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ACADEMIA ROMÂNĂ
ANUARUL INSTITUTULUI DE CERCETĂRI SOCIO-UMANE
„GHEORGHE ȘINCAI”

XXIII/2020

.....

I. CONSTRUCȚII ȘI DECONSTRUCȚII IDENTITARE

Marian Zăloagă, *Biserica Evanghelică din România și agenda germanității din străinătate. O relectură a revistei culturale „Ostland” (I)*.....5

Iulian Boldea, *Centru și periferie. Proza transilvăneană interbelică*.....55

Eugeniu Nistor, *Dezbaterea interbelică de idei și polemicile lui Lucian Blaga cu „Gîndiriștii”*.....73

Narcis Martiniuc, *O corespondență inedită: Mircea Eliade către Mitropolitul Vasile Suci, 1928*.....92

Roxana Mihaly, *L'identità nazionale nel contesto delle prime partecipazioni degli artisti romeni alla Biennale di Venezia*.....114

Valentin Locota, *Reorganizarea etnică a Europei Centrale și de Est (1939-1952)*.....123

II. ECONOMIE ȘI TRADIȚII

Simon Zsolt, *Wages and Prices in Late Medieval Braşov/Brassó/Kronstadt*137

Ferencz Iozsef Truța, *Pesimismul biologic de la Fin de Siècle și început de secol XX. Conflictul dintre religie și științele pozitive*.....156

Lucica Brad Paraschivescu, *Tradiție și industrie: o sută de ani în prelucrarea fibrei de lână. (Studiu de caz : istoria familiei Szilveszter din Chibed, județul Mureș)*.....179

III. POLITICĂ ȘI PROPAGANDĂ

Corina Hațegan, „Încă o victorie ca asta și ne-am curățatărăm!”. *Satiră și umor politic în revista Cucu (1933-1934)*.....194

Titi-Vasile Dălălău, *23 august 1944 și național-comunismul în paginile revistei „Magazin Istoric”(1967-1989)*..... 214

Silvia-Cristina Baumgarten, *Television as a Propaganda Tool of the Romanian Communist Party at the Beginning of the '70*.....232

IV. IDENTITĂȚI ȘI POLITICĂ ÎN EUROPA CENTRALĂ. CONTEXT INTERNAȚIONAL

Cornel Sigmirean, *"Gojdu" Foundation on the Political Agenda of the Romanian-Hungarian Relations (1920-1953)*.....258

Recenzii și note de lectură.....284

In memoriam Keith Hitchins (Cornel Sigmirean).....309

I. CONSTRUCȚII ȘI DECONSTRUCȚII IDENTITARE

Marian Zăloagă*

BISERICA EVANGHELICĂ DIN ROMÂNIA ȘI AGENDA GERMANITĂȚII DIN STRĂINĂTATE. O RELECTURĂ A REVISTEI CULTURALE „OSTLAND” (I)

Abstract: The Lutheran Church in Great Romania and the Agenda of *Auslandsdeutschum*. Rereading the Cultural Monthly Review *Ostland*. *The cultural periodicals represents a privileged ground whose investigation can reveal how a community of reading could contribute to the building of the imaginary modern national and pan-national discourses. My study looks at the monthly cultural journal “Ostland”, edited at Sibiu/Hermannstadt, the spiritual and political capital of the Germans in Great Romania. Departing from a previous rich body of literature, I suggest this journal must be approached for what it declared to have been and, therefore, be re-read in the context of the politically engaged Ostforschung and its subfield Deutschkunde. Programmatically, the journal came out already in 1919 as an attempt to support the reciprocal understanding of the German communities in the Great Romania. After a caesura in apparition, due to financial issues, it was republished starting with 1926. The new series outlined a re-dimensioned and reconfigured focus on Auslandsdeutschum. In both periods of the publication, it expressed the Transylvanian Saxons’ conservative elites, many of them Lutheran clergymen, standpoint on this matter. In the present research I show how by means of the essays written by ecclesiastical personalities on the topic, they strived to keep close to the Transylvanian Saxons’ tradition in approaching the cultural pan – German agenda. I also highlight that this engagement with the*

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topic, and the manner in which it was promoted by the Lutheran clerics and their secular collaborators from Great Romania, from the kinstate and/or from other German Siedlungsgebieten, was meant to function as a valve to deflate internal tensions and contestation movements. By reorienting the attention to a common goal, members of the German minorities from Great Romania and other eastern European states were encouraged to understand their belongingness to the Volksgemeinschaft as a noble mission to promote the German Kultur in the east. Undoubtedly, they sought to gain support from the kin-state where the interest in the Auslandsdeutschen was undeniably developing as a result of the Great War experience and its outcomes. However, as my paper shows the approach to this agenda had to be dealt with pragmatically and be negotiated according to a previous tradition developed by the Transylvanian Saxon bishops' family Teutsch. The accent put on adaptation of the discourses of Auslandsdeutschtum and of the cultural pan - Germanism in accordance to the historical and ethno-cultural local traditions was a strategy meant to serve various objectives. Through their prudent approach, Lutheran clerics and their secular collaborators had in view to preserve of the Transylvanian Saxon hegemony in the German minority in Great Romania, even to promote their model among various other German groups in the eastern Europe, and, finally, to answer back to the völkisch discourses visited by secular elites belonging to the generation of the war which progressively intended to devalue churchmen's role in the political representation of the Germans in Romania. Last but not least, by re-reading "Ostland", which ended its publication in 1931, a year before the retirement of the Bishop Friedrich Teutsch – himself a long time and judicious promoter of the Auslandsdeutschem' s agenda-, I could show that by not blindly jumping into the arms of the radical pan-German promoters, ecclesiastical Lutheran leaders from Romania, who occupied seats in the Romanian Parliament and governmental departments, succeeded to avoid conflicts with the Romanian authorities which were very sensitive to the matter of the loyalties manifested by the minority groups.

Keywords: "Ostland"; the Lutheran Church; interwar Romania; Auslandsdeutschem; Ostforschung; cultural pangermanism.

Iulian Boldea *

**CENTRU ȘI PERIFERIE. PROZA TRANSILVĂNEANĂ
INTERBELICĂ**

Abstract: Center and Periphery. The Interwar Transylvanian Prose.
In the article entitled Center and periphery. The interwar Transylvanian prose we aimed to highlight the main thematic areas of the interwar Transylvanian prose, represented by Ion Agârbiceanu, Liviu Rebreanu and Pavel Dan, writers who constituted distinct landmarks in the evolution of Romanian prose, through theme, style and importance of evoking reality. In the first decade after the First World War, the literary life in Transylvania is authoritatively dominated by three prose writers: Ion Agârbiceanu, Liviu Rebreanu and Pavel Dan, writers who each expressed a part of the Transylvanian spirit identity, embodying a stage of the integration process in the horizon of Romanian literature. Representing, in a realistic and objective spirit, the existence of the peasants, the prose writers Ion Agârbiceanu, Liviu Rebreanu, Pavel Dan seek to reveal the human in all its manifestations and avatars, with the challenges, aspirations and sufferings inherent in the human condition, with the traumas of death and disease, with illusions and his frustrations, but also with the repeated danger of moral decay, of ethical compromise, aspects that these writers examine with revealing interest and clarity, from which arises an underlying metaphysical vibration, coming from the epic debate of the relationship between real and ideally, between the center and the periphery, between the aspiration for happiness and the threat of dehumanization, which individuals must remove through resistance and moral accuracy, through a balanced and dignified conduct.

Keywords: prose; center; periphery; realism; identity.

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Eugeniu Nistor*

**DEZBATEREA INTERBELICĂ DE IDEI
ȘI POLEMICILE LUI LUCIAN BLAGA CU „GÎNDIRIȘTII”**

Abstract: The Interwar Debate of Ideas and Lucian Blaga's Controversies with the "Thinkers". In the diversity of philosophical trends after World War I and of the fierce confrontations between dialectics and irrationalism, in Romania we witness the first attempts to approach the original philosophical disciplines, thanks to specialists trained in major European universities. Thus, during the interwar period, the Romanian philosophy participates, through several representatives (C. Rădulescu-Motru, Ion Petrovici, Mircea Florian, P. P. Negulescu, Lucian Blaga, Nae Ionescu etc.) in the great European debate of ideas. The emphasis, within the local philosophical effervescence, falls on the ideological position of the Romanian thinkers, the American historian Keith Hitchins identifying three categories of orientations: Europeanists, traditionalists and followers of the third way. Among the representatives of these doctrinal groups, the system of thought of Lucian Blaga stands out, who, although initially integrated in the cultural movement of Gândirea magazine, in which he collaborated over two decades, later detached from the traditionalist and conservative conceptions of the publication led by Nichifor Crainic, adopting a modern, European position, after 1942, with the issue of his Religion and Spirit (from the structure of the Trilogy of Values). The result of this „insurgent” act consisted in the concerted attacks of „thinking” theologians not only in the magazine sponsored by them, but also in other publications of the time, which supported Orthodox ideas, the most eloquent example being illustrated by the book of theologian Dumitru Staniloaie, entitled Mr. L. Blaga's View on Christianity and Orthodoxy.

Keywords: *Europeanists and traditionalists; „Gândirea” magazine; „Saeculum” magazine; philosophy of culture; ethnic substance.*

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Narcis Martiniuc*

**O CORESPONDENȚĂ INEDITĂ: MIRCEA ELIADE CĂTRE
MITROPOLITUL VASILE SUCIU, 1928**

Abstract: An Unpublished Correspondence: Mircea Eliade to Metropolitan Bishop Vasile Suciu, 1928. *The study aims to reproduce and analyze two letters that Mircea Eliade addressed to Metropolitan Bishop Vasile Suciu in 1928, shortly before Eliade went to study in India.*

We will try to answer some questions raised by the material at hand: the motivation of this epistolary exchange, its purpose (we do not have Suciu's answer), the nature of the relationship between Mircea Eliade and Vasile Suciu and their theological common objectives. At the same time, this paper also highlights Eliade's interest in Christian mysticism on the one hand and the importance of Vasile Suciu as a dogmatist on the other hand.

Keywords: *Greek-Catholic Church; Vasile Suciu; Mircea Eliade; interwar period; theology; dogmatic theology.*

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Roxana Mihaly*

**L'IDENTITÀ NAZIONALE NEL CONTESTO DELLE
PRIME PARTECIPAZIONI DEGLI ARTISTI ROMENI ALLA
BIENNALE DI VENEZIA**

***Abstract: National Identity in the Context of the First Participations of Romanian Artists at the Venice Biennial.** The Venice Biennale project certainly represented one of the most prestigious international cultural events in which Romania has had the opportunity to take part since the early twentieth century.*

From a historical point of view, the first international art exhibition in Venice was organized in 1895, on the occasion of the silver wedding of the sovereigns Umberto I and Margherita di Savoia and, from that moment, it has always been held every two years, being interrupted only during the two world wars and, in 2019, due to the global Covid-19 pandemic.

The first participation of a Romanian artist in the Venice Biennale took place in 1903, at the 5th edition, when the sculptor Fritz Storck managed to exhibit in international rooms.

The next participation was in 1907, Romania being represented by the same artist. After these two participations, the Romania followed an absence of 17 years until 1924 when it was able to attend a group of artists, after which another absence of 14 years followed.

The presence of Romania at the Venice Biennale became notable only in 1938 when the councilor of state, president of Romanian Cultural League, Nicolae Iorga, managed to buy a pavilion for Romania. Iorga expressed, in various contexts, the idea that only the art of artists who had true feelings for their country should be exhibited in the pavilion, so according to him only traditional art should be exhibited.

The political context of Romania after '48 inevitably influenced the art world as well, so that the new aesthetic line imposed by the Soviets made many established artists marginal.

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In the new era of globalization and of artistic currents promoted on a global level, is it very interesting to look at when the projects proposed by the countries participating in the Venice Biennale retain their national identity.

Keywords: Venice Biennale; identity; Romanian artists; Italy; art.

Valentin Locota*

REORGANIZAREA ETNICĂ A EUROPEI CENTRALE ȘI DE EST (1939-1952)

Abstract. Ethnic Reorganization of Central and Eastern Europe. *Within a century and a half, with the creation of nation-states in the 19th century, the ethnic minority was transformed from a ally into an enemy. Through shift in values, which had as its main purpose, behind a declared ethnic reorganization, instated the withdrawal of the borders of the states of Europe. The two most infamous dictators of the twentieth century, Hitler and Stalin, wanted essentially the same thing - the seizure of new territories, resources and populations. The means they used were similar, the ideologies on whose behalf they did so differed greatly. The relocations were a chapter in this attempt at ethnic reorganization of Central and Eastern Europe that involved 16.5 million Europeans. In the end it was realized, but in the opposite direction to the plans of the two. At the end of World War II and after the collapse of communist regimes in the East, the German ethnic minority almost disappeared from this part of the continent. Only Stalin managed to place, on the Western flank of the borders of the Soviet Union, about 2.5 million Russians and Ukrainians, who occupied the territory left free by the recently expelled populations.*

Keywords: Hitler; Stalin; relocation; ethnic reorganization.

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II. ECONOMIE ȘI TRADIȚII

Zsolt Simon*

WAGES AND PRICES IN LATE MEDIEVAL BRAȘOV/BRASSÓ/KRONSTADT¹

Abstract: *In this paper I present the medieval (i. e. until 1526) prices and wages of Brașov, one of the most important medieval Transylvanian towns, on the basis of the town's preserved financial accounts, written in the first decades of the 16th century.*

Keywords: *wages; prices; Middle Ages; Transylvania; Brașov/Brassó/Kronstadt.*

Ferencz Iozsef Truța *

PESIMISMUL BIOLOGIC DE LA *FIN DE SIÈCLE* ȘI ÎNCEPUT DE SECOL XX CONFLICTUL DINTRE RELIGIE ȘI ȘTIINȚELE POZITIVE

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Abstract: Biological Pessimism at *Fin de Siècle* and Early Twentieth Century. The Conflict Between Religion and Positive Sciences. *In the history of mankind, since antiquity, everything corrupts and degenerates, the biological degeneration of man being only one aspect of general decadence. The subject of degeneration has been adapted during the course of history to all tastes and visions. Thus, the idea of degeneration was taken up again in the nineteenth century of course through a specific formula marked by scientific progress and cultural evolution. Concerning the Romanian space, even if the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century represented a cheerful period, from the perspective of some professional categories, the future (seen through the prism of a possible biological degeneration) seemed to be catastrophic and even apocalyptic. This paper illustrates the urgent concern of the elite to catch up with the West, but it will mainly focus on the postulate of degeneration, regeneration of the "Romanian element" in relation to religion and, last but not least, on the theme of the decline that was inserted in the updating of the cyclical scheme of history.*

Keywords: *degeneration; religion; regeneration; Romanian element; science.*

Lucia Brad Paraschivescu*

**TRADIȚIE ȘI INDUSTRIE: O SUTĂ DE ANI ÎN
PRELUCRAREA FIBREI DE LÂNĂ.**

**(Studiu de caz : istoria familiei Szilveszter din Chibed, județul
Mureș)**

Abstract: The 100-year activity in wool technological process. Case studies: History of the Szilveszter's from Chibed, Mureș county. *Wool is a textile resource with a special cultural and economic impact. It was produced and used in all Romanian territories with great success,*

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especially where shepherding was the main occupation. Wool processing has received special attention, being an activity integrated in the shepherd's calendar.

In this article we aim to analyze the dynamics of wool processing methods in the period 1/4 sec XX - 1/4 sec XXI through a historical and anthropological approach.

Our research will focus on the technical methods of spinning and felting traditionally used in Transylvania for over 100 years.

The research is based on a case study, we will analyze the processing methods by telling the story of a family from Mureș County. This family has been processing wool for over 100 years. At the beginning of the 20th century, they started with a felt water mill, after the 50's they continued with a wool spinning and after the 90's they created a wool weaving. We will analyze the processing methods applied in all 3 historical-cultural stages.

Keywords: *Transylvania; wool; weaving; spinning; felting; Mures county; Romania.*

III. POLITICĂ ȘI PROPAGANDĂ

Corina Hațegan*

**„ÎNCĂ O VICTORIE CA ASTA ȘI NE-AM CURĂȚATĂRĂM!”
SATIRĂ ȘI UMOR POLITIC ÎN REVISTA CUCU
(1933-1934)**

Abstract: "Another Victory Like This and We Are All Gone!" **Satire and Political Humor in Cucu Magazine (1933-1934).** *Political struggles, both inside and between political parties, have not uncommonly been a source of satire for the written press. Therefore, the interwar period does not make a discordant note, the magazines of satire and humour noticing the small personal quarrels between the members of the parties, as well as between the leaders of the most powerful parties. All this took place in a context in which with small steps anti-Semitism is progressively noticeable, and the fascist movements took strong roots in the countries close to Romania. The Transylvanian based (Cluj-Napoca city) magazine, Cucu (Cuckoo), surprises with humour, from a perspective that we can call "making fun of trouble", various political, social or economic situations that marked the period of the '30s in Romania. The purpose of the study is to bring to the public's attention how pamphleteers acknowledge the often-comical actions of politicians, the perversion of the political class, political backstage games, while ordinary citizens stared helplessly at the every so often, unfavourable changes around them. Last but not least, in these funny circumstances, real problems of the interwar society and political class come to light.*

Keywords: *interwar printed press; political satire; interwar political parties.*

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Titi-Vasile Dălălău*

**23 AUGUST 1944 ȘI NAȚIONAL-COMUNISMUL ÎN PAGINILE
REVISTEI „MAGAZIN ISTORIC”
(1967-1989)**

Abstract: August 23, 1944 and the national-communist in the pages of the „Magazin istoric” (1967-1989). Under the communist regime, the name of the act of August 23, 1944 underwent various transformations in official propaganda, but it was, however, permanently promoted as a great communist achievement. During the regime of Nicolae Ceaușescu, the act of August 23, 1944 underwent new metamorphoses and interpretations, in accordance with the new political orientations: the strengthening of the „independent line” of the party (started towards the end of Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej's leadership) continued as a form of protection of the interests of the PCR leadership in the face of Soviet interference. One of the magazines published during the Ceaușescu period, which had a special role in spreading the national-communist vision, was „Magazin istoric”. Moreover, approaching the act of August 23, 1944 in the pages of the „Magazin istoric” became, starting with the years 1970 - 1971, a way of manifesting the cult of personality of the communist leader. In fact, the act of August 23, 1944 was one of the favorite topics in the pages of the „Magazin istoric”, which has an existence that exceeds five decades.

Keywords: 23 August 1944; Magazin istoric; Nicolae Ceaușescu; communism; Ion Antonescu; King Michael.

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Silvia-Cristina Baumgarten*

**TELEVISION AS A PROPAGANDA TOOL OF THE ROMANIAN
COMMUNIST PARTY
AT THE BEGINNING OF THE '70S**

Abstract: *The present study discusses the evolution of the Romanian National Television as a propaganda tool of the Romanian Communist Party in the first part of the '70s. After a modest beginning in the second half of the '50s, the Romanian broadcaster developed quickly, gaining more and more subscriptions each year. TV shows and live transmissions began to improve during the '60s, especially after the inauguration of the new Television Centre, at the end of the decade. Television became popular amongst the Romanians, so the communist authority decided to use it as one of its principal vectors of propaganda. However, the beginning of the '70s is considered to be a golden era of the television in Romania. The propaganda broadcasts co-existed with the neutral TV shows during this decade, so the Romanian National Television was still significant for Romanian citizens. This study focuses on the propaganda broadcasts, following the main themes that were presented and the evolution of the ideological shows. The main sources used for this research are documents from the National Archives of Romania and the Archive of the Romanian Television Society. The main hypothesis of the study is that the Romanian Communist Party accepted the broadcasting of some foreign TV programs and also the Romanian entertainment shows because its officials wanted a loyal audience for the ideological transmission. Most of the broadcasts made by the Romanian national television at the beginning of the '70s contained a propaganda germ, that was going to affect later the whole schedule of the television, especially during the last decade of the Communist regime.*

Keywords: *Socialist Television Studies; Romania; National Television; The Romanian Communist Party.*

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IV. IDENTITĂȚI ȘI POLITICĂ ÎN EUROPA CENTRALĂ. CONTEXT INTERNAȚIONAL

Cornel Sigmirean*

”GOJDU” FOUNDATION ON THE POLITICAL AGENDA OF THE ROMANIAN-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS (1920-1953) *

***Abstract:** The peace treaties of Versailles, Saint-Germain and Trianon recognized a new political order in East Central Europe. A large part of the signing states believed that the new world order will ensure peace in Europe, that the national tensions that generated numerous conflicts will disappear. However, the Paris Conference created within some of the European states a state of humiliation, numerous frustrations because of several disputes on the matter of state borders. In this context the Romanian – Hungarian diplomatic relations were born. The issue of minorities rights became, contrary to beliefs, gradually more acute, the retaliatory feelings consistently more menacing and the war reparations harder to pay. In this context after the signing of the Trianon Treaty, Hungary became increasingly more hostile towards Romania and attempted to slow the implementation of the treaty. Following this attitude, the funds of the Gojdu Foundation in Budapest were withheld. For three decades the agenda of the Romanian Hungarian relations featured a Gojdu file that comprised a febrile diplomatic activity and several bilateral agreements never honored.*

***Keywords:** peace treaties; Romanian Hungarian diplomatic relations; Gojdu Foundation; bilateral agreements.*

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