

ASPECTS FROM THE LIFE AND ACTIVITY OF IOAN KALINDERU

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Abstract: In the present study we tried to bring forward few aspects from the activity of one of the greatest intellectuals of the 19th century. Although as a structure he was a jurist and was being remarked in this sector occupying very important functions such as: president of the Ilfov court, first president of the Court of Appeal from Bucharest; member of the Court of Cassation; administrator of the domains and forests of the state; royal director at Berlin of the Romanian railways; member of the Court of Arbitration from Hague, he remained known in history as an administrator of the Crown Domains (1884-1913) and president of the Romanian Academy, the History Section (1895-1898; 1907-1910). His scientific activity is also remarkable, Ion Kalinderu having the necessary capacity to approach a wide variety of themes: Roman law, historic, economic, political and moral ones.

Keywords: Ion Kalinderu, the end of the 19th century, jurist, administrator of the Crown Domains, president of the Romanian Academy.

Multiple valences personality, Ioan Kalinderu can be successfully placed among the great intellectuals of the 19th century. Born on December 28th 1840, in Bucharest, he is the descendant of an “old, well-known and highly respected family”¹. After the graduation of high-school in Bucharest, he received his license degree at the Faculty of Law from Paris, from where he also took his Doctor's degree.

When returning in the country, he worked in the magistrature, filling several positions: prosecutor, member and first president of the Ilfov court, substitute, member and first president of the Court of Appeal from Bucharest; member of the Court of Cassation; administrator of the state's domain and forests; royal director of the Romanian railways at Berlin²; he was a member of the Court of Arbitration from Hague, administrator of the Crown Domain.

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¹ “Familia”, no. 3 Oradea-Mare, 21 (2nd of February)1896, Year XXXII, p. 25.

²*Ibid.*

As a member of the jury, in 1881 and 1882, Ioan Kalinderu was charged by the government I. C. Brătianu with the leading of the actions regarding the Romanian state's compensation for the railways, built by Strousberg, a business that had proved to be extremely damaging for Romania³. Moreover, Ioan Kalinderu, along with misters Stătescu and Ștefan Fălcoianu had founded, on 1st/13th of April 1880, the society “Noua Societate a Acționarilor CFR”⁴. The success of the compensatory mission was evoked by Dimitrie Sturdza:

The juridical difficulties that ought to be defeated, for the state to become the owner of the railways, were tremendous. There were brought forward deep and vast knowledge, in order that the enforcing of the decisions to be fully guaranteed. Was also requested a great amount of restless and brave working, for many years, that couldn't be foreseen, a clear and long thought provision regarding the precise question and its details, a just and loyal character, a amply and unrelenting devotion, an activity carried on from the beginning to the end with talent, warmth, enthusiasm for the people's benefit⁵.

During the actions done for the compensation concerning the railways, Ioan Kalinderu wrote three studies that had this theme⁶.

His scientific beginning, as referring to the law, was a study about “the non-retroactivity of the laws” and a study in French on the sources of the Roman law, very appreciated by many French jurists. The success scored, as also the meeting from Berlin, with Karl Richard Lepsius, determined him to approach the studying of the Roman law and the different aspects of the Roman Empire's history. Thus, in 1884, he published the work *Essai sur les sources du droit romain*, followed by the volume named *Droit prétorien et réponses des Prudents*, published in Paris, in 1885. This work treats the transformations suffered by the *praetura* from its creation to the founding of the empire⁷.

His scientific activity continued in 1886 too, with the publishing of some articles in the magazine of N. Basilescu, “*Revue générale de droit*

³ Dorina N. Rusu, *Membrii Academiei Române (1866-1999). Dicționar*, 2nd edition revised and enlarged, Bucharest, Editura Academiei Române, 1999, p. 280.

⁴ Constantin Gheorghe, Miliana Șerbu, *Miniștrii de interne (1862-2007). Mică enciclopedie*, București, Editura Ministerului Internelor și Reformei Administrative, 2007 p. 95.

⁵ Elena Solunca Moise, *Galeria marilor personalități: Ioan Kalinderu (1840-1913)*, in “Curentul”, 10th of February 2011, p. 3.

⁶ “Familia”, no. 3, Oradea-Mare, no. 3, 21st of January (2nd of February) 1896, Year XXXII, p. 25.

⁷ Dorina N. Rusu, *Membrii*, p. 280.

et sciences politiques”, among with one was written in Romanian, *Consiliul imperațiilor la Roma și Constantinopol*, in which it is presented a study on the imperial edicts, rescripts and mandats⁸.

During the next years, he continued writing some interesting works: *Étude sur le régime municipal romain* (1887), *Notice juridique sur un testament* (1889), *Viața municipală la Pompei* (1890), *Viligiatura și reședințele de vară la romani* (1895), *Romanii călători* (1895), *August și literații* (1897), *Literații oșoanți sub cesari* (1898), *Portul perucilor și bărbierii la Romani* (1901), *Din viața romană. Societatea înaltă pe vremea lui Pliniu cel Tânăr* (1904), *Din viața romană. Podoabele și toaleta și petrecerile unei elegante* (1903), and others. His last work was named *Doi antagoniști romani*, where he treats the rivalries between Pompey and Caesar. In 1896, he edited the work *Patrie, éducation et travail*, encompassing most of the speeches delivered along the years.

The subjects approached by Ioan Kalinderu evidenced a wide range of themes: Roman law, historic, economic, political and moral. We mention here: *Îndrumări date agenților Domeniului Coroanei*⁹, *Un țăran harnic*¹⁰, *Affaire des héritiers Jean Ottétélecho contre Jean Kalindéro*¹¹, *Consultațiuni date de d-nii Guillourd, Carel și Jouen în afacerea moștenitorilor I. Oteteleşanu contra Ioan Kalinderu precedate de câteva observațiuni de acesta asupra concluziilor reclamanților*¹², *August și literații*¹³, *Cultura arborilor roditori*¹⁴, *Cuvînt de slăvire lui Ștefan-cel-Mare, domnul Moldovei*¹⁵, *Cuvinte rostite la inaugurarea colecțiilor istorico-artistice ale Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice și ale Administrației Cassei Bisericii*¹⁶, *De la competence des tribunaux et particulièrement des tribunaux prussiens dans toute contestation relative aux biens mobiliers qu'un etat etranger peut posseder en Prusse*¹⁷, *Deciziunea Curtei de Apel din București în procesul dintre moștenitorii*

⁸ “Familia”, no. 23, Oradea-Mare, 5th /17th June, 1894, Year XXX, p. 266.

⁹ Vol. I, Bucharest, 1900; vol. II, Bucharest, 1909.

¹⁰ Bucharest, 1896.

¹¹ Ioan Kalinderu, Charles Beudant, Eugeniu E. Stătescu, Ion Oteteleşanu, Ion N. Lahovari, Claude Bufnoir, Gustave Rolin-Jaequemyns, Mihail Pherekyde, Édouard-Louis-Armand Colmet de Santerre, Bucharest, 1889.

¹² Bucharest, 1890.

¹³ Bucharest, 1897.

¹⁴ Bucharest, 1906.

¹⁵ Bucharest, 1904.

¹⁶ P. Garboviceanu, Sp. C. Haret, Ion Kalinderu, Bucharest, 1911.

¹⁷ Berlin, 1882.

*Ion Oteteleşanu*¹⁸, *De la non-rétroactivité des lois*¹⁹, *Discours de réception prononcé à l'Académie Roumaine, le 18 Mars 1894 par m*²⁰, *Du régime dotal: thèse pour la licence*²¹, *Episcopul Melchisedec: discursul de recepțiune rostit în ședința solemnă sub președinția M. S. Regelui la 25 martie 1894*²², *Fundațiunea Ioan Otteteleşanu și Academia Română*²³, *Memoire über die Verlegung des Sitzes der rumänische Eisenbahnen-Actien-Gesellschaft von Berlin nach Bucarest*²⁴, *Notă despre un studiu al D-lui Millet*²⁵, *Rolul învețătorului în formațiunea generațiilor noi: discurs ținut la inaugurarea școlii din cătunul Piscu (Domeniul Coroanei Cocioc-Ilfov la 6 decembrie 1895*²⁶ etc.

Noted by King Carol I, since 1872, when he was administrator of the State's Domains and Forests, Ioan Kalinderu was appointed, in 1884²⁷, at the leadership of the Crown's Domain institutions, function that he filled till the end of his life (1913). This was the period when he managed to fully compensate the attention and the trust that the king showed for him, becoming a conscience influencing agent, image creator and an instrument in making the people loyal to the king and the dynasty. Besides, he considered “this mission as the most complete and honourable work of his life”²⁸.

In agreement with the King, he elaborated a workings plan that would lead to the transformation of the twelve estates of the domain, in models for the Romanian rural world. For this, as an evidence, are the numerous leaflets addressed to the superiors of the administrations, addresses that prove the clarity of his way of thinking, the profound knowledge of the people and of the dwellers, but also his philanthropic spirit. “I always searched and I shall further search, that the progresses that had been achieved after the introduced reforms, to pass beyond the boundaries of the Crown's Domains, so that in such a way, the successful

¹⁸ Bucharest, 1891.

¹⁹ Paris, 1864.

²⁰ Ioan Kalinderu, Dimitrie Alexandru Sturdza, Bucharest, 1894.

²¹ Paris, 1860.

²² Bucharest, 1894.

²³ Bucharest, 1894.

²⁴ Berlin, 1881.

²⁵ Bucharest, 1912.

²⁶ Bucharest, 1896.

²⁷ The Service from Dolj District of the National Archives, fund Dolj County Prefect's Office, Administrative Service, file 109/1884, f. 1.

²⁸ Paul Lindenberg, *Carol I, Regele României*, Bucharest, 1915, p. 24.

interpenetration of the measures taken after our initiative, to leave an impression in a circle as wide as possible”²⁹.

A first step was represented by the endowing of the domains with different constructions, equipments and farming implements, among the most improved, activity that intensified once with the taking over by the administration. In the first 16 years, were built: 37 houses for the personnel of the administration, 20 dwelling places for the workshops' superiors, 10 workshops (smithy, charts-workroom, rope-workroom, chimney-workroom), 14 stables, 16 stalls for cattle and a poultry raising house at Periș, a sheepfold Dobrovăț, 3 pigsties at Dobrovăț, Periș and Gherghița, 18 grain storehouses for a volume of 175.000 hectolitres, 43 corn storehouse, with a capacity of 2.800 – 4.500 hectolitres each, 12 sheds for the agricultural machinery, model houses and stables for the peasants, with vegetables gardens. All these investments cost The Crown Domain Administration 6.500.000 francs³⁰.

The improved agricultural machinery were brought, most of them, from countries such Germany, France, England, USA: Sakou Eckert ploughs, John Fawler mechanic ploughs, screening machines, Drill sowing machines, mowing machines, reaping machines, Ruston & Clayton threshing machines, ventilators, hay tossing machines etc. In 1905, the agricultural inventory of the Crown Domain of 1.245.820 lei included: 5 mechanic ploughs, 333 ploughs, 9 vineyard ploughs, 19 threshing machines, 139 sowing machines (41 through spreading, 96 in rows, one for the experimental field, one for beetroot), 69 reaping machines, 150 clod crushers (2 made of iron), 29 mowing machines, 23 mechanic rakes (one American), 19 screening machines (6 for the wheat's treatment with copper sulphate), 66 mechanic hoeing machines, 278 iron harrows, 12 iron beataxes, 31 winnowing machines, 14 forage choppers (1 for straws, 3 for hay), almost 11 corn threshing machines, 12 wheat threshing machines, 16 machines for chopping the beetroot, 3 machines for extracting the potatoes, 3 hay tossing machines, 16 elevators, 9 locomotives, 3 spins for selecting the seeds, 12 pulverizers for the vineyard, a systematic wine press, a wine press, 2 crushing machines, a circular sow, a crane, 8 pomps for cars, 6 pomps for fires, 225 charts, 6 wagons, 21 trucks, 4 carriages, 20 sledges³¹.

²⁹ Elena Solunca Moise, *Galeria*, p. 3.

³⁰ Dimitrie C. Ollănescu, *Raport general asupra participărei României la expoziția universală din Paris (1900)*, Bucharest, 1901, p. 102.

³¹ Florian Davidescu, *Monografia Domeniului Segarcea din județul Doljiu*, Bucharest, 1906, p. 42-45; Gheorghe Popovici, *Monografia Domeniului Sadova din județul Doljiu*,

Although the mechanic work was extending more and more, the animals working wasn't removed. Under these circumstances, noble breed animals were brought, some especially for working and others for milk and meat. Once with the founding of the farms, the villagers had the possibility to improve the animal breeds from their own households, having at their disposal, freely, the sires on the domain but also information regarding the optimal life and food conditions.

Surrounded by agents capable to support him in his actions, Ioan Kalinderu emitted circular letters, most of them constituting pieces of advice for a modern agriculture. The growing of the agricultural production, through the improvement of the cultivated plants' structure and their alternation on the land, according to the nature of the soil and the climatic conditions, represented the main objective. Following the model of the neighbouring states, he organized experimental fields, on which new types, breeds and varieties of cereals and fodder plants were created, in order to adapt easily to the climatic conditions of the region and introduced chemical and animal fertilizers, last of them being also available to the peasants. He introduced new plants, such as: flax, hemp, beetroot, potato etc. He gave much attention to the culture subordinate to the agriculture: vine, fruit trees, sericulture, apiculture. He also encouraged and supported the development of the household industries: dairy producing, rope making, pottery, but also the organization of some mechanics workshops, smithy, well making, cooperage, straws, willow, club rush weaving etc.

Annually, he organized travelling studies in Banat, Transylvania, Hungary and Austria, whose level of development was much superior to that of Romania. During the visits, the administration superiors studied both the farms of the larger domains³² and the households of some

Bucharest, 1906, p. 39-41; O. Boiu, Alexandru Precup, *Monografia Domeniului Mălini*, Bucharest, 1906, p. 23; N. Condurache, N. Marinescu, *Monografia Domeniului Dobrovăț*, Bucharest, 1906, p. 19; Gh. Manolescu, Gh. Codrescu, *Monografia Domeniului Gherghița*, Bucharest, 1906, p. 26-28; Eremia Medianu, Gh. Codrescu, *Monografia Domeniului Cocioac*, Bucharest, 1906, p. 15-16; Dumitru Popescu, *Monografia Domeniului Rușețu*, Bucharest, 1906, p. 19-21; Ion Popovici, *Monografia Domeniului Domnița*, Bucharest, 1906, p. 25-28.

³² We remember here the visits realized in 1898 on the domain of the archduke Friedrich, prince Swarzenberg, Bucovinei region, Bosnia (see Florian Davidescu, Olimpiu Boiu, *Raport asupra expozițiunei jubiliare din Viena adresat D-lui Administrator al Domeniului Coroanei*, Bucharest, 1899.), and those from 1905 on the domain of count Zelinski, the domain of village Pecica and the dairy from Otvenes ("Albina", no. 32 from 8th of May 1905, p. 865.)

landlords or peasants. Such visits were registered by different Romanian and Hungarian newspapers: “Tribuna”, “Aradi Közlöny”, “Arad és Vidéke”, “Aradi Hirlap”³³.

The creation of a new image of the Romanian village constituted the central objective of Ioan Kalinderu's managing system. The model peasants' houses, equipped with the necessary annexes: stable, shed, storehouse, barn, pigsty and hen house, surrounded by a small plantation, should have represented a model for the dwellers. With the help of the Administration, these houses were to replace the insalubrious small-cottages, dark and not spacious that generally formed the landscape of the Romanian village. At his request, the gardens, the parks, the alleys from around the administration's houses, the ward's houses but also the peasants' households, were decorated with fruit trees and roses or ornamental trees.

A special attention was given both to the collaboration between the administrations superiors and the employed personnel and dwellers: “The Crown Domain Administration mustn't serve as a model only through the more systematic agricultural and forestry exploitations, through the improvements brought to the population from these Domains, both in material and moral way, but also as regarding the staff”³⁴.

A special merit, that should be recorded, is represented by the registration at the Economy House or at its offices, of the office workers from the Crown Domain. This measure extended, starting with July the 1st 1893 to the inferior personnel also³⁵. On April 1st 1900, all the employees of the Crown Domain Administration were constituted in a society called *Societate de pensii și ajutor mutual* (*Society of pensions and mutual help*), under the presidency of the Administrator. Starting with 1903, the workers hired on the agricultural machines and those used in the forestry exploitations, had been insured against the working accidents.

The existent disequilibrium as regarding the Romanian peasant, as comparing to that of the dwellers from the west of the country, determined him to introduce the bread both in the food of the inferior and daily workers. In the same extent, he encouraged the consumption of more consistent aliments. Moreover, he arranged the building of bread ovens, on the expense of the administration, for the villagers. The

³³ “Albina”, no. 32 from 8th of May 1900, p. 865.

³⁴ *Îndrumări date agenților Domeniului Coroanei de către Ioan Kalinderu doctor în drept de la Facultatea din Paris, membru al Academiei Române*, vol. I, Bucharest, 1900, pp. 67-71.

³⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 41- 43.

frequency of the diseases, as a result of the lack of hygiene and bad nourishment, determined him to take some measures of fighting against the epidemics.

Man of letters, sustainer of the Spiru Haret reforms, Ioan Kalinderu was the first who put into practice his measures, allocating huge amounts of money to culture.

From the beginning, he acted for the restoration of the schools that didn't fulfil the minimal requests concerning the educational system and financially sustained the construction of new buildings, where they didn't exist. Each new school had, in their construction plan, a room for the library, the workshops, the dwelling of the teacher, chicken and few household annexes. The furniture and the didactic materials were bought by the central Administration. The constructions were always supervised, to the smallest details, by Ioan Kalinderu, in whose presence were inaugurated all. The speeches that had been delivered on these occasions, said Luca de Benedetto, "had been simple and wise and profound, coming from the heart and going towards the hearts of the students, parents and teachers"³⁶.

The school and parish libraries, those from the cultural societies ones and those of the administrations houses had been endowed with a great number of books – didactic books, literature, history, science, practical works – and magazines whose number was increasing each year, through the acquisition of new books and magazines. Therefore, the subjects were diverse and for all the categories of readers. Preponderant, were the compilations that appeared under the aegis of "The Popular Library of the Crown Domain Administration". They had been realized at the call of Ioan Kalinderu, in simple and common terms. Very many of them were also in the houses of the peasants, to whom were distributed on free³⁷.

In 1884, on the Crown Domains, existed 18 schools that functioned, most of them, in rented rural houses, built of half timber walls or entirely of timber. After the implication of the Administration led by Ioan Kalinderu, in 1908/1909, their number raised to 42 buildings³⁸, among which only three schools functioned in rented houses. The rest of 39 schools benefited by their own places, according to the last pedagogical norms: large rooms, well illuminated and properly endowed. He also took some measures regarding the introduction of gymnastics and

³⁶ Luca de Benedetto, *Il Dominio della Corona Romana e Jean Kalindero*, Roma, 1904, p. 8.

³⁷ Until 1906 were edited 42 small books (*Catalog – Administrația Domeniilor Coroanei la Expoziția generală română din București 1906*, Bucharest, 1906, p. 29).

³⁸ *Îndrumări date agenților Domeniului Coroanei*, vol. II, Bucharest, 1909, p. XI.

military exercises in schools, the creation of school choirs, he encouraged the students to participate to the completion of a proverbs compilation, whose author was to participate to the Orientalists Congress in Rome, he got the people involved in money collecting for the building of monuments in the memory of some personalities such Ion Creangă, V. Alecsandri, for the homage of the 4th centenary from the death of Stephen the Great, the celebration of the 25 years jubilee from the Independence War on April 20th 1902 etc.

A special attention was given to the extra-school activities: courses for adults to learn how to read and write, conferences, popular evening sitting of the villagers, school workshops, handwork, theatre rooms. On the expense of the Administration, he founded school museums and cultural societies, creating proper functioning conditions, placing at their disposal the edifices and the necessary furniture. The heating, the maintenance of the buildings and the books, that constituted the library, were also under the care of the Administration. During 1899-1910, had been constructed on the crown's domains 11 popular banks with 5.642 members, with a subscribed share capital of 721.890,88 lei and a paid up share capital of 801.727,37 lei³⁹, 5 consumption societies, 3 societies for the purchasing and selling of products, 4 societies for the vegetables culture, 9 purchasing societies⁴⁰.

He gave consistent amounts of money for the remaking and the construction of new churches, mayoralties and other institutions. Observing, during his monthly visits on the Crown's Domains, the lack of people from the Sunday and Holiday services, Ioan Kalinderu appealed to the teachers and to the personalities of the communities, asking them to take part at the services and, through their example, to attract as many children as possible and also dwellers.

To this man it is due the placing into the tourist circuit of the Crown Domain of the locality Bușteni, famous for the beauty of the landscape and of the waters that exist there. Here, were built many villas and a hotel, placed at the disposal of the tourists. He built the town's park from which nowadays it is preserved a third part. On the picturesque mountain side of the Caraiman mountain, was arranged a glade with a kiosk, in which a fanfare was singing for the tourists during the summer.

³⁹ *Anuarul Băncilor Populare și Cooperativelor sătești din România pe anul 1910*, Bucharest, 1912, p. 30, 74, 120, 150, 166, 164-165, 182, 206.

⁴⁰ Ion Kalinderu, *După 25 de ani de muncă*, in "Albina", no. 31/2nd of May 1910, p. 857.

Although he didn't have studies in this field, Ioan Kalinderu also noticed himself through the special attention given to the organization and to the development of the silviculture. Moreover, he had a deciding role at the founding, in 1886, of the society "Progresul silvic"⁴¹, being the chairman of the society during 1888-1931⁴². The purpose of the Society was to contribute to the spreading of the modern silviculture, to the development of the silviculture from our country and to find solutions for the development of the timber, hunting industry, fish breeding and the establishment of the waters' regime.

"The purpose of our Society – said Ioan Kalinderu – is first of all the fight for the spreading of the modern knowledge in order to take care of the forests"⁴³. For fulfilling this wish, were organized public conferences, was edited a specialized magazine, "Revista pădurilor", whose editor was, starting with 1889 and were offered prizes for the works with forest profile that were noticed from the scientific point of view.

During the period of time when he was at the leading of the society several measures had been taken regarding: the formation of a national silviculture, after the example of the western and central European countries, the application of the provisions from the first Forest code in 1881, referring to the disposal of the forests, the forbidding of the clearings, the afforestation of the degraded lands, especially the "*flying sands (the dunes), steppes and barren slopes*"⁴⁴, the compilation, during 1886-1890, of a provisional "vocabulary" of terms, necessary in the elaboration of a forest specialized literature, the introduction of the gardened forest treatment for the mountainside woods; the analyse of the problem regarding the devastation produced by the torrents as a result of the clearings from the mountainside and hilly regions; the construction of forestry roads and railways, the elaboration of the new Forest Code, adopted in 1910, through which had been brought substantial improvements to the anterior law (The Forest Code from 1881), designed and adopted in the Parliament through the essential contribution of the academician P.S. Aurelian. In 1931 was proposed "the protection of the natural monuments (the landscapes), the cult of the trees and forests" "in

⁴¹ Cuvântarea D-lui I. Kalinderu la Societatea "Progresul silvic" in "Albina", no. 26/27th March 1911, pp. 685-686.

⁴² *Ibid.*

⁴³ Acad. Victor GIURGIU, *Opera silvică a cărturarului Ioan Kalinderu, la 170 de ani de la naștere*, in "Revista pădurilor", no. 1/2011, pp. 54-55.

⁴⁴ Massive afforestations were done on the sandy lands from the Sadova Crown Domain.

order to fix here the oldness and the main preoccupation of this kind of the sylviculturists”⁴⁵.

The devotion that he showed to this institution was honoured on November 5th 1906, when he was awarded, by the king, with a special prize, representing a silver vessel with allegorical motives and admirably executed⁴⁶. On this occasion, Dr. C. Istrati, exposing the motives for which was awarded this special prize to the Crown Domains, said: “The Crown Domains represent for a long time a good example for the entire country that manifested in the activity of the great landlords. All that was done there was due to a serious before thinking, was a studied and widely applied action, only after the experience had been previously profitable at a small scale”⁴⁷ and he continued, referring to the industry that was developing in the perimeter of the Administrations: “A good effect had also as regarding the country’s industry and especially that able to be done with raw materials coming from the agricultural field, mostly during the winter months, by our villagers”⁴⁸.

In parallel with the function of administrator of the Crown Domains, Ioan Kalinderu also filled other positions. Thus, on the basis of the elaborated scientific studies, in 1887, Ioan Kalindeu was chosen correspondent member of the Romanian Academy, at the section history. In 1893 he became a titular member and then vice-president between 1895-1898, 1901-1904, president between 1904-1907 and president of the Historic Section of the Romanian Academy between 1895-1898 and 1907-1910.

Preoccupied by the situation of the Romanian Academy office workers, Ioan Kalinderu proposed in 1904, the constituting of a pensions fund, offering an amount of 1.000 lei. The commission that took care of this fund was constituted from: Kalinderu, Poni and Sturdza⁴⁹.

Filling important scientific positions, he sustained and encouraged the apparition of the monographic works, offering to the authors prizes consisting of money. We remember here the 1000 lei sum of money,

⁴⁵ Acad. Victor Giurgiu, *Opera*, pp. 54-55.

⁴⁶ *Expozițiunea Generală Română din 1906. Sebarea distribuirei premiilor*, Bucharest, 1906, p. 4.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 13.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴⁹ “Transylvania, the body of the Association for Romanian literature and culture”, no. III, May-June 1904, Sibiu, Year XXXV, p. 112.

offered as a prize for a monograph of a commune⁵⁰. He took part from the commission for the research of the works from the contest, for the obtaining of the 5.000 lei Lazăr prize. In 1905, the commission made of I. Kalinderu, P. Poni and P.S. Aurelian offered this prize to the work: “Starea economică și socială a României actuale”⁵¹. Another work got the prize “Vasile Adamache” of the Romanian Academy for the year 1902⁵².

As a member of the Academy, he participated to different national and international congresses. Among these we remember: The international congress of geology from Vienna, organized in the spring of 1898, session in which Ioan Kalinderu draw the attention on the working accidents from the petroliferous exploitations, made through primitive oil derricks. In the support of his affirmations he presented the brochure of A. Richard, *Gisements pétrolifères de la vallée de la Prahova et de la vallée Teleajen*. After that, he solicited the adopting of a law for the protection of work⁵³. Also as a member of the Academy, he presided the works of presentation at the congresses 4 and 5 of the Romanian Association for the advancing and spreading of sciences, founded in Iași on June 1902⁵⁴. He was a member of the Geography Royal Society too.

Along other great cultural, political and scientific personalities of that period of time, Ioan Kalinderu signed, on January 24th 1903, the document of founding the Tourists Society from Romania. Also, he took part, first as a member and then as chairman, until 1903, from the Commission of the historic monuments, from the editorial staff of the Official Report of the Historic Monuments Commission, the speciality magazine of the Historic Monuments commission, founded in 1892, under the aegis of the Public Instruction Ministry⁵⁵. In 1909, once with the founding of the Monuments’

⁵⁰ The work didn't correspond to the request, reason for which he didn't get the prize. See further, Transylvania, the body of the Association for Romanian literature and culture”, p. 114.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*, p. 116.

⁵² Acad. Victor Giurgiu, *Opera*, pp. 54-55.

⁵³ N. Marcovici, *Contribuția Academiei Române la dezvoltarea cercetărilor de geologie din țara noastră, în perioada 1866-1920*, dissertation presented in the meeting of the Geologic, Geophysics and Geographic from 5th of December 1977, p. 312. www.acadiasi.ro/Reviste/.../mss_series_IV_tome_I_1977_macarovici.pdf

⁵⁴ Elvira Botez, *Scurt istoric al asociațiunii române pentru înaintarea și răspândirea științelor*, NOEMA, vol. IV, no. 1, 2005, p. 149.

⁵⁵ Alexandru Budișteanu, Radu Moțoc, *Buletinul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice la 100 ani de la apariție*, in “Revista Bibliotecii Naționale a României”, year XIV, no. 1/2008, Bucharest, pp. 33-34.

Architecture Service, at the proposal of the commission's chairman Ioan Kalinderu, was established that:

For any restoration work that would affect the style of the monument, should be presented previous works: surveying, photographs and detailed reports about the state of those monuments, (...) studies about the new works that are to be done that would help the Commission to give its notification fully aware, with the reserve that where it is necessary, to research on the spot. The reception of the works made under the auspicious of the Commission would be done by a member designated by them⁵⁶.

Together with the ministry of education, Take Ionescu, and the rector of the University from București, Titu Maiorescu, Ion Kalinderu, as a delegate of the Royal House, elaborated the regulation for the administration of the Carol I University Foundation⁵⁷, approved by the king, on February 3rd 1895⁵⁸. He took part from the first administration committee of the University Foundation too⁵⁹.

We also find him taking part from different commissions: "Fundăția Otetelișeanu"; "Fundăția Tache Petre Anastasiu"⁶⁰; "Fundăția Maria General I. Carp"; the commission "Dicționarul"; "Comisia pentru reglementarea fondului de pensie a personalului"⁶¹; the commission "Neuschotz prize" (with juridical subject), the commission for the examination of the works made in 1899-1900⁶². He took part from the guiding committee that built a statue in the memory of Miron Costin⁶³.

Philanthropic nature, Ioan Kalinderu, named executor, donated in 1893 to the Romanian Academy the mobile and immobile goods of the family Ion and Elena Oteteleşanu for the founding of a girls boarding school. Four years later, on 15th/27th of March 1897, he said that this

⁵⁶*Ibid.*, p. 36.

⁵⁷Founded in 1891.

⁵⁸"Transilvania", Foia Asociațiunei Transilvane pentru literatură română și cultura poporului romanu, no. 4, 15th of April 1895, Sibiu, year XXVI, p. 106.

⁵⁹ Carol I University Foundation: (1891-1931), Magazin Istoric..., November, 2005, p. 54.

⁶⁰ "Transilvania", the body of the Association for Romanian literature and culture, no. IV, April 1900, Sibiu, year XXXI, p. 77.

⁶¹*Ibid.*, 117.

⁶²*Ibid.*, p. 87.

⁶³ Lidia Mihăilescu-Brânceanu, "Demersurile lui V.A. Urechia pentru ridicarea statuii lui Miron Costin" in *Revista Muzeelor și monumentelor*, series "Monumente istorice și de artă", Bucharest, no. 2, 1984, pp. 72-74.

institution “is the greatest heart of culture and education, moral and healthy, made in the country by the Academy”⁶⁴.

In 1898, on the inauguration of the new centre of the Academy, I. Kalinderu donated 800 lei for the strained-glass windows from the Assembly Hall, expressing his wish that the Academy to “be always the intellectual lighthouse of the Romanian nation”⁶⁵.

After mediating the marriage between princess Maria, the niece of Queen Victoria of Great Britain with the prince of Hohenzoller-Sigmaringen, brought the distinction: the Order of the Garter.

Great art collector, he donated his building in Bucharest to be transformed into a museum. “Ion and Dr. Nicolai Kalinderu” Museum was founded in May 1916 by his heirs and hosted one of the most rich and interesting art collections from the first half of the last century. It was damaged during the bombarding from 1944, when a part of the collection was destroyed. The museum was suppressed in 1946 and the the collections passed to the Museum of Art and Antiquities.

At the death of Ioan Kalinderu, in 1913, C. Istrati said:

During a period when honesty was a quality, the patriotism a worth, work a praised exception and when the character features are rare, in times when the enlighten patriotism is often darken by an incomparable puffing up of the personality and it is frequently stained by fights, passionate and harmful for the country; during long intervals of hesitation and indecision for doing good deeds that would prove a certain lack of competence regarding the inner matters, Ioan Kalinderu was like a lighthouse. He was the one who placed the Academy at the top of all the Romanian institutions, touched by the great role that they should fulfil and by their use concerning our evolution⁶⁶.

⁶⁴ Elena Solunca Moise, *Galeria*, p. 3.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.*.