

**Historian Ioan Bogdan's Posterity (1919-1968)**  
(Abstract)

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The historian Ioan Bogdan was a first professor in the field of Slavonic studies in Romania. A representative of the critical school that emerged around the turn of the 20th century, he published numerous studies and books. His life and career are well-known today and Ioan Bogdan's letters with his wife reveals that he was very sensitive, and deeply involved in his family life. On June 1st, 1919 I. Bogdan died, leaving behind a work that deserves to be evaluated. Academy suspends its session for its members to attend the funeral, which takes place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June. N. Iorga, who didn't make a speech, wrote that at the Bellu cemetery only Ioan Bianu, the former student of the specialist of Slavonic languages, spoke on behalf of the Romanian Academy, and Alexandru Ioan, Petrescu-Zoița, Dimitrie Onciul, on behalf of the Romanian History Commission and Sextil Pușcariu. The cultural newspapers and magazines also showed a lot of empathy, publishing warm evocations of his personality. In the obituary, published by the most important European magazine of Slavonic languages and signed, besides V. Jagić, by P. Cancel, the I. Bogdan's successor at the University Department in Bucharest says about the former specialist of Slavonic languages.

From the 1928 article signed by Petre P. Panaitescu through the comprehensive introductory study by Gheorghe Mihăilă to the 1968 volume of Selected Work numerous studies were dedicated to Ioan Bogdan. The Slavic influence was exaggerated at the beginning of the communist regime and the Romanian language was considered a Roman-Slavic mixture. Into a new political context in Romania, the first study dedicated to I. Bogdan and his work as a specialist in Slavic was published in 1955. Gradually some changes appear into the discourse, and even if P. Constantinescu-Iași and others still discover infinite influences of the great neighbor from the East, from Scythian to Communists, in the historical works a tendency to minimize the role of the Slavs could be already seen.

The Romanian dictators' change of foreign policy from 1964 and the year to follow, involving the so-called 'five-year-liberalization' could be better understand if we refer to the Slavic studies. A monograph on the life and work of I. Bogdan, announced by the same D.P. Bogdan since 1960, saying that it is in print, unfortunately didn't appear anymore. The specialists in Slavic languages stated in the interwar period,

among them D.P. Bogdan and P.P. Panaitescu, have to be cautious, using a pseudonym for a while, to make concessions, although they apparently could be more useful to the regime than the specialists in Latin or Byzantine Empire. I. Bogdan's volume of writings had been prepared for print many years before, but as a paradox, it was published in the year when the toughest anti-Soviet feelings emerged. In this way, a part of a scholar's work managed to be published, a scientist who recognized to the Slavs (not only the Southern, but also the Eastern) an important role in our history. On the 100th anniversary of Ioan Bogdan's birthday, the Slavic Association from the Popular Republic of Romania initiated under the auspices and supported by the Ministry of Education, a festive scientific session on the theme *Ioan Bogdan and History of Romanian Culture* and its works were held on December 8 and 9 in Bucharest, and on December 10 in Braşov, the historian's hometown.

On this occasion numerous communications was presented by historians in Romania and neighboring countries, with a special remark for Bulgaria and the former Yugoslavia. They were captured various aspects of Romanian history, and most texts have a festive air, but based on a serious documentation. They should take into account the political context, the year 1964 marked a turning point in the foreign policy of the Communist Romania, while internally limited liberalization is also felt. The Romanian historiography took advantage of this climate as well, and the papers presented at the session of December 1964, published two years later in the „Romanoslavica” journal, are almost not ideologically contaminated at all.