

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

Front after March 1949 was closely linked to the transformation of agriculture. The Ploughmen's Front got totally subordinated to the Communists and propaganda control in the rural areas had become absolute. Nevertheless, those changes did not yield spectacular results, with the relatively low number of collective farms established during those years on the farmers' free initiative serving as best evidence to that effect.

Keywords: Communism, Socialist transformation of agriculture, Romanian countryside, Communist propaganda.

DANIEL DUMITRAN, **The Greek Traders from Transylvania in Statistical Sources of the First Half of Eighteenth Century**

Abstract: The systematic investigation of the economic and social evolutions in the preindustrial society and their implications in the cultural and spiritual spheres requires a new assessment of the primary sources. This conclusion was suggested especially by recent research of Romanian historiography into urban history, the environment which generated the defining transformations of the society in that age. Like Hungary, the principality of Transylvania became integrated into the network of trade routes connecting Central to South-Eastern Europe, and an important contribution in this process played the "Greek" merchants. For the government from Vienna, which favored their settlement within the Empire, controlling their number and the information about their situation became a priority. Among the statistical sources, lists and conscriptions compiled by the fiscal authorities during the first decades of the integration of Transylvania in the empire, one can reckon those edited and published now. These were discovered by the author in the *Fiscal archive of Transylvania* and *The archive of Transylvania's Government – Mixed conscriptions* (Microfilm collection of the Hungarian National Archives), which were known heretofore only from a few bibliographical mentions.

Keywords: commerce, Transylvania, Greeks, Imperial court from Vienna, conscriptions.

COSMIN POPA-GORJANU, ***Zagorskii Voivodi* – A Note on a Slavonic Variant of the Name of Transylvania from 1408**

Abstract: This paper aims to discuss a unique form of the name of Transylvania recorded in the form of *zagorskii v(oi)vodi* on a votive inscription from St. George Church in Streisângeorgiu (Hunedoara, Romania), dating from 1408, which remained unnoticed in the historiography so far. Transylvania's names in Latin (*ultrasilva*, *terra ultrasilvana*, *transsilva*, *partes ultrasilvanas*, *partes transsilvanas*, *terra Transilvana*, *Septemcastra*), German (*Siebenbürgen*), or Hungarian (*Erdély*), are known from much earlier sources, but a Slavonic variant did not appear before the fifteenth century. According to the previous analyses of the records, the earliest Slavonic form was recorded in 1444, in a charter issued by John Hunyadi as voivode of Transylvania, in which he used the title "Воевода Ерделскы." However, the form found in the inscription from the church of Streisângeorgiu was not only almost three decades earlier, but it was also using a name deriving from the Slavic toponym *zagora* (beyond the mountain). It seems that starting