

Romanian Foreign Policy (1884-1888). Actors and Means of Action
(Abstract)

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The courageous objectives of Romanian foreign policy after 1866 have generated among the responsible political factors from Bucharest a constant and real preoccupation to identify certain efficient means to develop a convincing propaganda among the European opinion leaders and politicians.

After the establishment of Carol I as ruler of Romania, it became obvious the necessity to explain the Romanian agenda to European politicians. In order to accomplish this objective they needed the support of Western press. The relations established during the previous period with important journalists, mainly from France, but also from England, Italy, Belgium, Austria, were considered good enough reasons to attempt a re-evaluation on permanent basis of the Romanian problems.

The rapidity with which certain events developed raised the problem of the capacity of Romanian state, of his leaders to accede directly to Western political and journalistic environments in order to be able to fight against certain press campaign and to initiate other steps in convincing the public opinion. Although at the official level this was a very low debated subject, there was the preoccupation to sustain Romanian propaganda abroad. This would require the appointment of some persons to identify influencing journalists, prepared to risk their prestige and credibility in order to sustain Romanian political claims.

There was a special interest in this period for a better organization of the Ministry of External Affairs. We refer here to the attempt to achieve a more efficient internal communication, but also a correlation of the information that circulated in this period. There existed the preoccupation to optimize the activity of this ministry and also to establish an information service, which responsibility was to transmit the most important news about the political events from Romania.

All these organizational efforts made by the Government administered by I.C. Brătianu would help the Romanian State to be more active within the environment of international relations at the end of the 19th century in the South-Eastern part of Europe, but also more conscious of the exact dimension of human and material resources.