

Spre o „dietă a amploaiaților”. Rolul funcționarilor români din perioada liberală în alegerile pentru Dieta de la Sibiu din 1863-1864

Abstract:

The proposed study deals with a less explored aspect of Romanian historiography regarding the period 1860-1867, namely the role that the Romanian civil servants played in winning a Romanian majority in the Diet of Sibiu from 1863-64. Our approach consists of three distinct phases. In the first section we make a brief presentation of the new electoral law which allowed the Romanians a wider political expression. Then, we focus on the Romanian participation in the elections of May-June 1863 and, especially, on the coordinating role that some high-ranking Romanian civil servants played in the electoral process: the nomination of Romanian candidates, the mobilization of the Romanian electorate, ensuring their victory. We try to emphasize the multiple statements of position regarding the role of the so-called royalists (named representatives) in the upcoming legislative forum, but also on the existence of some incongruence between the bureaucratic status and legislative status of the future Romanian representatives. We also try to point out some confessional frictions. In the last section we apply a quantitative and qualitative analysis on the whole body of Romanian representatives – e.g. the confessional distribution, their socio-professional status (named or elected) – which will explain their later legislative performance.

Keywords: *Civil servants, Elections, Transylvania, the Sibiu Diet from 1863-1864, Romanian deputies.*