

## STUDIA UNIVERSITATIS PETRU MAIOR

### SERIES HISTORIA, 8

#### Studies and articles

##### History

Fábián István, *Simbolurile puterii la nordul Dunării de jos în epoca migrațiilor: fibulele cu „capete de ceapă”, p. 7.*

**Abstract:** *The symbols of power on the Northern shore of the Danube in the age of migrations: “the Zwiebelknopffibeln”.* This paper has as aim to make a few considerations about one of the most specific objects of the age of migrations: the “Zwiebelknopffibeln”. Considered as a status symbol of the *honestiores*, this type of *fibulae* was the marker of some very complex relations between the barbarians and the Roman Empire. Discovered mostly in funerary contexts this *fibulae* are remarkable witnesses of the Roman craftsmanship, on the other hand they represent until now one of the most specific objects in power related representations.

**Keywords:** *Zwiebelknopffibeln, fibulae, Roman Empire, funerary rite.*

Georgeta Fodor, *Aspecte din istoria femeii și a familiei în evul mediu românesc. Femeia în cadrul familial, p. 15.*

**Abstract:** *Aspects of Woman and Family’s History in the Romanian Middle Ages. Woman and her Family Life.* The present study aims at revealing a small part of what the history of Romanian women is concerned. We tried to prove the importance of gender history, a domain not very popular among our historians. We choose only one aspect that is of the status that women had in their families. The reason is a very simple one: we tried to identify the role of women in the basic cell of a medieval society that is the family. The study is organised in four parts. The first one deals with the theoretical aspects of building a family having as a starting point the marriage; the second part deals with the actual status that women had in their husbands’ families, the third one is concerned with the feelings existing in a married couple and the fourth, but not the least, deals with the feelings between parents and children.

**Keywords:** gender, Romanian women, family life.

Sabina Cismas, *Two possible interpretations in Moldavian representations of the donor: the power of humans – the power of god and donors and gender, p. 31.*

**Abstract:** The article examines the representations of Moldavian donors in three groups of sources: votive paintings, tomb veils and tapestries (occurring between XV-XVII). The concept offers a variety of order as a possible interpretation of the differences that arise in the representation of donors in these sources. The article examines in particular family relations and the man-deity speech, both concluding a shift from a rigid model currently in votive painting to personal reasons in tapestries and tomb veils. Votive paintings present the ruler and his family as the equal of the divine element, while tapestries introduce the model of untouchable divinity. Regarding family relations, only tapestries and tomb veils accept women as an equal element to the male item, although in the Moldavian law the woman was considered equal to the man.

**Keywords:** votive paintings, tomb veils, tapestries, family relations, man-deity speech.

Viorica Bica, *Le livre ancien roumain dans la bibliothèque “George Barițiu” Brasov, p. 45.*

**Abstract:** *Old Romanian Books in George Barițiu’s Library from Brasov.* Old writings are for the Romanian representative books, embodied with the national spirit and humanism. These characteristics have been animated and transformed by the Romanian Union under Michael the Brave, in factors of social and national resurgence. The Romanian printings did not know dividing borders, they have spread, and they kept together Romanian spirituality in the three provinces. National old books have been devoted to thorough study, which addresses issues in the context of bibliographic culture and national history. Researchers have shown the historical aspects regarding the writings paternity (authors, translation, the complex process of text-writing (patronage material, spiritual, auditors, printers, proofreaders), and the identification of the pattern used by the book authors. The book, regarded as a generic component defining cultural and spiritual heritage has fulfilled the function of an important tool for the dissemination of religious literature, reading instruction and scientific humanism. The “George Barițiu” Library of Brasov has incessantly enriched the heritage of Old Romanian books. The department of special collections has prints

from different printing centres: *Cartea de învățătură de la Iași* (1643), *Îndreptarea legii de la Târgoviște* (1652), *Evanghelia greco-română de la București* (1693). The oldest printing of Brasov is the New Testament, a bilingual edition, Greek-Latin, published in 1557 by the successor of Honterus, Valentin Wagner. Of real interest are the copies individualized by their owners, adding their mark property, annotation or artistic links according to their taste or of the era they lived in. All this helps to retrace the route travelled by the books, from the printing, from an owner to another, until their arrival, on public library shelves. Through all the ideas, through the area of spreading, through the humanist message and its formative cultural role, the civilization of the book emphasizes its contribution to the fulfilment of the cultural function.

**Keywords:** old books, humanism, Romanian spirituality, printings, library.

Vlad Laurențiu, *Réactions « Pro-européennes » et « Anti-européennes » Dans la Culture Roumaine du Tournant des XVIII et XIX Siècles*, p.65.

**Abstract:** “Pro-European” and “Anti-European” reactions in the Romanian culture at the end of the XVIIIth century and in the XIXth century. Starting from the writings of some Romanian chroniclers (Naum Râmnicéanu, Ioan Dobrescu, Grigore Andronescu, Manolache Drăghici etc.), compared with those of other scholars which were contemporary with the former (Chesarie of Râmnic, Grigore Râmnicéanu, Dinicu Golescu etc.), our essay tries to elucidate the way in which the European civilization was perceived in the cultural imaginary of the Romanian Principalities during the last half of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century, as well as the rejections produced by this civilization. We shall particularly insist on two of the ideas that can be found in these writings: the admiration towards the “old continent's” civilization on the one hand, and the embryonic, but developing, anti-Europeanism of that period, on the other. If, during the 17th century, the Romanian humanists talked about the prestigious Latin origins of the Romanian people and language, a century later, the scholars of the Enlightenment tried to place these scientific findings in a European context. Thus, Europe wasn't perceived only as a geographic or religious entity anymore, with a slight emphasis on the political factor. It had acquired a cultural connotation as well, and it had become a model: “the Enlightened Europe”. Some of the 19th century chroniclers (Naum Râmnicéanu or Manolachi Drăghici) eulogized Western Europe, conscious, like many of their fellows, of the cultural and political superiority of this civilization in comparison with that of the Romanian Principalities. On the contrary, for others like Grigore Andronescu or Ioan Dobrescu, the European influences could be destructive. They were leading to the decay of institutions, of customs and even of the native Christian tradition. This intransigence, which can be attributed to the lack of education of the two chroniclers we mentioned, prevented them to make the subtle distinction operated in 1798 by the clergyman Grigore Râmnicéanu between “the inside world”, essential according to the orthodox tradition, and the “outside world”, which could be still praised inasmuch as it enriched the earthly life of the Europeans. The two chroniclers we recalled can be considered among the first Romanian “anti-Europeanists” of the 19th century.

**Keywords:** humanism, anti European attitudes, enlightenment, Romanian chroniclers.

Atalay Gunduz, *A brief history of nineteenth century British travel writing on the Ottoman Empire*, p. 75.

**Abstract:** The British travellers writing about the Ottoman Empire are important sources for the image of the Ottoman society in the West. The perception of the British travellers is, of course, subjective, being influenced by political events, the political and economic interests of London, but also by the value system of the authors (prejudice that the West's upper East). The analyze of confrontation between traditionalism (conservatism, Islamism) and modernism (reformism, secularization) is significant, as also the interethnic relations problems. “Since memoirs and personal diaries were not written by Ottomans until the late nineteenth century, these foreign descriptions give us the kind of personal observation that cannot be found in any of the Ottoman sources available to us. . . . [A]uthors exhibit a sense of superiority in viewing the Ottomans, so that even when the veil came off on the Ottoman side, the European veil of prejudice persisted to cloud many of their judgments and observations. (Shaw 13)”.

**Keywords:** Ottoman Empire, British travellers' writings, interethnic relations, traditionalism, modernism.

Andreas Berg, *Enlightened mysticism: Ivan Vladimirovich Lopukhin and the critique of Russian orthodox institutions*, p. 85.

**Abstract:** The author explores the mystical thinking of Lopuhin (scholar and statesman), proving that he was a personality with a determining role in the formation of the religious Enlightenment in Russia. The religious influence was important for the Russian Enlightenment.

**Keywords:** Enlightenment, Russia, Lopuhin, religion.

Octavian Silvestru, *Opportunistic Politicking versus Liberalism in Romania. The governmental Anti-Semitic Policies Between 1866 and 1868*, p. 103.

**Abstract:** In 1848, revolutionaries of Wallachia and Moldova have included among their demands the emancipation of the Jews. How to explain, then, the adversity shown by many of them in the face of such a project for social reform in 1866? Starting from this interrogation, in this article we reviewed the intellectual and political Romanian context from the first years of the reign of Carol I in an attempt to discover the circumstances of the occurrence of anti-Semitism and its political functions. According to the political context, anti-Semitic discourse and practice of the liberal politicians invoice must be seen not so much as an avatar of religious anti-Semitism of medieval source, as some historians have suggested but, as a final expression of a political strategies aimed to secure political power in the state.

**Keywords:** anti-Semitism, political power, liberalism, political strategies.

Gheorghe Bichicean, *L'unité allemande*, p. 127.

**Abstract:** *The unity of Germany.* The unity of Germany was not the result of a popular decision, but it was a top level agreement. The prevalence of Prussia was undoubtedly crushing. Therefore the new Empire may be view as a "Great Prussia". Victorious over Austria and France, Germany will exercise its dominance on Europe for two decades, under the clever direction of Bismarck. Astute diplomat, Bismarck has practiced with skill and ability the diplomacy. Before starting the war with Austria, Bismarck tried to convince it to leave the German Confederation, offering in exchange the annexation of Romania, Bosnia and a part of Serbia. France should have been maintained in a state of friendly neutrality. To do this, in a personal discussion at Biaritz in the autumn of 1865, Bismarck suggested to the Emperor Napoleon III, that he would not object to the annexation of Luxemburg in exchange of France neutrality. Guise a "bad management" of the Duchy of Holstein, entrusted to the Austria, Prussia invaded the territory, starting in this way the war with the Hapsburgs. The victories of Sadowa lead to the creation of the North German Confederation. Then, victories over France (1870-1871), have allowed the founding of the Second German Empire (1871).

**Keywords:** international politics, internal interest, unity, diplomacy, war.

Harald Heppner, *„Balkankompetenz“ als forschungsproblem: Österreich-Ungarn als besatzungsmacht in Rumänien 1916/18*, p. 137.

**Abstract:** *“The Balkanic competence” as a research problem. Austro-Hungarian Empire as an occupation force in Romania 1916/18.* The question regarding a state jurisdiction over certain areas is at first glance political calculation. In such a situation the most important role is played by the operative use of those powers. Therefore, the definition and assessment of a critical term pass automatically to the second plan or are not considered at all. The debate validity about the competence and the birth of efficiency in the political-military speech causes the presentation of the situation in critical and scientific terms. Given the fact that state, and its jurisdiction, could not be considered out of date in a given moment, without taking into account the development factor, it is appropriate to examine the theme from an historical point of view. In view of the author interest for the history of the South east Europe, and his interest of the military history, in this article he analyses the presence of Austro Hungarian Empire as an occupation force in the First World War.

**Keywords:** occupation force, jurisdiction, political interest, historical approach.

Keith Hitchins, *Mircea Eliade, Orthodoxy, and the Transfiguration of Romania in the 1930's*, p. 143.

**Abstract:** This study aims to highlight Mircea Eliade's theory concerning the implications of orthodoxies upon the spiritual and political evolution of Romania between the two world wars. The '30s of the last century disclose Eliade in full Romanian period, with his passion for philosophy that he teaches at the University of Bucuresti, as an assistant to N. Ionescu, his interest in Eastern religions and spirituality in general, his clear thinking and concepts relating to paths to be followed to create a "Romanians us", the spiritual foundations, that turns him into a leader of his generation - the so-called "new generation". Being convinced that the spiritual vitality is the one who determines the destiny of a nation, and not the political or the economic progress, Eliade looks back on orthodoxies, becoming aware of the role it had in the past of the Romanians. Moreover, he considers Orthodoxy as a mark of Romanian ethnic solidarity, a defining element of Romanians in relation to "others". His attention does not go to the church, too weak to contribute to the spiritual rebirth, but on a more powerful force - Legion of the Archangel Michael. In shaping his conception of the Romanians spiritual revive and cultural reorientation toward elite values based on traditional orthodoxy - the model anti-rationalist, who considered that only the country man has preserved

the purity of mind - Eliade was based on ideas of Cioran and N. Ionescu, to whom he was strongly spiritually linked. He shared their enthusiasm and was eager to transform Romania, even at the cost of personal sacrifice. His hopes were focused on intellectual force of the “new generation”, whose devotion to the self-taken mission - is to ensure “the unity of Romanian spirit” - is very strong. At the end of the fourth decade, against the backdrop of internal political crisis increasingly enhanced, Eliade became aware of the lack of original vision of political leadership, the incapacity to revive their country and nation. A convinced follower of radical solutions, like “violent, risky revolt”, but the only one able to bring the balance lost by the Romanian nation, revolt that only “new man” has the will power and necessary qualities to lead - Eliade became staunch supporter of the Legion of the Archangel Michael. His links with the organization and its commander, C. Zelea Codreanu, is based on the belief that the Legionary movement is not a political but spiritual, aimed at the Romanian nation purification and reconciliation with God. The deterioration of relations between the Legionnaires and the Royal House and the famous political assassinations in which they were involved (Iorga, Madgearu etc.) convinced him that the Legionary movement has exceeded the limits of spirituality and causes to apart from their cause.

**Keywords:** Orthodoxy, spiritual rebirth, Romanian spiritual unity, new generation.

*Ionuț Biliuță, “Fascism as political religion” a critical survey, p. 161.*

**Abstract:** This article intends to present the development of the political religion concept in studies devoted to European fascism and totalitarianism. From Eric Voegelin to Emilio Gentile and Roger Griffin this theory has undergone numerous development and strategic regrouping: applied only at the beginning of fascism, he began to describe other ideological phenomena in the period of communism and Islamic fundamentalism. Also, the definition of religion suffered a change, influencing the definition of political religion. A brief addenda dedicated to the Iron Guard comes to complete the presentation concerning the theoretically Western Canon.

**Keywords:** political religion, fascism, totalitarianism, ideology, communism.

*Antonio Faur, Răspunsul episcopilor români greco-catolici din Transilvania de Nord la Memoriul Cardinalului Mindszenty (1946), p. 175.*

**Abstract:** *The reply of the Romanian Greek-Catholic bishops in Northern Transylvania to the Cardinal Mindszenty's Memoranda in 1946.* On May 7th 1946, the Foreign Affairs Ministers of USA, England and France declared the “Vienna arbitral award” (August 30th 1940) as “null and void”, thus re-establishing the Romanian western borders as they were on January 1st, 1938. Mindszenty, the Roman-Catholic cardinal and archbishop of Esztergom, took a rejecting stand towards this decision – that would be accepted by the signatories to the Peace Treaty of Paris in 1947 – sending a written report to Paris in which he tried to prove the fact that an injustice had been done to Hungary by giving back Northern Transylvania to Romania. The Romanian Greek-Catholic bishops from Northern Transylvania (Oradea, Cluj-Gherla and Maramureș) also sent a well-reasoned reply to the above mentioned written report which was addressed to the same foreign diplomats, providing powerful counterarguments to its statements and proving them unjust. The author has discovered the two documents in the Archives of the French Foreign Ministry. He examined their content, emphasising - in the present study- the way in which the three Romanian bishops rejected all the malevolent or selfish “exaggerations and appreciations” made by the cardinal Mindszenty. By doing this, they wrote an important page of the confrontation, on an ideational level, between the Romanians and Hungarians regarding the issue of Transylvania.

**Keywords:** cardinal Mindszenty, Romanian Greek-Catholic Church, nationalism, Transylvania

*Marko Zubak, Praxis - critical thinking and social change under state socialism, p. 193.*

**Abstract:** The present article aims to identify some characteristics of the development of the critic thought in the communist era. The article is focused on the Marxist intellectual group called “praxis” from Yugoslavia. The group draws its name from the philosophical magazine around which it developed. The group as many others from the former communist bloc offered a critic to the inner system using Marxist ideas and language. The article refers to the crucial relations between the conditions that helped the revisionist critical thought to develop in the communist society and its failure to cause a significant change.

**Keywords:** critic thought, communism, praxis, group, mutiny.

Gabriel Moisa, *L'éducation „patriotique„ de la jeunesse roumaine a l'aide des musées d'histoire. Quelques considérations sur les années '70 du siècle passé*, p. 203.

**Abstract:** *The patriotic education of the youth through the history museums. Some considerations on the '70s of the past century.* To ensure a firm political legitimacy, the Romanian communists utilized a variety of propagandistic means. The museums were included in this scenario letting visible marks that can be traced till nowadays in the historical expositions. One of the most important objectives of the Romanian history museums, in a certain period of the communist regime was to educate the young Romanians in such manner that they would become “trustful citizens” of the socialist Romania. The young were the main target of this propaganda. Unfortunately, the museums, seen as institutions were massively involved in this propaganda. The Romanian museums were integrated in a well articulated propagandistic program in such manner that they should contribute to the proper education of the young generation. For achieving this solid collaboration between museums and schools was needed. Such is the case of the last ten to fifteen years of the communist regime. The museums were expected to come with a rich offer to the students and the schools were supposed to develop schools programs connected with the museums. Soon after the results appeared, the museums developed a rich activity with ideological characteristics.

**Keywords:** communist period, museums, education, propaganda, youth.

Mihai Teodor Nicoară, *Corneliu Coposu în închisorile comuniste*, p 211.

**Abstract:** *Corneliu Coposu in the communist prisons.* The installation of the communist regime in Romania, after 1948, represents the beginning of a systematic elimination of all personalities of the ancient democratic regime. One of those was Corneliu Coposu lawyer, journalist and an important member in the PNT party. Arrested on 14 July 1947 he was convicted of high treason against the working class and crimes against social reforms and sentenced to life imprisonment. The reconstruction of different tragic experiences during the communist regime has a great importance not only for the historiography, but also for moral values in our society.

**Keywords:** Corneliu Coposu, Romanian Communism, communist prison.

### ***Theories of cultural history***

Hayden White, *The Burden of History*, Translation, Răzvan Pârâianu, p. 223.

**Abstract:** History for historians was both art and science, this categorization making it easier to at times avoid the scientific rigors and at times go around the aesthetic requirements of art. The present essay of one of the most important theorists of history writing, Hayden White, takes a closer look at the way contemporary criticism towards this Fabian escape of the historians has mounted. Finding history writing still rooted in the 19th century methodological requirements where art and science were traditionally apart the essay regards how contemporary development of science is challenging the position history received a century ago.

**Keywords:** Historical writing, historical methodology, objectivity, truth.

Corina Teodor, *Patrimoniul cultural și tentația redefinirii. O perspectivă istoriografică*, p. 253.

**Abstract:** *The Cultural Patrimony and the Temptation of Redefinition. A Historiographical Perspective.* This study is propounding a meditation both over the semantical significations of the term patrimony, as over the contemporary cultural politics, whose purpose is to protect the cultural patrimony. We have considered that the importance of such an investigation may be important from several points of view: to reveal the way the idea of patrimony, generally speaking, and especially that of cultural and bookish patrimony, have been delineated during the last two centuries; to emphasize some of the measures that represent the bases of a successful patrimony cultural politics; to bring out the most important demarches that were adopted in Romania during the last years, concerning the preservation of the cultural patrimony. In defining the patrimonial object, we have followed up the way the bibliophiles, researches interested in ancient books, specialists in book preservation, historians and linguists have tried to establish the differences between the written patrimony, the bookish patrimony and the cultural one. Why have we underlined the importance of those patrimonial values? Basically, because they might be identified with a manifestation of self-identity and have a powerful symbolical dimension; they might refer to the glory of a prince, to the researches of the public wellness, to the construction of collective identity etc. That is exactly what happened, for example, with the history of Corviniana, Matei Corvin's library, that has been perceived, from the second half of the XVIIIth century, as one of the constituent elements of Hungarian identity. The researches on the patrimony,

especially on the bookish one, help us to revalue the present from the past point of view. That because the patrimony is not just a heritage of the past, but a permanent construction, as Alain Touraine used to call it.

**Keywords:** patrimony, heritage, cultural politics.

*Cornel Crăciun, Le sport dans la vision de la cinématographie roumaine, p. 263.*

**Abstract:** *The sport as reflected by the Romanian cinema.* The sport has been since the Antiquity a form of defining the humans both at a physical and a mental level. The Romanian film producers could not avoid the analysis of this theme extremely generous. The present study tries to point out the specific ways of presenting the sports's subject in the cinema. Opposed to the general perception, it was not the soccer which took the top of the preferences but boxing was the most favourite sport. It is to be mentioned that the team sports had a privileged place: rugby, cycling, the modern pentathlon and the touristic orientation. We also could add the driving contests, the marathon and the gymnastics. A surprise is given by the film producers' lack of interest for the sport disciplines which brought remarkable results for the country: tennis, handball, athletics, kayak etc.

**Keywords:** sport, Romanian cinema, boxing.

### **European Studies and International Relations**

*Simion Costea, Perspectiva europeană a Serbiei în dezbaterile comisiei de afaceri externe a parlamentului european (2008), p. 287.*

**Abstract:** *The European Perspective for Serbia in the Debates of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament (2008).* This article offers a scientific contribution and is based on official documents and unedited sources accessed by the author as adviser in the European Parliament. By analysing the debates of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) of the European Parliament (April 2008), the article shows the EU support for Serbia in its European integration process. In 7 Nov. 2007, EU had initiated a Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA), which was ready to be signed in February 2008, but had to be delayed due to disagreements within the coalition government whether the signing would imply the recognition of Kosovo's strive for independence. On 29 April 2008, just two weeks before the elections, the Serbian pro-European President Tadic signed the SAA with the EU. The European Union had strongly pushed for the agreement hoping to give a boost to the pro-European camp, as the AFET debates proved. The pro-EU forces emerged as the clear winners from the 11 May elections. According to President Barroso, it might be possible to give candidate status to Serbia in 2009.

**Keywords:** Serbia, European Parliament, European Union.

*Ioana Leucea, Interferențe între istorie și relații internaționale, p. 303.*

**Abstract:** *The Academic Convergences or Dispute between History and International Relations.* The paper intends to present some relevant aspects for stressing the idea that the more evolved the two academic disciplines are, the more they need each other in order to consciously complete their approach. History can be used as a laboratory to test theories of international relations, to reveal their limits, but also as a starting point to formulate theories. History should be understood from a theoretical perspective in order to eventually increase the interest of the society

**Keywords:** disciplinary convergences, disciplinary disputes, history.

*Stelian Scăunaș, Alexandra Scăunaș, Câteva reflecții cu privire la abandonarea constituției pentru Europa, tratatul de la Lisabona și reforma Uniunii Europene, p. 315.*

**Abstract:** *Several reflections on the abandoning of the European Constitution, the Lisbon Treaty and the reform of the European Union.* The European Constitution Draft was abandoned in the summer of 2007 and, simultaneously, the Council of the European Union has set priority directions concerning the European Union reform and organized an intergovernmental conference in July 2007. The Conference took place in accordance with the mandate given by the European Council, under the full authority of Heads of State or Government, assisted by the members of the General Affairs and External Relations Council, the representative of the Commission and 3 representatives of the European Parliament. Following the work of the Conference, on October 18th 2007, in Lisbon, the Heads of State and Government have approved the draft of Reform Treaty – the Treaty amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community. In this study, the authors present some considerations concerning the abandonment of constitutional concept, which consists in repealing all existing Treaties and replacing them with a single document called "Constitution", and also some considerations on the adoption of a reform treaty, which

introduces novelty items to the existing treaties, which remain in force. The study presents issues related to the risk caused by the failure of the referendum in Ireland, but in a positive manner, which supports the need for reform, relying on the Treaty of Lisbon. We also point out some aspects regarding the definition of the European Union and the acquisition of legal personality to it, but also the most significant changes that the Reform Treaty will bring to the fundamental treaties of the European Union. The novelty items are incorporated in the draft Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, which is the very content to the Reform Treaty and they establish the following: to set out the powers of the European Union and to delimit them; the specific nature of Common Foreign and Security Policy; the enhanced role of national parliaments; the juridical nature of the Charter of Fundamental Rights; creating a mechanism in the field of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, enabling Member States to go forward on a specific instrument, but to allow, at the same time, other states not to participate to it. There are also important issues considered fundamental for the future of the European Union which will be introduced to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the Union, in spite of the attitude of reserve expressed by some Member States, depending on their national interests, such as the following: replacing the European Community by the European Union and the phrase “the Union” by “the Community”; acquisition of legal personality by the European Union; establishing the double majority decision; recognition of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the Union European having same value as the Treaties of the European Union, even if it will be not a part of the treaties; the joining of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms; recognition of the human rights and freedoms as fundamental principles of Community law. Beyond the uncertain circumstances, due to the negative outcome of the referendum in Ireland, in the summer of 2008, the authors consider that the European Union needs this treaty because it needs reform, needs adapting to new realities and new aspirations of Member States, in a vision to a larger number of members. The Union does not need a new crisis that would question the process of European integration. Moreover, the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon in 2009, before European Parliament elections, will allow the EU to become more democratic and more transparent, the European Parliament and national parliaments will have a more and more important role, being the most legitimate and democratic institutions. At the same time, we hope that the European Union will work best performing in the new simplified rules on decision-making process and will contribute more and better in building a Europe of rights, of freedoms, of solidarity and of security, ensuring better protection for the European citizen in a space of freedom, security and justice without precedent.

**Keywords:** European Constitution, Lisbon Treaty, European Union.

*Monica Vlad, Transnationale zusammenarbeit von hochschulen in minderheitengebieten als instrument sicherheitspolitischer krisenprävention, p. 327.*

**Abstract:** *The transnational collaboration between the high schools in the field of minorities’ problem as a mean of preventing the crises in the political safety.* The study reflects upon the new uncertainty on the right of minorities to self-determination. The classical international law had defined these rights excluding the right to secession. The politics of the great powers, however, showed that the recent crises in Kosovo and Georgia jeopardize the sovereignty states by drawing new borders and encouraging xenophobia and ethnic genocide. Introduced on 1 October at the University of Dresden, this study wants to raise a question mark to the United Europe, which should have delegated an Eastern European state to manage the Georgian crisis, instead of leaving it in the hand of the soft diplomacy of Sarkozy and Merkel.

**Keywords:** minorities rights, self-determination, sovereignty, xenophobia, ethnic genocide.

## Reviews

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Marianne Mesnil, Assia Popova, *Dincolo de Dunăre. Studii de etnologie balcanică*, București, Editura Paideia, 2007, (Monica Avram), p. 345.