastern part of the continent. The military structuring of the Principality of Transylvania benefited of the military architects' work, who had been sent there by the House of Hapsburg, and of the armament (artillery and fire arms, especially) which the foreign mercenaries had brought there. The organizing of the first military permanent detachments that the Transylvanian princes would use the next decades was also considerable influenced by the Austrian army.

ON THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIVE OF A NOBILIARY JUDGE IN THE
COUNTY OF SEVERIN: LADISLAU LĂȚUG OF DELINEȘTI (1550-1600)

Ligia Boldea

Abstract. The present study intends to reconstitute part of the public and private live of noble Ladislau Lățug de Delinești, who was for almost 13 years, 1580 - 1593, a nobiliary judge of Severin County. Such a longevity, which is quite unique in the Banat of that time, allowed us to reconstitute several moments of his public life that might be extrapolated on the nobiliary judge identitary profile down from the time of him. In so far as the preserved references offered us the possibility to identify his family's origin and evolution, and also the patrimony on which that family had founded its privileged social-juridical statute, we have attempted to integrate his activity into the familial milieu. So we have found out that it is a special case within the nobiliary elite of the banat of Caransebeș and Lugoj, a collateral branch of one of the prestigious family in that area, namely, the family of Măcițaș of Tincova, which detached from its ancestry chart by the 15th century starting – the 16th one beginning, endeavoring to set its own familial and patrimonial structure under the name of Lățug of Delinești.

ON THE HISTORY OF RELIGIOUS CONFESSIONS IN 16TH UND 17TH CENTURY HUNGARY AND TRANSLVANIA

Harald Roth

Abstract. Church history on the regions of former St. Stephen's Empire usually is written only from the point of view of certain confessional groups, only few attempts were made to understand church history of this regions as a whole. In addition we are used to simplify the historical process by assuming that (linguistic or political) groups are adherent only to one special faith, like: Hungarians are Calvinist, Romanians are Orthodox and Germans are Lutherans. The author intends to demonstrate with examples from Transylvania and old Hungary that facts are not as simple, that there existed several options during the 16th century and that there was always a large diversity of special confessional groups. He encourages a broad view on church history and to realize the *attempt a comprehensive history of religions in this part of East Central Europe.*

RELIGIOUS IMPRINTS AT THE UNSTABLE FRONTIERS: GEORGE BUITUL AND THE TOWNS FROM SOUTHERN TRANSYLVANIA (17TH CENTURY)

Livia Magina

Abstract. The aim of this study is to highlight a fragment of religious history at the southern border towns of the Principality of Transylvania. The arrival of the Jesuits in Caransebeş, although they had been banned, meant restoring the Catholic positions threatened by Reform. One of the most famous exponents of the Society of Jesus in this area was George Buitul, a Romanian missionary originating in Caransebeş. In his first report in early 1626, he provides information about the way he was receipt and about results of missionary effort conducted in urban centers in Banat. The coming years the Jesuit mission will increase, managing to recover the positions threatened by the Protestant impact. Buitul's death will have negative effects on the future development of the Company of Jesus in the southern border area of the Transylvanian Principality. After 1640 Jesuit mission in the Banat of Lugoj-Caransebeş has ceased its activity and its role was taken over by Bosnian Franciscans.

MIHAIL HALICI-JUNIOR IN THE RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL CONTEXT OF HIS TIME

Edit Szegedi

Abstract. Descendant of a Romanian-Calvin family in Caransebes, Mihail Halici, junior is an emblematic personage for the opportunities and limits of the states regime in the Principality of Transylvania. Although known by specialists, his life has enough gaps, the reasons of his going into exile being among. The

present study attempts to put forward hypotheses on the reasons of his tempestuous departing and on his total detaching from Transylvania.

FROM MARSH TO THE LAND OF PROMISE: THE BANAT MEDIEVAL SCENERY CHANGING

Adrian Magina

Abstract. The Banat, especially its low part, was seen as a world of waters, of marshes and floodable areas in the Middle Ages. That was a durable perception and it was Jókai Mór to give the best image of it in *The Gypsies' Voivode*. Not unreasonable the people of that time took the Banat for a territory under the waters siege, isles, piscicultural settings and floods being frequently mentioned. Only in the modern age, beginning with the 18th century, the territory entered under a process of systematization. By the end of the 19th century that medieval scenery almost totally disappeared due to the Austrian authorities' endeavors, and the province became a "blessed countryside". However, occasionally the former Banat comes to light when floods return and offer the picture of a territory under the waters threat, as it has happened in 2005.

IMAGERY OF FOREST AND NATURE IN THE HISTORICAL MAPS OF TRANSYLVANIA BETWEEN 1528 AND 1812

Dorin Ioan Rus

Abstract. The present study intended to analyze the forest and nature mapping imagery beginning with 1528, the year the first image of the Transylvanian territories is present in Lazarus' survey, up to the moment the map-drawing institute is founded in Sibiu. The mapping sources come to round up the references of the 18th century, but they are also supplemented with the foreign travelers' data, or the official, administrative information. Both the sources round up the image and area of the Transylvanian forests during the time we are discussing about.

Three are the periods the author uses for that time: up to the Austrian administration setting, from 1699 until Josephine survey, and after 1773 up to the institute in Sibiu founding.

As the maps of time are not directed on the subject, the forests presence is inferred from mines and salt works, glass manufactures and charcoal kilns as those ones needed wood to produce. There are other elements too to indicate the forests presence: saw mills, toponyms, grasslands, etc. The forests image is sometimes realized in oblique lines, other times in dots or even in the shape of certain trees. The way the hills are drawn, as mole pits is another element to indicate the forests presence.

The survey maps also present the extension of clearing as well as the fact that the northern part of the Transylvanian plateau was less afforested than the southern one. The Mures stream would be the demarcation line. A integral measurement of the forests in Transylvania began in 1786 but it was only partly done for the military cartographers were sent to the Austro-Turkish front.

STUDENTS FROM THE BANAT IN GRAZ (1640–1918)

Dragoș Lucian Țigău

Abstract. The present study analyzes the presence of 226 young people from the Banat in Graz schools (academic gymnasium, university and polytechnic institute). Essential aspects relative to the history of these institutes are referred to: foundation and reorganization times, teaching offer, details on curriculum, etc. The national historiographies concerning to study the compatriots' presence in Graz schools is also presented. On the basis of recent repertories, data on age, ethnic origin, confession, previous studies, material and social statute of these students from the Banat are also analyzed. The data show that part of the students graduated their gymnasia in Graz (Academic Gymnasium, the Technical School, *Ursulineum* Institute). The same data allow a comparison between the parents' occupations and the special studies their descendants made. A novel may be the presence of eight girls from the historical Banat at Graz University, a short time after the women were given the right to have an academic education. The most part of the students from the Banat chose to take the right, medicine and engineering faculties. 85 of them made training studies in other 24 universities, and this proves both the students' good material conditions and their wish to find lessons and a studying atmosphere more adequate to their interests and aspirations. The titles of doctor or diplomas of engineer awarded by faculties in Graz or in other locations, their works publishing and also their notable achievements after are proves of the faculties graduating too. Diplomats, office holders, manufacturers, politicians and journalists are to be found among these alumni, all of them contributing to the fellow countrymen's interests promoting and to the society in the Banat connection to European culture and values.

THE HAPSBURGS' POLICY RELATED TO TRANSPORT AND MAIL SYSTEM IN TRANSYLVANIA (1688–1790)

Ovidiu Koch-Tufiș

Abstract. The moment the Hapsburgs installed in Transylvania, the local transport system consisting in a net of roads and navigable routes on the inner rivers was an underdeveloped one. The policy of Vienna Court in what concerns the Transylvanian system of transport was influenced during the 18th century by the principles of mercantilism that stressed on the land and naval transport developing as a way to stimulate the general trade. The military and strategic interests of the Hapsburgs in the south-eastern area of Europe played also a major role in the transportation developing in Transylvania. Administrative and structuring measures were taken by the Court in Vienna there; firstly they were related to salt transport structuring within the Principality, but especially towards Hungary and the Banat, but also in making many projects and emitting of decrees and dispositions regarding the land roads and navigable routes improving and extending in Transylvania. Under those circumstances the works executed to improve and extend the net of roads and navigable routes, and also the financial funds directed to those works execution played an important role. Following the financial difficulties the Monarchy passed through, those funds for the Transylvanian transport developing were reduced. But the Court in Vienna obliged

the Transylvanian peasants to do handworks or to use their teams in maintaining and extending the transportation net. The professional rafters were given various privileges and taxes reducing especially for the important salt transport on the Transylvanian rivers. But the roads and navigable routes net still remained far from the time exigencies in spite of the Hapsburgs measures and the real progress in the field. The Court in Vienna took also administrative, structural and financial measure to develop the mail system in Transylvania. The direct line of mail coaches between Transylvania and Vienna opening in 1754 was a real success. After the Habsburg consulates opening in Walachia and Moldavia in 1782, a new mail coach line was open, a secondary one between Vienna and Constantinopol that passed Transylvania. The Hapsburgs obliged the inhabitants to different services, as to put horses at the mail lines disposal or to lodge the travelers within their dwellings. In spite of those measures certain difficulties were still recorded within the mail system in Transylvania. There were no significant results in mail stations building or in setting other accommodation opportunities besides the inhabitants' dwellings. More than this, significant mail late comings were registered in Transylvania at that time.

CHARLES XII OF SWEDEN AND FERENC II RÁKÓCZI AS GUESTS OF
THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE: TRACES OF VICISSITUDINARY CULTURAL
RELATIONS AND THEORETICAL-METHODOLOGICAL THOUGHTS ON
THE INFLUENCE OF THE PROVINCIAL MILIEUS UPON THE WAY TO
TACKLE HISTORY

Ulrike Tischler-Hofer

Abstract. The article focusses on two famous aristocrats in European history: king Charles XII of Sweden (1697-1718) and Ferenc II Rákóczi, prince of Transylvania (1704-1711). In the first decades of the 18th c. both of them spent some years as guests of the Sultan in peripheric areas of the Ottoman Empire: Charles namely in Bender (South-Bessarabia), Demirtaş and Dimetoka (both situated in Thrace), Rákóczi in Edirne, the village of Yeniköy (near Constantinople) and Rodosto at the Marmara shore. The author is led by the hypothesis that the presence of these two aristocrats with their courts in the narrow-minded provincial ambience of the mentioned places has contributed crucially to the dialogue interlinking between these loci and the wider world, so that one may speak of “glocal” historical heritage. This phenomenon is traced by examples of material culture *in situ* and *ex situ*.

ILLYRIAN PRIVILEGES AND THE ROMANIANS FROM THE BANAT

Nicolae Bocşan

Abstract. The study refers to the privileges that the Orthodox population from the Balkans was given in order to settle in the Austrian territory at the border with the Ottoman Empire, colonization of the Serbians, Romanians and Macedo-Romanians/ Macedono-Vlachs from the Balkans in Hungary and in the Banat in 1690, diplomas through which those privileges were given or reconfirmed, their

results on the Orthodox population from Hungary and the Banat concerning the ecclesial, cultural and social life, and on the Orthodox Church structuring in the province. If initially the House of Hapsburg had given those privileges for political and military reasons, it gradually diminished them after the Orthodox Church subordinating through the Illyrian constitutions.

THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE BANAT PRIVILEGED IMPERIAL-ROYAL
TRADE COMPANY IN TIMISOARA AND ITS TRYING
TO TRADING WITH RUSSIA (1763)

Costin Feneşan

Abstract. Emperor Maria Theresa confirmed on the 26th of May 1759 the founding contract of “The Banat Privileged Imperial-Royal Trade Company” in Timisoara. It aimed on the one hand to export of different natural products of the Banat (grains especially) towards Austrian shore of the Adriatic Sea, and, on the other hand, to import manufactured products, spices, sugar, coffee and others for the internal consumption. As a typical company of that time mercantilist policy, it benefited for the very beginning not only of the state direct and consistent taking part in, but also of innumerable advantageous conditions the state offered to it. The state direct and indirect involving operated in fact just at of the shareholders level, as the list of them shows for 1762 – 1763. 100 shares (of 500 forints each one) were held by the emperor through the Court Council for Trade, other 13 (of 6,500 forints) belonged also to her through the Supreme Direction of the Fiscal Pay Office, so that the state owned 54.59% of the company shares (207 shares of 103,500 forints). The state participation undoubtedly stimulated the interest of certain office holders and also inferior ones belonging to the Banat imperial administration to rank among the stockholders: governor count Perlas with 8 shares, administrative advisors Brandenburg (6 shares), Plach and Ohnesorg (4 shares each one), Hillmayer (1 share), county managers Unrein and Knoll (2 shares each one), Schickelgruber and Mayer (1 share each one) and auditor Senfftleben (1 share). It is remarkable that several Romanian and Serbian local ober-knezes were also among the stockholders: ober-knezes and sub-managers Paul Mic(u) and Iancu Ciornei (4 shares each one), Marcika Jurković (2 shares) and Vukmir Nikolić (1 share), and ober-knezes Milica Popović (4 shares), Lazăr Ciocârlan, Nikola Nenadović and Živojn Milošević (2 shares each one). There were also two officers among the shareholders: lieutenant-colonel Greiner von Mislehtin (1 share) and captain Scheley (5 shares). Nor the well-versed Jew merchants Mayer Amigo (6 shares) and David Daidasak (4 shares) were absent from that so colored picture of the shareholders; there were others too to think that as share holders they would feather their nests, as the two cattle merchants Petro Stoiko and Jurcika (2 shares each one) did. The Rascian mayor of Timisoara, Josim Malenica invested in 4 shares whiles Krageisen, a beer producer invested in two shares. The company Kernhofer & Co in Vienna subscribed for 8 shares and took the company guaranteeing in the imperial capital. An important stockholder joined the company in Timisoara within a short time: state councilor Borić, who reached to 23 shares in 1764.

A new trade company was set up in Timisoar in 1765, following the central authorities' initiative: “The Trade Company with Trieste”. One year later that one joined the first company and made “The Privileged Imperial-Royal Trade

Company in Timisoara and Trieste”, also known as “Timisoara-Trieste Company”. In 1766, the company stockholders included to a large extent the former ones of the “Trade Company” in 1762-1763, the state taking the control through the 113 subscribed shares of The Central Trade Pay Office. The Credit Bank Brano joined too (with 8 shares), and also several court and trade advisors in Vienna: Hochstetten, Riesch, Bree and Gigand. Count Perlas, the Banat governor subscribed for 13 shares (13,000 forints), and also did advisors Brandenburg, Plasch and Ohnesorg. Few were this time the ober-knezes and the district administrators to join the company, probably as a result of the former “Trade Company” fluctuations. In the end, “Timisoara-Trieste Company” was dissolved in 1775.

It was in December 1763 the moment that Samuel Andree, the court advisor who had assumed the management of the company and redressed it after two years of setting back rather, tried to find a new outlet: Russia. Having sought advice from governor Perlas and advisor Brandenburg, he talked to the Russian court advisor Dimitri Ladighin who was in Timisoara, how to initiate an export line of the Trade Company towards Russia. The Banat imperial administration concluded a delivering contract with Ladighin for 300,000 sickles (it could have been scythes too) made at Bocsia Montana. More than this, Samuel Andree proposed count von Andlern-Witten, president of The Court Trade Council to open a mill for red cotton tissue (*Kummatsch* in German, *burlat* in Russian) in Timisoara, in order to export in through the local company to Russia. Because of The Court Trade Council reticence and nonimplication, the project failed in the end.

THE PHYSICIAN ADAM CHENOT – RESHAPING PLAGUE CONTROL IN THE AUSTRIAN CORDON SANITAIRE (APPROX. 1770–1780)

Sabine Jesner

Abstract. The paper outlines the function of the Military Border as well organized plague early-warning system for the Habsburg Monarchy. Through the establishment of quarantine stations and the permanent manned Cordon of the Military Border sections the court in Vienna created an economically sustainable instrument to improve and organize plague prevention, effective throughout the southeast border of the Monarchy. The central element of this system, were the quarantine stations, where under seclusion purification of persons, goods and animals were executed. The physician Adam Chenot became the focus of attention, because he revealed organizational and structural deficiencies. His proposed concepts were picked up and analysed, in all probability being a factor of implementation and performance benchmark for following sanitary prevention regulations in the Habsburg Empire.

THE BANAT AS REFLECTED IN *GRAZ PEASANT NEWS*

Andreas Golob

Abstract. The article explores political, social, economic and cultural information on the Banat conveyed by *Graz Peasant News* (1786–1796),

particularly in the years 1791 and 1792. The sources which the editor, Michael Hermann Ambros, used, are discussed with a focus on correspondents' letters which were the newspaper's unique selling proposition. These sources of information primarily offered political and military accounts on the last Austro-Turkish War and its aftermath, but also depicted the Banat as an economically important region of the Habsburg monarchy. This latter feature did not only play a considerable role in the actual, political newspaper, but also in the advertising supplement. In this part of the newspaper, it is most significant that the Banat supplied valuable data for the editor's highly interesting and ambitious plan to monitor grain prices in the hereditary countries. Finally, the article cites traces of readers as well as contributors from the Banat and their communication with Ambros.

THE NOBILIARY FAMILY OF MOSCA OF IVANDA

Sasha Iaşin

Abstract. One of the most important aspects of the social life after the Banat liberation from the Ottomans' domination was the nobiliary life restructuring in concordance with the new standards and needs of the political and economical events of that time. The historians in the Banat and also the nobiliary families' descendants have shown these last years an intense concern in putting in light the history of each noble family. Any of those families played a more or less important part in the Banat and the Hapsburg Empire history and let by that more or less accessible data. One of those families on which historians have few written is the family of Mosca of Ivanda, of an A-Romanian origin, which asserted itself in the Banat through contributions to the mercantile system of the Empire during the end of the 18th century – beginning of the 19th one. The subject we have tackled unpretending to be an exhaustive investigation, may be a contribution to studying the nobiliary phenomenon in the Banat.

CROATIAN AND SERBIAN ELITES IN A HISTORICAL-STATISTICAL COMPARISON (THE 19TH–20TH CENTURIES): A COLLECTIVE BIOGRAPHY

Theresia Töglhofer

Abstract. The present collective biographical study explores the social structural characteristics of historical Croatian and Serbian elites by examining their geographical and social origin as well as the educational background. The sample includes 136 members of the political and cultural elites born between 1875 and 1928, selected by the reputational method. Comparison is structured around three dimensions: the affiliation with different elite groups (interwar political elites, communist political elites, and cultural elites), the regional/national affiliation as well as the generational affiliation. For the interwar political elite and the cultural elites it can be observed that they frequently originate from the central and urban areas where the modernisation of Croatian and Serbian society is the most advanced. It is striking that the geographical and social origin of the Croatian

elite is far more heterogeneous than the urban and bourgeois background of their Serbian counterparts. Regardless of their regional affiliation, a high level of education reveals to be the key criterion in the obtainment of elite status. Contrary to the traditional political and cultural elite groups, the educational level of the communist political elite in the post-war period is generally lower and their origin appears to be less influenced by the socio-economic conditions of their environment. This can be ascribed to the break with traditional patterns of elite recruitment. Nevertheless, also within the communist elite different biographical patterns can be distinguished. Biographical variations can also be attributed to the generational affiliation of elite members, for instance with regard to a decreasing tendency in studying abroad. However, the main differences regarding the socio-economic characteristics of the elite seem to be conditioned by regional origin and the belonging to different elite groups. In general, the collective biographical structure of the historical elite reveals to be closely connected to the social historical development of the Serbian and Croatian territories.

CAROL WOLFF'S ACTIVITY IN THE FIELD OF POLITICAL ECONOMY BEFORE THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Gerald Volkmer

Abstract. Carl Wolff influenced the life of the Saxons in Transylvania before World War I as no other one did at that time. Having graduated the Law, he took in 1874 the editorship of "Siebenbürgisch-Deutschen Tageblatt" and made it the most important German news paper in Transylvania up to 1885. He represented the Saxons' interests in the Parliament of Hungary between 1881 and 1887. In 1890 he was elected president of "The Central Committee of the Saxons in Transylvania", at "Sachsentag" (The Saxons' Congress), the supreme forum of the Saxons there, and also, in 1901, the regnicolar curator of the Evangelic Church C. A. in Transylvania. But Carl Wolff developed his most durable activity in the field of political economy. The basis of his macro-economical work was "Hermannstädter allgemeine Sparkassa" (The General Saving Bank in Sibiu) he led between 1885 and 1919. He succeeded to increase twenty times the bank income up to 1914 and so it was used to consolidate the spare funds, as well as for charitable and cultural programs. He succeeded not only to fully support the educational German system in Transylvania, but also to contribute to some important projects as the Electric Plants in Sibiu and the town connection to the railway net. Carl Wolff was also a founder of Raiffeisen system in Transylvania, which raised the rural population's living standards together with the local consumers' co-operatives. He was involved too into a modern industry setting up in the Saxon towns, in order to keep the Saxon businessmen's competitiveness. He thought that such competitiveness was the central premise of the Saxon educational and associative system supporting, as the basis of an active civil society of the Saxons in Transylvania.

FROM BUDAPEST TO BUCHAREST. THE PARLIAMENTARY ELITE OF THE BANAT BEFORE AND AFTER THE GREAT WAR

Ovidiu Emil Iudean

Abstract. The Great Union from Alba Iulia sanctioned the fulfilment of the national desideratum espoused by the Romanians in Transleithania; at the same time, it was also the moment that marked the beginnings of the massive process that led to the integration of Transylvania and the Banat in the political, economic and social life of the Kingdom of Romania. Our study focuses on the political strand of this process, examined through the lenses of the transformations undergone by the regional parliamentary elite in the Banat at the beginning of the interwar period. To this end, based on a prosopographical analysis, we have carried out a vertical comparison between the body of Banatian deputies from the last two legislatures of the Budapest Parliament during the Dualist Period and the body of Banatian deputies from the first two legislatures of the Bucharest Parliament during the interwar period. The results obtained thus offer a detailed image of their differences/similarities concerning the mechanisms for the selection of parliamentary representatives, their social-professional careers, their political options, as well as the contribution of the Banatian electorate to the validation of the regional parliamentary elite.

THE UNPUBLISHED DIARY FROM THE FIRST WORLD WAR OF LEOPOLD PROHASKA, AN OFFICER IN THE BANAT

Mircea-Gheorghe Abrudan

Abstract. In the context of 100 years since World War I starting and unfolding, respectively, historiography in Romania and Europe is intensely concerned with the event. The present study fits in this historiographic movement as a new contribution particularly to the effort of the First World War memoirs from the Banat redeeming and, generally, to the cultural history of the Banat re-writing. The inedited diary of the Swabian officer from the Banat, Leopold Prohaska who relates his and his battalion Maschinengewehrabteilung IV belonging to the Infantry regiment 29 in Timisoara taking part into Austro-Hungarian army campaign in Galicia. The diary has 211 pages, it was written during the military expeditions and the author re-wrote it in April 1915. The chronologic daily notes from the 28th of July 1914 to the 21 of March 1915 are an important source concerning the front developing in Galicia, the costs of that Austro-Hungarian military unit on the Eastern battles and also the personal feelings and experiences of an officer together with his battalion within the first eight months of the Great War.

A MEMOIRIST FROM BANAT. ON THE BALKAN FRONTS OF THE GREAT WAR. "LAE FROM BANAT"

Mihaela Bedecan

Abstract. This study aims to present a memorial document of the Banatian soldier who published under the name "Lae from Banat." A member of the 43rd Caransebeş Infantry Regiment, the author set off to the battlefield in 1915. The memoirist crossed much of the Balkan Peninsula on his way to the Italian front, where he was a direct participant in the military operations. Compared to classic war memoirs, which focused especially on battles and the battle line, this text lends itself to an analytical perspective that has less frequently been resorted to in the historiography of the Great War. Attention is transferred unto facets that are rarely activated in memoirs. These aspects bring to the fore the human factor and the complex image of the territories traversed, which are given a detailed presentation from a historical, geographic and demographic perspective. Despite the fact that he does not concentrate on military operations, the document captures exciting facts, with great psychological impact on the protagonist. The reality is presented in a literary form, with the role of alleviating the brutality of concrete everyday life. An important aspect of the text concerns the presentation of human relations, depicted from two perspectives: the rapports with the local civilian population in the territories that the hero's company travelled through, but also the relationships within the company, among the comrades. The same attention is given to information about the soldiers' daily life and the difficulties they faced daily. These concerned mainly the problem of food, the need for water, and the diseases afflicting the soldiers, the weather and the way in which it influenced the progress of the war. Although he was protected from armed violence on the frontline, the memoirist reiterated the Balkan experience on a dramatic note, considering that it had been as dire as the battles themselves. The difficulties encountered along the path he travelled were thus turned into direct enemies, like the soldiers in enemy armies.

RECONSIDERATIONS OF THE BANATIAN REVOLUTION FROM THE AFTERMATH OF THE GREAT WAR

Andreea Dăncilă Ineoan

Abstract. In the 1920s, Teodor Păcățian, the President of ASTRA's History Section, resumed an older project: conducting a monumental survey that would result in a comprehensive overview of the events that had taken place in Transylvania, Crișana, Maramureș and the Banat at the end of the Great War. Focusing on the latter region, our presentation analyses – based on the answers to the questionnaires administered by ASTRA – a challenging time span that was, in fact, coeval with the shift of power in this area, a process that was extremely intensely experienced by the Banatian world: a border territory in which several competing national projects vied for supremacy. The radicalization of the soldiers who had returned from the front, the traumas suffered by those left at home, the tense relations with those from a different ethnical background and the frantic

survival solutions created favourable grounds for a series of political and social mutations.

Although the survey conducted by ASTRA is bound, as a historical source, by several constraints and limitations, which shall be duly taken into account, the merit of T. Păcățian's undertaking lies in the sheer scale of this project, in the impressive range of distribution for this survey, which may enable the establishment of typologies, of certain patterns that governed the course of this revolution marking the end of an empire, and may provide us with the opportunity to develop much more diversified scenarios than those advanced so far.

THE POLICY OF SCHOOL MATTERS BY ECCLESIASTICAL
AUTHORITIES IN FAVOUR OF THE GERMAN MINORITY IN RUMANIA
1919-1944

Ulrich Wien

Abstract. It was a great challenge for the ecclesiastical authorities of the roman-catholic bishopric (Timișoara) and the lutheran, countrywide church (Sibiu) to be dared by a hostile policy of the Rumanian government against the ethnic minorities in actuality. The legal opportunity to stabilize the organic coherence of „Volkstum und Glaube“ (ethnic and religious identity) was subsidised by the majority of the German minority both catholics and protestants. Though the Rumanian state passed the law of particular (private) schools in 1926, the measures of the governments took aim at nationalisation of these schools, which meant an erosion of the guarantees to teach the pupils in their mothertongue (besides history and geography). The attitude of defensiveness against this legal uncertainty was one of the elements which supported the young German generation's turn to national socialism in Rumania. The roman catholic and the lutheran church authorities imposed sanctions to political radicals inside the teachers staff between 1934 and 1938. But generally they didn't distance themselves from national socialism. By means of the decree-law (20. Nov. 1940) the regime of Antonescu permitted a quasi self-governed „Deutsche Volksgruppe in Rumänien“ (German political regime within the ethnic group). This self-government exerted pressure on both church authorities to install a „national school“ based on the spirit of national socialism. All young Germans should indoctrinated by this „erudition“. In this delicate situation an extraordinary measer took place: the roman catholic bishop Pacha authorised the lutheran councillor Gustav Rösler to represent both churches at the ministry of education. First the diocese of Timisoara accepted the inevitable (contract, 16th of March 1942), then the general assembly of the Lutheran Church followed in June („entire treaty“). They delivered their schools inspite of particular opposition.

REASONS OF REPRESSIONS AGAINST THE GERMAN MINORITY IN
ROMANIA AT II WORLD WAR END AND WHY THE GERMAN
POPULATION WAS NOT EXPELLED YET

Matthias Duller

Abstract. This article provides a discussion of the politics of repressions against the ethnic Germans in Romania at the end of the Second World War from the viewpoint of the Romanian Communist Party. To that end, it proceeds in three steps. First, it analyzes the political position of the RCP on the domestic and international scene, pointing to its traditional marginality and the centrality of the nationalities question through which the RCP sought to gain domestic and international legitimacy. Secondly, it uses archival records mostly of internal discussions in party and government meetings in order to determine the motivations that lay behind the repressions against the ethnic Germans. As becomes clear, these politics ultimately aimed at the expulsion of the ethnic Germans from Romania for which the RCP never received international approval. Therefore, thirdly, the article discusses the reasons why the ethnic Germans were not expelled from Romania by putting the Romanian case into the comparative context of other East-Central-European countries. It appears that none of the conditions that led to the expulsion of ethnic Germans from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Yugoslavia, were present in Romania too.