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Cornel Sigmirean

**DOUBLE LOYALTY: THE ROMANIAN OFFICERS OF THE  
AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN ARMY IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR**

***Abstract:** When the First World War started, the Romanians of Transylvania were fond of Franz Ferdinand project for the federalization of the Empire. Consequently, from 1914 to 1916 they hoped for the national problem to be resolved with the good will of Vienna. The Romanian officers were also loyal to the Austro-Hungarian state. But when Romania entered the war a crisis of loyalty began to manifest and at the end of the war, all the Romanian officers serving within the Austro-Hungarian army showed themselves eager to fight for the cause of the Romanian nation.*

***Keywords:** First World War, officers, loyalty, nation, loyalty crisis.*

Marian Zăloagă

**ROMANIANS AND PAN-GERMANISM IN THE LIGHT OF  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS BEFORE AND  
DURING THE WORLD WAR I**

***Abstract:** Over the time, Pan-Germanism was studied from political, military, economic and cultural perspective. Its clash with other pan-movements was considered to have had an undeniable contribution to the outbreak of ethnic conflicts in Central and Eastern Europe. My*

*research focuses on all these aspects. However, my approach is rather non-canonical because it introduces into debate a vision shared by the English speaking opponents of the movement itself as well as a hint to the Romanians' awareness who, from a certain moment, had (to) realize(d) the negative impact of Pan-German agenda. Although seemingly a secondary contribution to the World War I studies, this topic may be a good field of investigation because of the role assigned to some/an ethnic group(s)/small state(s) in Eastern Europe by at least two major international actors at war with one another. More than the voices of small candidates to the status of nation states or those who dreamt to fulfill their national unity, (i. e. Romanians/Kingdom of Romania represents an excellent case study), on account of neighboring empires, what was more salient in the sources I have studied were the voices of one world power towards another. As I will show, one could witness a veritable battle in words that was complementary to another (planned to be) carried out in the trenches. The approach was to assign the German Reich - the contender of the already imperial states - a set of essentialized negative cultural traits corresponding to attributed obnoxious intents manifesting in the international arena. The discourses visited by the authors of these texts consisted in denouncing Pan-Germanism as an imperialism germinating in a völkisch chauvinistic soil and concomitantly to bring guarantees of freedom to those taking the side of the Entente. Undoubtedly, these writings could legitimize the war carried against Pan-Germanism identified and represented, in all its aspects, to be a menace of the world status-quo.*

**Keywords:** *Pan-Germanism, Eastern Europe, Romanians/Kingdom of Romanian, English public opinion, World War I.*

**Maria Tătar-Dan**

**LES PRETRES ROUMAINS DANS LA PREMIERE GUERRE  
MONDIALE. LE CAS DE L'ARCHIPRETRE DE REGHIN**

**Abstract:** *The Romanian Priests and the First World War. The Case of the Archbishop of Reghin* A tumultuous event of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the First World War profoundly changed Europe and the world, marking the beginning of a new era in the history of humanity. Beyond victory, earnings and gains or defeats, The Great War, as it was called by the contemporaries, represented an enormous drama, a breakdown in the

*life of everybody, a period of insecurity and suffering, every family having its widows, orphans or mutilated. The civilians became targets, the victims of a strategy which aimed at annihilating and undermining the morale, the production capacity, as well as the national symbols. The present study recreates a fragment of the dramas experienced by the Romanians in Transylvania during the First World War, more precisely, the events taking place around the city of Sopron - situated in the West of Hungary - the main victims being intellectual elites, particularly the priests.*

**Keywords:** war, miseries, reprisal, victims, priests.

**Corina Teodor**

**MARRIAGES IN BALANCE: MISSING WITHOUT A TRACE  
ON THE FRONT OF WORLD WAR I. RECORDS OF THE  
GREEK CATHOLIC DEANERY OF MUREȘ**

***Abstract:** A matter of a strong emotional impact talked over in the Romanian society as a consequence of the First World War was that of the alleged widow remarriage. The topic was socially relevant since it could help remove the uncertainty over the widows' marital status otherwise they did not get a legal confirmation about the disappearance of the husband sent to the frontline. In the present study, I attempt to reconstruct some individual dramas on the account of unpublished archival documents, as well as on lawyers and priests' procedures to find solutions to the new marriage issue.*

***Keywords:** women's history, World War I, Transylvania, Greek Catholic church, war casualties, missing in combats.*

**Florin Bengean**

**THE SOCIAL ASSISTANCE OF THE TRANSYLVANIAN  
ROMANIAN CHURCH DURING WORLD WAR I**

***Abstract:** The priests were always close to the Romanian people in the hard times of World War I: fighting on the battlefields, praying in*

*churches for the victory of the Romanian army, supporting emotionally those remained at home, organizing offertories in money and goods for orphans, old and sick people and widows. The Metropolitan See permanently addressed circulars and pastorals to priests and protopope advising them to stay close to the people during the very difficult times of the war. An important episode in the involvement of the church in charity actions was the establishment of the first Romanian Orthodox orphanage in Sibiu in 1916. The next step was the call from Blaj, the other national religious centre in Transylvania, to the clergy and the people in his neighbourhood. Few days after the warm call from Blaj, the highest authority of The Romanian Greek – Catholic Church decided to establish an orphanage in the old cultural centre laying between Târnavă rivers. An important role was played by The Society for The Favour of The War Orphans.*

**Keywords:** *social assistance, Transylvanian Orthodox Church, World War I.*

**Dorin-Ioan Rus**

**HUMAN HABITAT AND THE FOREST IN  
TRANSYLVANIA DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR. CASE  
STUDY: SIGHIȘOARA**

**Abstract:** *The sustainable use of resources in times of crisis and war is a very topical issue. The manner in which the wood supply was dealt with during the course of history makes this humanistic discipline meet the field of forestry. From the very beginning my paper distinguishes between the demand for construction wood and firewood. While demand for the former was very low to non-existent even in 1918, demand and prices for the latter grew as the war went on, being sold at the end of the conflict ten times more expensive than at the beginning of the Great War.*

*On the one hand, it can be argued that during the Great War the forests nearby Sighișoara were spared of human intervention. On the other hand, however, the lack of cleaning and thinning operations had a negative impact on the healthy evolution of the tree population. As for the forest's preservation, one can note the negative effects of the nineteenth-century Hungarian legislation that imposed a stereotyped forest management. In the interwar years, it came under heavy criticism from Saxon forestry experts, such as Julius Fröhlich. Finally, I*

*demonstrate that forestry in Sighișoara and the economic plan established at the end of the nineteenth century were not affected by the town's involvement in the First World War.*

**Keywords:** *forestry, wood supplies, Sighișoara, First World War.*

**Iulian Boldea**

### **PRIMUL RĂZBOI MONDIAL. REPREZENTĂRI NARATIVE**

**Abstract:** *The First World War had echoes of significant esthetic relevance in the Romanian literary life, influencing the development, thematic specter and form of the narrative discourse, as well as the vision upon reality specific to the writers from the inter-war period. Novelists like Liviu Rebreanu, Mihail Sadoveanu, Camil Petrescu, Hortensia Papadat-Bengescu and Cezar Petrescu have evoked the atmosphere of the war, as well as its dramatic aspects and traumas, transcribing, in memorable pages, representative human destinies and portraits which were subjected to the tragedy of death and to the impact of mass-massacre.*

**Keywords:** *First World War, Romanian literary space, narrative discourse, human destinies.*

**Nicoleta Sălcudeanu**

### **IDEOLOGICAL PARADOXES IN POST-WAR ROMANIAN CULTURE**

**Abstract.** *Is to be observed that while, in conditions of freedom, postwar France experienced transfiguration by washing its sins related to the Vichy government, restoring on the deserved place a natural and progressive attitude of left, the oppressive regime established in Romania, by recoil, pushed the only Romanian intellectual enclave in liberty to refold to the right, with unnatural and toxic capillary connections with extremisms. The state of exile strengthen those feelings. It goes without saying that all other institutions of exile coalesced*

*around them intellectuals who shared the same historical trauma and gravitated, with very few exceptions, around the same right-wing political beliefs. The entire West of that times seemed blind and deaf to the problems of captive countries behind the Iron Curtain. Separately to the “forget ethics” - the war left an unbearable memory - as beneficiaries of prosperity due to the Marshall Plan of economic rehabilitation, funded by U.S., Western Europe had no mood, no curiosity to know what is really happening in the new communist countries.*

**Keywords:** *dissidence, exile, Radio Free Europe, Iron Guard, communism, Iron Courtain, Marxism, Marshall Plan.*

**Anca Șincan**

**REWRITING REGIONAL HISTORY INTO THE NATIONAL  
CANON IN THE IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH OF THE FIRST  
WORLD WAR: A HISTORIOGRAPHICAL DEBATE ON THE  
HISTORY OF THE UNIATE CHURCH**

**Abstract:** *The present article discusses a historiographical polemic between two Transylvanian Church historians over the representation of the history of the Church in Transylvania. Zenovie Pâclișanu’s review of Ștefan Meteș’s book „Istoria Bisericii și a vieții religioase a românilor din Ardeal și Ungaria” and Meteș’ response could be discussed in the larger framework - the creation of the national history canon in post First World War Greater Romania. Their debate would also put in perspective the link between nation and religion in the creation of the nation state in post imperial / post First World War East Central Europe. The article looks both at this debate as a historiographical debate but also an institutional debate of the two Romanian Churches in Transylvania and their post war strive to become national institutions of the new state.*

**Keywords:** *Ștefan Meteș, Zenovie Pâclișanu, church history, national state, national church.*

Marius Silveșan

**IMPACTUL PRIMULUI RĂZBOI MONDIAL ÎN VIAȚA  
COMUNITĂȚII CREȘTINE BAPTISTE DIN ROMÂNIA MARE**

***Abstract:** The Impact of the World War I in the Life of the Christian Baptist Community in Great Romania* This study wants to highlight the impact that the World War I had in the life of Christian Baptist Community in Great Romania. The directions that we want to approach in this study targets the changes brought by the World War I in the life of Baptist communities that will form in the year 1919 the Union of Christian Baptist Communities in Romania. Subsequently, beginning with 1921, starts to function the The Baptist Theological Seminary, initially at Arad, and then in Bucharest. Education also won in the period we are going to analyze, its organization being influenced by the border and political changes after the World War I. The bringing together within the same borders of the Baptists in Transylvania with the ones in Muntenia, Moldova, Bukovina, a direct consequence of the World War I, influenced the way education was seen, but also the religious life as a whole, the community ethos. These aspects mentioned above marked the life of Baptist community in the inter-war period. In order to understand them, we will refer to the Baptist identity, the origins of Baptists in Romania and their institutional organization, but also to the role that the Baptist Theological Seminary had in the religious life of Baptist communities and in shaping a common identity.

***Keywords:** Baptist, the Baptist Theological Seminary, The Union of Christian Baptist Communities, the World War I, Constantin Adorian, Ioan Socaciu, Vasile Berbecar, Jean Staneschi, Romania, Baptist identity, theological education.*