

Florin Nacu, *The Union of all the Romanians – From political concept to national ideal*, LAP Lambert Academic Publishing, Berlin, 2020, 212 p.

The author, Dr. Florin Nacu is a IIIrd degree scientific researcher at “C.S. Nicolăescu-Plopșor” Institute for Reserch in Social Studies and Humanities, from Craiova specialized in problems of social structures, the social, the economic and the political importance of Oltenia in the modern history. Moreover, having a juridical background education, he made the connections between law, history, economy, society, history, in his scientific works. For these reasons, it is very clear why the young historian and researcher Florin Nacu endeavoured to write the book “*The Union of all the Romanians – From political concept to national ideal*”. As we can see in its *Preface*, the book was published in a context dominated by important celebrations held on the occasion of the Great Union Centenary and the Paris Peace Conferences from 1919–1920 Centenary. The book is a precious instrument for understanding the Union of Romania as a high ranked historical process after centuries of fights.

For instance, I can present one of Florin Nacu’s assertions, which shows the mature manner of thinking and the force of analysis and synthesis, used by the author throughout his book: “*When the idea of uniting the dwellers from a territory, in a political form that would become autonomous and independent, emerged, the past represented the basis of that act of will. In the Romanian space, there are two moments that imposed themselves in the Romanian collective mentality, as further targets. The first was the kingdom of Burebista, and the second was represented by the attempt of the political union from the age of Michael the Brave. These two moments were again found in the political act of the Great Union from 1918*”.

Reading the book, we can observe what the author writes: “*the six chapters of the work represent, each, an independent historiographic issue. The Union was motivated by the Romanian diplomats as having a historical basis that was revealed starting from five main elements. Moreover, it has been tried to be brought forward the manner in which the Romanian borders evolved, in different historical stages*”. The author Florin Nacu intended to offer a point of view for each of the six chapters of the book. There were brought forward historiographic arguments, along with the documentary ones. Florin Nacu started his book “*The Union of all the Romanians – From political concept to national ideal*”, from the Carpathian-Danube-Pontic space from Antiquity and moved towards the present-day period. The struggle of the Romanians for the Union, concomitantly with the fight for Independence, took place in the same moments with that of the most peoples from Europe and the world. Some states that were Great Powers, disappeared, reorganised and others transformed from small states into Great Powers. The researcher Florin Nacu presented clearly the imperfections that led to the collapse of Great Romania, in the tragic summer of 1940, along with the courage, also worth admiring, of answering some questions on addressing the future of the idea of union for all the Romanians.

“*Only by insisting on the correct interpretation of the historical sources*”, as Florin Nacu considers, “*we shall be able to find the answer we are looking for*”.

The author of the *Preface*, Professor Cezar Avram, Ph.D., observes: “*The author affirms that the Union was accomplished neither by chance, nor forced. It was the result of*

a historical, continuous action, an effort of generations of politicians. Furthermore, along the pages of the work, it is stated that the Romanians accomplished the Union in the same time when, in diverse historical stages, other peoples of Europe and around the world, such the French, the British, the Italian, the German or the American peoples, accomplished their national aspirations of state centralisation, union, and independence. Basically, the author shows that we rose neither above nor below other significant nations from the universal history. An incontestable merit of the work is that the author introduced and commented numerous fundamental texts that refer to different stages of the Union". I will conclude, as Professor Cezar Avram wrote, that the author Florin Nacu also included a cultural approach on the Union, by reading significant literary works of authors from all the historical regions of Romania.

Equally a synthesis and a working tool, the paper "*The Union of all the Romanians – From political concept to national ideal*", represents the outcome of the research and gatherings under investigation, the author's intention being to compress as much information in order to submit to the reader either he's a well known historic or an aspiring one, both from expository and interpretative outlook.

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