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***LA BESSARABIE ENTRE DEUX ANNEXIONS (1940-1944).
PERCEPTIONS FINLANDAISES***

BESSARABIA BETWEEN TWO ANNEXATIONS (1940-1944).
FINNISH PERCEPTIONS

- Abstract -

The aim of this article is to look into Bessarabia's World War Two's status from a Finnish perspective and to analyse the way Finland has perceived, in this period, the Romanian-Soviet litigation over this province. To this end, new archival materials from Finnish and Romanian archives and media are brought forth. The conclusion is that Finland regarded the situation of Bessarabia with sympathy towards Romania's policies and understood the regional stakes the decisions over this province could cause. Parallels were drawn between Bessarabia and Karelia, the Finnish vision over the Romanian province being a direct consequence of their perception of Karelia as a Finnish province estranged and maltreated by Soviet Union.

Keywords: Bessarabia, Finland, Karelia, Soviet Union, perception, annexation, World War II