

Alegerile comunale din anul 1930. Studiu de caz: comunele Bogatu Român și Rusciori, Județul Sibiu

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Abstract:

In this paper, we analyse how authorities tried to interfere in the electoral process of elections in the rural area of Sibiu County. The study is based on unpublished archival sources and articles from the press. The collected data reveal that peasants were involved in political affairs. For example, the number of citizens who participated in the election on 11 February 1930 in Bogatu Român shows that peasants were more interested in participating in communal elections than in parliamentary elections during the interwar period. Although communal elections were constantly organized, and voters were called to vote several times during the year, we could conclude that the peasants understood the importance of voting. Also, we describe and analyse the electoral legislation published in the summer of 1929, the electoral register which registered the citizens with the right to vote. Unfortunately, the data collected gives little information about the women who participated in the elections. During the election campaign, the prefect made propaganda for the National Peasant Party, with the support of gendarmes, through pressures and threats, manipulated the citizens. Despite this, the opposition parties managed to win seats in the council from Bogatu Român and Rusciori. In these villages, only three competitors participate in the elections: the National Peasant Party, the Liberal Party, and the Hungarian Party.

Keywords: *interwar period, communal elections, electoral rules, propaganda, electoral results*