

presa di posizione insieme ad alcuni aspetti di retroscena delle preparative degli eventi, costituiscono l'argomento della presente ricerca, che vuole portare per la prima volta alla conoscenza della storiografia romena informazioni nuove rintracciate attraverso ricerche svolte negli archivi vaticani.

Parole-chiave: incoronazione, Santa Sede, *communicatio in sacris*, Chiesa Greco-Cattolica, lesa maestà.

JÓZSEF MARTON, **The Relation of His Eminence Áron Márton with the Greek-Catholic Cardinals of Romania**

Abstract: The bishop Áron Márton had relations with each Greek-Catholic Romanian cardinal – dr. Iuliu Hossu (1885-1970), dr. Alexandru Todea (1912-1994), Lucian Mureșan (n. 1931) – mostly before they were invested as cardinals. During their lifetimes, and perhaps also in their later development, an important role played the political regime which sought the dissolution of the Greek-Catholic Church, out of some nationalist reasons. During the Communist regimes, they remained faithful to the Church, being symbols and actors of the resistance against the destroying powers and protectors of the priests and believers. Although it could seem strange, in their church activity, the cardinals found support in Áron Márton, the Roman-Catholic bishop of Alba Iulia.

Keywords: Cardinal, Bishop, Greek-Catholic, Statute, Diocesis.

MARIUS ROTAR, **Financial Aspects of Cremation in Interwar Romania**

Abstract: The opening of “Cenușa” Crematorium in Bucharest on January 25th, 1928 represented the apex of the cremation movement in the interwar Romania, which became the first country in this part Europe to open a crematorium, and the first Orthodox country to accept incineration. Although Russia also had an Orthodox population, the Soviet case is totally different from the Romanian case. This achievement was possible thanks to the efforts of “Cenușa”, the Romanian cremation society, founded on March 7, 1923, and also to the Municipality of Bucharest. This article aims to analyze the financial aspects of cremation in interwar Romania. We investigated the financial situation of “Cenușa”, the Romanian cremation society (the crematorium’s owner), financial support given by the Bucharest City Hall for building and maintenance of the crematorium, and the costs of incineration. The cost of cremation is analyzed compared to the cost of burial of the time, aiming to elucidate to what extent cremation was a viable alternative in interwar Romania.

Keywords: Cremation, financial resources, Romanian Orthodox Church.

OTTMAR TRĂȘCĂ, ***Pax germanica*. German Plans on Solving the Issue of Transylvania Between 1940 and 1944**

Abstract: The Romanian-Hungarian territorial dispute regarding Transylvania’s ownership has highly concerned the Reich leadership during the Second World War. Although, for political and military reasons, German officials have postponed a decision on the thorny issue of Transylvania’s membership for the post-war period, in terms of

the concrete solution, as concerns what the decision-making circles in Berlin had in mind for Transylvania, in the event of obtaining the “final victory,” the researched archival documents and the specialized literature we have investigated does not provide a clear answer. At the current stage of research, it is virtually impossible to say whether the disputed territory would have been awarded to Romania or to Hungary, or placed under German protectorate. Specialized literature on the post-war German projections does not provide significant details about the fate of the territory disputed by the two countries. Instead, the documents kept especially in the Romanian and German archives offer some clues to the projections spread within certain circles in the leadership of the Third Reich as possible solutions to the territorial dispute between Bucharest and Budapest.

Thus, several projects proposing various solutions on solving the problem of Transylvania have been developed. Most of them were, however, unrealistic, and some downright fanciful. These projections did not have a specific purpose after the defeat of Nazi Germany, but, paradoxically, the “German experience” in preparing the Romanian-Hungarian territorial dispute was later taken and successfully used by the USSR.

Keywords: Romania, Hungary, Nazi Germany, Transylvania, Post-war projections (1940-1944).

SORIN RADU, COSMIN BUDEANĂ, **The Ploughmen's Front and Its Role in Collectivisation of Romanian Agriculture. Preliminaries**

Abstract: This article aims to outline the preparatory steps the Ploughmen's Front took before the start of collectivisation of agriculture in Romania. To this end, the article relies on older and recent sources alike. The organisation under consideration, led by Petru Groza, was the strongest and longest-lived “fellow-traveller” of the Communist Party, serving as a means whereby part of the Communist ideas got through to rank and file ploughmen. While the discourses of the time were trying to drive home the notion of differences existing between the two organisations, the Ploughmen's Front was, in effect, a mere conduit for communist conceptions throughout the years from 23 August 1944 to February 1953 when the Front went into union with the Romanian Workers' Party. A sizeable membership, coupled with a large capital of sympathy among the rural population – larger than what the Communist Party could muster –, turned the Ploughmen's Front into a fulcrum most suitable for the intentions of the new authorities. As such, the Front was nothing but a spokesperson for the Communists, a mere go-between whose main role was to get Communist tenets across to the peasants, particularly those tenets that concerned the peasants themselves as an important social category and the “socialist transformation of agriculture”. In all this the Ploughmen's Front played a decisive role and the steps its activists took during the years before the Central Committee Plenary of the Romanian Workers' Party on 3-5 March 1949 were crucial for what was to follow. In practical terms, preliminaries consisted of propaganda actions. These were well-organised, concerted actions based on tried and tested means and methods with the five major sections – *political propaganda*, *cultural propaganda*, *news and the media*, *professional groups* and *the Party schools* – each playing its specific role. Despite all this – the large number of Front members and avowed sympathisers included – propaganda results with respect to the peasants' getting convinced of the benefits of associative agricultural practices were not spectacular. The evolution of the