

UNION AND INDEPENDENCE OF ROMANIANS, IN THE VISION OF EUROPEAN DIPLOMACY

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The issues concerning the fate of the Romanians, their struggle for achieving unity and gaining their state independence, greatly concerned European diplomacy, as evidenced by numerous documentary testimonies, many of which originated from external archives, gathered and preserved in the Collection of Microfilms of the National Archives of Romania.

One of the first diplomatic reports worthy of attention comes from the Prussian Consul General in Iași, E. Richthofen, who, on May 29, 1848, informed the Minister of Foreign Affairs, A. H. Armin, about the "Daco-Roman (Wallachian) popular assembly convened in Brașov by the Transylvanian Wallachs.

"The conclusion reached by the consul was that Russia also realized that the "Moldo-Wallachs" in Transylvania, Bukovina, Bessarabia, and both Principalities wanted to assert their own nationality.

Just less than a month later, the same Prussian consul reported to his superiors on June 22, 1848, that the affirmation of the Romanians in Transylvania as a separate nation would have significant consequences for the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia, as well as for Bukovina, and perhaps even Bessarabia.

The latter two, once Moldavian provinces, now belonging to Austria and Russia, respectively, are of the same nationality."

The aspirations of the Romanians not only concerned the great powers surrounding the Principalities but also drew the attention of other chancelleries and the entire European diplomacy.

Unfortunately, the Habsburg, Tsarist, and Ottoman Empires sought to present their own version of events in Paris, London, Berlin, and other European countries, not as they truly were, but through the lens of their dominant intentions and interests.

Many other documents testify to this, such as the one from July 31, 1848. In a diplomatic note, the Russian ambassador accredited to Paris revealed that

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