

## NICOLAE TITULESCU MAKES HIS CASE FOR ROMANIA JOINING THE ALLIES (3 MAY 1915)

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**Abstract.** *On 3 May 1915, in the city of Ploiești, Nicolae Titulescu made a speech titled *The Heart of Romania*, strongly advocating the union of Transylvania with Romania and the need to abandon Romania's neutral stance by engaging alongside the Allies.*

*The speech represented a masterpiece of Romanian political thinking at the time and continues to be so regarded to this day as a level-headed and impassioned plea inspired by genuine patriotic feelings, leaving no room for doubt about Nicolae Titulescu's views concerning territorial integrity, national unity and the fact that Transylvania has always belonged and has to belong forever to the Romanian space.*

**Keywords:** Titulescu, Ploiești, Transylvania, Someș, Mureș, Olt.

The outbreak of World War I caused Nicolae Titulescu to refocus his priorities: all his demarches and efforts were now directed toward making his country whole again and establishing the unitary Romanian national state.

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The speech represented a masterpiece of Romanian political thinking at the time and continues to be so regarded to this day as a level-headed and impassioned plea inspired by genuine patriotic feelings, leaving no room for doubt about Nicolae Titulescu's views concerning territorial integrity, national unity and the fact that Transylvania has always belonged and has to belong forever to the Romanian space.

By championing the case of Transylvania, Nicolae Titulescu never forgot Bessarabia and Bukovina; his endeavours demonstrated a comprehensive vision, where the issues related to bringing all the estranged Romanian provinces back home was integrated into a single purpose, even though current political developments brought one or another component temporarily to the fore. Titulescu never spoke or acted with regard Transylvaniei and Bessarabia in terms of alternative options.

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