

Liviu BRĂTESCU

***RELATIONS ROUMAINES - RUSSES (1878-1888)
TENSIONS, CONFLITS ET RECONCILIATION***

THE ROMANIAN-RUSSIAN RELATIONS (1878-1888).
TENSIONS, CONFLICTS AND RECONCILIATION

- Abstract -

This paper aims at analysing the way in which the Romanian political class related, between 1875 and 1878, to what may be called “the issue of South Bessarabia” (Cahul, Ismail and Bolgrad), restored to Moldova through the Congress of Paris (1856) and lost by the Romanian State after the Congress of Berlin (1878). Wishing to properly understand this matter, we have opted for an analysis from the standpoint of the Romanian-Russian relations, starting with the second half of the 19th century, when we witness a constant involvement of the Tsarist government in all south-eastern European matters. This is, in fact, the reason for our “incursion” in the history of the Romanian-Russian relations for the above period, in two episodes: 1866-1875 with different positions of the Romanian political actors towards the Tsarist government; the second captures the political-diplomatic tension Romania was faced with, following Russia’s violation of the commitments it made at the beginning of the Russian-Turkish War of 1877.

Keywords: Romanian-Russian relations, Congress of Berlin, Bessarabia, Carol I, I.C. Brătianu