

Report on the Research Activities in 2012

Summary

The report consists of two main parts: an interpretative synopsis of the main activities, researches and interpretations within the scope of the main topic of research grant TE, 356/2010, and a list of the most relevant publications and lectures edited, authored or delivered by the members of the team. The structure aims to expand and contextualize the information provided through the appended report of self-evaluation. It equally aims to provide an insight into the larger context of the project.

A. Analysis (overview)

A number of successful researches were conducted in especially Austrian and Hungarian archives and libraries. Alongside them, one must also note the researches in Czech, German, Italian and Polish archives that brought some most welcome additions to our knowledge of the 15th and 16th centuries, substantiating the main findings of the previous years (2010-2011), while adding substance and detail to them. We therefore recall here: the Ottoman raid(s) on Transylvania enabled by the alliance between Mircea I of Walachia and Wladislaw II Jagiello, king of Poland, the policy of John Hunyadi and of Wladislaw II of Walachia prior and after the Ottoman conquest of Constantinople, the major in turns (in the 1450s and 1460s) in the relation between Frederick III of Habsburg and the Hunyadis (a relation usually viewed as constantly hostile in spite of various temporary concessions), or re-birth of Walachia under Vlad IV and Radu IV that allowed the transalpine state to become a trusted partner for Frederick III and in particular for Venice (who even entrusted Radu IV with an important part of the peace talks between the republic and the Ottoman Empire in 1502, after previously adding – with the papacy's approval – Walachia to Rome's crusader list, where previously only Moldavia had been present since the 1470s). Nevertheless, such sources require further analysis. Hence, we will focus on the already interpreted and structured information. The main conclusions based on documentary discoveries first made in 2011 are the following (in chronological order): **1.** Matthias Corvinus did not orchestrate the propaganda against Vlad III of Walachia (in case there was such a propaganda, it was 'led', in the West, by emperor Frederick III of Habsburg and, in the East, by Stephen III of Moldavia). **2.** Venice and Vienna planned to dethrone Matthias Corvinus, viewed in the early 1470s as the major Christian obstacle in the way of anti-Ottoman crusading, a plan brought to halt by Stephen III of Moldavia's decision to support the contested king of Hungary, in spite of Stephen's earlier promises made to Frederick III of Habsburg (these changes ultimately have to be explained through the crusader plans and contacts of the mid 1460s prior to the Hungarian-Moldavian clash of 1467, and through the growing regional isolation of Buda and Suceava that compelled them to search – in particular the latter – outside their traditional "box of solutions"). **3.** At the beginning of the 16th century, prior to the congress of Vienna and to the double-marriages of 1515-1516, the House of Habsburg reached a level of East-Central European influence that allowed emperor Maximilian I to act in a manner that matched, if not even exceeded at that times, the way in which Ferdinand I (in particular) and Charles V influenced regional politics after Mohács (in this respect we recall the Hungarian Diet of 1505, the Polish royal elections of 1506 or the Thomas Bakócz's papal candidacy of 1513, as well as, not only the changes under-went, since 1510, by the policy of Bogdan III of Moldavia, but also that occurred in the attitude of Mihnea I of Walachia, the first-born illegitimate son of Vlad III, and – most importantly – in that of Neagoe Basarab, usually regarded as merely a pious pro-Ottoman ruler, a devote diplomat and Orthodox benefactor). To these (better documented following recent researches) aspects, we could add some three-four further possibilities that require intensive study: **1.** Most military figures given in relation to the forces of Walachia, Transylvania and Moldavia were – in particular since the 1470s – propaganda products meant to supplement the altogether limited forces of the Hungarian Kingdom, yet better known in the West (which thus could not be "expanded" without help from the eastern "vassals of the Holy Crown"). **2.** A direct connection between the 'Orthodox' Moldavian and Walachian opposition to Church Union and crusading and the conflicts between the House of Habsburg and the Hunyadis over the control of crusader Hungary can be established, as the latter conflict undermined the position of the Hungarian kingdom, officially still the main champion of Church Union and anti-Ottoman and anti-Hussite crusading in the region. **3.** The anti-Ottoman policy and actions of Michael the Brave in the years leading up to his Transylvanian campaign of 1599 must be once more (significantly) revisited (give for instance, not only, the substantial 'special folder' consisting of reports on his *Türkenkriege* that we were fortunate to discover in 2011 in Innsbruck, and the massive amount, approximately 130, of documents still preserved in the imperial military and Hungarian political records of the Habsburgs). **4.** The same applies for the previous decades, with special reference to the years surrounding the battle of Mohács, given for instance – on one hand – the fact the well-known fall of Moldavian magnate Luca Arbore in 1523 appears to have been the result of Habsburg interventions, as the House was eager to limit the regional influence of the Polish Jagiellonians, whose main Moldavian "friend" was the elderly Arbore, and – on the other – the fact that the policy of Peter IV Rare , enthroned in the place of Stephen IV, the pro-Habsburg Moldavian ruler who had died under mysterious circumstances in early 1527, was first directed towards winning the benevolence of much concerned Vienna.

Together with these researches, the conferences and sessions organized or attended by the members of the team were of great importance in developing an interpretative balance and expanding the scientific network used for this project. We

thus emphasize: **1.** The conferences co-organized by the Romanian and Austrian Academies on Danubian power relations, a topic fundamental for the understanding of the future 'Oriental' and Ottoman policies of the 'other empire' (increasingly dominated since the 1430s in its eastern parts by the House of Habsburg). **2.** Two sessions were organized, through this project, at the International Congress in Leeds, the most prestigious scholarly venue for medieval studies east of the Atlantic (it was also the first time that a Romanian scientific institutions organized such sessions in Leeds). Last but not least, we must mention the lectures delivered by the members of the team at prestigious European academic institutions that cannot be separated from the fact that, since 2011, a series devoted to East-Central European studies was initiated at a major international publishing house (Peter Lang), with the support of the project (the first three volumes were published throughout 2012). This (once more) almost unexpected positive course naturally compels us to raise standards and to prioritize our researches and editorial efforts of 2013, the final year of this project, when the main focus will be on editing the results of the researches in especially Italian and Austrian archives.

B. Scientific Lists (selective)

I. Monographs and Volumes

1. *The Italian Peninsula and Europe's Eastern Borders. 1204-1669(=Eastern and Central European Studies I)*, edited by **Iulian-Mihai Damian**, Ioan-Aurel Pop, Mihailo Popovi and **Alexandru Simon** (New York –Oxford – Basel – Frankfurt-am-Main – Wien: Peter Lang, 2012), 358 p.
2. *The Age of the Jagiellonians in East-Central Europe. 1386-1526(=Eastern and Central European Studies II)*, edited by **Florin Ardelean**, Christopher Nicholson and Johannes Preiser-Kapeller (New York– Oxford – Basel – Frankfurt-am-Main – Wien: Peter Lang, 2012), 258 p.
3. **Alexandru Simon**, *Pământurile crucii. Românii i cruciada târzie*[The Lands of the Cross: The Walachians and the Later Crusades] (Cluj-Napoca: Romanian Academy, Center for Transylvanian Studies, 2012), 294 p.

II. Studies and Articles (studies in volumes edited or co-edited by team members were omitted from the list)

1. **Florin Ardelean**, 'Steaguri de mercenari strini la curtea lui Mihail Apafi (1663-1684)' [Foreign Mercenary Cores at the Court of Michael Apafi (1663-1684)], *Anuarul Institutului de Istorie George Bariu* [Yearbook of the *George Bariu* Institute of History] (Cluj-Napoca), LI (2012), pp. 69-72.
2. **Iulian Mihai Damian**, 'La disfatta di Solgat (Crimea) e i suoi echi nei trattati d'arte militare rinascimentale', *Ephemeris Dacoromana*(Rome), XIV (2011), pp. 129-144 (printed in 2012).
3. **Adrian Magina**, 'The Religious Policy of the Habsburgs in the Banate (1551-1552)', *Istros*(Brila), XVIII (2012), pp. 323-333.
4. **Adrian Magina**, 'Lipova la inceputul secolului XVII' [Lipova at the Beginning of the 17th Century], in *Itinerarii istoriografice. Studii in onoarea istoricului Costin Fenean* [Historiographical Itineraries: *Festschrift* for Costin Fenean], edited by Rudolf Gräf and Dumitru eicu (Cluj-Napoca: Romanian Academy, Center for Transylvanian Studies, 2011), pp. 133-148 (printed in 2012).
5. **Alexandru Simon**, 'The Weak Sultan and the Magnificent Monarchs: Ottoman Actions in the Black Sea Area in 1484', *Il Mar Nero*(Rome-Paris), VII-IX (2007-2009), pp. 217-246 (printed in 2012).
6. **Alexandru Simon**, 'Ways to Liberate Constantinople after 1453', *Bizantinistica*(Bologna), NS, XII (2010), pp. 239-248 (printed in 2012).
7. **Alexandru Simon**, 'Laungage et chantage: discours et idéologie croisées à Venise', *Ephemeris Dacoromana*(Rome), XIV (2011), pp. 145-164 (printed in 2012).
8. **Alexandru Simon**, 'Lasting Conquests and Wishful Recoveries: Crusading in the Black Sea Area after the Fall of Constantinople', *Imago Temporis Medium Aevum*(Lleida), V (2012), pp. 284-297.
9. **Alexandru Simon**, 'Notes and Documents on the Southern Background of Matthias Corvinus' Bohemian War', *Studia Mediaevalia Bohemica*(Prague), IV (2012), 2, pp. 215-226.
10. **Alexandru Simon**, 'Valahii de la Marea Neagră i valahii din Ungaria in cruciada anului 1476' [The Walachians at the Black Sea and the Walachians in Hungary in the Crusade of the Year 1476], *Revista Istorică* [History Review] (Bucharest), NS, XXII (2012), 3-4, pp. 269-290.
11. **Alexandru Simon**, 'Old and New Powers in Quest of Danubian and Pontic Hegemony in the 1440s', *Istros*(Brila), XVIII (2012), pp. 291-300.
12. **Alexandru Simon** 'Valahii i cruciada la mijlocul anilor 1460' [The Walachians and Crusading in the Mid 1460s], *Anuarul Institutului de Istorie A.D. Xenopol* [Yearbook of the *A.D. Xenopol* Institute of History] (Iasi), XLIX (2012), pp. 23-38.
13. **Alexandru Simon**, 'The Hungarian Ladies of Dracula', in *Pour l'amour de Byzance. Festschrift Paolo Odorico(=Eastern and Central European Studies III)*, edited by Christian Gastgeber, Charis Messis and Filippo Ronconi (New York-Oxford-Basel-Frankfurt-am-Main-Wien: Peter Lang, 2012), pp. 241-248.
14. **Alexandru Simon**, 'The Impact and the Implications of the Fall of Caffa in the Summer of 1475: Sources and Perspectives on the

Genoese and Ottoman Policies in the Black Sea Area', in *Oriente, Occidente e Levante. In Honorem Gianfranco Girauda*, II, edited by Florina Ciure and Adriano Padovano (Naples – Venice: Scriptaweb-Ca'Foscari University Press, 2012), pp. 619-632.

15. **Alexandru Simon**, 'Western and Eastern Riders of the Storm', in *Itinerarii istoriografice. Studii în onoarea istoricului Costin Fene an*[Historiographical Itineraries: *Festschrift* for Costin Fene an], edited by Rudolf Gräf and Dumitru Ieicu (Cluj-Napoca: Romanian Academy, Center for Transylvanian Studies, 2011), pp. 79-96 (printed in 2012).

16. **Alexandru Simon**, '*Descrerea tereaa Moldovei sub Bogdan III și ridicarea stării Românești sub Neagoe Basarab*' [The *Decline* of Moldavia under Bogdan III and the *Rise* of Walachia under Neagoe Basarab], in *Sfântul voievod Neagoe Basarab. 1512-2012*[The Holy Voivode Neagoe Basarab of Walachia. 1512-2012], edited by Nicolae Caba (Bucharest: Trinitas, 2012), pp. 431-460.

III. **International Conferences and Lectures** (papers delivered at international conferences co-organized by team members in Romania were omitted from the list)

1-3. **Florin Ardelean**, 'Military Organization in Transylvania at the Beginning of the Early Modern Age', **Adrian Magina**, 'The Military Structures of the Banate at the End of the 15th Century and at the Beginning of the 16th Century', **Alexandru Simon**, 'The Habsburgs in Jagiellonian Hungary: Common and Extraordinary Political Means in a Time of Crisis (1497-1505)', at *Interruptions, Reactions and Continuities in Central & Eastern Europe*(University College, London- Royal Historical Society, London – European Institute, London), London (February 15-17, 2012: February 16, 2012).

4. **Alexandru Simon**, 'L'extrême droite et les visés impériales médiévales roumaines', at *Le Sud-Est européen entre empires et nations*(École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris – Romanian Academy), Paris (April 3-5, 2012: April 4, 2012) [co-organizer: **Alexandru Simon**].

5. **Alexandru Simon**, 'Byzantium North of the Danube', at *Vienna Dialogues: Conversation and Cooperation*(University of Vienna), Vienna (April 21, 2012).

6. **Alexandru Simon**, 'Crusading and 'Crusader States' in the Greek Rite Environment: From the Days of the Latins to the Mongol and Ottoman Experiences', at *The Byzantine Trace in the Pacific Rim Art Culture in Space of a Polylogue China-Japan-Korea-USA-Australia-Russia*(Russian Academy of Sciences – International Association of Byzantine Studies – Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok), Vladivostok (May 27-June 3, 2012: May 29, 2012).

7. (session) *Law, Thought, and Action between East and West*(Austrian Academy of Sciences – Romanian Academy – Babe-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca) [I-VI], Sessions 106, 206, 306, 506, 606, 706 at *International Medieval Congress, XIX, Rules to Follow (or Not)* (University of Leeds – International Medieval Society), Leeds (July 12-15, 2012: July 9-10, 2012) [session co-organizer: **Alexandru Simon**].

8-11. (session) *Law, Regulations and Society in Central and Eastern Europe*(University College, London – Romanian Academy) [I-II], Sessions 1032, 1132, at *International Medieval Congress, XIX, Rules to Follow (or Not)*(University of Leeds – International Medieval Society), Leeds (July 12-15, 2012: July 11, 2012) [session co-organizer **Alexandru Simon**] (papers: **Florin Ardelean**, 'Military Laws and Regulations in the Transylvanian Voivodate of the Hungarian Realm (1400s-Early 1500s)'; **Iulian Mihai Damian**, 'The Use of Titles and Symbols related to the Crusade in the Medieval Kingdom of Hungary prior and after the Council of Florence'; **Adrian Magina**, '*Lus valachicum* in the Late Medieval Banate'; **Alexandru Simon**, 'Between the Cross and the Sultan: The Jews in Moldavia in the 1470s').

12-14. (international conference) *The Patriarchate of Constantinople in Text and Comparison*(Austrian Academy of Sciences – Romanian Academy – University of Vienna - Babe-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca – Roman-Catholic Archbishopric of Vienna – Greek-Orthodox Metropolitanate of Austria, Vienna – Pro Oriente Foundation, Vienna), Vienna (September 12-16, 2012: September 14, 2012) [co-organizer **Alexandru Simon**] (papers: **Florin Ardelean**, 'The Byzantine Tradition in Late Medieval and Early Modern Warfare in East-Central Europe'; **Iulian Mihai Damian**, 'The Latin Patriarchate after the Fall of Byzantium', **Alexandru Simon**, 'The Ecumenical Patriarchate in the East-Central European Policy of the Ottoman Empire from the Conquest of Constantinople to the General Peace of Buda (1453-1503)').

IV. Main Researches in European Archives and Libraries

1. **Budapest** - Hungarian National Archives (November 2012) [**Florin Ardelean** and **Adrian Magina**]
2. **Krakow** - University Library, Manuscripts Collection (November 2012) [**Iulian Mihai Damian**]
3. **London** - British Library, Manuscripts (February 2012) [**Alexandru Simon**]
4. **Milan** - Archivio di Stato di Milano (April, May, November, December 2012) [**Alexandru Simon**]
5. **Munich** - Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Codices (August 2012) [**Alexandru Simon**]
6. **Prague** - Czech National Library, Codices (November 2012) [**Iulian Mihai Damian**]
7. **Rome** - Archivio di Stato di Roma (May-June 2012) [**Iulian Mihai Damian**]
8. **Vatican** - Archivio Segreto Vaticano (April, May 2012) [**Iulian Mihai Damian** and **Alexandru Simon**]
- Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Codices (May, June 2012) [**Iulian Mihai Damian**]
9. **Vienna** - Haus-, Hof- und Staatsarchiv (March, June, September, November 2012) [**Alexandru Simon**]