

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

WORLD WAR I

The other Faces of the War

Cluj-Napoca, Romania
12-14 October 2015

This event was organised under the project number
POSDRU/159/1.5/S/132400,
“Young successful researchers – professional development
in an international and interdisciplinary environment”.

Organizing Committee

Chairman:

Professor LIVIU MAIOR, Ph.D.

Members:

Professor IOAN-AUREL POP, Ph.D.

Member of the Romanian Academy, rector of Babeş-Bolyai University
and director of the Center for Transylvanian Studies

Professor HARALD HEPPNER, Ph.D.

Karl Franzens University, Graz, director of the Institute of History

Professor IOAN BOLOVAN, Ph.D.

Vice-rector of Babeş-Bolyai University and deputy director
of the Center for Transylvanian Studies

Professor RUDOLF GRÄF, Ph.D.

Vice-rector of Babeş-Bolyai University

Professor OVIDIU GHITTA, Ph.D.

Dean of the Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University

Professor NICOLAE BOÇŞAN, Ph.D.

Scientific secretary of the Center for Transylvanian Studies

OANA MIHAELA TĂMAŞ, Ph.D.

Babeş-Bolyai University

MONDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2015

*Aula Magna, Babeş-Bolyai University
Mihail Kogălniceanu St., no. 1*

14⁰⁰-19⁰⁰ Registration

15⁰⁰-16¹⁰ **OFFICIAL OPENING**

Professor **IOAN-AUREL POP**, Ph.D., member of the Romanian Academy, rector of Babeş-Bolyai University and director of the Center for Transylvanian Studies

Professor **HARALD HEPNER** Ph.D., Karl Franzens University, Graz, director of the Institute of History

Professor **RUDOLF GRÄF**, Ph.D., vice-rector of Babeş-Bolyai University

Professor **IOAN BOLOVAN**, Ph.D., vice-rector of Babeş-Bolyai University, deputy director of the Center for Transylvanian Studies

Professor **OVIDIU GHITTA**, Ph.D., dean of the Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University

BOOK LAUNCH

Primul Război Mondial: Perspectivă istorică și istoriografică / World War I: A Historical and Historiographical Perspective, eds. Ioan Bolovan, Gheorghe Cojocaru, and Oana Mihaela Tămaş (Cluj-Napoca: Academia Română Centrul de Studii Transilvane, Presa Universitară Clujeană, 2015)

Speakers: Ph.D. **Oana HABOR**

16¹⁵-17⁴⁰ **PLENARY SECTION**

Chair: **Harald HEPNER**

Ana Victoria SIMA (associate professor, Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University) and **Mirela POPA-ANDREI** (senior researcher, Romanian Academy, George Barițiu Institute of History, Cluj-Napoca), *The Children's War. A Transylvanian Perspective at the Time of World War I*.

Petra SVOLJŠAK (research counsellor, associate professor, scientific centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Milko Kos Historical Institute, Ljubljana), *1915—The Isonzo/Soča Front and The Changes in Slovenian Perception of World War*

Cătălin TURLIUC (professor, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University Iași, Romanian Academy, Iași Branch), *Nationalism at Work: Justifying World War One*

17⁴⁰-18⁰⁰ Coffee break

18⁰⁰-19²⁰

Andrea CARTENY (researcher and assistant professor at Sapienza University of Rome), *Neutrality and pro-Entente Engagement through Volunteers: The Cases of Spain and Italy (1914-15)*

Stefano SANTORO (Ph.D., independent researcher, Trieste, Italy), *WWI and the Radicalization of Nationalism: The Case of the Transylvanian Pedagogist Onisifor Ghibu*

Giuseppe MOTTA (assistant professor, Sapienza University of Rome), *The Jews of Eastern Europe and the Great War in the Documents of the Joint Distribution Committee*

19³⁰

Cocktail – *Casa Universitarilor* (1 Emmanuel de Martonne St.)

TUESDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2015

Aula Ferdinand

Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University, 11 Napoca St.

9⁰⁰-11⁰⁰

SECTION I

Chair: Associate Professor **Petra SVOLJŠAK** and Professor **Gheorghe CIPĂIANU**

Margareta-Gabriela NISIPEANU (M.A. student at the Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University, and M.A. student at National School of Political and Administrative Sciences, Bucharest) and **Adina-Elena ȘERBAN** (M.A. student at the Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University), *Failed Diplomatic Attempts to Stop the Outbreak of World War I*

Vlad POPOVICI (research associate, Centre for Population Studies, Babeş-Bolyai University), *The Activity of Romanian MPs in the Hungarian Parliament during World War I*

Joseph SCHMAUCH (Ph.D. student, director of the Provincial archives-Archives départementales, Université de Lorraine, Nancy-Metz), *A Highly Contested Future: French and German Governmental Plans for Alsace-Lorraine in the First World War*

Mihnea STOICA (Ph.D. student, Babeş-Bolyai University), *Political Discourse as Romania Entered World War I: An Analysis of the Speeches Given in the Chamber of Deputies, 1915*

Kamil RUSZAŁA (M.A., Ph.D. student, Institute of History, Jagiellonian University in Krakow), *Gossip, Fear, Anxiety, War? Social Moods and Situation at the Beginning of the First World War in Smaller Cities of Galicia.*

Oana HAVOR (Ph.D., Museum of History, Babeş-Bolyai University), *On the Battlefield and Beyond: Health Service in The Austro-Hungarian Monarchy during the First World War. Case Study: Transylvania*

11⁰⁰-11²⁰

Coffee break

9⁰⁰-11⁰⁰ SECTION II

Chair: Professor **Nicolae BOCŞAN** and Ph.D. **Stefano SANTORO**

Vasile VEŞE (professor, Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University), *I.I.C. Brătianu and Romania's involvement in World War One*
Ionela Felicia MOSCOVICI (Ph.D., Babeş-Bolyai University), *Propaganda: French Press Propaganda to Secure Banat between 1914 and 1916.*

Corneliu PĂDUREAN (Ph.D., professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Aurel Vlaicu University, Arad), *Aspects Regarding the Arad City Police during the First World War*

Adrian-Bogdan CEOBANU (Ph.D., scientific researcher, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iaşi), *"The Diamandi Incident": The Situation of the Romanian Diplomats in Russia (1917-1918)*

Cristian BÂRSU (associate professor, Department of Social Sciences, Humanism and History of Medicine, Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca), *A Significant Contribution in Romanian Preparations for War Carried Out in 1915: The Book **War Surgery** by Iacob Iacobovici*

Ionela Victoria MANCIU (Ph.D. student at the Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University), *Romanian Orphanages Organized by Churches in Transylvania during World War I*

Mihai DRECIŢ (professor, University of Oradea), *Russian Images and Impressions in the Correspondence of the Refugee Hortensia Cosma-Goga and Octavian Goga (January-April 1917)*

11⁰⁰-11²⁰ Coffee break

Aula Ferdinand

Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University, 11 Napoca St.

11²⁰-13²⁰ SECTION III

Chair: Ph.D. student **Joseph SCHMAUCH** and scientific researcher **Daniela MĂRZA**

Hadrian GORUN (Ph.D., associate professor at Contantin Brancuşi University, Târgu-Jiu), *France and Romanian Public Opinion at the Beginning of the Great War*

Raluca TOMI (senior researcher, Nicolae Iorga Institute of Romanian Academy, Bucharest), *A Savant during Neutrality Period: C.I. Istrati.*

Ovidiu-Emil IUDEAN (postdoctoral researcher at the West University of Timişoara), *Bridging the Gap: Romanian Parliamentary Elites in Aid of their Communities during the First World War*

Igor CHIOSA (Ph.D. student, Institute of History, Moldova Academy of Sciences, Chişinău), *The Activity of Force Structures in Bessarabia in the World War I*

Ievgen DZHUMYGA (lecturer of Kiev National University of Culture and Art), *“Between the Game and the War”: Children’s Patriotism in Odessa during the Great War (1914-1917)*

Cosmin Constantin IONIȚĂ (Ph.D. student at Faculty of History, University of Bucharest), *Romanian Fears and Hopes for Eastern Front before the Russian Great Retreat*

Marius-Mircea MITRACHE (Ph.D. student at Babeș-Bolyai University), *“Vox clamantis in deserto”: The German and French Peace Movements and the Difficult Dream of Peace during the Great War*

13³⁰-15⁰⁰ Lunch

Francisc Pall class-room

Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeș-Bolyai University, 11 Napoca St.

11²⁰-13²⁰ SECTION IV

Chair: Professor **Corneliu PĂDUREAN** and senior researcher **Bogdan CRĂCIUN**

Ion GUMENĂI (Professor, Moldova State University), *Romania during Neutrality (1914-1916) Reflected in Ministry of Foreign Affairs Documents of the Russian Empire*

Jasmina GLISIC (Ph.D. student at Babeș-Bolyai University), *The Romanians from the Timoc region in the Serbian army between 1914 and 1918*

Maria Aurelia DIACONU (Ph.D., Babeș-Bolyai University) and **Dana Emilia CĂMPEAN** (Ph.D., Babeș-Bolyai University), *Between Sorrow and Agony. Sickness and Death Beyond the Frontline (1916-1919)*

Paul Ersilian ROȘCA (Ph.D. student, Faculty of Orthodox Theology, Babeș-Bolyai University), *A Heart for a Nation: World War I and Queen Marie of Romania*

Teodor CANDU (Ph.D., Institute of History, Moldova Academy of Sciences, Chișinău), *Some Consideration about the Role of Orthodox Church from Bessarabia during the World War I (Presence of the Clergy and other Church Clerks at the Front Line and their Financial Support of Russian Society of Red Cross).*

Ioan BOLOVAN (professor, Babeș Bolyai University, and scientific researcher at the Center for Transylvanian Studies) and **Adrian ONOFREIU** (National Archives, Bistrița-Năsăud Branch), *Transylvanian Orphans During and After the Great War: Statistical Perspectives on Bistrița-Năsăud County*

13³⁰-15⁰⁰ Lunch

Aula Ferdinand

(Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University, 11 Napoca St.

15⁰⁰-17⁰⁰ SECTION V

Chair: Assistant Professor **Giuseppe MOTTA** and Ph.D. **Marc Rudolf STEGHERR**

Ioana-Elena IGNAT KISANOVICI (postdoctoral researcher, Romanian Academy, Cluj-Napoca), *Press Censorship during the First World War in Sibiu*

Diana COVACI (scientific researcher, Centre for Population Studies, Babeş-Bolyai University), „... and Give Back to the World Peace and Tranquillity”: *Propaganda and Control through Church in Transylvania during the First World War*

Alina-Oana ŞMIGUN (Ph.D. student at the University of Bucharest, Faculty of History), *Romania in 1915: National Interest in Neutrality Years: Between Press Bribery, Royal Hopes and Popular Expectations*

Valeria SOROŞTINEANU (assistant professor at Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu), *And It Was Still War: Transylvania of 1915 between Propaganda and Donations*

Sorin RADU (Professor, Ph.D., Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu) and **Maria-Daniela STANCIU** (Ph.D. student, Babeş-Bolyai University), *Hygiene, Nutrition, Public Health and Health Policies in Sibiu during the First World War*

Oliver SCHULZ (Ph.D., researcher, Université Blaise Pascal Clermont-Ferrand, Paris), *A “Second National Catastrophe” and a “Forgotten War”: World War 1 in Bulgarian Historiography and Public Memory*

17⁰⁰-17²⁰ Coffee break

Aula Ferdinand

(Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University, 11 Napoca St.

17²⁰-19²⁰ SECTION VI

Chair: Assistant Professor **Andrea CARTENY** and Ph.D. **Oana HABOR**

József LUKÁCS (postdoctoral researcher, Babeş-Bolyai University), *Ideas and Attitudes Expressed in the Hungarian Press from Cluj in the Summer of 1914*

Daniela MĂRZA (scientific researcher, Center for Transylvanian Studies, Romanian Academy), *The Ravages of War: Romanian Schools in Transylvania (1914-1919)*

Iulia-Dorina STANCIU (Ph.D. student at the Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University), *How Did the Romanian Sensibility Captured the First World War? The Relationship of Soldiers with the Home Front As it Appears in Romanian War Songs*

Nelu DAN (Ph.D., University of Udine, Italy), *Italian Military Deaths in the WWI. National Estimates and Regional Differences*

Ioana Mara LEONTE (Ph.D., Babeş-Bolyai University), *War Posters during the Great War: Themes, Heroes and Stereotypes*

Anamaria MACAVEI (Ph.D., Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University), *Family and Morality in Transylvanian Press during the First World War*

19³⁰ Dinner

WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2015

Aula Ferdinand

Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University, 11 Napoca St.

9⁰⁰-11⁰⁰ SECTION VII

Chair: Senior lecturer **Radu MÂRZA** and Ph.D. **Vald POPOVICI**

Carmen ȚĂGȘOREAN (Ph.D. student, Faculty of Political, Administrative and Communication Sciences, Babeş-Bolyai University), *A Devoted Friend and Ally, Henri Mathias Berthelot: The Image of the French General Presented in the Românu! Newspaper*

Ionela ZAHARIA (Johann Weber Scholarship Holder, Graz, Ph.D. student Babeş-Bolyai University), *From Loyalty to Obligation: The Romanian Military Chaplains in Transylvania during the Great War*

Mihaela MEHEDIŢI-BEIEAN (postdoctoral researcher at West University of Timișoara), *Sequences of the First World War in the Press: Transylvanian Romanians between Ethnicity and Politics before The Great Union*

Mihai-Octavian GROZA (Ph.D. student, Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University), *Transylvania and Banat in the Autumn and Winter of 1918: The "Revolutionary Violence" Reflected in Memoirs*

Marc Rudolf STEGHERR (Ph.D., LMU Munich, netPOL network Political Communication, Babeş-Bolyai University), *"Loyalities and Disloyalties": The Question of Treason, Collaboration and Nationalism before, during and after the First World War*

Cristina Ioana ROIU (coordinator *Europeana 1914-1918* Romanian Campaigns, Romanian Academy Library), *"The Longing and Misery Chased Away"—or the Great War As Illustrated in People's War Diaries, Postcards and Letters*

11⁰⁰-11²⁰ Coffee break

Aula Ferdinand

Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University, 11 Napoca St.

11²⁰-13⁰⁰ SECTION VIII

Chair: Senior Lecturer **Ana Victoria SIMA**

Mircea Gheorghe ABRUDAN (postdoctoral researcher at Babeş-Bolyai University), „*My Participation in the First World War*”: *The Manuscript Diary of the Transylvanian Saxon Otto Folberth*

Mária LUPESCU-MAKÓ (Ph.D., lecturer, Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University) and **Radu MĂRZA** (Ph.D., senior lecturer, Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University), *Sending Greetings During The Great War*.

Crinela Elena HOLOM (Ph.D., researcher, Center for Population Studies, Babeş-Bolyai University) and **Bogdan CRĂCIUN** (Ph.D., researcher at the Romanian Academy, Cluj-Napoca Branch) „*Remembering the Wounds*”: *Human Losses and Socio-Demographic Effects of World War I in Transylvania*

Bartosz OGÓREK (Ph.D. student at the Department of History, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Poland), *World War I As the Great Archaization: Demographic, Economic and Biological Impact of War on the Population of the City of Krakow*

Adina-Elena ŞERBAN (M.A. student, Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeş-Bolyai University) and **Margareta-Gabriela NISIPEANU** (M.A. student at the National School of Political and Administrative Sciences, Bucharest), *Decoding the Negotiation Positions during the Peace Conference at Versailles*

Răducu RUŞEȚ (Ph.D. student at Babeş-Bolyai University) and **Tiberiu IORDAN**, (Ph.D. student at Babeş-Bolyai University) *The Assassination in Sarajevo Reflected in Gazeta de Transilvania*

Sufior Rahaman KAZI (associate professor at Department of Islamic History and Culture, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India), *the Role of Religion in World War I*

13⁰⁰-13¹⁰ Closing ceremony

13²⁰-14³⁰ Lunch

15⁰⁰-17⁰⁰ SECTION IX – WORKSHOP

Chair: Professor **Rudolf GRĂF**

17⁰⁰-17²⁰ Coffee break

17²⁰-19⁰⁰ SECTION X – WORKSHOP

Chair: Professor **Rudolf GRĂF**

19⁰⁰ Cocktail

*„My Participation in the First World War”: The Manuscript
Diary of the Transylvanian Saxon Otto Folberth*

Mircea Gheorghe ABRUDAN

The historian and intellectual Otto Folberth (1896-1991) became a member of the Transylvanian Saxon cultural elite through hard work and through his critical editing of Stephan Ludwig Roth’s work. The latter was a Lutheran priest executed in Cluj during the 1948-1949 revolution, mainly known for his work “The fight for language in Transylvania”, in which he promoted the equality among the three main languages, Hungarian, German and Romanian, claiming about the latter that it was known by all the inhabitants of Transylvania.

The present study presents Folberth’s manuscript diary, kept in the archives of the Transylvanian Institute of Gundelsheim, Germany, a work that is meant to contribute to the rediscovery and resizing of the image of war, assessed by a twenty year-old lieutenant, who recorded these events on a daily basis. The diary summarizes 58 notebooks, each 25-30 pages-long, and includes his notes from the age of 14 up to 90. Under the title “My participation in the First World War”, the work summarizes the period of July 1915-September 1918, the period during which he was on the eastern front, in Galicia. Accompanied by vintage photos, military and campaign sketches, Folberth’s diaries are regarded as unique sources that present not only direct military scenes, but the lives of soldiers and civilians behind the front lines. The young lieutenant tackles political, military, ideological, philosophical, religious, social and anthropological issues, expressed through quotes from his personal correspondence, letters from his companions, official talks with civilians, anonymous military poems and songs, all filtered through his psychological and emotional experience. In addition to these facts and events, Folberth also captures the rhetorical deep feelings related to “the madness of the war”, the desire for peace, the destruction and death sowed among people, military heroism, illusions and the last moments in the life of anonymous soldiers.

*A Significant Contribution in Romanian Preparations
for War Carried Out in 1915:
The Book War Surgery by Iacob Iacobovici*

Cristian BÂRSU

During the period of neutrality, before Romania entered World War I, various preparations in the field of war medicine were made. Unfortunately, only some of these demonstrated their practical utility. Among the significant contributions we should include the volume “War Surgery” written by Iacob Iacobovici (1879-1959) and published in 1915. The purpose of our paper is to highlight the importance of this book in the context of the medical preparations for war carried out in Romania.

It must be emphasized that Iacobovici did not focus his whole attention on war surgery, but he also gave some fundamental indications regarding the civilian surgical practice. He chose this method for the book because he supported the idea that in wartime a specific war pathology cannot replace the general pathology, present during both peace and war.

Iacobovici pointed out that besides anesthesia and the surgical treatment of various types of wounds and fractures, a book about war surgery must include topics about the organization of wartime medical activities. In his volume he wrote about discharged and undischarged soldiers and their food, about weapons and their effects, as well as about the connections that should exist between the medical units and between them and the headquarters. It is significant that Iacobovici wrote a small chapter concerning voluntary mutilations.

Regarding Iacobovici's prestige at the moment when he published this book, it is necessary to mention that he was one of the most active young Romanian surgeons, a docent at the Bucharest Faculty of Medicine and a consultant surgeon at Colțea Hospital of Bucharest.

Transylvanian Orphans During and After the Great War: Statistical Perspectives on Bistrița-Năsăud County

Ioan BOLOVAN, Adrian ONOFREIU

One of the major traumas inflicted by the First World War upon all belligerent states—and one with significant demographic consequences—was the death of many men, which deprived many families of their main income earner. Under these circumstances, the Romanians in Transylvania (and not only them) began to circulate the idea of the responsibility that society should bear for the children left without a father. Thus, in the year 1916, the Romanian elites (both secular and ecclesiastical) initiated a comprehensive campaign in support of the orphans, with far-reaching echoes within a Transylvanian Romanian society eager to become actively involved in solving this demographic and social problem. In early 1916, the Hungarian minister for internal affairs urged all city authorities to set up orphans services tasked with protecting the interests of war orphans (specially appointed inspectors were to monitor the living conditions of orphans, the manner in which their guardians took care of them, etc.). After the union between Transylvania and Romania, the Romanian authorities showed particular interest in the matter, introducing bills and issuing administrative acts concerning those who were to be granted the status of war invalids, orphans, and widows. In our paper we shall present several previously unpublished documents from Bistrița-Năsăud County, concerning both Romanians and Saxons, which outline the statistical and social perspectives on this matter.

Some Consideration about the Role of Orthodox Church from Bessarabia during the World War I (Presence of the Clergy and other Church Clerks at the Front Line and their Financial Support of Russian Society of Red Cross)

Teodor CANDU

The episode of the First World War remains one of the important issues of the European twentieth century. Although it marked the European society as a whole, despite the results of historiography in this field, so far some issues related to the role played by some communities and regions in the context of the evolution of this event have remained practically uninvestigated, or were viewed from the perspective of the historical role played by a belligerent state.

This applies to the issues related to the contribution of the Bessarabian population during this conflagration, studied either tangentially or given secondary importance in the context of this event involving the Russian Empire, or after 1918 addressed piecemeal in the Romanian periodical press. Unfortunately, a systematic study of the role of Bessarabia during the First World War is yet to be produced, and the human and material losses suffered by the Bessarabians starting with the early days of the war are still unknown. This is also true for the role of some social or professional groups, such as, for example, the clergy. If we analyze this contribution from a quantitative perspective in the context of the whole empire, taking into account the size of the province in comparison to other regions of the empire, it could admittedly be described as insignificant. However, the region's proximity to the front line implied an additional effort from the population, which needs to be taken into consideration.

We realize that in one study we will not clarify all the issues that marked this event. However, all the data which we bring to public attention indicate that the population of Bessarabia played an important role during this war. The clergy, as a part of this society, had its contribution, both through participation on the battlefield alongside the co-religionists and through material support for Red Cross societies, from the region and the empire.

Therefore, by presenting this data and information we can reveal a less treated matter of historiography related to the role played by Bessarabian society in the historical context of the First World War.

Neutrality and pro-Entente Engagement through Volunteers: The Cases of Spain and Italy (1914-15)

Andrea CARTENY

The neutrality approach to the European War, in 1914, was characterized in many countries by different and specific positions - such as neutrality, pro-Entente positions and pro-German ones - depending on the effects on their own national political situations. In Spain, growing in intensity from the beginning until the end of the conflict, neutrality was strongly challenged by pro-Entente movements (of Leftists autonomists, firstly Catalanists) against Spaniard con-

servative and military environments (pro-German). This opposition was mainly evident in the participation of several hundreds and thousands of volunteers from Spain (mainly from Catalonia) in the French Foreign Legion until the end of the war, fighting the Germans alongside the French Army. In Italy, officially allied with the Central Empires but a neutral country from the beginning of the conflict, the rise of the pro-Entente interventionist mobilization was supported by nationalist militants and by Garibaldi's devoted activists, who enlisted in high numbers in the French Foreign Legion. Until the entry of Italy into the war (May 1915), Italian and Spanish soldiers fought together in the French Army against the German soldiers, with different hopes and goals for their own countries. The participation of two "Latin sisters" alongside the French soldiers was different but at the same time inspired by similar and analogue hope for a better future of their own Nation.

"The Diamandi Incident": The Situation of the Romanian Diplomats in Russia (1917-1918)

Adrian-Bogdan CEOBANU

From 1878 to 1918, Romania had eight Ministers Plenipotentiary in Russia: Iancu Ghica (1878-1881), Nicolae Kretzulescu (1881-1886), Gheorghe M. Ghica (1886-1889), Emil Ghica (1889-1891), Alexandru Catargi (1892-1895), Gh. Rosetti-Solescu (1895-1911), Constantin G. Nano (1911-1913) and Constantin Diamandi (1913-1918). The last one, together with other members of the Legation, was arrested by the provisional Bolshevik Government in January 1918. In this paper, we will try to analyze the causes of this "incident" and its implications on the evolution of Romanian-Russian Relations.

The Activity of Force Structures in Bessarabia in the World War I

Igor CHIOSA

After a relative period of peace between the Great Powers, the world was thrown into a first global conflict known as the Great War or World War I. The Russian Empire, one of the major global actors, entered the war against its enemies. Being part of the Russian Empire for a century, the Romanian province named Bessarabia by the tsarists experienced the shock of the war alongside the other countries involved in that conflict. The power structures were used not only in combat, but also to help those on the front lines. In our paper we want to show the activity of these structures in Bessarabia, their relationships with the local population and their role in collecting goods for the army. We will use not only the available literature, but also the documents available in the National Archive of the Republic of Moldova, as well as other sources.

„... and Give Back to the World Peace and Tranquillity“: Propaganda and Control through Church in Transylvania during the First World War

Diana COVACI

In his 2012 book on the United Kingdom's propaganda during WWI, David Monger emphasized the particularities of this action, and stressed that it had combined in unique ways national patriotism, the belief in God, and the civilizing mission of the English nation. Propaganda existed long before WWI, but during 1914 and 1918 it achieved many of its present-day features.

In my study I intend to emphasize some aspects concerning the propaganda deployed through the Romanian Greek-Catholic Church in Transylvania, namely the reinforcement of the combative spirit among civilians during WWI. By 1915 it became obvious for the leaders of the belligerent states that the war was going to go on for a long time. The main issues to be addressed were the human and material losses, as well as maintaining the population's morale. The Hungarian State's Propaganda deployed through churches was organized in order to counteract those issues.

The sources of the study were mainly the circular letters issued between 1914 and 1918 by the ecclesiastical authorities of the Romanian Greek-Catholic Church. I have used mainly the historical reconstruction, but also discourse analysis and media studies methods, in order to emphasize the means of WWI propaganda.

I intend to analyze the messages, the means of publication, and some of the effects of the propaganda from the pulpit, focusing on 1915, the year when it became clear that peace was a distant prospect. The clergymen played an essential role in the consolidation of patriotism during the war, considering the fact that all the armies were invoking God's support. Moreover, the circular letters contained precise messages, special requests, were demanding requisitions and donations for the Hungarian State and the Emperor. The clergymen mobilized the believers into contributing to the war effort, while trying to take care of the religious needs of the flock.

Italian Military Deaths in the WWI. National Estimates and Regional Differences

Nelu DAN

After the end of WWI the Italian Ministry of War instituted the *Albo d'oro dei caduti della guerra*; a roll of honor intended to record the names of all the Italian soldiers who died in combat or as a direct result of the war, with the first of a total of 28 volumes completed in 1926, and the last in 1964. The information from the *Albo d'oro* has provided insight into a number of aspects regarding the mortality of Italian soldiers in the First World War. Notable differences emerge between the results from this source and previously consolidated notions regarding, first and foremost, the total number of military war-related deaths. The estimates of 651,000 military deaths formulated immediately after the end of the war are too high. The

data from the *Albo d'oro* demonstrate that the mortality rate peaked in the last year of the war; contrary to the previous assertion of 1917. It appears that death from disease, which was higher in the Italian army than in the armies of the other Great Powers, had an even greater impact than previously believed. With the aid of the summary data collected at regional level, we examine certain aspects of the mortality of the military personnel during the conflict. We compare the number of dead by cause and year of death in relation to the demographic, economic and social characteristics of certain regional contexts. It emerges that there existed many regional differences in terms of military deaths. These differences are related to characteristics such as occupation, height and literacy.

Between Sorrow and Agony. Sickness and Death Beyond the Frontline (1916-1919)

Maria Aurelia DIACONU, Dana Emilia CÂMPEAN

No matter how we would classify them, world or local, just or unjust, offensive or defensive, wars remain historical events opposed to human nature. War puts people in extreme situations, generating reactions, facts, attitudes, judgments that do not belong to the events themselves, but to the differences between civilizations, between peoples, mentalities, habits, traditions, beliefs, education, historical development stage, etc.

In our presentation we took as reference two Romanian provinces, Oltenia and Transylvania, two territories different in terms of their historical evolution, but still similar from the perspective of perceiving and living the war.

In both provinces the population found itself unprecedented situations, in which the horrors of the war left a mark, affecting all structures of everyday life.

Demographically, during the war the Romanians experienced a decrease in births and marriages. Most men were already on the battlefield, leaving at home the women, the children and the elderly. At the same time, the number of deaths rapidly increased, as the precarious living conditions generated a high number of epidemics, viruses, microbes, both on the battlefield and on the home front. The situation was worsened by the lack of food and also by the lack of raw materials, which were requisitioned by the German and Austro-Hungarian military forces.

First World War remains one of the cruelest pages in Romanian history. The Romanians from Oltenia and Transylvania played an important part in this conflict through the human and material sacrifices they made, but especially by facing the anxieties and tensions specific to a conflict situation.

*Russian Images and Impressions
in the Correspondence of the Refugee Hortensia Cosma-Goga
and Octavian Goga (January-April 1917)*

Mihai Drecin

Partenie Cosma, Director General of Albina Bank in Sibiu between 1885 and 1915, together with his wife and daughter Hortensia - the wife of Octavian Goga, took up residence in their villa in Călimănești (Romania) in the spring of 1915. His relations with the political elites in Bucharest allowed him to know, in advance, of the Romanian Government's decision to join the Entente. In that event, as an important personality of the Romanian nation in Transylvania, he would have inevitably been arrested by the Austro-Hungarian authorities. His age (78 years old) would not have allowed him the condition of political prisoner.

In the autumn of 1916, Partenie Cosma's family moved to Iași. The political and military uncertainties that marked the Romanian State in its refuge in Moldavia determined him to seek refuge somewhere in western Europe, in an allied state. The only possible route was through Tsarist Russia.

Between January and April 1917, Partenie Cosma and his family traveled along the route Iași – Chișinău - Bender (Tighina) – Odessa – Petrograd. Very interesting for the existing situation and for the atmosphere among the common people of Russia at a time of revolutionary effervescence, but also among the Romanians refugees there, including Romania's High Commission in Petrograd, are Hortensia's letters sent to her husband who was in Iași, working as the editor of the daily *România*. Some of these letters are the answer to the letters of her husband, which unfortunately have not been kept. Significant is the fact that in spite of the material hardships and health problems faced by Partenie Cosma, Hortensia is optimistic for the future of Romania. She encourages her husband in the efforts he undertook in the service of the national interest.

*“Between the Game and the War”: Children's Patriotism
in Odessa during the Great War (1914-1917)*

Ievgen DZHUMYGA

The First World War, named the Total War, revolutionized living conditions in the Russian Empire. The mobilization, hunger, cold, the lack of food, products and fuel became a part of everyday Russian life. On the other hand, we can observe mass patriotic enthusiasm. It was caused by a desire to protect the homeland and by the creation of an image of the enemy. Russian sociologist L. Gudkov notes that the enemy is a factor that mobilizes all members of the community to solidarity and unity around authority that guarantees security conditions and salvation from the threat of destruction. That's why the creation of an enemy's image is very important in any war.

Not only adults were involved in the patriotic wave, but children too. So it is necessary to observe such main issues as:

The instruments influencing the attitude of children towards the war (church, family, school, entertainment etc.);

The charitable activity of the youth (gathering food, money, clothes, gifts for wounded soldiers in Odessa and combatants on the frontline);

The battle experience of the children (ways to the front, honors, public opinion, wounded children etc.).

The chronological frame of article includes only the period of 1914-1917 because of the great impact and the radical changes brought by the February Revolution and the Civil war to the life and consciousness of the Russian Empire's population, including the children.

The theoretical framework of the research deals with the history of everyday life (A. Ludtke) and the approach to "the image of the enemy" (L. Gudkov). The historiography of this paper is represented by such historians as Maureen Healy, F.J. Hubertus, R. Chickering, N. Heyman etc.

The main sources of research are Odessa newspapers ("Children Sheet", "Odessa news", "Odessa sheet", "The South Refugee", and the others), personal documents (memoirs of Y. Olesha, B. Kossowski, V. Galitskii etc.), orders, appeals, instructions and other documents from Ukrainian and Polish archives (Odessa, Kiev, Warsaw).

The Romanians from the Timoc region in the Serbian army between 1914 and 1918

Jasmina Glisic

The Romanians of Northeastern Serbia, residing in the area between the Danube, Morava and Timoc rivers, fought in the Great War alongside the Serbs, the majority population in the country. They showed bravery and devotion to the fatherland in the most important battles fought during the four years long war. Most Romanians served in the Timoc Division of the Serbian Royal Army, which took part in battles on all fronts. The same division had the most tragic destiny of all Serbian Army divisions, fighting in the battle of Leget in 1914. Additionally, the Danubian Division which included the 9th Regiment, comprising Rumanians from Branicevo and Homolie, lost most of its troops during the battle of Mackov Kamen in 1914.

In 1915, when the German Army advanced into Serbia, in the first line of defense were the Romanians from Branicevo, who tried to prevent the advance of the mighty enemy. Together with the rest of the Serbian Army soldiers, the Romanians lived the experience of the "Golgotha"—a withdrawal of the Serbian Army and Government from Southern Serbia through Albania during 1915.

While young men and their fathers were dying on the battlefields, the elderly, the women and the children were being terrorized and murdered by the occupying armies—especially the Bulgarian Army. At that time the Bulgarian Army was given the role of occupation force in Eastern Serbia. The occupation entailed not only a military, but also a civilian occupation, meant to ensure the Bulgarian assimilation of the population of Eastern Serbia, by using the most brutal methods. Those who did not accept forced Bulgarization, by changing their ethnic identity, language and ancestry, were murdered or had to take up arms and organize a resistance movement, locally known as hajduks.

The manner in which the Romanians accepted Serbia could serve as the best example of citizen loyalty to the state. Conversely, the manner in which Serbia treated the Romanians is a shameful example of how a state neglects the interests of its own citizens.

France and Romanian Public Opinion at the Beginning of the Great War

Hadrian GORUN

This paper attempts to focus on the demonstrations of sympathy in favor of France, expressed by an important part of the Romanian public opinion. The French republic was perceived as the elder Latin sister of Romania. As sources, I particularly used the press, in fact a few issues of the “Universul” and “Adevărul” newspapers from the second half of the year 1914 and first months of 1915. As for the methodological point of view, I somehow resorted to a theoretical approach, emphasizing the importance of the public opinion in international relations. The role of the public opinion was not only taken into consideration, but even underscored/emphasized by the interwar liberalism, called idealism. From the idealist perspective, the public opinion has a significant role in politics, mainly regarding its influence on the decisions of the government. Idealism emphasizes a quite important role of the public opinion in a country in the articulation of the foreign policy of the state. In idealism, the public opinion could influence foreign policy behavior. The idealist thinkers expressed the conception that the democratization of the international relations was possible due to the growing role and the mission of the public opinion. An important part of the Romanian public opinion was Francophile. Of course, this conception is completely different from the realist theory in international relations. Realism always underlines only the role of diplomats and statesmen. The public opinion is ignored in realism. The growing importance assigned to public opinion represented an idealist objective. Actually, the Francophile Romanian public opinion acted in a realist manner, calling for intervention in the war on the side of Entente and France. This military alliance (Entente) promised the achievement and the fulfilment of the Romanian foreign policy objectives. The achievement of the Romanian national interest involved obtaining the Romanian territories inhabited mainly by a Romanian population. A large number of people expressed their sympathy for France in Bucharest, Craiova, Galați, Târgoviște. Many demonstrations were organized by Acțiunea Națională, Liga Culturală and Acțiunea Patriotică. We must also mention the contribution of a few great Romanian personalities, such as Nicolae Iorga, Nicolae Filipescu, Vasile Lucaciu, Nicolae Titulescu and others.

Transylvania and Banat in the Autumn and Winter of 1918: The “Revolutionary Violence” Reflected in Memoirs

Mihai-Octavian GROZA

The end of the Great War, the collapse of the war fronts and the disintegration of multinational empires were accompanied by a series of violent anarchic protests, political or social movements, robberies, murders etc., which later during the interwar period would give rise to so-called “paramilitary violence”. At the end of the war, in the context of the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, the Romanians from Transylvania and Banat directly experienced the feeling of imperial collapse, the end of inequalities, feelings evidenced through numerous memoirs. Throughout the years of the war, the requisitions, famine, shortages of all kinds had demoralized the population, to whom the end of the military conflict brought the promise of a better future. The enthusiasm of the population soon turned into violence and devastation, to arson when it came to the properties of the noble Hungarian families, followed but the most heinous crimes that mainly targeted local notaries and gendarmes, who were seen as symbols of the former regime. In this regard the present article is a brief introduction to a subject hardly debated in the Romanian historiography, that of “revolutionary violence”, the tense atmosphere in Transylvania and Banat in the fall and winter of 1918, trying to capture the shapes of these anarchic and violent demonstrations, as well as their evolution up to the formation of the new Romanian leadership bodies.

Romania during Neutrality (1914-1916) Reflected in Ministry of Foreign Affairs Documents of the Russian Empire

Ion GUMENÂI

The topic proposed for debate starts from a number of erroneous statements of Soviet and post-Soviet Russian historiography referring to Romania’s neutrality in the early years of the First World War.

Drawing on information coming from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Empire, we seek to establish the true interests and the diplomatic backstage games that took place during this period and the position of various officials, including the attitude of the emperor concerning one issue or another, in response to the position assumed by Romania, from references found in Ministry of Foreign Affairs documents, and mainly in the daily journal of this institution. Quite interesting is the information regarding a number of problems occurred during 1914-1916, reflected in this document. The data also reflects the interventions of different European powers to the Foreign Ministry of the Russian Empire, seeking to protect interests that were directly related to the position of Romania—either neutrality, or its desire to join the world conflagration. Also of interest is the issue of the concessions considered acceptable by Russian Empire in relation with Romania, in case it entered the war (e.g. including the setting of the territorial borders of Transylvania and Bukovina, claimed by Romania), as well as the position of different countries.

Using the documentary information from the daily journal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Empire, as well as a series of other documents, we can shed light on work and the actions of Constantin Diamandy—minister plenipotentiary at the Romanian Embassy in Petrograd. We can't overlook the information with reference to Ion I. C. Bratianu, and the work of the Bucharest government led by him, as perceived by the tsarist authorities.

*On the Battlefield and Beyond: Health Service
in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy during the First World War.
Case Study: Transylvania*

Oana HAVOR

The First World War represented a great challenge for medical science. Misery, poverty, poor hygiene favored the outbreak of diseases and infections. The study presents the health system in Transylvania during the Great War. It is an attempt to outline a universe of wounded servicemen and doctors, nurses and unqualified staff, field hospitals, but also of medical advances.

*“Remembering the Wounds”: Human Losses
and Socio-Demographic Effects of World War I in Transylvania*

Crinela Elena HOLOM, Bogdan CRĂCIUN

A hundred years have passed since the First World War; however, besides its well-known aspects, one hundred others, or even more, still remain unrevealed. Historians have repeatedly asked the following question: “Why are we so preoccupied with the Great War of 1914–1918, given that it was not the longest, the bloodiest or the most destructive conflict?” They also provided an answer: the high interest for the matter is connected to the numerous still unknown aspects related to the causes of this conflict, to those who generated it and to its victims and consequences (Prior and Wilson 2000, “The First World War, Review Article”, *Journal of Contemporary History*, 35, 2: 319-328). A century after those events, the file of the First World War remains open even today, an important matter from a scientific, socio-economic and cultural point of view.

Through this research we aim to fill some blank spots in the history of the First World War in Transylvania. Our purpose is to investigate the legislative framework which regulated the issue of the disabled persons, orphans and war widows, as well as the manner in which the authorities got involved in helping those affected by the war. The most consistent part of the paper is a case study dedicated to the socio-demographic profile of those directly affected by the war. In this regard, we will make use of data extracted from the Collection *Invalids, War widows and Orphans (IOVR) – Bistrița, 1918 to 1961* that can be found at the National Archives, Năsăud County Department.

Press Censorship during the First World War in Sibiu

Ioana-Elena IGNAT KISANOVICI

One of the measures taken by the authorities during World War I was the introduction of censorship, both mail and especially the media, which affected the population in more than one way. The press was prohibited from publishing information on special military preparations and any other information that could demoralize the civilian population or the soldiers on the front. It is a phenomenon present in all the countries involved in the war. Regarding the media censorship, it acted on two levels, preventive and restrictive. Regarding the preventive aspect, we can't say much about the level at which was applied because we do not know the items that were banned in the drafting stage, but we can carry out a practical study on the number of articles that were censored, noticing the lack of articles and the presence of white spaces in the newspapers published at that time. In Transylvania, the local media suffered greatly, some newspapers were even suspended indefinitely because the authorities considered that the articles they published were dangerous because of the information they transmitted. Regarding the publications that continued to appear, after choosing a sample of some Romanian, Hungarian and Austrian periodicals from that time, we made an analysis of the level of censorship present in those newspapers. Censorship is an issue which is found both in universal and national historiography, especially in terms of the theoretical, legislative and administrative measures taken to implement censorship, all over the world. However, this study is the first one dealing with the practical analysis, a statistical reflection of how harshly the restrictive censorship was applied in the Romanian press in Transylvania, concluding that when Romania entered the war application of censorship in Transylvania become much tougher.

Romanian Fears and Hopes for the Eastern Front Before the Russian Great Retreat

Cosmin Constantin IONIȚĂ

Amid the growing interest of researches for the Romanian role in the First World War, this paper focuses mainly on the views of the decision-makers in Bucharest and of public-opinion leaders regarding the Eastern front after a year of battles. Opting not to follow the cause of the Central Powers as the war broke out in Europe in August 1914, Romania failed to build a solid security system together with the Entente after leaving the old one. Without clear assurances and finding themselves between the fiercest contenders in the Balkans, Russia and Austria-Hungary, the Romanians had rapidly changing fears and hopes regarding the Eastern front. This research will highlight the main shifts recorded by the Romanian diplomats and politicians before the Russian Great Retreat in the late summer of 1915, when the Entente morale suffered a major shock. As Romania had both an army that triggered deep concerns and a highly divided political class, the evolution of the Eastern front represented a vector for the decision-making process in Bucharest.

This paper aims to depict the convulsions of the Romanian leaders during the first year of war, a time when they were hoping to ensure not only the survival of the nation but its aggrandizement.

Bridging the Gap: Romanian Parliamentary Elites in Aid of their Communities during the First World War

Ovidiu-Emil IUDEAN

The breakout of the war in the summer of 1914 and its rapid evolution into a world conflagration had a profound impact on the Transylvanian society, affecting both those who were on the front lines and the persons they had left at home.

Transylvanian society saw itself on the one hand direly missing the support given by the male population which had left for the front lines and, on the other hand, was confronted with manifold problems caused by the war. It thus had to find solutions to the newly created population gaps. One way of solving these matters was to request support from the Transylvanian political leaders with influential positions in Budapest circles.

The present case study will focus precisely on one of these connected individuals and on the way they lent and intermediated support, namely the Romanian parliamentary representative Ion Ciocan, between January and June 1915.

Based on information extracted from the approximately 100 'letters of intervention' which were addressed to Ciocan from all around Transylvania – not only from his home county of Bistrița-Năsăud – , this study will present and analyze the situation at home during the war, focusing on the main difficulties faced by the civilian population who lived near the front lines. These letters also reveal the instrumental role played by this regional political figure in solving these matters.

This main archival source constitutes a unique and previously unstudied case of direct testimony regarding the involvement of a parliamentary representative in solving the problems faced by the Transylvanians in the First World War. The issues encountered form a sample representative of a typical crisis situation and emphasize the intermediary role played by this political figure between his community and the government. They range from requests to be exempt from military service, to facilitate food supply, to mediate in obtaining commercial contracts with the army, to appeals concerning the shortening of the school year to allow the students to work in the fields, or requiring the representative's intervention in the trials against co-nationals.

War Posters during the Great War: Themes, Heroes and Stereotypes

Ioana Mara LEONTE

The Great War, the greatest conflict known by Europe at the beginning of the 20th century, required extensive efforts both on the battlefield and on the home front. More than four years of war required huge amounts of resources, a continuous flow of troops and, overall, an entire society that had to become part of the war effort. In this context, the press and the media in general became one of the most important means of communication, reassurance and perseverance that had to be exploited.

This article aims to study the image depicted by the posters that had the role to convince, mobilize and determine the society (or some of its categories) to act in a certain manner. Depending on its target, the poster, a large image, highly visible and accessible to the public, depicted either a desired state of mind, of spirit or an action that was required from the citizens of a specific country.

The end of the 19th century had brought an almost complete liberalization of the press in Western Europe. Articles and images became part of everyday life. Within a war context, a pattern can be distinguished amongst the images (posters) depicting a certain aspect of the war. Some of the main themes that can be identified are:

- Recruitment
- Alliances and enemies
- The demonization of the Other
- Nationalism
- Dealing with failure and mishaps
- Involving the civil society
- Economic issues (rationalization, war production, redirecting the human and economic effort).

We aim to analyze and identify trends and specifics by taking into account the country involved and its peculiarities: political or economic situation, position on the European battlefield, national aspirations, and cultural stereotypes. In this context, the war poster becomes a simplified version of the official propaganda, trying to recreate, in a suggestive manner, a varied range of dilemmas that had to be overcome by the war participants at national level.

Ideas and Attitudes Expressed in the Hungarian Press from Cluj in the Summer of 1914

LUKÁCS József

In 1914, in Cluj two daily newspapers came into being, both in the Hungarian language and both coming from “the opposition”: *Újság*: Daily political newspaper and *Ellenzék*: Daily political, economic and social newspaper. In my research I investigated the issues of these newspapers published between March and September, 1914. I started with the assumption that newspapers present ideas and attitudes that their readers mostly agree with, and therefore the presentation and comments of events largely reflect a collective opinion of their readers. Following the issues of the two newspapers I could identify several stages. Until the Sarajevo assassination newspapers did not have as a main theme the war and the international events, which were presented only sporadically. The internal political news and commentaries were usually treated in a manner critical of the government’s actions, specifically the actions of reconciliation taken by the Prime Minister, Istvan Tisza, in regard to the representatives of the Transylvanian Romanians. There were permanent headings where ideas published in Romanian newspapers and magazines, from both Transylvania and Romania, were reviewed. The second stage I identified extends from the period of the assassination of the Crown Prince to the outbreak of the war. Over a few weeks, these articles in both newspapers were taking a firm stand against the war, arguing that for the Hungarians of Cluj and Transylvania a war

could not bring anything good, some articles explicitly stating that the main threat for the Hungarians in Transylvania was coming from inside the country.

The third stage I identified starts with the day of the declaration of the war. From that date on, there were no arguments published against the war, and the texts presented the idea that all citizens had a moral obligation to do their duty towards the country and the Emperor.

Sending Greetings During the Great War

LUPESCU-MAKÓ Mária, Radu MÂRZA

In the last decades historians have increasingly turned their attention to postcards, as primary sources of historical investigations. They became attractive to researchers for many reasons, one of them being the content of the small pieces of correspondence.

The present paper started as a curiosity of the authors, materialized in a series of questions: are the postcards reflecting the war? Are the people writing about the war in the postcards? What are the people writing on the postcards? Who is writing the postcards and to whom are they addressed? These questions constituted the starting point of the present research which investigates the war seen through the eyes and through the short messages of the “small” participants of the Great War – the ordinary people.

For the purposes of the present research, the authors took into consideration a limited number and type of postcards: 25 postcards circulated in Austria-Hungary during the years 1914-1918, written by anonymous senders in the Romanian, Hungarian, Slovak and Czech languages.

Family and Morality in the Transylvanian Press during the First World War

Anamaria MACAVEI

The written press manages to reflect certain cultural norms and social realities, it is a means of socialization that conditions people’s decisions and their conduct, perpetuates prejudices and stereotypes, or imposes social models, standards and values. The research conducted herein aims to identify and analyze the representations of women and men, as well as the manner in which the image of the family was promoted through text in the First World War. It tries to analyze aspects of ‘couple’ life, and the way in which the war altered couples’ behaviors, particularly morality, and signaled a new type of marital relationship. It attempts to show how innocent bystanders and children were affected by this conflict and, last but not least, it tries to show how the life of women changed, and how women and girls contributed to this dramatic event.

In terms of methodology, we have considered studying “family portraits” from the First World War and their reflection in the Transylvanian press, by examining written texts and

analyzing them. Some of the questions which will be addressed by this research are: How much was written in this period, and by whom? What kind of tone was adopted by the journalist?, and Can a positive or negative voice be detected through the journalistic presentation of these issues?

Romanian Orphanages Organized by Churches in Transylvania during World War I

Ionela Victoria MANCIU

The First World War shook the foundations of both the European states and the social and familiar life of the people, and also reached directly and sharply the domestic life of the two churches from Transylvania – the Orthodox Church and the Greek-Catholic Church – claiming from them measures in all fields. Regarding this event, their leadership and their representative bodies from Transylvania took action and developed an activity in this direction.

The paper aims to present the way in which the two Romanian churches in Transylvania acted in order to find solutions to a problem occurred in wartime, namely the orphans.

The prolonged state of war had an influence on all the components of human life, generating new attitudes within the policy of governing in both church and state.

Besides all the major changes that took place during the war, we have to pay special attention to one of the greatest traumas generated in Transylvania by the Great War, with important consequences. This was the death of a great number of men who left behind many families deprived by their main support.

In this context, among the Romanians from Transylvania emerged an idea of the responsibility that society had towards the children left without fathers, deprived therefore of the most important source of financial security. The fact that the number of these children was high enough to require some special measures is also suggested by the arguments used by the initiators of the campaign. Thus, we see an ample campaign initiated by the Romanian elite in favor of the orphans. The idea of building an orphanage in this period was launched by the Orthodox Metropolitan See of Sibiu, in 1915, an idea that was embraced in the summer of the next year by the Uniate Metropolitan See of Alba Iulia, both churches engaging actively in this social problem. The idea of building an orphanage was not something new for the Romanian society from Transylvania, being present there since 1912.

The Ravages of war: Romanian Schools in Transylvania, 1914-1919

Daniela Mârza

The scale of World War I profoundly affected, at all levels, the states involved. Social and cultural life suffered enormously. This paper analyzes the situation of Romanian school education in Transylvania during the Great War. It has considered how the hardships of daily life affect

school attendance by children, and the functioning of schools. It was obviously a time of great indigence, not only because of the enormous price increases of food and other products. The enlistment of the men had a strong negative impact on society, affecting household functionality, and hence the living standards. A major issue was the recruitment of teachers and professors for military service – a destabilizing situation with a strong impact on education.

The sources used for this paper are the Romanian press in Transylvania, memoirs, archival documents.

This study aims to show how Romanian school authorities coped with these challenges in order to keep the schools open wherever possible.

Sequences of the First World War in the Press: Transylvanian Romanians between Ethnicity and Politics before the Great Union

Mihaela MEHEDIŢI-BEIEAN

The First World War questioned almost all of the pre-existing establishments: empires and their governments, older territorial claims and the ethnicity-related legislation in force. The Romanians inhabiting Transylvania and Romania found themselves in the midst of the events, as their geographical location coincided with the borders of three very large empires: Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Russia. Obviously, as many other nations, Romanians had to make a few difficult choices regarding their involvement in the world conflict and the period's press provides ample coverage of these troublesome times.

The present study analyses the manner in which the Romanian periodicals in Transylvania depicted the events and how they coped with the harsh realities of the war. For example, faced with financial and human-related hardships, *Gazeta de Transilvania (The Transylvanian Gazette)* was forced to scale down and then cease its activity for a period of time, despite its long tradition (it was established in 1838). Other journals continued appearing, although more seldom than previously, and attempted to preserve an impression of normality by printing articles from their own sphere of interest and not news about the war. This was, for instance, the case of *Transilvania (Transylvania)*, the official publication of the ASTRA, an acronym that stands for the *Association for Romanian Literature and the Culture of the Romanian People*.

However, the Romanian public opinion in Transylvania was informed about what occurred on the front not only by means of direct and mediated experience (soldiers who returned home and/or letters sent by soldiers to their loved ones), but also through official information and factual data recorded by correspondents and printed by certain newspapers. It was due to these multiple lines of communication that the First World War accomplished something never seen before: a strong voluntary collaboration between those on the frontline and those back home. Only through this complete and utter involvement of all individual actors, either military or civilian, was it possible for the emerging countries and nations to adapt to the major changes that stemmed from the conflagration. Within this context, the Transylvanian press played an important part, as Romanians had to prepare themselves for a whole new reality, namely a larger country that incorporated vast territories which used to belong to empires that were now extinct and numerous challenges that resulted from this situation.

“Vox clamantis in deserto”.
The German and French Peace Movements
and the Difficult Dream of Peace during the Great War

Marius-Mircea MITRACHE

In the fateful year 1915, especially after the Zimmerwald Conference, peace in Europe seemed to become more and more distant. On the home fronts of the belligerent countries, the pressure was mounting against those who did not support the war effort. Among the first to be treated firstly with suspicion and afterwards with open hostility were the pacifist movements opposing the slaughter between neighboring nations. Ironically, when it came in dealing with their pacifist movements the governments of France and Imperial Germany, two countries that took great pride in their differences, acted in a similar manner in order to discourage and neutralize a discourse that was seen as dangerous and counter-productive. Unfortunately, even between the pacifists of various countries there were considerable differences of opinion on what peace should look like and more precisely on how it should be achieved. This was the case of the German and French pacifist movements. Despite the fact that they shared a common goal of peace, they envisioned this goal through the lens of their national interest and their own biased beliefs regarding the Other. To make matters worse, the national peace movements themselves were plagued by inner fighting and bitter rivalries that amounted to a fragmented and ultimately inefficient message which was unable to compete with the militaristic propaganda. In spite of towering moral personalities like Romain Rolland or Ludwig Quidde, the French and German peace movements suffered tremendously because of their inability to coordinate and cooperate at a national and European level in order to influence the policymaking process, remaining voices preaching in the desert.

The aim of this article is to explore the differences and similarities between the German and French peace movements, the dynamics between them and their governments, and to try to understand the changes they went through and how this influenced them for the inter-war period that followed, the dream of peace remaining one difficult to achieve.

Propaganda: French Press Propaganda
to Secure Banat between 1914-1916

Ionela Felicia MOSCOVICI

The context of the war as a dynamic element required the analysis of a significant amount of information with the aim of mobilizing the public opinion as well as controlling the news with the help of censorship.

In our research we will focus on the manner in which the Romanian or Serbian claims around Banat appear in the daily, weekly and monthly French press, during roughly the same period of time, that of Romania's neutrality – between 1914 and 1916. The texts under study, namely press articles, reveal either the cause supported by the Romanians or that argued by the Serbians. Consequently, our research is composed of chronicles, which keep up with the

events from the battlefield and those from the diplomatic chancellery (press information), and of analyses characterized by incisiveness, a critical examination and polemical activism as regards the claims to Banat (press review).

The undertaking of reviewing the press related to the allegations of the Romanian or Serbian national right over a region such as Banat is quite daunting. The main purpose of the daily press is to inform and present the events of the day and, as such, an item of news on Banat is just one among many others. The collection of information, the limits of the current news transform the episodic news about Banat into a genuine series, less appealing at first, but with an increasing audience in the summer of 1915. We are dealing with a vast variety of articles from which we can extract the different assumptions built around the province, in which we need to identify the advantages and the perseverance in claiming Banat. The recurrent themes of the articles in which the province is mentioned refer to: the imminent and long-awaited intervention of Romania into the conflict, an intervention that would separate all or part of Banat from Timișoara, the dispersion of the Russian-Romanian diplomatic treaties and the clash of the various interests regarding the natural limits, as well as the frequent reflections related to the future status of the region.

The Jews of Eastern Europe and the Great War in the Documents of the Joint Distribution Committee

Giuseppe MOTTA

The Jews in the Russian Pale of Settlement felt the consequences of the Great War from many points of view: the Russian military measures produced a great flow of refugees, the repeated occupation by German and Russian armies impoverished these communities and created great damages to the Jewish populations, especially in Poland and Lithuania. This particular reality became the center of the activities of many organizations, in Russia, Europe and also in the United States: here the Joint Distribution Committee, created for the relief of the Jews in Palestine, decided to enlarge its action and to include also aid and relief for Eastern European Jewish groups. The help first came through the American embassy in Holland and the Jewish local committees in Russia, and only in a second stage did direct emissaries of the Joint Distribution Committee start to visit the regions of Eastern Europe and to be directly interested in this activity. The documents of the Joint Distribution Committee, therefore, could be very helpful for a first-hand description of many Eastern European cities and of the reality in which many Jewish communities were living. In particular, this paper is focused on some reports – such as the one drafted in the first months of 1918 by A. van Raalte concerning Poland and Lithuania – which described the needs and the misery of Jews in many villages and cities, during and after the war.

Failed Diplomatic Attempts to Stop the Outbreak of World War I

Margareta-Gabriela NISIPEANU, Adina-Elena ȘERBAN

The causes of the outbreak of World War I were multiple, historians often citing the race for colonial possessions, the economic and military race, and the empires' refusal to grant their populations the right to self-determination, unresolved previous disputes between different countries, the systems of alliances, and many others. We believe that one of the main factors that led to the outbreak of this war was precisely the tool that is meant to avoid it: diplomacy. Diplomacy is an essential function of states. When it comes on bringing peace, diplomacy is the most efficient tool, but, unfortunately, it is not always properly used. That is the case of the European diplomacy of the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century, when national vanity prevented the diplomats from doing their jobs. The purpose of this paper is to examine the "diplomatic war" from June to July 1914 and to establish to what extent diplomacy failed to prevent the war and, instead, helped to start the terrible conflict. Furthermore, we intend to underline the wrong calculations and the mistakes made by various actors in their diplomatic efforts, making the war a certainty. In order to achieve our objectives we will analyze collections of documents from the diplomatic archives of the various belligerent countries. When analyzing the contribution of diplomacy to the outbreak of the war, most of the researchers treat diplomacy from a global perspective, blaming its secret nature and lack of public consultation, but they are not looking deeper into the problem, namely, the fact that diplomacy was supposed to stop the war. We will make a content analysis as well as a semantic analysis in an attempt to identify the exact role that diplomacy played in the outbreak of the war. This paper is part of a broader research regarding the role of diplomacy in the First World War.

World War I As the Great Archaization: Demographic, Economic and Biological Impact of War on the Population of the City of Krakow

Bartosz OGÓREK

In many historical handbooks the WW I is presented as one of the crucial phenomena that triggered the political, technical and societal modernization. However, the most rudimentary aspects of human experience show that WWI halted and disturbed many of the modernization processes. Among them demographic (lengthening of life, epidemiological transition), economic (integration of the market, rise of living standards) and biological (secular trend in body sizes and earlier maturation) developments. This paper seeks to investigate the potential areas where this archaization can be perceived, and try to measure it. This is done by the scrutiny of both quantitative (statistical publications and archival sources) and qualitative (journals, newspapers, legal regulations) sources. Results show that, in terms of e_0 , the population of interest was turned back to the early 1890s. At the same time the state of epi-

demiological transition was taken back by around 30 years. During the wartime the city landscape was transformed due to the increase in the interurban plant and animal farming. The picture of Krakow resembled more and more the early modern town than the 19th c. urban center on the rise. Meanwhile, food imports were diminishing drastically resulting in the fall of the per capita meat consumption by approximately 75%! The falling standards of living were reflected in the anthropometric sources, as both newborns and schoolboys were significantly smaller during and after the war than their peers born during peacetime. The mean height of the conscripts also noted a temporary reversal as the men measured shortly after the war were shorter than those conscripted before 1914. The outcomes of the study leave no doubt that the WWI was a catastrophe for the civilian population of Krakow. Due to the perturbation of the demographic transition, economic development and biological functioning of the population, WWI brought some serious long-term consequences to the inhabitants of the city.

Aspects Regarding the Arad City Police during the First World War

Corneliu Pădurean

The 100th anniversary of the First World War has stirred an interest in subjects that had been approached only rarely in historiography, especially in those countries that were involved in this global armed conflict. The investigations have revealed multiple and diverse implications, besides the political-diplomatic and military messages that the First World War conveyed. Unaware of the tragic dimensions of the ongoing conflict on the “hot” front, the people who stayed at home fought their own war, most of the time suffering the same serious consequences as those who risked their lives in the first line of the front. Individuals, communities, state institutions of any kind had their own war to fight, no matter on which side of the barricade they were.

During military conflicts, when the natural course of everyday life is disturbed, law enforcement agents have to increase their efforts to preserve the public and social order that exists before a war breaks out.

The investigation I have conducted focuses on the activity of the Arad City Police Department during the First World War. On analyzing the documents preserved in the Arad Municipality Police Collection of the Arad County Division of the National Archives, I was able to ascertain the specific actions of the Arad City Police Department in 1915-1916, the years that the Collection covers.

Part of these actions, such as the expulsion of certain individuals from the city, thefts, interrogations of nationalist agitators, various offences, went on even after the military conflict had started. Some intensified, others, mostly new offences, occurred precisely because of the war: surveillance of foreign citizens, cases of espionage for Serbia and Romania, investigations of Russian and Bulgarian spies, close watch on the regular customers of a beer hall in Arad, investigations of people who hosted Russian prisoners, reports on the closure of small shops (butchers, for instance) etc.

The activity of Romanian MPs in the Hungarian Parliament during World War I

Vlad POPOVICI

Between 1914 and 1918 a number of fourteen Romanians MPs were present in the Parliament of Hungary, nine of them elected on the lists of the governing party and the other five on the lists of the Romanian National Party. This paper aims at presenting and analyzing their parliamentary activity during the time of the Great War, stressing the main subjects touched upon in their speeches and interpellations.

The research of the Romanian MPs' parliamentary activity has been focused until now mainly on the representatives of the National Party and on topics related closely to the general situation of the Romanians in Hungary. For this reason, we intend to expand the research area by also including the Romanian representatives of the Hungarian parties and comparing the two categories, in order to highlight the differences generated by their opposed political agendas. Furthermore, we intend to shed light on the way in which their parliamentary activity was reflected by the Romanian press. Finally, we are interested in revealing the Romanian governmental MPs' attitude in the final months of the year 1918 and especially during the events that led to the dissolution of the Double Monarchy.

Hygiene, Nutrition, Public Health and Health Policies in Sibiu during the First World War

Sorin RADU, Maria-Daniela STANCIU

Our approach aims to investigate aspects of nutrition, public health, hygiene and health policies in the city of Sibiu during the First World War. Starting from the health legislation in force, our analysis is based on unpublished archival sources about the aspects mentioned above. Moreover, we will also analyze the attitude of the mass-media, in both Romanian and German newspapers.

Our research goal is to observe the impact of the war upon the urban population and to investigate the measures that were taken by the local administration and by the local elites in improving the health policy. We are also interested in investigating the various epidemics and their prevention during the war.

The Role of Religion in World War I

Kazi Sufior RAHAMAN

Since the second half of the nineteenth century, the prolonged political conflicts among the European states for political superiority, economic power, social prestige and the scramble for new colonies for commercial expansion in Afro-Asian countries accentuated the outbreak

of the First World War. Therefore, World War I is largely addressed as a European war. Although the war was the product of European crisis, the colonies of the European states were forcefully involved in it. They sacrificed lives and property for the sake of their colonial rulers.

World War I was practically an exercise in military power between two European rival groups. Apart from that, the war also had political, economic, social and religious aspects. Interestingly, the role of religion during the war has been neither studied nor properly acknowledged. The blocks of the Triple Entente mainly consisted of Roman Catholic and Anglican believers. On the other hand, the followers of Protestantism, Orthodoxy, and the Muslims belonged to the Triple Alliance. India was not directly involved in the war, but the people of the Indian subcontinent were forced to participate in the war for the sake of her colonial master. More than 1.5 million Indian soldiers of different faiths i.e. Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs etc. fought on war fronts, i.e. France, Flanders, Mesopotamia, Gallipoli, Germany and even in East Africa.

The main focus of my paper is to study the role of religion for the participants from Europe in general and the people of the Indian subcontinent in particular against the backdrop of the First World War. How the Indian Muslims showed their religious feelings between the British colonial ruler and the religious and spiritual mentor of Islam, the Caliph, as well as the sultan of Turkey during the war period, will be discussed in a scientific analysis. Finally, the thought provoking letters of the Indian Muslim soldiers from different war fronts regarding their faith will be presented in this context.

“The Longing and Misery Chased Away” – or the Great War As Illustrated in People’s War Diaries, Postcards and Letters

Cristina Ioana ROIU

On the occasion of the centenary of WWI, a plethora of projects, publications, films and events tried to analyze the Great War from all possible points of view.

Some projects, like *Europeana 1914-1918*, tried to describe the war as perceived by ordinary people, no matter which side they were on during this conflict.

In such case a valuable digital archive was built using European family documents and memorabilia from World War I time, most of them previously unknown.

The paper tries to illustrate the Great War as described in some private war diaries and documents gathered during *Europeana 1914-1918 Romanian campaigns (September 2013 – August 2014)*.

Considering the title of a poetry volume by Dumitru’s Nistor, *The longing and misery chased away*, as a good description of a common form of psychological escape from conflict and imprisonment, the paper also addresses other topic of research: the sense of homeland in the writings of the soldiers; writing as a tool of communicative resistance in the trenches, behind the front lines and at home a.s.o.

Besides their sentimental value, these diaries and correspondence documents proved to be also valuable resources for historical research.

A Heart for a Nation. World War I and Queen Marie of Romania

Paul Ersilian ROȘCA

Similarly to other nations, Romanian history has so far been written only from the perspective of political events and wars. Several times, reading history and being in contact with it, led to the impression that the life of a nation only regarded political changes and battles, while the most significant historical personalities were strongly related to such violent episodes. One additional aspect that could be observed is that woman played no role in any of these moments, since historiography conferred her a marginal position. However, the First World War would prove that a woman had a voice in taking fundamental decisions for Romania. Queen Marie of Romania rewrote the way in which a woman, even a queen, may and wants to be involved in a war which could represent an “all or nothing” decision for Romania. Starting with the first days of the conflagration, Queen Marie was the voice of the Triple Entente in a royal family connected through blood and feelings to the Central Powers. The accession to the Romanian throne and the beginning of the war offered Queen Marie the chance to inscribe her name both in the history and the hearts of Romanians. The Queen’s presence at the army hospitals and in the halls of the Paris Peace Conference provides not only a new and active perspective on the involvement of women in war, but also a decisive one.

Our paper presents Queen Marie of Romania’s involvement in the war during all those difficult and challenging years for the country and the royal family. As a queen who became the “mother of the wounded”, Queen Marie constantly supported King Ferdinand, offering the humanitarian and sentimental perspective expected by subjects from their monarch. In our approach we also emphasize the way in which she conquered the soldiers’ hearts and gained the Romanian and European politicians’ respect, proving her decisive role in accomplishing the national dream: the Great Union.

The Assassination in Sarajevo Reflected in Gazeta de Transilvania

Răducu RUȘEȚ, Tiberiu IORDAN

The Great War, as it is known in history, has been of increasing interest for Romanian and foreign historians, and the *Assassination in Sarajevo* was the moment that changed the history of mankind, as it was the pretext of the outbreak of WWI in Europe. Such studies on various aspects pertaining to World War I are welcome given that in 2014 we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. With the passage of time we notice a transition from the event, the political and diplomatic presentation of the war, to the description of the trenches, of the soldiers, of aspects pertaining to the history of sensibilities and collective mentalities. This article can be included in this latter category, due to the testimonies and descriptions of eyewitnesses.

This historical approach aims to reconstruct the moment of the assassination of the Crown Prince of Austria-Hungarian and of his wife, on June 28, 1914. We will present this historic moment using news releases, being guided in our approach by the details identified in *Gazeta de Transilvania*.

*Gossip, Fear, Anxiety, War?
Social Moods and Situation at the Beginning
of the First World War in Smaller Cities of Galicia*

Kamil RUSZAŁA

Galicia, a crown land located on the fringes of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, bordering with Russia, was a theater of war during the First World War. Most of this territory was ravaged by both the invading Russian army and the Austro-Hungarian and German troops stationed there. In the case of East Galicia, the Russian army were there for a longer period of time than their western counterparts. On the other hand, one can also enumerate 5 counties in West Galicia which were totally in the non-occupied area, i.e. located in the Hinterland. In my paper, I focus on Western Galicia, or what is now Lesser Poland (Małopolska). At the beginning of the war, the situation of the inhabitants of the Galician cities was very difficult and unstable. One can enumerate many decrees by the Galician Government dealing with the spreading of gossip leading to chaos, best exemplified by the rumor that banknotes would not be accepted during the war, that saboteurs were going to destroy railways and power lines etc. This part of my paper could provide information about these less-known social reactions – contrary to the war enthusiasm which dominated in the literature – i.e. fear, intimidation by the authorities, attitudes towards the declaration of the state of war etc. I would also like to try to answer several questions, for example, why did the authorities do the above-mentioned things and what kind of results did they bring? Further on, what real role did war censorship really play (Kriegsüberwachungsamt) in what was to become the theater of war (Galicia)? The latter question would be connected with my last one – what did the inhabitants of the smaller cities know about the war? Were they well-prepared? Were they eager to take part in it or rather willing to avoid it? As a conclusion, I will present a set of major direction for further research.

*WWI and the Radicalization of Nationalism:
The Case of the Transylvanian Pedagogist Onisifor Ghibu*

Stefano SANTORO

This paper aims to analyze the evolution of the Romanian Transylvanian nationalist ideology from the beginning of the twentieth century to the years following WWI, through the thought and the action of a protagonist of that experience, the pedagogist Onisifor Ghibu. Deeply affected by Mitteleuropean thought, Ghibu had developed a peculiar pedagogical-philosophical syn-

thesis, which, on the basis of Herbart's philosophy and with evident Fichtian and Herderian influences, postulated the militant mission of teachers, whose goal should be the creation of a strong national consciousness in their students. Based on these concepts, Ghibu was actively engaged against what he considered a coherent project of denationalization carried out by the Hungarian government against Romanians, mainly in the educational field.

The paper will examine the human and political itinerary of Ghibu and the complex dynamics defining the pre-war Transylvanian Romanian nationalism, in its multiple relations with the Kingdom of Romania and with the Central Powers. The outbreak of WWI definitively broke the existing balances, bringing in December 1918 the union of Transylvania with Greater Romania. In this drastically changed framework, a part of the Romanian Transylvanian nationalism underwent a radicalization process in an ethnicist way and Ghibu participated actively in the action of cultural reclamation of Transylvania. The cultural rights he had invoked before the war for the Romanian nation were then denied to ethnic minorities, recently included in the new boundaries.

The paper uses documentary sources held at the National Archives of Romania and at the Library of the Romanian Academy in Bucharest, as well as the abundant essay and memorialist production of Ghibu.

A Highly Contested Future: French and German Governmental Plans for Alsace-Lorraine in the First World War

Joseph SCHMAUCH

My lecture will be dealing with projects about what had been a conflictual issue between France and Germany since 1871: the future of Alsace-Lorraine. These projects were conceived during the First World War, in Paris as well as in Berlin. It will be linked to the doctoral thesis I'm preparing at the university of Strasbourg entitled: *"Reintegrating the annexed departments: French government, public administration and Alsace-Lorraine 1914-1919"* (referent: Professor Jean-Noël Grandhomme).

Following the military events of the summer of 1914, the question of Alsace-Lorraine becomes a main issue for the French government. In February 1915 a "Committee of Alsace-Lorraine" is created to think about the policies to be applied in case of a repossession of Alsace-Lorraine. This institution aims to solve the immediate problems raised by the French occupation of areas in Alsace, so as to organize the future of a region supposed to become French again soon. And the debates are quite heated between defenders of a return to the region's situation as it was before 1871 and those who think that the evolutions that occurred during the German period have to be taken into consideration.

During the same period, the German government makes its own plans about the future of Alsace-Lorraine. The first partition plans that aim to share Alsace-Lorraine between Prussia and Bavaria are conceived in 1915 with the purpose of assimilating and Germanizing the region. But after the ministerial crisis and the "peace resolution" voted by the Reichstag in 1917, proposals for a political autonomy of Alsace-Lorraine are also made, in order to give a political solution to Alsatian matters. In fact, the internal conflicts between German confederate states appear to be the main obstacle to any evolution.

One century after the breakout of World War I, it appears interesting to replace these French-German reflections in a European perspective in order to appreciate their impact on the history of the Rhine region during the twentieth century.

A “Second National Catastrophe” and a “Forgotten War”: World War I in Bulgarian Historiography and Public Memory

Oliver SCHULZ

Despite numerous activities commemorating the centenary of the outbreak of World War I, certain research topics are still to be studied in detail. This is particularly true when it comes to the Balkan Peninsula and especially to Bulgaria. In fact, the motives which had pushed Bulgaria to enter the war in 1915 on the side of the Central Powers and its long-term consequences have remained rather opaque to the outside world because even fundamental studies on Bulgarian history have not been made accessible to a larger public by translating them into Western languages, and there is not enough academic exchange between Bulgarian and Western scholars, either.

The paper will deal with the commemoration of World War I in Bulgarian historiography and public memory and present the ‘state of the art’ of Bulgarian historiography on World War I as well as open questions and topics for future research. Whereas the interwar years had been characterized by a nationalist, revisionist and instable political context, World War I would become a “forgotten war” in the Communist period when it used to be represented as an imperialist war of the European great powers the irresponsible Bulgarian bourgeoisie had joined. Only those aspects the Communist regime could use for its own political agenda, such as the soldiers’ uprising in September 1918, were dealt with extensively.

The paper will take a closer look at two examples which show how commemoration and oblivion in Bulgarian historiography and public memory worked in Communist and post-Communist times. On the one hand, the soldiers’ uprising in September 1918 was actively commemorated, but, on the other hand, the war itself (fought against Russia, among others) was rather ‘forgotten’ out of the same political and ideological considerations. The commemoration of the Battle of Tutrakan in September 1916 became possible again only after the end of Communism in 1989. Since then, commemorative events have taken place on the military cemetery near Tutrakan, which has been turned into a war memorial with an Orthodox chapel, commemorative plaques etc. On the other hand, the post-Communist period has also witnessed a return of a nationalist and revisionist narrative which had already existed during the interwar years. The paper is to show the tension between different historical narratives and to present a short agenda for future research on Bulgaria in World War I.

*The Children's War.
A Transylvanian Perspective at the Time of World War I*

Ana Victoria SIMA, Mirela POPA-ANDREI

Children and childhood have represented, to this day, a well-nigh inexistent topic in the Romanian historiography dedicated to World War I. Their presence in the war, especially on the domestic front of all the countries involved in the global conflict, calls for a re-assessment of the historical sources and for a reconsideration of this topic alongside the major directions of research on the war. Our study aims to analyze the situation of children in Transylvania, seen both as “innocent victims” and as local protagonists in or witnesses to the conflict. In a comparative approach involving the situation of children in Western Europe, the dimensions of childhood as a social phenomenon in wartime Transylvania may evince numerous similarities, but also differences. It should be noted that it was possible for such differences to exist not only between the status of children on the Eastern vs. the Western front, but also within one and the same Transylvanian province. These differences were the result of several factors, ranging from their ethnic and religious status to the gap between the urban and the rural milieus, or between their standards of living and literacy levels, which were rather dissimilar among the Romanians, the Hungarians and the Saxons. Despite these differences and imbalances, our research has succeeded in identifying several distinctive characteristics of childhood during wartime. Thus, in Transylvania, children represented a mobilizing and mobilized social category. The entire apparatus of institutions specifically targeted at childhood, such as schools, the family or religion, as well as games, reading texts, etc. were deployed towards the mobilization of children. However, children were not solely the addressees of this mobilizing discourse, but also a category that was directly involved in meeting the needs generated by the front. This is attested by the “responsibilities” or the “occupations” assumed by children during the war years, from their everyday chores in the peasants’ farmsteads to their drafting the letters sent to those on the front and behind it, collecting medicinal herbs for the front, etc. These myriad facets of childhood during wartime reveal the fact that in Transylvania, like in all other areas afflicted by the war, children were the direct and indirect victims of the conflagration, which indelibly marked their destiny in the aftermath of the war.

*And it Was Still War.
Transylvania of 1915 between Propaganda and Donations*

Valeria SOROȘTINEANU

During 1915 it had become clear that the war was far from a brief interlude before peace conferences. With the dramatic episodes on the front quickly unfolding, gradually turning into real massacres, those left at home had to conduct their own war, caring for those sent to the front or facing other burdens.

The Austro-Hungarian state authorities established that the Romanians in Transylvania, who had given the highest number of soldiers, could be encouraged to express their faith to

the Throne and Homeland, by appealing to the two Romanian Churches, Orthodox and Greek-Catholic, respectively.

The present study was conducted by analyzing the way in which one of the churches, the Orthodox one, represented by the Orthodox Metropolitan of Sibiu reacted alongside the believers of the same denomination from Transylvania towards the official policy to support the war waged by the authorities, through propaganda and the requested donations.

Propaganda resulted in numerous initiatives of the authorities, of which we can mention: the popularization of the official paintings of the two emperors, Francis-Joseph and Wilhelm II, a number of paintings of military scenes, symbolizing the alliance between the two armies, Austro-Hungarian and German, recovery, as donations of biographies of characters of the imperial family, popular in the Hungarian dualist state, such as Archduke Joseph, or subscriptions to publications of the Hungarian Defense Ministry.

Collections and donations were, in fact, the main focus of the civil and military authorities, being not only strictly necessary, but also a proof of patriotism, while the departed front donations in money or goods were, after all, the hope that helps loved ones in war.

How Did the Romanian Sensibility Capture the First World War? The Relationship of Soldiers with the Home Front As it Appears in Romanian War Songs

Iulia-Dorina STANCIU

This study valorizes information about World War I that can be found in Romanian army songs. These references to war highlight its impact on village life, in general, and on the young people who were forced to leave, in particular.

By identifying and analyzing recurrent themes appearing in the army songs, the study approaches the evolution of *family relationships* and *love relationships* in the context of war. In addition to these, details concerning the manner in which soldiers related affectively to the world back home - their vision of the space of origin - represent other relevant parts of the study. Love during the war and the consequences of war on the young people's marital options represent perspectives rendering the way in which the war reconfigured the social space and human relations.

Moreover, many of these songs were an authentic expression of pain and fear, since the soldiers' state of mind was extremely vulnerable in front of death. As a consequence, the way in which soldiers related to the idea of death became an important segment of this study. All in all, we aimed to observe how the traditional mindset worked in the context of World War I and to valorize the manner in which the war was perceived.

*“Loyalities and Disloyalties”
The Question of Treason, Collaboration and Nationalism
before, during and after the First World War*

Marc Rudolf STEGHERR

Slavic national minorities within the Empire like the Ruthenians were being accused of collaborating with the Russian enemy, right before and during the World War. The heir to the throne, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, suspected this to be a trick used by Polish and Hungarian Aristocracy to divert attention from their own shortcomings. The way Ruthenians and other smaller nations were treated in the army was a sign that radical reform was urgently needed. The reform concepts died together with the heir apparent in Sarajevo and soon the question of who was to blame for the ultimate defeat died with them. The independent states which were created had no immediate interest to make enquiries. Only the diaspora, monarchist circles, personalities whose careers were shattered with the end of the monarchy and representatives of the so-called minor nations (e.g. the Ruthenians) whose aspirations for statehood did not materialize defended and accused – the starting point of an apologetic literature which has not attracted much attention yet. My paper will describe the antagonistic developments within the monarchy on the eve of the World War, the structural problems which were entrenched even when reform concepts arose supported by Croat or Ruthenian politicians. The smaller nationalities who had not much to gain from a collapse of the Danube Monarchy became passionate adherents of reform, defenders of the Emperor and simultaneously an object of stern accusations of treason. This turned the tide when persecutions intensified discontent. But the smaller nations were among those who fought to the end. Memoirs of military personnel and politicians, but also literary texts and essays published after the war shed light on the hopes and illusions lost with the end of the state which was considered to be a home especially for the so-called small nations.

*Political Discourse as Romania Entered World War I:
An Analysis of the Speeches Given in the Chamber of Deputies,
1915*

Mihnea STOICA

Romania entered World War I in August 1916 and, given the country's foreseeable decision to cease its neutrality status, political debates in the Chamber of Deputies one year ahead proved - quite unsurprisingly - to be very lively, covering a wide range of issues. Commerce, migration, the status of the military personnel, fear of foreign conspiracies, but also internal party political controversies were only some of the most heated issues on the agenda. Such topics were placed in a context which all national political actors understood: preparing the decision to join one of the belligerent powers, so that Romania could claim what it considered to deserve both territorially and politically in the region.

Our current paper will try to shed light not only upon the most important topics that were under the scrutiny of the members of the lower house of the Romanian Parliament in 1915, but it will also show the dynamic of the discussions, emphasizing how the debates evolved throughout the year and analyzing the most important ideological divisions between political parties.

1915 - The Isonzo/Soča Front and the Changes in the Slovenian Perception of World War

Petra SVOLJŠAK

The paper aims to present the changing perspective of the war of 1914 – 1915(1918) fought by Slovenian soldiers. At the outbreak of the First World War, the Slovenian, i.e. Austro-Hungarian soldiers, were sent to the Serbian and Eastern fronts. The perceptions of both fronts and both (Slavic) enemies were based on one hand on the stereotypes produced especially in July 1914 and propagated by a very efficient propaganda service, on the other hand the first contacts with the realities of war deeply influenced the soldiers' perception of the war. These images had found their echo in the newspapers and thus influenced the public opinion on the home-front as well. On May 1915 when Italy broke the Triple alliance and joined the Entente, and thus entered the war, the Slovenian perception of the war changed radically. The existing stereotypes culminated in the definition of the Italians as hereditary enemies of the Slovenes. The new front brought the war on Slovenian soil, the new enemy threatened the future of the Slovenian ethnic territory (the London Pact, 26 April 1915) and the war deeply influenced everyday life in the Slovenian land, which became the immediate rear of the front and had to bear a heavy burden throughout the war. The paper would thus analyze the reasons for this change, on the home-front and on the battlefield and put them into comparative perspective, trying to point out also the frame for the future relationship between Slovenes and Italians.

Decoding the Negotiations Positions during the Peace Conference at Versailles

Adina-Elena ȘERBAN, Margareta-Gabriela NISIPEANU

The Peace negotiations at Versailles were a challenge because the political leaders of the time not only had to decide the world configuration, but they had to ensure that the world would never again face such a disaster. This objective was difficult not only because every single political leader had his own national agenda, but they also had to work with the principles affirmed by Wilson, especially since the United States of America had become a major player in international politics and had a great influence in the peace negotiations. They were facing a dilemma regarding the defeated powers and, at the same time, they were configuring

a new political order, based on collective security, something that was unusual for the European Continent. In these conditions, we cannot help but ask ourselves: how were the national interests conceived, how were they sustained and followed and how were they reflected in the results. We will follow the evolution of these interests from the beginning of the war until the commencement of the negotiations, giving attention to both winners and the losers. We are hoping to determine how the states managed to secure certain advantages at the negotiation table, the way in which power coalitions were built, how the small states were represented and how the defeated powers were treated. We already know that certain objectives were pushed into the agenda by the Americans, but we want to check if other states and interest groups had this power and the manner in which they used it. We will follow the line of compromises, the way they were made and what costs they implied. In order to achieve these objectives we will proceed with analyzing treaties, official documents, memoirs, the contemporary press using a neutral and objective methodology. This paper is part of a broader research regarding the activity of the League of Nations.

Romania in 1915: National Interest in Neutrality Years: Between Press Bribery, Royal Hopes and Popular Expectations

Alina-Oana ŞMIGUN

By 1915, the enthusiastic crowds that went to war were quite convinced that the conflict was far larger than they expected, and by no means did they still hope all of it would be over by next Christmas. Three more Christmas holidays were to pass before Europe was to regain its frail peace once more, and for a brief amount of time.

On the front, the victory seemed far from both sides, even if important battles, such as the Second Battle of Ypres, were fought. Both the Central Powers and the Entente were searching for new allies, trying to convert still neutral Southern and South Eastern states into combative ones, thus turning the tide of victory.

One of the most intensively courted countries was the young kingdom of Romania. In terms of geopolitics, it was situated at the crossing point of the three most important empires of the continent: Austria-Hungary, Russia and the Ottoman Empire. A major player in the Balkans, Romania had to choose whether to help Russia, France and England or the Central Powers, being bound to the latter by a secret treaty, which it denounced early in the beginning of the conflagration.

There are a lot of voices debating about which side Romania should take in those days: on the one hand, we have the politicians, divided between Entente supporters (mostly for France, some fearful of Russia) and Germanophiles (mostly for Germany, some for fear of Russia, yet some resenting Austria-Hungary). On the other hand, there is the press, highly speculative, easily bribed by foreign interests, which can be highly influential and persuasive for the public opinion. The large mass of people are clearly confused and divided between the two enemy blocks. Additionally, there is the Royal Family, with a strong-willed queen of Russian and British ancestry, and a German-born king, torn between the sense of duty for his adoptive country and the love and loyalty for his ancestral homeland.

We analyze their memories, the correspondence they sent, the voices of the street and the press, in order to re-create the atmosphere of Bucharest throughout 1915 - the most impor-

tant year for Romania's fate since gaining the Independence almost 40 years earlier. For Romanians, the face of the Great War was yet unknown by personal experience, but the national interest could only be accomplished by going *per aspera, ad astra*, with a careful choice of alliances.

A Devoted Friend and Ally, Henri Mathias Berthelot: The Image of the French General Presented in the Românul Newspaper

Carmen ȚĂGȘOREAN

The first global confrontation, which led to the death of a large number of civilians and soldiers, and also to the reconfiguration of the borders and to the disintegration of empires, brought Romania's first major victory in history – the unification, into a single state, of all Romanians. The century-old Romanians' dream came true not only because of the sacrifice of the soldiers on the battlefield. An important contribution came from some reliable friends, most of them French. They all assumed the full role they were entrusted with, and they deserve our full gratitude. The effort, dedication, commitment, perseverance and love for the Romanian people turned the French General Henri Berthelot into a national hero. The presence of the honorable general on the battlefield wasn't his last contribution to the fight of the Romanians for the unification. He also was an active lobbyist of the Romanian interests during the Versailles Peace Conference. General Berthelot's memoirs and the scientific volumes had the power to relay historical facts and sometimes feelings, but because they were written after the events, these documentary sources were often processed, filtered by reason. An alternative point of view is provided by the Romanian press in Transylvania. After a long period of severe censorship, manipulation and propaganda, the Romanian journalists were granted some freedom of expression. The purpose of this study is to present the image of General Henri Berthelot as it was presented in the press articles of the newspaper *Romanul* during WWI.

A Savant During the Neutrality Period: C.I. Istrati

Raluca TOMI

Illustrious representative of Romanian science, doctor, chemist, and president of the Romanian Academy (1913 – 1916), a personality involved in the national struggle from the late nineteenth century and the early twentieth century, a proponent of the *Pan-Latinist* movement, politician, and art collector, C.I. Istrati was a representative figure of his era.

The memoirs of the politicians and officers involved in the decision of Romania's participation in World War I have been published in recent years. What attitude did scientists have towards the political and military challenges?

Based on his unpublished diary, on his correspondence and on the articles in the press of the time, we outline C.I. Istrati's activity during the neutrality period: his views on politicians, his view of Romania's participation in World War I, his involvement in strengthening ties with

the Latin states. It is an opportunity to make his diary known, as it captures the mood of his contemporaries, a generation that had to face great challenges and dilemmas concerning the future of Romania.

Nationalism at Work: Justifying World War One

Cătălin TURLIUC

The present paper deals with a topic largely discussed throughout different national historiographies during the last century: the connection between nationalism and war in the context of the modernization process in the first decades of the 20th century. It is known that a small spark occurred in the Balkans marked the beginning of the first total war, a conflict with huge and often unpredicted consequences. World War I, or the Great War as it is remembered by many nations, had complex sources, was triggered by a series of factors and also witnessed a series of innovations both in the way it was conducted (breadth and amplitude, weaponry, strategy and tactics etc.), as well as the way it was perceived and internalized by the participant nations and their societies. The fact that among other factors nationalism and propaganda have modelled attitudes, behaviors and mentalities at the dawn and during this huge conflict is a historically recognized truth. The present work aims to present and analyze the way in which nationalism dressed in new clothes by propaganda was used by the political elites in order to motivate, support and conduct the military actions and the political deeds in that turbulent period. Beyond the information that supports this analysis and its inherent comparative nature, the author proposes a heuristic model of analysis derived from “Social change” analysis. Beginning with the various means of propaganda used by the belligerent nations, the numerous testimonies (either individual or collective) which represent valuable sources, this work will highlight fundamental aspects of the way in which both the public and the individual perception of the war was influenced by nationalistic themes developed before and during the Great War. Romanian realities were used as a case study in this respect. The conclusions of this work emphasize the fact that nationalistic manipulation has become an efficient way of influencing public opinion in modern societies, especially those in a state of deep conflict.

I.I.C. Brătianu and Romania's Involvement in World War I

Vasile Vese

Romania's decision to join the Entente in August 1916 was negotiated and adopted through the exceptional diplomatic efforts undertaken by the chairman of the Council of Ministers, I.I.C. Brătianu. Our analysis focuses on the international context of the neutrality years (1914-1916), a time when I.I.C. Brătianu negotiated a possible entry of Romania into the war only with representatives of the Entente.

*From Loyalty to Obligation:
The Romanian Military Chaplains in Transylvania
during the Great War*

Ionela ZAHARIA

The Great War remained in historiography as the seminal event of the contemporary world. Historians and researchers from the field of humanities focused their attention again on this event, from a new perspective, which proves once again the repercussions of the event on all levels: politics, demographics, feelings, ideologies, medicine, food industry etc. One of the topics that need more attention is that of activities and the role of the Romanian military priests from Austria-Hungary in Transylvania. In this presentation/article I try not only to retrace the activities of the Romanian military priests on the home front but also to find out what daily life meant for the priests and to argue, by analyzing the cases of six priests, that at the beginning of the war, some of them went to war driven by their loyalty towards their emperor and king. However, during the war, the myth of the “God old Emperor” was crushed by the unexpected turns of events that transformed loyalty into obligation, given by the holiness of the oath they took, the fear of the possibly bad consequences for their nation, compassion and honor. I believe this analysis to be a key element in understanding also the conduct of some Romanian soldiers, given the fact that the priests had an important influence upon them.

