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A précis for the habilitation thesis

In the research of the long Romanian 18th cent. Our efforts, which span over three decades had a two-fold aim. On the one hand we were wishing to bring in a new viewpoint and on the other we strove to bring to light as many as possible unedited data, most of which manuscript. i.e. from manuscripts involving modern Greek.

Our researches focused on the handbooks of the long Romanian 18th cent. Seldom approached as such the princely handbooks were in fact a topic visited in auxiliary contexts to their main destination. The fact is due to similar yet distinctive causes in the bibliography regarding the Romanian society and in that regarding the Greek social body. In the previous generation who dealt with the Romanian Enlightenment this kind of writings were corroborated with the handbooks for good manners in order for them to substantiate mainly the creation of civic consciousness. Our efforts were finalized with most rewarding conclusions in that, either Romanian or Greek, all over the long Romanian 18th cent there is a well-defined series of princely handbooks used in the education of the princely offsprings which started being translations from Latin, French, Italian and went on adapting older works or compiling useful knowledge from various sources. A four-part model comprising notions of politics, morals, rhetoric and natural sciences reached at the end of the speedy Phanariot reigns a phase of collusion into a pocket version, which we have studied minutely, a version adapted to the need of speedy acclimatization.

We have also considered some judicial aspects. The project of the first Romanian constitution belonging to Dimitrache Sturza, proved to confirm after a tight linguistic and text examination its being dated 1793-1797 and revealed alongside the French connections some Polish ones.

An important part of our research focused on the linguistic situation of the long Romanian 18th cent. We have made use of the concepts of diglossia and bilingualism and insisted on code-switching, i.e. the momentous switch to another language, thus trying to explain the extremely ephemeral lexical occurrences which were so frequent in the 18th cent. A novelty element connected to the South-Danubian element are the inter-dialectal loan-words in Romanian, that is the lexical reflection of the mobility of this branch of the Eastern Romance population.

An essential part for the understanding of the modern Romanian literature is the corpus of Greek literature written on Romanian soil. This quite bulky corpus consists in poems, plays (of which many were discovered and published through our efforts) and prose displays a type of discourse organically linked to further occurrences of the Romanian literature. Caragiale's comedies and the later literature of the absurd can be said to have their seeds in it. The first pieces of this literature date back to the beginning of the long Romanian 18th cent and lie in a tragedy inspired from ancient tragedy but which could rightly bring to mind the French classics and which has to do with Constantine Brancoveanu.

A unifying Enlightenment link between Transylvania and the other two Romanian provinces , of a huge importance is a medical manuscript (Mestesugul doftoriei) wrongly considered until recently as belonging to the 19th cent.and authored by a certain doctor Episcopescu. Our researches and the edition of the text that we have prepared for printing (800p)reveals a completely different author , namely coming from south of the Danube, none else but the princely secretary, the literary author (in Greek) and the revolutionary friend to Dimitrache Sturza , author of a Balkan constitution Rigas from Velestino.Alongside real medical merits the text is a lexical and linguistic at large thesaurus of the 18th cent. Romanian language.

We have set ourselves the goal to pursuit all the research direction we have already tackled, in our wish to illustrate through data the formidable wealth of cultural facts of the long Romanian 18th cent.We intend to go deeper into the study of education of all degrees (with a special insistence on the technical details in language acquisition), of women status ,of translation studies , the translators' personality etc.