

**A Personal History of Romanian Communism.  
An Unpublished Interview with Gheorghe Apostol,  
conducted by Christian Mititelu (BBC, on April 22, 1988)  
(Abstract)**

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*Keywords:* Nicolae Ceaușescu, Gheorghe Apostol, BBC, Romanian Communist Party.

The interview with Gheorghe Apostol, one of the most significant Communist leaders and considered a potential successor to Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej alongside Nicolae Ceaușescu, took place on April 22, 1988. This occurred during his transit through London on his way back to the country after completing diplomatic missions in South America. The purpose of his visit to the BBC seemed to be to criticize the regime's policies, particularly the emasculation of trade unions and the personality cult of Nicolae Ceaușescu. During the meeting with editor Christian Mititelu, unprecedented biographical confessions emerged about his entire journey as a Communist leader who had known Stalin, from the illegalist period to his marginalization in the Romanian Communist Party. Gheorghe Apostol conditioned the broadcast of the interview to take place after his death or the death/removal of Ceaușescu, depending on which occurred first. The agreement was honored, and in April 1990, the BBC aired a 50-minute program featuring the main excerpts from the interview. Readers of the "Archiva Moldaviae" magazine have the opportunity to read the transcript of the entire interview given to the BBC.

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