

**ROMANIAN GYMNASIUMS, PEDAGOGICAL SCHOOLS
AND HIGHSCHOOLS ESTABLISHED AND SUBSIDISED
BY THE ROMANIAN GOVERNMENTS
FOR THE AROMANIANS IN GREECE (1880-1900)***

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Abstract. Between 1864 and the beginning of the ninth decade of the 19th century, the Romanian state had founded dozens of Romanian schools in Greece, at the request of the Aromanians established there. The teachers' salaries, the textbooks as well as the teaching materials were fully subsidised by the Romanian governments in Bucharest.

The independence gained by the United Principalities together with the proclamation of Romania as a kingdom accelerated the process of establishment of new primary schools, as well as higher level schools. Consequently, the Romanian Gymnasium in Bitola (Monastir) was founded in 1881; between 1885-1887 the school in Krushevo had gymnasium classes while the Romanian Gymnasium in Ioannina opened its gates in 1887, with its own boarding school providing accommodation for 20 students, whose scholarships were supported by the Romanian government.

The opening of the Highschool (1881) and the Pedagogical School for girls (1883) in Bitola (Monastir) and of the Commercial Highschool in Thessaloniki (1895) marked a qualitative leap in the educational process of the Aromanians established south of the Danube.

Key words: The United Romanian Principalities; Macedonia; Greece, Epirus; Thessalia; The Romanian Gymnasium in Ioannina and Grevena; the Gymnasium classes in Krushevo; The Romanian Highschool in Bitola-Monastir; The Pedagogical School for Girls in Bitola-Monastir; The Commercial School in Thessaloniki.

In the aftermath of the union of the Romanian principalities, the interest of the intellectual and political elite in the situation of the Romanians established south of the Danube, as well as the presence of some of them in Bucharest compels Mihail Kogălniceanu to create in 1863 “*a fund within the state budget, with a view to helping the churches and schools from the Balkan Peninsula*”¹.

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¹Mihai Virgil Cordescu, *Istoricul școlilor române din Turcia, Sofia și Turtucaia din Bulgaria și al seminariilor de limba română din Lipsca, Viena și Berlin*, București, 1906, p. 13.