

THE ROLE OF THE BRĂȚIANU FAMILY IN THE HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL LIBERAL PARTY

GHEORGHÎȚĂ NARCIS ANDREI¹

Abstract: *The development of liberalism in the two Principalities - Moldavia and Wallachia – represents the primary topic of this essay. The most significant politicians from the Brătianu family are the main subject study. Ion C. Brătianu contributed significantly to the formation of the National Liberal Party. His name is intertwined with the modern Romanian state's establishment, consolidation, and independence. Ion I.C. Brătianu is another notable figure who ascended through the ranks of Romanian politics to become a craftsman of the Great Union in 1918. He helped to shape the Romanian state through his reforms and activities as president of the Council of Ministers. Also, Vintilă I.C. Brătianu contributed to Romanian politics while serving as Prime Minister and Minister of War. Finally, due to internal and international conditions, Gheorghe Brătianu did not pursue a long political career. He rather distinguished himself through his scientific and historiographical activity. Given the amount of information gathered from expert studies and archival funds dedicated to them, portraying their political actions in Romania would have taken a long time, and the space available does not allow for it. Instead, we'll highlight some biographical information about each of them while focusing on the major events in which they took part.*

Keywords: Vintilă Brătianu, Gheorghe Brătianu, Ion C. Brătianu, Ion I.C. Brăteanu, National Liberal Party

DOI [10.56082/annalsarscihist.2025.1.117](https://doi.org/10.56082/annalsarscihist.2025.1.117)

The evolution of liberalism in the Romanian space

It is well understood that liberalism is an ideology movement opposed to absolutism that evolved as a result of political-social-economic transformations, specifically the rise of the bourgeoisie. It is founded on four major pillars: order (necessary for the country's progress), democracy (without which liberalism cannot exist, as the civilian population must participate in political life), nationalism (which relies on the strength of the nation to achieve certain goals), and social harmony (which assumes a balance between classes; progress should not result in imbalances between them)².

Since the Phanariot period, the roots of Romanian liberalism have been recognized, consisting of the translation of foreign publications (which allowed for the expanding of vistas toward European civilization), as well as young people's access

¹ Universitatea „Ștefan cel Mare” din Suceava, narcisandrei89@gmail.com

² Apostol Stan, Mircea Iosa, *Liberalismul politic în România de la origini până în 1918*, București, Editura Enciclopedică, 1996, pp. 37-42 și 104-106.

to studies abroad, which brought them into contact with new ideas. Constantin Filipescu, for example, told his father when formulating the Organic Regulations that he wanted to "change social life through happiness and the unification of the country". Another impetus came from journals such as "Albina Românească", "Curierul Românesc" or "Gazeta Transilvaniei", the latter of which had a big audience despite not being uncensored³. The year 1848 may have been a perfect time for the implementation of liberal ideals, but this did not occur due to Russia and Turkey's engagement in Moldavia and Wallachia. At this point, Marx says: "As for Russia, it first took advantage of the nationalist movement of 1848 in these two provinces to determine the Porte to expel from the Principalities any man with liberal and independent ideas."⁴ Over time, two liberal currents emerged: the moderate one in Moldova (led by Mihail Kogălniceanu) and the radical one in Wallachia, which included exponents like as Dumitru and Ion C. Brătianu, the Golescu brothers, and C.A. Rosetti⁵.

Ion C. Brătianu

Ion.C. Brătianu, a major figure in Romanian politics during the nineteenth century, was born on June 2nd, 1821, as the son of Stolnic Constantin (Dincă) Brătianu, and died on May 4th, 1892. He took part in major events in Romanian history, including the Revolution of 1848, the merger of Moldavia and Wallachia in 1859, the fall of Cuza, and the arrival of Carol I, Prince of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen⁶. On the other hand, we cannot ignore his children's marriage links with various politicians inside the party (with certain exceptions)⁷, therefore he earned the nickname "father-in-law" of the National Liberal Party in the second half of the nineteenth century.

The formation of the National Liberal Party was a lengthy process due to disagreements between radical liberals and moderates Mihail Kogălniceanu⁸. made an unsuccessful initial attempt to establish it. Ion C. Brătianu and C. A. Rosetti were key to the founding of the National Liberal Party, which was founded on May 5th, 1875⁹. After obtaining power and having a conservative-dominated Chamber, Ion.C. Brătianu got the decree dissolving it and calling elections on June 3tr and 9th, 1876, which resulted in a liberal majority led by C.A. Rosetti. A preliminary

³ *Ibidem*, pp. 52-56.

⁴ Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels, *Opere*, Volumul 9, București, Editura Politică, 1959, p. 287.

⁵ Apostol Stan, Mircea Iosa, *op. cit.*, pp. 82-83.

⁶ Constantin Gheorghe, Miliana Șerbu, *Miniștrii de interne (1892-2007) - mică enciclopedie*, București, Editura Ministerului de Interne și Reformei Administrative, 2007, pp. 58-59.

⁷ Mihai Sorin Rădulescu, *Elita liberală românească 1866-1900*, București, Editura All, 1998, pp. 29-32.

⁸ Apostol Stan, Mircea Iosa, *op. cit.*, p. 154-165.

⁹ Ion Bulei, *Evoluția vieții politice la sfârșitul secolului al XIX-lea și la începutul secolului al XIX-lea*, în Gheorghe Platon (coord.), *Istoria Românilor*, Vol VII, TOM II, *De la independență la Marea Unire (1878-1918)*, București, Editura Enciclopedică, 2003, p.153.

step was taken in response to Eugeniu Stănescu's suggestion to impeach some previous conservative cabinet ministers, including Lascăr Catargiu, V. Boerescu, and Titu Maiorescu. According to Frederic Damé, C.A. Rosetti initiated the action, which had two goals: first, to prevent the conservatives from regaining power, and second, to create a governmental crisis, which would later lead to M.C. Epureanu's resignation from the government. The next day, Carol I charged Ion Brătianu with forming the new administration, which would be dominated by radicals. Carol I's pressures, along with the advent of a conflict in the Balkans, led Ion C. Brătianu to declare that it was necessary to¹⁰: "end this damn thing once and for all."¹¹ This was one of the most volatile periods in the party's history, resulting in the expulsion of M.C. Epureanu and the division of conservatives¹².

The first major test of free administration would come from anti-Ottoman groups in the Balkans, which would result in a new Russo-Turkish war. To ensure territorial integrity, Ion C. Brătianu, along with Colonel Slăniceanu - Minister of War, Theodor Văcărescu - Marshal of the Court, and Singorov, a close friend of Prince Carol I, met with Tsar Alexander II, Ignatiev, Goeceakov, and others in Livadia (Crimea), where they held negotiations that produced no results¹³. Seeing that war could no longer be averted, Baron Stuart (Russia's representative in Bucharest) pressed on the liberal government signing the convention governing the transit of Tsarist troops across Romanian territory, which initially had no chance of success. The liberal executive requested that Prince Carol I convene the Crown Council, which he did. The Council agreed to sign the Convention because remaining neutral would have resulted in the country becoming a theater of war¹⁴. The Russian diplomatic representative in Bucharest stated that during his conversation with Brătianu prior to the signing of the Romanian-Russian Convention, the latter informed him: „confessed that the trip to Livadia had finally convinced him that from now on Bessarabia was lost to Romania and that Russia would not miss the opportunity to take back this small portion of land that is so necessary to it at the first opportunity”¹⁵. The liberal prime minister assigned

¹⁰ Dan Carbarău, *Marea Guvernare liberală: independența României, și proclmarea Regatului*, în „Revista Polis”, Volum III Nr.2 (8) Serie nouă martie – mai, Iași, Editura POLIS Books, 2015, p. 92.

¹¹ Apostol Stan, *Putere și politică și democrație în România 1859-1919*, București, Editura Albatros, 1995, p. 127.

¹² Dan Carbarău, *op. cit.*, p. 92.

¹³ Enache Tușa, *Relațiile româno-ruse în contextul cuceririi independenței de stat a României*, în „Analele Universității <<OVIDIUS>>”- Serie Istorie Volumul VII, Constanța, Editura Ovidius University Press, 2010, p. 42.

¹⁴ N. Adăniloae, *România independentă, în Istoria Românilor*, în Gheorghe Platon (coord.), *Istoria Românilor*, Vol II, TOM I, *Constituirea României moderne (1821-1878)*, București, Editura Enciclopedică, 2003, pp. 654-656.

¹⁵ Adrian Bogdan Ceobanu, *Politică și diplomatie la sfârșitul secolului al XIX. Din istoria relațiilor româno-ruse 1878-1899*, Iași, Editura „Universității Alexandru Ioan Cuza”, 2015. Apud. V.N.

Eugeniu Caradia the responsibility of communicating with French financiers in March in try to secure cash for army equipment. Additionally, he was expected to explain to Count Chaubardi the political rationale behind the convention's signing¹⁶. Ion C. Brătianu was the one who met with Grand Duke Nicolae on April 29th/May 11th, 1877, to create "the conditions of cooperation desired by the prince between the Romanian troops and the Russian army," underlining that Prince Carol I would have complete control over the Romanian army¹⁷. Following the outbreak of the Russo-Turkish War, the government was reorganized, with General Alexandru Cernat taking over the Ministry of War and Mihail Kogălniceanu taking over the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who declared the country's independence before the legislature on May 9th, 1877. Russia first declined Romanian military aid, but the defeats at Plevna prompted Grand Duke Nicholas to send an urgent dispatch to Carol I, in which he mentioned that: „The Turks, gathering the largest masses of troops at Plevna, are crushing us. I ask you to make a demonstration fusion and, if possible, cross the Danube with the army, as you wish. Between Jiu and Corabia, this demonstration is absolutely necessary to facilitate my movements.” The Romanian army's participation required significant resources, both material and financial¹⁸. On the other hand, it resonated with Romanians throughout the Carpathians¹⁹.

The end of the conflict resulted in peace discussions in San Stefano, followed by the Berlin Peace Congress on June 13th and July 13th, 1878. The Romanian delegation was led by Ion C. Brătianu, President of the Council of Ministers, and Mihail Kogălniceanu, Minister of Foreign Affairs. They met with officials of the Great Powers (including Prime Minister Disraeli), submitted various memos to Bismarck (Prime Minister of Prussia), and addressed the delegates at Congress. After the conference, Romania's independence was recognized with the condition that Article 7 be altered; southern Bessarabia was restored to Russia in exchange for Dobrogea. On September 15th/27th, 1878, the legislative bodies accepted the decision, with the Romanian administration leaving from the three counties without

Vinogradov, M.D. ereshcenko, L.E. Semeonova, T.A. Pokivailova, *Basarabiia na perekrestke evropiskoi diplomatii. Documenty i materialy*, Indrik, Moskva, 1996, p. 146.

¹⁶ Tudor D. Mirea, *Eugeniu Caradea (1836-1910). File din viața politică*, în „Oltenia - Studii și comunicări”, XII anul 2002-2003, serie Nouă martie - mai, Craiova, Editura Muzeului Oltenia, 2002-2003, p. 94.

¹⁷ N. Adăniloae, *op.cit.*, p. 654.

¹⁸ Constantin Olteanu, *România în Războiul de pentru independență 1877-1878*, în „Studii și articole de istorie” LXXII, Râmnicu-Vâlcea, Editura Rottarymond & Rotarexim S.A., 2007, pp. 43-44.

¹⁹ Mircea Băltescu, Măriuca Tanasiu, *Ecoul Războiului de Independență în rîndul românilor din Monarhia Austro-Ungară*, Aluta 3, în „Országos Széchényi Könyvtárban” https://epa.oszk.hu/03300/03316/00004/pdf/EPA03316_aluta_1971_281_301.pdf, (accesat la data de 10.10.2023), pp. 281-299.

signing a treaty with Russia, which may have suggested recognition of the mutilations. This was not without controversy in the news at the time²⁰.

Internally, during the presidency of Ion C. Brătianu, steps were taken to foster the growth of the new young and autonomous state. Thus, Article 7 was revised by the statute passed by the Senate on 6th/11th October and the Parliament on 13th/25th October 1878, which stated that: "The difference in religious beliefs and confessions does not constitute an obstacle in Romania to acquiring civil and political rights and exercising them." Another significant law was that of Dobrogea. Among the elements aimed at by this law are the inhabitants' equal rights before the law, the observance of civil rights, and the prohibition on recruiting for a period of 10 years²¹. In the field of railways, redemption was pursued, which was realized by the law of January 26 January/February 7th, 1880, under which the state became owner. The National Bank of Romania was created, with headquarters in Bucharest and four branches in Brăila, Iași, Craiova, and Galați, and it became the primary source of credit. The bank began with a capital of 30 million lei, of which 10 million were provided by the state and the remaining 20 million came from capital subscriptions. Eugeniu Caradea, a personal friend of Ion C. Brătianu, led it for the past 20 years. Grigore Clever also completed regularization works in Dâmbovița. In February 1885, the government rejected the economic treaty with Austria-Hungary (a month later, the Austro-Hungarian state would do the same) and implemented protectionist customs restrictions. General measures were also implemented to assist the national industry, including the Commercial Code of the Kingdom of Romania, as well as legislative measures in agriculture, education, administration, and the army.

Externally, the government, led by Ion C. Brătianu, sought to proclaim the Kingdom. Brătianu visited Germany for this purpose, and Chancellor Bismarck assured him that he would not oppose it. Other powers, like as France and Austria-Hungary, expressed their doubts. To speed up the process, the two Chambers voted for the throne to be inherited by one of Leopold of Hohenzollern's sons, Carol I's brother²². The Austro-Hungarian state waited another half a year to wring concessions from Romania and assure its entry into the "Zweibound". Meanwhile, Austria-Hungary's fresh allegations, as well as attacks in the opposition press, implying that Ion C. Brătianu might accept these claims, prompted him to expedite the procedure. The proclamation bill was adopted by the two chambers of Parliament and promulgated on March 15th/ 27th 1881, triggering internal and

²⁰ Nadejda Lisnic, Mihaela Mocanu, *Problema Basarabiei în publicistica românească de la sfârșitul sec. al XIX-lea*, în „Revista Transilvaniei” nr. 2/2015, Sibiu, Editura Muzeului ASTRA, pp. 57-68.

²¹ Bogdan Murgescu, *Istoria României în texte*, București, Editura Corint, 2001, pp. 279-280.

²² Ion Bulei, *op.cit.*, pp. 165-167.

external responses²³ -, in April 1881, the great nations officially acknowledged the Kingdom of Romania²⁴.

Ion C. Brătianu was briefly superseded by his brother Dinu Brătianu in order for the former to address several issues that occurred inside the National Liberal Party, such as the dissatisfaction of some party members who were no longer united as they had been during the Russo-Romanian-Turkish war. He also hoped to diminish the opposition's push for a change of government²⁵. Ion C. Brătianu would return to the leadership of the government after only a two-month hiatus, with his brother's reign cut short by the Danube Issue.

As previously stated, an external issue was the Danube Question, in which Austria-Hungary asked to be the permanent president of the Lower Danube Mixed Commission, which was constituted by representatives from riparian countries such as Romania, Bulgaria, and Serbia. This obviously indicated the Austro-Hungarian government's ambition to expand its authority in this area. Russia and England initially supported Romania on this matter. In London, in February-March 1883, the Great Powers gathered (without Romania) at the European Danube Commission Conference, where the Barrère project was adopted. The issue was resolved when Romania formed an alliance with Germany and Austria-Hungary in 1883 (which was kept secret), with P.P. Carp and Ion C. Brătianu playing significant roles in the Vienna discussions with Bismarck²⁶.

After 1886, fewer measures were implemented, partly due to accumulating tensions within the cabinet, with Ion C. Brătianu dubbed the "Vizier". Carol I was unable to intercede in his behalf since the opposition accused him of protecting him. The end of Ion C. Brătianu's tenure came with the liberals' victory in the 1888 elections, which sparked protests and street fighting, leading to his resignation and King Carol I delegating administrative power to D Ghica²⁷.

Ion I.C. Brătianu

Ion I.C. Brătianu, one of the most influential politicians of the interwar period and a key contributor to the formation of Greater Romania, was born on August 20th, 1864 in Florica (Prahova), the son of Ion C. Brătianu and Caliope Brătianu, and died on November 28th 1927. He excelled in the exact sciences while attending Saint Sava High School in Bucharest. Thus, he will turn to engineering,

²³ Liviu Brătescu, *Proclamarea Regatului. Reacții interne și externe*, în „Anuarul Institutului de Istorie <<A.D. Xenopol >>”, tom XXXIX-XL, Iași, Editura Academiei Române, 2002-2003, pp. 409-418.

²⁴ Daniel Crețu, *Proclamarea Regatului României și atitudinea Marilor Puteri*, în „Revista Transilvaniei”, nr. 10, Sibiu, Editura Muzeului ASTRA, 2016, pp. 79-80.

²⁵ Dan Carbarău, *op.cit.*, pp. 97-98.

²⁶ Ion Bulei, *op.cit.*, pp. 167-168.

²⁷ Dan Carbarău, *op.cit.*, pp. 100-101.

first attending the courses of the School of Bridges and Roads in Bucharest (while also completing his military training at the 2nd Artillery Regiment), and then attending the special mathematics class of the Preparatory School of Sant-Barbe (1883-1884), going on to reach the Polytechnic of Paris²⁸. When he returned to the nation, he worked as a third-class engineer in the Technical Corps under the direction of Anghel Saligny on the building of the Cernavodă railway bridge, which he enjoyed, as well as the plan to create the embankment of the Bacău-Piatra Neamț railway line²⁹.

His political debut came in 1895, when he was elected as Gorj's deputy. Regarding his entry into politics, Titu Maiorescu commented "Ion Brătianu's eldest son was removed from the technical corps of the railways and introduced for the first time into the political arena under the auspices of Mr. Dimitrie Sturdza, with the help of Mr. Mihail Phearekyde, Eugeniu Stănescu and the hidden in the shadows, but all the more influential Eugeniu Carada, thus supported from the beginning by the powerful financial institutions at the disposal of the liberal party: the Rural Land Credit and the National Bank"³⁰.

As Minister of Public Works, in addition to administrative duties, aided by professionals, he began a series of measures, for which he had to profit on his oratorical talent in order to get them authorized. Thus, he requested Parliament's approval for an 8 million lei loan to build the Râul Vadului-Călimești railway line, which was granted. He had to face accusations of renting wagons from foreign countries. He was invited to the inauguration of the Pitești-Curtea de Argeș railway on November 29th 1897. In addition to the big audience, officials present were Elie Radu, the project's inventor, Anghel Saligny, and the general director of Romanian Railways. Ion. C. Brătianu truly took his political exam in 1897, when the Railways budget was debated in the Chamber. The opposition criticized it, claiming that the budget was excessive and out of touch with reality. In response, Brătianu stated that the state had a moral duty to maintain prices that were more cheap than in Germany for this sort of transportation, that modernization work was needed on the existing railway, and that in some regions, incomes were higher than in the Reich. Finally, the budget was passed by the Legislature. He requested that Parliament authorize a credit of 7.5 million lei to pay the costs associated with the modernization of the Constanța port. This sparked significant debate in Parliament, but was ultimately passed. Ion is an ambitious person on May 11th, 1898, Ion I.C. Brătianu presented

²⁸ Aurelian Chistol, *Aspecte legate de activitatea lui Ion I.C. Brătianu în fruntea Ministerului Lucrărilor publice (31 martie 1897-30 martie 1899)*, în „Argesis Studii și comunicări” Seria Istorie XVII, Pitești, Editura Ordessos, 2008, p. 205.

²⁹ Mihai Vasiliu, *Activitatea lui Ion. I.C. Brătianu până în 1914*, în „Revista Carpica” XXXI, Bacău, Editura Complexului Muzeal „Iulian Antonescu”, 2002, p. 199.

³⁰ Titu Maiorescu, *Discursuri Parlamentare. Priviri asupra dezvoltării politice a României sub dominația lui Carol I*, Vol V 1995-1996, București, Editura Minerva, 1915, p. 56.

to the Senate a request for another credit of 17.8 million lei for the expansion of the rolling stock park, which aimed at the acquisition of new ships and the construction of the connection of the port of Constanța with the Cernavodă- Constanța railway³¹.

In 1902, Ion I.C. Brătianu took on an interim position at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, allowing him to widen his views in international affairs. He maintained tight relations with the Romanian circles in Transylvania, meeting with leaders in Brașov, Sibiu, and Bistrița³² As Minister of the Interior in 1907, he was tasked with dealing with the revolt, and the ministerial report (supported by the amnesty proclamation) listed 7,807 persons on trial³³. The number of deaths could not be determined with accuracy. In an editorial, the journal "Adevărul" (headed by C. Mille, an opponent of the Brătieni) stated that 11,000 people had died, a figure later adopted by communist historians³⁴.

His appointment as president of the National Liberal Party would coincide with the deteriorating health of D.A. Sturdza, who had taken over the party presidency following the death of Ion.C. Brătianu. Following his resignation from the leadership of the government and the party, the Council of Ministers, following brief arguments and on the king's advice, elected Ion I.C. Brătianu prime minister and later PNL president³⁵.

Until the onset of World War I, he commanded two cabinets that were defined by a succession of social, economic, and cultural policies. Thus, the concept for the Commercial Convention with Austria-Hungary was adopted and voted on on December 12th 1909. Another measure, authorized on December 16th, 1909, sought to restrict the right of association of civil servants, craftsmen, and workers in the state, counties, communes, and political establishments. Spiru Haret is prominent in the educational field since he enacted the Law for Early Childhood Schools. The execution of agrarian and electoral changes was pursued with the establishment of the single college, but these were not finished due to the start of World War I³⁶. In foreign policy, he aimed to maintain the region's status quo.

The outbreak of the world conflagration prompted the Crown Council to convene on July 21th/August 3tr 1914, where it was decided that Romania would remain neutral for the time being (in order to fulfill the national desire), despite the Emperor of Austria invoking the friendship between the two states and Germany, which

³¹ Aurelian Chistol, *op.cit.*, pp. 209-210 și 212-213.

³² Apostol Stan, Mircea Iosa, *op.cit.*, pp. 373-374.

³³ Mihai Vasiliu, *op.cit.*, p. 210.

³⁴ Sorin Oane, *Povestea social-democrației vâlcene în perioada interbelică*, în „Studii și Materiale: Buridava”, XIII, 2018, Râmnicu Vâlcea, Editura Offsetcolor, 2018, p. 192.

³⁵ Apostol Stan, Mircea Iosa, *op.cit.*, p 351.

³⁶ Mihai Vasiliu, *op.cit.*, pp. 210-212.

requested the mobilization of the Romanian Army³⁷. In preparation for the discussions for engagement in the war, Ion I.C. Brătianu pondered making a choice until there were "75 chances out of a hundred to win," as a French minister put it. The Entente's interest in Romania arose as the British, French, and Russian armies' war activities took an adverse turn. There was no agreement reached in 1915, thus the talks were continued in 1916. In the south, Bulgaria caused Romania's concern by joining the Central Powers, and in the north, concerns were raised by Russian troop victories over Austro-Hungarian troops, because Russia had the potential to advance into the heart of Hungary via Transylvania, eliminating the need for Romania's assistance. Finally, both the military and political conventions were signed. Among their stipulations, we recall that Russia, England, Italy, and France guaranteed Romania's territorial integrity, as well as recognition at the end of the conflict in Romanian-inhabited territory in Austria-Hungary³⁸. Romania will declare war on the Austro-Hungarian crown and join with the Entente, which will support the Romanian army during the campaign in Transylvania and along the Danube line³⁹.

Romania declared war on Austria-Hungary on August 15th/28th 1916, and, as expected, P.P. Carp, Alexandru Marghiloman, and Titu Maiorescu opposed the decision⁴⁰. As is well known, the Romanian Army penetrated Transylvania after three weeks in the first phase, but was stopped by a German-Bulgarian onslaught south of Dobrogea led by General August von Mackenson. This resulted in the Transylvanian campaign being abandoned before reaching the Mureș' key lines. The Central Powers offensive followed, which conquered the town of Turtucaia - the event came as a shock wave in the public space, causing a deplorable state for Brătianu, as noted by I.G. Duca: "Brătianu fell into a real slump. He was gone for about 15 days, he hardly received anyone, when you spoke to him it was as if he did not hear what you were saying, you could hardly get him to solve the issues that fell directly within his sphere of responsibility"⁴¹. Bucharest fell under occupation, and the front stabilized in southern Moldova. In the summer of 1917, the battles of

³⁷ Laurențiu-Cristian Dumitru, *Preliminarii ale intrării României în Primul Război Mondial*, în „Buletinul Universității Naționale de Apărare <<Carol I>>” Nr. 1/2012, București, Editura Universității Naționale de Apărare „Carol I”, 2012, p. 2.

³⁸ Gheorghe Boaru, *Contextul Politico-militar al intrării României în Primul Război Mondial*, în „Revista Academiei de Științe de Securitate Națională” Nr. 1/2018, București, Editura Universității Naționale de Apărare „Carol I”, 2018, pp. 45-47.

³⁹ Ioan Scurtu, *Având drept ideal unitatea națională - intrarea României în Primul Război Mondial*, în *România în anii premurgători Marii Uniri – 1916-1917*, Sbârnă Gheorghe, Opriș Ioan (editori), București, Editura Muzeul Literaturii Române, 2017, p. 19.

⁴⁰ Hadrian Gorun, *Relațiile româno-franceze, între anii neutralității României 1914-1916*, Craiova, Editura Universitaria, 2006, p. 189.

⁴¹ Ioan Scurtu, *Istoria românilor în timpul celor patru regi (1866-1947)*, Ediția a II-a, revăzută și adăugită Volumul II Ferdinand I, București, Editura Enciclopedic, 2004, p. 21.

Mărăști, Mărășești and Oituz followed, but they could not be exploited to their desired potential, due to the outbreak of the Bolshevik Revolution. This caused the Russian front to collapse towards the end of 1917. The collapse of the front forced the Romanian authorities to request an armistice on December 5th, 1917 from Focșani. At the beginning of the year, Ion I.C. Brătianu resigned from the position of prime minister⁴², and the government led by Alexandru Marghiloman came in his place. The Peace of Buftea between Romania and the Powers The Central Powers were signed on May 7th 1918, but were not ratified by King Ferdinand. A glimmer of light would come in the summer of 1918, when the balance had tipped in favor of the Entente. Romania mobilized its army and eventually managed to emerge victorious from this conflict⁴³.

Following the end of the military conflict, the diplomatic offensive began at the peace talks in Paris, where the Romanian delegation, led by President of the Council of Ministers Ion I.C. Brătianu⁴⁴, advocated for the establishment of borders and international recognition of the Romanian provinces: Bessarabia, Transylvania, Bukovina, and Banat, the latter sparking debate in parliament⁴⁵. Queen Maria's interactions with foreign officials contributed significantly to these recognitions⁴⁶.

The great liberal administration would emerge following their victory in the legislative elections conducted by them in 1922. The National Liberal Party secured 222 seats in the National Assembly, allowing it to pass a new basic law. The opposition protested the election victory and asked the sovereign to nullify it, but he refused. The Peasant Party and the National Party responded by stating that they did not recognize this government, which was elected through "theft and fraud".

The government organized the coronation of the sovereigns to demonstrate the king's faith in the executive. Thus, the coronation took place on October 15th 1922, with tens of thousands of Romanian and foreign leaders in attendance. Despite being invited, Iuliu Maniu and Ion Mihalache did not attend the coronation because it was "the role of simple party manifestations". The approval of the new constitution on March 29th 1923, triggered heated debates in Parliament.

⁴² *Ibidem*, p. 44.

⁴³ Rudolf Dinu, <<Aliatul Inamic>. *România și cheștiunea războiului contra imperiilor centrale (1914-1916)*, în *Marele Război și Europa danubiano - balcanică*, Francesco Guida (Coordonator), Cluj-Napoca, Presa Universitară Clujeană, 2016, p. 84.

⁴⁴ Constantin Botoran, Valeriu Florin Dobrinescu, *Confirmarea internațională a actelor de Unire din 1918*, în Ioan Scurtu (coord.), *Istoria Românilor*, Vol VII, *România întregită (1918-940)*, București, Editura Enciclopedică, 2003, p. 7.

⁴⁵ Despre aceste discuții vezi: Ion Novocescu, „Cheștiunea Banatului” între politica națională și politica de partid. *Mari polemici politice și parlamentare (decembrie 1923)*, în „Analele Banatului S.N. Arheologie – Istorie”, XX, Timișoara, Editura Muzeului Național al Banatului, 2013, pp. 465-481.

⁴⁶ Ioan Scurtu, *Familia Regală și Marea Unire*, în *Familia Regală și Marea Unire*, Narcis Dorin Ion (coord.), Sinaia, Editura Muzeului Peleş, 2018, p. 82.

Concerning the constitution, the two opposition parties (the Peasant Party and the National Party) announced in a joint statement: "Considers this abusive act to be an emanation of the absolutist idea of presidential power, carried out without consulting the national will. The current Assemblies, despite the fact that the entire opposition has denied them the right to give the country the Constitution and the entire nation has protested, have discussed and voted on a supposed fundamental pact while being protected by the brutal force of machine gunners with bayonets. The farce of the Chamber's deliberations has demonstrated that today's administration, along with the Assemblies called by it, is entirely disconnected from the nation's living and honest knowledge. To ensure that cynicism has no bounds, the current government violates its oath by placing itself solely under the protection of bayonets. The National Party and the Peasant Party once again raise their voices in protest before the country, imbued with the mission entrusted to them by the country, to defend the rights of the nation with all determination, consider this Constitution to be without the power to elect the will of the citizens, without the power of law, and null and void. What was born under the protection of bayonets can only survive via bayonets." On July 15th, the territorial unification law was passed, with the goal of "preserving the country's unitary national character and, within this principle, implementing administrative decentralization." This law established Romania's administrative divisions into counties, communes, and constituencies. The prefect was elected by royal order, at the request of the Minister of the Interior. In the case of the electoral system, the method of organizing elections, their conduct and registration, and, most importantly, universal suffrage,⁴⁷ as well as the inclusion of the "first majority" were established in order to avoid political factionalism, which would have resulted in party mergers and alliances.

On the religious front, the statute governing the organization of the Romanian Orthodox Church and the establishment of the Romanian Patriarchate was passed on February 27th 1925⁴⁸.

In the economic sector, the government led by Ion. I.C. Brătianu sought to develop the national economy in accordance with the party's theory of "through ourselves," which included in the Constitution the fact that mining deposits and subsoil wealth were owned by the state. Vintilă Brătianu, the Minister of Finance, was a strong backer of the aforementioned proposal. He drafted a series of legislative actions, including the energy law (July 4th 1924), the law aimed at the commercialization

⁴⁷ Adelin Ungurean, *Istoria Constituțională a României*, în „Analele Universității <<Constantin Brâncuși>>” din Târgu Jiu, Seria Științe Juridice, nr. 2, 2009, Târgu Jiu, Editura „Academică Brâncuși”, p. 134.

⁴⁸ Despre acest moment vezi: „Patriarhia Românească”, în „APOSTOLUL - Curierul Arhiepiscopiei Ortodoxe Române din București” ANUL II no. 3-4 din 15-20 februarie 1925.

and management of state economic companies (June 7th 1924), and the most famous, the mining law of July 4th, 1924. These normative acts aimed to create Romanian capital and were protectionist in nature; later, the mining law was modified due to a shortage of capital⁴⁹. The National Industrial Credit Company was established (1923) to license and encourage the development of Romanian capital.

Laws governing labor conflicts were enacted as normative actions in social policy (April 14th 1922). The law governing Sunday rest and public holidays was passed on June 18th, 1925.

The administration was not immune to sensitive situations sparked by radical forces. One such occurrence is the "Tatar-Bunar uprising" of September 1924, which shook Romanian society. This was part of the Comintern's bigger plot to carry out an uprising spanning the Baltic and Black Seas. It was put in action by a gang of 27 persons who crossed the Dniester, disguised themselves, broke telephone and telegraph lines, and entered a town hall, shooting the mayor and killing two gendarmes. Their actions would also spread to the adjacent areas, gaining the support of national minorities. The Moldavian Soviet Republic was proclaimed in Tatar-Bunar, marking the pinnacle of this revolution. Shortly after, the Moscow authorities established the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic. The Romanian army intervened and arrested 189 people, including 9 Romanians. Another occurrence that drew public attention was the assassination of Prefect Constantin Manciu of Iași.

He also had to deal with the dynastic crisis. This occurred when Carol, Ferdinand's eldest son, abdicated the kingdom. He repeatedly mentioned that a "clean-up of the Palace" must be done, the occult influence of Barbu Țirbea, Queen Maria, and the "domination" of Ion I.C. Brătianu must be eliminated, aiming to strike at the National Liberal Party through this move, which would have attracted the sympathy of the two opposing parties. Ion I.C. Brătianu recognized the danger of forming a powerful party that would also get Carol's support. Under these circumstances, Brătianu intervened in the union negotiations between the Peasant Party and the National Party, preventing them from progressing and leaving them divided⁵⁰.

The end of Ion.C. Brătianu's government came when he decided to withdraw from government, in a speech on February 27th 1926, in which he stated that: "We considered it good to withdraw, in order to show everyone that the work we have accomplished does not need our presence in government to impose itself on anyone

⁴⁹ Ioan Scurtu, *Decada brătienistă* (decembrie 1918- noiembrie 1928), în Ioan Scurtu (coord.), *Istoria Românilor*, Vol VII, *România întregită (1918-1940)*, București, Editura Enciclopedică, 2003, pp. 253-256.

⁵⁰ Constantin I. Stan, *Crearea Partidului Național Țărănesc (10 octombrie 1926)*, în „Acta Musei Napocensis: ActaMN” Serie Preistorie-Istorie, Cluj-Napoca, Editura Muzeului Național de Istorie al Transilvaniei, 1998, p. 135.

who has a sense of responsibility, as the solid basis of the organization of the state.”⁵¹.

In relation to the cult of Ion I.C. Brătianu, this manifested itself through numerous evocations of his personality, being deemed "the greatest statesman" or "the genius of the nation who watches over the Romanian country incessantly, the leading soul of the country". N. N. Săveanu (President of the Chamber from 1927 to 1928) stated that: "Brătianu is still such an overwhelming personality, his name is linked to so many significant events experienced by our nation, that, without waiting for the judgment of history, it is appropriate to recognize, right now, the immense services he brought to the country."⁵² On the other side, his personality served as a means of identifying with the party, particularly following his death and the Liberal Party's move into opposition⁵³.

Vintilă I.C. Brătianu

Vintilă I.C. Brătianu was one of the three sons of Ion C. Brătianu and the younger brother of Ion I.C. Brătianu. He was born on September 3^{tr} 1867, and passed away on December 20, 1930, at the age of sixty. He attended Florica primary school, as did his brothers, before moving on to St. Sava High School, where he graduated at the age of 18 in 1885. He was promoted to second lieutenant after completing his necessary military duty. He planned to continue studying architecture in Paris, but his father opposed it⁵⁴, so he chose engineering, as did his brothers, and excelled in his studies⁵⁵.

When he returned to Romania, he collaborated with Anghel Saligny to build the Fetești-Cernavodă bridge over the Danube. Between 1900 and 1902, he served as Secretary General at the Ministry of Finance and was a key figure in the establishment of the National Bank. In the period 1907-1910, he was mayor of the capital, where he carried out important activities that led to the development and beautification of Bucharest by inaugurating, opening, extending, or aligning some boulevards, streets, and squares; the Bucharest Tramway Company (STB) was founded; he continued the works to capture drinking water from Ulmi; the

⁵¹ Ioan Scurtu, *op.cit.*, pp. 256-259.

⁵² Ovidiu Buruiană, *Liberalii. Structuri și sociabilități politice în România interbelică*, Iași, Editura Universității „Alexandru Ioan Cuza”, 2013. Apud. N.N. Săveanu, *Cuvântări. Rostite ca președinte al Adunării Deputaților 1927-1928*, București, Editura „Cartea Românească”, 1928, p. 5.

⁵³ Ovidiu Buruiană, *op.cit.*, pp. 483-484.

⁵⁴ Corina Voiculescu, *Vintilă Brătianu, personalitatea și activitatea sa*, Târgoviște, Editura Cetatea de Scaun, 2011, p. 31.

⁵⁵ Aurel Petrescu, *Vintilă I.C. Brătianu văzut de Contemporani*, în „Argesis - Studii și Comunicări” Seria Istorie, TOM IX, Pitești, Editura Muzeului Județean Argeș - Pitești, 2000, p. 387.

Grozăvești Power Plant was founded; schools, dispensaries, or monuments and public buildings were created⁵⁶.

He was sent to the front lines during the Second Balkan War, when he saw the army's flaws firsthand. In 1914, Ion I.C. Brătianu appointed him president of an industrial technical commission, which was an advisory body of the Ministry of War. The commission also included C.D. Creangă, sub-inspector of the Rural Land Credit, I. Angelescu, director of the State Accounting Department of the Ministry of Finance, Colonel Gheorghe Ursachi, and Major Radu Rosetti, as a delegate from the General Staff. This commission was tasked with „studying administrative and financial issues related to establishing needs and preoccupying the means with which to satisfy the needs of a possible state of war”⁵⁷, but it was abolished on November 10th 1915 (at Vintilă Brătianu's proposal) and replaced by the General Directorate of Munitions, whose general director was Anghel Saligny.

When Romania joined the war, Vintilă Brătianu was appointed Minister of War. Thus, he was able to enhance vegetable output for the soldiers' nourishment by establishing military gardens. By ministerial decision no. 372 dated August 16, 1916, he ordered that police and security tasks would be placed under the instructions of the "Ministry of War and those of the Army Corps and Division Commands". Another ministerial decision organized the service within the Central Division of the Intendancy, establishing two categories of services: Subsistence (which included everything related to food, roads, and fuel) and Equipment ("which included all categories of effects necessary for the troops and carriage teams"). He was able to boost the army's and the population's transportation needs, as well as acquire the goodwill of Russian military authorities, by sending over 10,000 wagons of food in the spring of 1917, meant for the populace and army. In Iași, he organized a joint inter-allied commission tasked with resupplying the populace. Vintilă Brătianu backed the Army's restructuring in the first half of 1917, but on national territory rather than Russian territory, as the Russian authorities insisted⁵⁸.

Vintilă Brătianu's ascent to prominence in Romanian politics will culminate in 1927. Following Ion I.C. Brătianu's death, he was appointed President of the Council of Ministers and President of the National Liberal Party. The executive branch passed a number of regulations aimed at safeguarding minor workers and women, as well as limiting the time of employment. This law was written by the Peasant Party (N. Lupu). It barred factories from employing children under the age

⁵⁶ Valeriu Ioan-Franc (coord.) Mihaela Burugă, Paula Neacșu, Aida Sarchizian, Mircea Fâță, Nicolae Login, Ovidiu Sârbu, Dorina Gheorghe, Luminița Login, Victor Preda, *Personalități ale vieții academice economice, 1918-2018*, București, Editura Centrul de Informare și documentare economică, 2018, p. 47.

⁵⁷ Corina Voiculescu, *op.cit.*, Apud, Radu Rosetti, *Pagini de jurnal*, Ediție îngrijită de Cristian Popișteanu, Marian Ștefan, Ioana Ursu, București, Editura Adevărul, 1993, p. 327.

⁵⁸ Corina Voiculescu, *op. cit.*, pp. 82-97.

of 14 or women under the age of 18 in underground workplaces with hazardous and dangerous working conditions. Employees were granted leave, while pregnant women were compensated. Secondary education consisted of seven classes divided into two cycles, with a preparatory year prior to college.

In foreign policy, Romania signed the Non-Aggression Pact with Greece on March 12th 1928 in Geneva, and the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Little Entente was held between June 20-22, 1928, during which the balance sheet from its inception to the present was presented. On September 4th 1928, Romania signed the Multilateral Treaty on the Abolition of War as a National Policy Instrument. Vintilă Brătianu's foreign policy aimed to position Romania prominently in international affairs. As inflation increased in the financial sector, Vintilă Brătianu shifted his focus from revaluing the leu to strengthening it with a big loan. The PNȚ strongly opposed this. This was followed by the departure of national-peasant leaders to countries such as Germany, Czechoslovakia, the United Kingdom, and France, where they gave interviews claiming that the government was on the verge of bankruptcy, that they were holding on to power by terrorizing the population, and that the National-Peasant Party would soon take power. They also met with officials from other foreign banks and announced that they would promote their "open door" strategy to enter the local market⁵⁹.

The image of the National Liberal Party was affected by the Oradea incident, but also by the constant attacks coming from the opposition. After the government resigned and after the failures to form a new government, Iuliu Maniu was tasked by the Regency with forming a new government, which would be sworn in on November 10th 1928. Following the elections organized by the PNȚ, it obtained 77.76% of the votes with 347 seats in the Assembly of Deputies, with Vintilă Brătianu's liberals obtaining only 6.55%. In opposition, the liberals led by Vintilă Brătianu would wage a constant campaign against the government, being supported by the party press such as "Ordinea" and "Universul". Vintilă Brătianu would remain president of the National Liberal Party until his death in 1930⁶⁰.

Gheorghe I. Brătianu

Gheorghe I. Brătianu was another famous member of the Brătianu family, known for his political and historiographical contributions. He was born on February 3tr/January 21th 1898, in Ruginoasa, as the son of Ion I.C. Brătianu and Maria Morunzi-Cuza. He grew raised with his mother and her family, having little contact with his father until Ion I.C. Brătianu was targeted for assassination. He served as a volunteer in World War I before attending the Faculty of Law in Iași and then the

⁵⁹ Ioan Scurtu, *op.cit.*, p. 265.

⁶⁰ Corina Voiculescu, *op.cit.*, pp. 222-271.

Sorbonne, where he earned a degree in letters, followed by a PhD⁶¹. He started politics late, in 1926, but quickly rose through the ranks, becoming leader of the Iași county organization in 1927 and deputy in 1927, 1928, 1931, and 1932. The formation of the Carlist dictatorship marked the beginning of his exile from the party because he supported King Carol II and did not agree with the party's viewpoint. During his exclusion, he took the decision to establish the Georgist National Liberal Party⁶².

The party's organization was addressed during the Congress of the Georgian Liberals in May 1930, where the party structure was modeled on the old one of the National Liberal Party, which was considered "the most orderly and disciplined body of our political life". The novelties in this initiative highlighted the importance of new institutions, such as the village organization, which was "the first cell of the (...) political body". Another structure was the sector organization, which served as "the control and electoral propaganda body as well as the link between the county and communal organizations". In contrast to the National Liberal Party, all priests and teachers from the appropriate county were automatically members of the party's county committees, even if they were not presidents of the village or communal organizations⁶³.

Doctrinally, it sought to safeguard liberal democracy. Gheoghe Brătianu believed that demogogy was the "tyranny of the multitude," and that human selection was a "essential and permanent characteristic of the liberal idea."

Following the 1931 elections, the Georgists received only 173,386 votes, or 5.13% of the vote, and had 12 deputies in Parliament. The highest performing counties were Iași (19.77%), Corvului (14.94%), and Baia (12.76%). Gheorghe Brătianu held an unfavorable attitude toward Nicolae Iorga's government, although it was modest in its expressions, considering that Iorga had been his instructor.

Participation in a coalition government led by Alexandru Vaida Voevod was rejected by Gheorghe Brătianu, because Alexandru Vaida Voevod did not want to hand over the post of Minister of the Interior to General Văitoianu. On the other hand, the numerical presence of the national-peasantists made the liberals only "an annex devoid of any possibility of control over the liberal action". These things led Gheorghe Brătianu to refuse collaboration, preferring the opposition.

Related to the party's cult of Gheoghe I. Brătianu, he was regarded as "a fearless and blameless knight" - Constantin C. Giurescu, or a national instructor. Although

⁶¹ Ovidiu Buruiană, *op.cit.*, pp. 518-519.

⁶² Gheorghe Onișoru, *Gheorghe I. Brătianu și viața politică (1944-1947)*, în „Anuarul Institutului de Istorie <<A.D. Xenopol >>”, XXXVI, Iași, Editura Academiei Române, 1999, p. 37.

⁶³ Ovidiu Buruiană, *op.cit.*, pp. 537-538.

Gheorghe Brătianu did not fully agree with the public gatherings, Georgist posters depicted Vintilă Brătianu as a dragon "pierced by the lance of Saint George Brătianu"⁶⁴.

Concluzion

Based on the foregoing, we infer that the Brătianu family played an essential part in the development of the Romanian state through its many periods. Ion C. Brătianu was the first to establish himself in politics, and he is remembered as the "Vizier" after a long reign. His political efforts were mostly continued by Ion I.C. Brătianu, who elevated the family's status by establishing national unity. In the period that followed, he consolidated and promoted Romania through economic, social, and political initiatives. On the other hand, he had to deal with the Tatar-Bunar insurrection, which had a significant impact on Romanian society. Following the absence of Ion I.C. Brătianu, the party has experienced a decline, which can also be attributed to the long government during which dissatisfaction and opposition assaults gathered. Vintilă Brătianu stood out through economic, social, and foreign policy initiatives. Gheorghe Brătianu rose to prominence mostly through his historical studies, rather than his political career. The communists' rise to power enabled Gheorghe Brătianu to meet a horrible fate, dying in communist jails.

Bibliografie

Instrumente de lucru

Bulei Ion, *Evoluția vieții politice la sfârșitul secolului al XIX-lea și la începutul secolului al XX-lea*, în Gheorghe Platon (coord.), *Istoria Românilor*, Vol VII, TOM II, *De la independență la Marea Unire (1878-1918)*, București, Editura Enciclopedică, 2003;

Botoran Constantin Botoran, Valeriu Florin Dobrinescu, *Confirmarea internațională a actelor de Unire din 1918*, în Ioan Scurtu (coord.) *Istoria Românilor*, Vol VII, *România întregită (1918-1940)*, București, Editura Enciclopedică, 2003;

- N. Adăniloae, *România independentă*, în Dan Berindei (coord.), *Istoria Românilor*, Vol II, TOM I, *Constituirea României moderne (1821-1878)*, București, Editura Enciclopedică, 2003.

Scurtu Ioan, „*Decada brătienistă*” (decembrie 1918- noiembrie 1928), în Ioan Scurtu (coord.) *Istoria Românilor*, Vol VII *România întregită (1918-1940)*, București, Editura Enciclopedică, 2003;

⁶⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 555-556 și 565-566.

Reviste

Patriarhia Românească, în „APOSTOLUL- Curierul Arhiepiscopiei Ortodoxe Române din București” ANUL II no. 3-4 din 15-20 februarie 1925.

Lucrări speciale și generale

Florian Banu, Ionuț Cojocaru, Gheorghe Onișoru, Liviu Țăranu, „*Prin noi înșine*”. *O istorie a Partidului Național Liberal*, Onești, Magic Print, 2019

Boaru Gheorghe, *Contextul Politico-militar al intrării României în Primul Război Mondial*, în „Revista Academiei de Științe de Securitate Națională” Nr. 1/2018, București, Universității Naționale de Apărare „Carol I”, 2018;

Brătescu Liviu, *Proclamarea Regatului. Reacții interne și externe*, în „Anuarul Institutului de Istorie <<A.D. Xenopol >>”, tom XXXIX-XL, Iași, Editura Academiei Române, 2002-2003;

Buruiană Ovidiu, *Liberalii. Structuri și sociabilități politice în România interbelică*, Iași, Editura Universității „Alexandru Ioan Cuza”, 2013;

Carabău Dan, *Marea Guvernare liberală: independența României, și proclamarea Regatului*, în „Revista Polis”, Volum III Nr.2 (8) Serie nouă martie –mai, Iași, Editura POLIS Books, 2015;

Ceobanu Adrian Bogdan, *Politică și diplomatie la sfârșitul secolului al XIX. Din istoria relațiilor româno-ruse 1878-1899*, Iași, Editura „Universității Alexandru Ioan Cuza”, 2015;

Chistol Aurelian, *Aspecte legate de activitatea lui Ion I.C. Brătianu în fruntea Ministerului Lucrărilor publice (31 martie 1897-30 martie 1899)*, în „Argesis Studii și comunicări” Seria Istorie XVII, Pitești, Editura Ordessos, 2008;

Dumitru Laurențiu-Cristian, *Preliminarii ale intrării României în Primul Război Mondial*, în „Buletinul Universității Naționale de Apărare <<Carol I>>” Nr. 1/2012, București, Editura Universității Naționale de Apărare „Carol I”, 2012;

Enache Tușa, *Relațiile româno-ruse în contextul cuceririi independenței de stat a României*, în „Analele Universității <<OVIDIUS>>”- Serie Istorie Volumul VII, Constanța, Editura Ovidius University Press, 2010;

Gheorghe Constantin, Șerbu Miliana, *Miniștrii de interne (1892-2007) - mică enciclopedie*, București, Editura Ministerului de Interne și Reformei Administrative, 2007;

Gorun Hadrian, *Relațiile româno-franceze, între anii neutralității României 1914-1916*, Craiova, Editura Universitaria, 2006;

Maioreșcu Titu, *Discursuri Parlamentare. Priviri asupra dezvoltării politice a României sub dominația lui Carol I*, Vol V 1995-1996, București, Editura Minerva, 1915;

- Marx Karl, Friedrich Engels, *Opere*, Volumul 9, București, Editura Politică, 1959;
- Mirea D.Tudor, *Eugeniu Caradea (1836-1910). File din viața politică*, în „Oltenia - Studii și comunicări”, XII anul 2002-2003, serie Nouă martie - mai, Craiova, Editura Muzeului Oltenia, 2002-2003;
- Murgescu Bogdan, *Istoria României în texte*, Editura Corint, București, 2001;
- Nadejda Lisnic, MOCANU Mihaela, *Problema Basarabiei în publicistica românească de la sfârșitul sec. al XIX-lea*, în „Revista Transilvaniei”, Sibiu, Editura Muzeului ASTRA, nr. 2/2015, 2015;
- Novocescu Ion, „Chestiunea Banatului” între politica națională și politica de partid. *Mari polemici politice și parlamentare (decembrie 1923)*, în „Analele Banatului S.N. Arheologie – Istorie”, XX, Timișoara, Editura Muzeului Național al Banatului, 2013;
- Oane Sorin, *Povestea social-democrației vâlcene în perioada interbelică*, în „Studii și Materiale: Buridava”, XIII, 2018, Editura Offsetcolor, Râmnicu Vâlcea, 2018;
- Olteanu Constantin, *România în Războiul de pentru independență 1877-1878*, în „Studii și articole de istorie” LXXII, Râmnicu-Vâlcea, Editura Rottarymond & Rotarexim S.A, 2007;
- Rădulescu Mihai Sorin, *Elita liberală românească 1866-1900*, București, Editura All, 1998;
- Onișoru Gheorghe, *Gheorghe I. Brătianu și viața politică (1944-1947)*, în „Anuarul Institutului de Istorie <<A.D. Xenopol >>”, Iași, XXXVI, Editura Academiei Române, 1999;
- Rosetti Radu, Pagini de jurnal, Ediție îngrijită de Cristian Popișteanu, Marian Ștefan, Ioana Ursu, București, Editura Adevărul, 1993;
- Rudolf Dinu, „Aliatul Inamic”. *România și chestiunea războiului contra imperiilor centrale (1914-1916)*, în Francesco Guida (Coordonator), *Marele Război și Europa danubiano - balcanică*, Cluj Napoca, Presa Universitară Clujeană, 2016;
- Pentelescu Aurel, *Vintilă I.C. Brătianu văzut de Contemporani*, în „Argesis - Studii și Comunicări” Seria Istorie, TOM IX, Pitești, Editura Muzeului Județean Argeș - Pitești, 2000;
- Șerban Rădulescu-Zoner, coordonator, Gheorghe Cliveti, Gheorghe Onișoru, Dumitru Șandru, Apostol Stan, *Istoria Partidului Național Liberal*, București, All, 2000.
- Săveanu N.N., *Cuvântări. Rostite ca președinte al Adunării Deputaților 1927-1928*, București, Editura „Cartea Românească”, 1928;
- Scurtu Ioan, *Având drept ideal unitatea națională - intrarea României în Primul Război Mondial*, în Sbîrnă Gheorghe, Opriș Ioan (editori), *România în anii premurgători Marii Uniri – 1916-1917*, București, Editura Muzeul Literaturii Române, 2017;
- Idem, *Familia Regală și Marea Unire*, în Narcis Dorin Ion (coord), *Familia Regală și Marea Unire*, Sinaia, Editura Muzeului Peleş, 2018;

Idem, *Istoria românilor în timpul celor patru regi (1866-1947)*, Ediția a II-a, revăzută și adăugită Volumul II Ferdinand I, București, Editura Enciclopedic, 2004;

Semeonova L.E., T.A. Pokivailova, *Basarabiia na perekrestke evropiskoi diplomatii. Documenty i materialy*, Indrik, Moskva, 1996;

Stan Apostol, Iosa Mircea, *Liberalismul politic în România de la origini până în 1918*, București, Editura Enciclopedică, 1996;

Stan Apostol, *Putere și politică și democrație în România 1859-1919*, București, Editura Albatros, 1995;

Stan Constantin I., *Crearea Partidului Național Țărănesc (10 octombrie 1926)*, în „Acta Musei Napocensis: ActaMN” Serie Preistorie-Istorie, Cluj-Napoca, Editura Muzeului Național de Istorie al Transilvaniei, 1998;

Ungureanu Adelin, *Istoria Constituțională a României*, în „Analele Universității <<Constantin Brâncuși>>” din Târgu Jiu, Seria Științe Juridice, nr. 2, 2009, Târgu Jiu, Editura „Academică Brâncuși”, 2009;

Valeriu Ioan-Franc (coord.) Burugă Mihaela, Neacșu Paula, Sarchizian Aida, Fâță Mircea, Login Nicolae, Sârbu Ovidiu, Gheorghe Dorina, Loghin Luminița, Preda Victor, *Personalități ale vieții academice economice, 1918-2018*, București, Editura Centrul de Informare și documentare economică, 2018;

Vasiliu Mihai, *Activitatea lui Ion. I.C. Brătianu până în 1914*, în „Revista Carpica” XXXI, Bacău, Editura Complexului Muzeal „Iulian Antonescu”, 2002,

Voiculescu Corina, *Vintilă Brătianu, personalitatea și activitatea sa*, Târgoviște, Editura Cetatea de Scaun, 2011.

Resurse electronice

Băltescu Mircea, Tanasiu Măriuca, *Ecoul Războiului de Independență în rîndul românilor din Monarhia Austro-Ungară*, Aluta 3, în „Országos Széchényi Könyvtárban”

https://epa.oszk.hu/03300/03316/00004/pdf/EPA03316_aluta_1971_281_301.pdf, (accesat la data de 10.10.2023),
