

**Gagauz in the Bessarabia in the context
of the romanian-turkish relations
in the period 1918-1940: history and characters**
(Abstract)

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Present in the article first introduces unknown documents from the archives of Turkey, Romania and the Republic of Moldova related to the “Gagauz problem” in the context of the Romanian-Turkish relations. The authors had mainly paid attention to the education sector, where Turkish cultural and ideological influence was the most noticeable. Through distributing the policy of the Turkish identity among the Gagauz in Bessarabia, Turkish government has largely relied on Gagauz intellectuals and its youth. Due to this Turkish teachers Zahit Mehmet Boztuna, Hasan Belal Kilic Ahmed Mehmed, Sali Ismail, Osman Abdullah, Ali and Bayram Cantarelli and others have been sent to Gagauzian villages. They received the appropriate authorization from the Romanian Ministry of National Education to teach Turkish language for two hours a week. They are known to provide training in Gagauzian and Bulgarian-Gagauzian villages: Comrat, Congaz, Kubey, Chadir-Lunga, Congaz and others. According to some reports, the activities of these entities funded from Turkish, and partly from the Romanian budget. At the same time, high-level Turkish government was encouraging the involvement of Gagauz young people to enter secondary, higher and specialized secondary schools in Ankara and Istanbul. To do this, students had been guaranteed a hostel, budget training and scholarships. The article evaluates huge role of Turkish Ambassador in Romania Hamdullah Subhi Tanriyover (1931-1944), who initiated and conducted most of the work on the organization of Turkish language teaching in Gagauz villages, provision of textbooks and teacher training.