

Iuliu Moldovan and the Romanian Modernism Inter-war

Summary

The present paper is part of a bigger debate related to the intellectual current and political life of Big Romania. I tried to constitute the factors that determined the appearance of the new ideology current called „*eugenism*” first in Europe and then in Romania. With the help of the present paper I tried to decipher the political activity and Iuliu Moldovan's personality, from the inter-war period, through the political discourse, politician considered the true promoter of the eugenism in Romania. Concerning his biography, I wrote more details in my licence paper, as a source I used his memories and books published by his collaborators after 1990, also the periodicals from that time. In the present paper, as the title itself shows it, „***Iuliu Moldovan and the Romanian Modernism Inter-war***”, I presented The Iuliu Moldovan Case, starting from the premises, I approached the theme of the extreme right's political ideas, more precisely the history of anti-liberalism and of nationalist, anti-democratic political thinking. About the subject of eugenism a lot has been written in the West, and less in our country. We can talk about Marius Turda's papers „*Eugenism and Modernity, Nation, Race and Bio-policy in Europe*” and Maria Bucur's book „*Eugenism and Modernisation in the inter-war România*”. As informational and documentary sources I used the works of these two authors and also the analysis of the articles published in the periodicals from the inter-war period, an analysis that takes into consideration the fluid political context on a national and international plan. This analysis will take into account and also try to underline Iuliu Moldovan's ideological and intellectual premises, in addition to the solutions that he tries to point to. I structured this paper into five chapters.

The paper is structured in five chapters being prefaced by the introduction and finalized with conclusions and bibliography. In the first chapter „***Transylvania and The Double Monarchy at the end of the XIXth century***” I will try to analyse and understand, the political, social and religious situation of the Romanian Nation from Transylvania, a situation that appeared after the Union from 1867, when it is achieved the union between Austria and Hungary, fact which will determine important political, territorial and social changes. Within this context I am going to analyse the newspapers of the day (Transylvania, The Tribune of the People, The Romanian Telegraph, The Gazette of Transylvania), the memoirs of certain political

personalities from the epoch and specialized works concerned with the history of Transylvania in the second half of the XIXth century .

The second chapter entitled „ **The Problems of Romanian elites from Transylvania , which are in fact political problems , (political activism) , financial problems (whip – rounds , requisitions , assistance , building churches or monasteries) and medical-social problems (helping the orphans , widows and schools)** , for the achievement of this chapter I used sources such as : periodicals (TransylvaniaThe Bee,The Tribune of the People, The Romanian Telegraph , Telegraful Român, The Gazette of Transylvania) monographies and specialized works.

In the third chapter and the most important from the paper , **I will conduct some research over Iuliu Moldovan's childhood and education,his political and professional career,eugenic and biopolitical doctrine** , The Falcon of the Carpathians , an institution with eugenic views and for this chapter I used unedited and edited sources .The main source was represented by periodics : Tomorrow's Society (1924) The Eugenic and Biopolitic Bulletin (1927), the memoirs of professor Moldovan „ *Memories and Reflexions* ”(1996),being especially important in the analyses of his childhood and education , besides which I also consulted , in order to offer an as exhaustive as possible image , fonds from the National Archives of the State , County Direction Cluj (Personal Fond dr. Iuliu Moldovan) and also a rich bibliography have completed the information about Cluj personalities who illustrated , through their scientific pursuit and through their actual activities from the university clinics , the eugenic science. In order to illustrate the mentality of the epoch , but also to mark off the antecedents of eugenics in Transylvania I resorted to the periodicals of the epoch. Thus , in this enterprise , besides the historiography of the problem , I used newspapers such as : Liberty , The Gazette of the People , The Romanian Telegraph , The Transylvania Gazette , Romanian Youth , The Buddy of the Family , The Letter , The Resurrection , The Romanian , The Flag , The Paper of the People , Minerva , The Tribune , The Observer. Also , to complete my research , I studied various published works , which helped us to have an overall image concerning the problematics of our research. From general studies , we focused our attention towards works which tackled the idea of eugenics at a worldwide level , to accomplish a comparison with the autochthon space.

The fourth chapter „ **Iuliu Moldovan and A.S.T.R.A**” is the period when he becomes the president of this association , with a decisive role in outlining and implementing the new eugenic

current . I found in the periodicals of the epoch (Tomorrow's Society , The Calendar , Calendarul, The Eugenic and Biopolitic Bulletin , The Transylvania Gazette) , his works : The Hygiene of the Nation (The Eugenics) published in 1925, Biopolitics published in 1926.

In the last chapter entitled „**The detention years** ,” I am going to present the period in which professor Moldovan will be imprisoned by the communist regime together the entire political elite in the period between the world wars , being accused of the fact that he was bourgeois - landowner and philo-German . In achieving this chapter , I consulted diverse sources such as : The National Archives of Security , the confessions of his fellow inmates from that period and specialized works „ *Final Report*” , *National Archives Cluj* .” In 1967, shortly after his death , the communist regime acknowledged his Phd , an important step for the rehabilitation of his reputation and he was declared member of the Romanian Academy of Medicine . Writing the final part of this paper it can be said that I acquired relevant information , concerning conceptions and Iulius Moldovan's political and cultural vision. I experienced a feeling of satisfaction for being able to draw his personality even if our purpose was not to praise him. Through this paper I discovered that our society still had an immense cultural heritage composed from great values , real role models for the youth of the country . I tried to complete the portrait of Iuliu Moldovan the man , through the perspective of the procesual phases of his conceptions in the social , cultural and political field , emphasizing the answers and the testimonies formulated against political accusations.

Significant personality,Iulius Moldovan , always promoted coherent principles of sanitary , monetary , budget and financial policies. On an educational level the effort of his work materialized through numerous conferences , communications related to sanitary law problems. Through his actions and assumed executive attributions , he took part in consolidating the eugenistics policy , which often attracted virulent criticism on behalf of his opponents . Unfortunately the events which followed , marked the destiny of professor Moldovan , the manner in which the effects of the policy promoted by communists against intellectuals and the opposition , in general , had effects on the professor as well . In the brutal operation destined to behead definitively the political elite , from the night of 5-6th of May 1950 , professor Moldovan will be also included , being interned in Sighet political prison for 24 months , later coming under M.A.I Decision nr. 334/1951; punishment extended to 60 months , according to M.A.I. Decision nr. 559/1953. Being arrested on the basis of false accusations such as , bourgeois -

landowner orientation and intense activities against the working class , he was liberated on 5th of July 1955. But unfortunately he will be surveyed by Security until his death on 19th of November 1966 in Cluj . In conclusion , I would like to underline , by shaping previously presented arguments , the acknowledgement of Iuliu Moldovan's value and personality.