

**Medical and Institutional Practices to Combat Epidemics in Hungary,
Transylvania and Banat, 1770-1850**

(Abstract)

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This article examines the impact of plague epidemics on the medical theories and practices as well as the influence on the sanitary policies implemented in the Habsburg Monarchy and Moldova and Wallachia between 1770s-1850s. It retraces the way in which physicians, intellectuals and members of governing circles from the Habsburg Monarchy and the two Danubian Principalities used the medical, economical, political and cultural arguments in order to elaborate government regulations for the preservation of population's health. The sanitary policy facilitated not only the preventative practices against epidemics, but also the administrative centralization within the empire and in the Romanian Principalities. The article emphasizes that medical police theories contributed to the reorganization of quarantine, which remained the main institution to prevent epidemics. Although in the nineteenth century, the emphasis was on isolation and disinfection, the quarantine remained as an ultimate solution that offered protection while facing an unknown diseases.