

OLTENIA AND THE IDEA OF REGIONALIZATION – A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

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Abstract: Bănia Craiovei, despite the fact that it represented an institution with a certain degree of autonomy, contributed to ensuring the interwar cohesion of Wallachia. Its dissolution was made in the context beginning an approach of a centralist paradigm, in the Romanian politics and administration, this manifesting itself after 1831, until the moment when King Carol II reintroduced the regions, in 1938, for a short time, and then to return to the centralized system (with a short interruption in 1952–1968), after 1968. The article offers a general perspective, historical and not only, on Oltenia.

Keywords: Oltenia, history, civilization, counties, Oltenia region, South-West Oltenia region.

INTRODUCTION

Oltenia represents the south-western part of Romania. Traditionally, it is bordered to the West, by Cerna, to the East, by the Olt River, to the North by the Carpathian Mountains, and to the South by the Danube. Oltenia has a relief that starts growing, from the Danube meadows to the Carpathians range, comprising the plains, the pastures, the hills, the plateau, the Subcarpathian and Carpathian area.

Besides the major rivers such Cerna, Jiu, Olt, Oltenia is crossed by a series of smaller rivers such as Motru, Olteț, while in the floodplain of the Danube appear a series of lakes. Artificial lakes such as the project of the great Ceauru Lake in Gorj, natural lakes such as Geormane, Preajba, Grojdibodu mark the relief of Oltenia.

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Historically, since the period of the Roman ruling, there can be identified a unitary organization of the current territory of Oltenia. Thus, if Traian had initially included in Roman Dacia only Oltenia to Jiu, Hadrian organized the Roman Dacia in Dacia Superior and Inferior, Dacia Inferior comprising most of the present Oltenia, from Jiu to Olt (the Jiu-Cerna area was in Dacia Superior), the south-eastern corner of Moldavia and the Subcarpathian part of Wallachia. Dacia Inferior would be called, during the reign of Marcus Aurelius Dacia Malvensis.

In the Middle Ages, the Diploma of the Joannites of June 2, 1247 attests the existence of Romanian pre-state formations, such as the Land of Severin, Litovoi's voivodeship, the principalities of John and Farcaș, the existence of the ponds from Celei, all on the current territory of Oltenia.

The area between Drobeta (Turnu-Severin) and Barboși (Galați) was to re-enter, in the 4th century AD, under Roman control, defended by Brazda lui Novac of North, whose northern limit was in the north of Craiova (even today, this neighborhood, where traces of this *Roman limes* were discovered, is called Brazda lui Novac).

In the context of the great migrations, the Daco-Romans developed, protecting their culture (documented in Dridu-Ialomita), their national identity. The trans-Carpathian expansion of the Hungarian Royalty made that, in the "Diploma of Joannites"¹, granted to the preceptor of the "St. John" Order, Rembald, by the Hungarian King Bela, on June 2, 1247 to be attested the Romanian political formations: the principalities of John and Farcaș (towards Vâlcea), the principality of Litovoi (Gorj), the voivodeship of Seneslau (Argeș), the ponds of Celei that "had to remain under the rule of the Romanians, as before".

I. BANAT AND BĂNIA – FORMS OF ORGANIZATION OF REGIONAL TYPE. AUTONOMY AND CENTRALISM

A form of expansion of the Hungarians was the organization of the "Banats" (ban is a term of Persian origin, which the Avar migrants brought and introduced in the South-Slavic languages and in Hungarian), in Timișoara, in Severin, where, near the Roman ruins, the Fortress of Severin will be built, a point of geopolitical and geostrategic interest until the XVI century, when the Hungarians were defeated at Mohacs in 1526, and the fortress of Severin was burned, the locals moving to Cerneți, a naturally defended area, where they lived until the modern era, Cerneți being the residence of Mehedinți county.

After the conquest of independence by Wallachia, by Basarab I the Founder, in 1330, Mehedinți and Gorj will be a hearth of spirituality, through the foundation by Saint Nicodemus of the Vodița and Tismana (Gorj) Monasteries.

¹ Bogdan Murgescu (coord.), A. Barnea, I. Bucur, S. Câlția, I. Cârjă, Adrian Cioroianu, A. Ciupală (et alia), *Istoria României în texte*, Corint Press, 2001, p. 81 et seq.

During the reign of Mircea the Elder (1386–1418), the presence of the Ban of Severin is attested, with the inclusion of Severin in the borders of Wallachia. Ban administered in the name of the ruler the western bank of the Olt River, was the first boyar from Divan (the first mention of Ban in Divan is on December 27, 1391), the second at the command of the army of the country, after the Lord, had the right to pronounce death sentences (only he and the Lord had this attribution).

In the period 1330–1422, the Banat of Severin was held when by Wallachia, when by Hungary. The ruler Mircea the Old himself held the title of Ban of Severin. Between 1422 and 1526, disputed by the Hungarians and ottomans, Severin would become ruled as Ban and by Iancu of Hunedoara. The institution of “Ban”, for Mehedinți, was preserved in Strehaia and Tismana for Gorj².

The institution became hereditary during the reign of Vlad Călugărul (brother after father of Vlad the Impaler). He ruled between 1481/1482–1495, recognizing the right of the boyar Barbu Craiovescu to inherit the title of ban from his father, Neogoe Strehăianul, the residence of Banship becoming Craiova. In addition to Strehaia and Tismana, the Great Money of Oltenia installed “small money” at Râmnic and Caracal, so in Vâlcea and Romanăși.

Officially, the Ruler Radu the Great (1495–1508), created the Great Banship, by the act of January 21, 1500, the boyar Barbu Craiovescu becoming Great Ban. Strehaia and Tismana continued to be the headquarters of local money, subordinated to the Great Bank of Craiova³.

Neogoe Basarab⁴, ruler of the Craiovescu family (1512–1521) consolidated the hereditary and monopoly character of Craiovescu over the Banship, a character lost only in 1539, when the Great Ban Serban rose up against the reign of Radu Paisie (1535–1545)

Basically, the Banship of Craiova had a wide autonomy (economic, political, judicial, military) in relation to the Reign of Wallachia, the Turks being dissatisfied with the fact that the ruler of Bucharest could not grant them permission to enter Oltenia. Mihnea Turcitul, Alexander the Evil were confronted with the Turkish requests that the ruler should diminish the authority of the money. From 1539 to 1761, the ruler appointed the Ban of Oltenia.

Michael the Brave was Ban of Mehedinți, before 1590, in 1592–1593 being Great Ban of Craiova. He took over the position from his maternal uncle, Iane Epirotul, Great Ban of Craiova.

² Ovid Sachelarie, Nicolae Stoicescu (coord.), *Instituții feudale din țările române. Dicționar*, Academy Press, Bucharest, 1988, p. 45 and next.

³ Constantin Rezachevici, *Viața politică în primele trei decenii ale secolului al XVII-lea. Epoca lui Radu Șerban, a Movileștilor și a lui Gabriel Bethlen*, în Virgil Cândea (coord.), *Istoria românilor*. Vol. 5, Bucharest, Encyclopedic Publishing, 2003, p. 130.

⁴ Idem, *Cronologia domnilor din Țara Românească și Moldova*, vol. I, Bucharest, Encyclopedic Publishing, 2001, passim.

The reign of Constantin Brâncoveanu (1688–1714) is one of the longest since the end of the medieval period and the transition to the Phanariot era. In Moldavia, in the same period, Prince Constantin Duca (1693–1695; 1700–1703) instituted the position of Ban in Moldavia in 1695 (although there were the traditional “Vornicii”– approx. magistratures, of the Upper Country, the Lower Country, etc.). Constantin Brâncoveanu managed to impose him on the throne of Moldavia, marrying him to his daughter Maria. It is possible that the introduction of the function of “Ban” was suggested to him by Constantin Brâncoveanu.

Between 1718-1739, Oltenia was under Austrian rule, having an Austrian governor, although the boyars tried to keep their privileges. The Phanariot lords tried to disband the Banship, because they saw in it a citadel of the resistance in traditional Oltenian boyars.

Referring to the tendencies of the Phanariots to abolish the Banship of Craiova, the lawyer, politician and thinker from Craiova, Emanoil Chinezu, said: “Surely, that the seed of depravity was thrown by the political circumstances that were pressing us; but, nevertheless, even under the absolute reigns of the Phanariots, patriotism is still alive. There were Romanians, like the chancellor Dumitrache Brăiloiu, who arose in the middle of the princely divan and said to the Greek Lord what he wanted to abolish the divan of Craiova: «The divan of Craiova is, your Greatness, older than the reign of Your Greatness». There were people, like Filipescu Mihăiță, who would draw from the foreign rulers the harshest exiles: and like the old Băleanu, who, when strolling through borough, would raise the city and made the Greeks tremble. These various oppositions, albeit under the seal of peculiarity, but prove the national spirit, greatly desiring its rights”⁵.

Because the Phanariots wanted to abolish this point of authority represented by Oltenia, Emanoil Chinezu concludes that the Banship and the Divan of Craiova were administrative-legal segments that conferred individuality and could even constitute a catalyst element of the struggle for independence: “The rulings of the Greeks wanted to abolish the Divan of Craiova, a political tool used to extinguish the nest of the Romanian boyars who, far from the capital, found themselves more exempted from the impressions of the Greek regime; and, therefore, they had all the rights to remain more Romanian than the interests of the Greeks demanded. Dumitrache Brăiloiu, although he was defending a settlement of which he himself was a member, but shows us a good heart, one that is attached to the ancient rights of his homeland, which that is not often enough seen. Băleanu enjoyed popularity, because he was still the noble vine of those representatives of the Romanian people who remained faithful to tradition, defenders of the country’s rights, and did not crawl, like the dog, at the feet of the Phanariot”⁶.

⁵ Cosmin Lucian Gherghe, *Emanoil Chinezu – om politic, avocat și istoric*, Sitech Press, Craiova, 2009, p. 56.

⁶ *Ibidem*.

In 1761, Ruler Constantin Mavrocordat⁷ (who reigned in Wallachia in 1730, 1731–1733, 1735–1741, 1744–1748, 1761–1763) he managed to co-opt the Great Ban in the Country Council, installing a princely Kaymakam in Craiova. He regained Oltenia, for Wallachia, following the Peace of Belgrade in 1739, thus having an ascendant in front of the local boyar, who accepted his measures.

II. OLTENIA AND THE PRE-MODERNITY. THE DECLINE OF THE BANSHIP INSTITUTION AT THE DAWN OF MODERNITY

During the Russian-Turkish War of 1768–1774, the Kaymakam of Craiova, Emanuel Giani-Ruset⁸ defended Oltenia, being appointed by the Turks ruler of Wallachia, ruling the country from Craiova, between October 24, 1770 – June 1771 and June – October 1771. It was the only time when the city of Craiova was the capital of Wallachia.

Tudor Vladimirescu⁹ tried to bring his earthly nobility closer, because the downing of the Phanariots had to be followed, as it was natural, by the coming of the native elite to make the required social and national reforms. In the famous *Comitet de Oblăduire* (Security Committee) that tried to take control of the country after the death of the last Phanariot, Alexandru Șuțu, in Bucharest, the Ban Grigore Brâncoveanu, along with Barbu Văcărescu, Grigore Ghica were members.

The boyars would dissociate themselves from Tudor Vladimirescu, after the disavowal of the Romanian and Greek Revolutions by the Tsar of Russia. However, after the establishment of the earthly reigns in 1822, the Banship ceased to represent a force in Wallachia. At the same time, in Craiova functioned the *Divan of Craiova*¹⁰, as a court of law, contributing to the strengthening of the autonomy of Oltenia, besides the Banship and the Kaymakanship.

These institutions were abolished by the Organic Regulation, established in Wallachia, on June 13, 1831. During the Russo-Turkish war from 1827–1828 until 1830, the Caimacam of Craiova was Constantin Ghica, the brother of Grigore Dimitrie Ghica. The last holder of the rank of Kaymakam was Alexandru Scarlat Ghica, in 1830–1831.

III. OLTENIA BETWEEN REGIONALIZATION AND THE CENTRALIST ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM

The Old Kingdom (Romania after March 14, 1881) had 37 counties. The project initiated by PNL (Romanian National Party) involved seven regions and councils. The commission led by Simion Mehedinți in 1920 proposed a division

⁷ Florin Constantiniu, *Constantin Mavrocordat*, Militară Publishing, 1985, *passim*.

⁸ For details, see <https://ad-astra.ro/2004/03/26/un-domn-fanariot-pu-in-cunoscut-emanuel-giani-rosetti-manole-ruset-1715-1794/>, accessed on March 13, 2023.

⁹ Andrei Oțetea, *Tudor Vladimirescu și mișcarea eteristă în Țările Române 1821–1822*, The Institute for Balkan Studies and Research, Bucharest, 1945, p. 13 and next.

¹⁰ Ilie Vulpe, *Divanul Craiovei*, Scrisul Românesc Press, Craiova, 2002, pp. 6–9.

into regions. Constantin Argetoianu wanted, in 1921 and 1931, a project of administration with 9 regions and regional councils. The Romanian National Party in Transylvania wanted, in 1922, a project based on provinces.

On June 14, 1925, the law for the administrative unification entered into force. On August 5, 1929, the law of local administration was adopted, under the influence of the national-peasant doctrine. By 1936, it had undergone 14 amendments. On March 27, 1936, the new law of administration entered into force, which introduced provisions in case of war¹¹.

During the authoritarian monarchy of King Carol II, a new administrative unit will be introduced, superior to the county, *plasă*, approx. “district”, and commune, the land, inspired by the previous reforms of King Alexander of Yugoslavia, the brother-in-law of King Carol II.

Armand Călinescu, minister of the interior in the government of Patriarch Miron Cristea portrayed the image of the royal resident as a function: “... he should not be a politician. Let him be a representative, authoritative figure. He can also be old if he is given a young secretary-general”¹².

In 1938, King Carol II introduced, by decree, the administrative organization based on the lands. On the territory of Oltenia, it was formed Jiu County (sometimes called the Olt County), which included, in addition to the 5 counties of Oltenia, Olt County as well.

The installation of the communist regime and the adoption of the 1948 Constitution made Romania have 28 regions, consisting of 177 districts and 4,052 communes, according to the Soviet model. On December 3, 1950, the local power was held through elections by regional, district, city and communal popular councils.

The Constitution of 1952 led to the reorganization of the administrative regions and districts of Romania, closer to the interwar regional tradition.

In 1960, the number of regions dropped to 16. The Hungarian Autonomous Region became the Hungarian Autonomous Mureș Region, having the approximate dimensions of the current Mureș County.

In the period 1950–1952, on the territory of Oltenia, there were the regions of Gorj, Dolj, Vâlcea (the communes located the east of Olt, belonging to the former county of Argeș). The former Romanați county would also lose Piatra Olt, which belonged to the Argeș region and the commune of Islaz, the place for the Assembly from 1848, which was attached to the region of Teleorman.

In the period 1952–1960, most of Oltenia’s territory (a percentage of 84.25%) formed the Region of Craiova. In the period 1960–1968, it was called Oltenia Region. However, the north-eastern part of Oltenia was joined to the Region of

¹¹ N. Marcu, *Istoria economică*, Bucharest, Didactic and Pedagogical Publishing House, 1979, pp. 33–34.

¹² http://www.romania-actualitati.ro/structuri_administrative_in_istoria_romaniei_1920_1968-39973, accessed on November 12, 2022.

Pitești (1952–1960) and the Region of Argeș (1960–1968). The commune of Islaz was assigned to the Region of Bucharest.

The districts of Oltenia Region, during 1960–1968 they were called: Amaradia (Melinești), Baia de Aramă, Balș, Băilești, Calafat, Caracal, Corabia, Craiova, Cujmir, Filiași, Gilort (Tg. Cărbunești), Gura Jiului (Bechet), Novaci, Oltețu (Bălcești), Plenița, Segarcea, Strehaia, Târgu Jiu, Turnu Severin, Vânju Mare, not suffering changes in relation to the period 1952–1960.

It is noticed that the regions of Craiova and Oltenia contained the area of the current counties of Mehedinți, Gorj and Dolj. Some districts, such as Bălcești (Oltețu) and Balș were part of Vâlcea and Olt Counties. Most of the Vâlcea and Olt counties had been assigned to the Pitești (Argeș) region.

The change of leader of the unique party, the adoption of a new Constitution in 1965, the detachment from the ideological commands of Moscow imposed a new administrative-territorial reorganization. The counties will be reinstalled, in 1968 to the, The initial project had planned 37 counties, but it reached 39, together with the municipality of Bucharest.

However, the regional organisation continued to remain as a kind of an institutional support. For example, the Romanian Railway maintained the organization on the Railway Regional System, the CFR Craiova Regional Railway being practically the one that controls the railway infrastructure of today's Oltenia.

After 1989, in order to join the European Union, the Development of Euro-regions appeared, and they had only intermediate competences in the implementation of the European projects.

The South-West Oltenia region has an area of 29,212 km² and is made of the following counties: Dolj, Olt, Vâlcea, Mehedinți and Gorj. It borders Bulgaria (member of the EU), Serbia (a state that is not a member of the EU) and the regions of Southern, Central and Western Muntenia¹³.

The South-West Oltenia region, therefore, has a relief that starts from the floodplain of the Danube, in steps, starting with the plain, plateau, sub-mountainous and mountain relief, being crossed, generally from north to south by a network of rivers and streams, which gives it the appearance of a “grid”.

Geographically delimited to the west and north by the Carpathian Mountains, to the south and west by the Danube, to the east by the Olt River, Oltenia underwent a reorganization in 1968, after giving up the Soviet model of territory administration in regions and districts, by introducing the counties, reusing the interwar model. Thus, to the west, Mehedinți County would exceed the historical limit of Vârciorova, including the municipality of Orșova and a part of the Danube Strait, which had belonged to Banat. To the East, the Olt line (the historical eastern border of Oltenia) was crossed, the former counties of Romanați and Olt (traditionally belonging to Muntenia) being merged into the current Olt County.

¹³ For details, see http://www.mdrl.ro/_documente/regiuni/4.SW_ro.pdf, accessed on August 30, 2022.

The Counties of Gorj, Dolj, Vâlcea (towards Arges County in Muntenia) have also undergone small territorial adjustments, capable of ensuring, in the perspective of the authors of the reform, an efficient administration, in terms of population/territory relations, resources/economic potential.

In the South-West Oltenia Region, there were areas focused mainly on a type of activity, based on the natural resources: agriculture (with subdivisions), animal husbandry (with subdivisions), crafts, tourism, fishing, extraction and processing of resources, transports, construction and repair workshops¹⁴.

In the modern and contemporary eras (especially from the second half of the nineteenth century), it was begun to promote these activities intensively (while until then they were extensive), that is, to create the possibility of achieving a much more productive work, usually with the same labour force, but at a much higher quality standard, using technology, research results, opening the way for intelligent specialization.

Since the second half of the twentieth century, the generalized industrialization policy and the measures to expand the country's agricultural area had led to an acceleration of intelligent specialization, since the people in charge of planning and expansion work were trying to reduce the disadvantages found on the ground, which the official line either ignored or wanted it reduced, until they were eliminated.

Basically, the traditional approach involves the individualization of the South-West Oltenia Region, which gives a sense of local pride and a certain specialization. The presence in the region of Craiova, the largest city in southern Romania located on the Timișoara-Bucharest axis, led to the attraction of the workforce interested in the development of the intelligent specialization, provided by the pre-university and university school centers.

The major disadvantage of the traditional approach was the danger of capping. Economic areas, dependent on a certain type of activity, became the most exposed to the danger of poverty in the context of stagnation and even economic regression.

Starting from the second half of the 20th century, in the highly industrialized centers of Oltenia, as well as in, until 1989, the only university center, Craiova, there appeared the design and research institutes, in all fields (technical, petrochemical, agricultural-zootechical, economic, informatics, socio-human, theoretical and professional education) meant to discover, to create modern means to optimize the productive process, to ensure a high qualification of the human resource.

The South-West Oltenia region was a highly industrialized region. In this region, there have always been elements related to: the extractive industry, in Gorj, Mehedinți and Vâlcea counties, Olt (deep and surface mining, oil and natural gas

¹⁴ See <http://www.adroltenia.ro/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/PDR-SV-Oltenia-2014-2020-1.pdf>, accessed on August 31, 2022, p. 43.

exploitations), the wood processing industry (Vâlcea, Gorj, Mehedinți), food industry (all counties), machine building, locomotives, wagons, rolling stock industry (Dolj, Olt), steelworks, metallurgy (Olt), metallurgy (Olt), petrochemistry (Vâlcea, Dolj), automobiles (Dolj), airplanes (Dolj), shipyards (Mehedinți), tourism, services (Mehedinți, Vâlcea, Gorj, and less in Olt and Dolj), hydropower sector (Mehedinți, Vâlcea, Olt), thermoenergetics (Mehedinți, Gorj, Dolj), thermonuclear (Mehedinți), textiles (Dolj), winemaking (Vâlcea, Mehedinți, Dolj, Olt)¹⁵.

Industrialization was based both on the exploitation of regional resources and on those coming from other regions (aluminum processing from Slatina, Olt County), directly influencing the environment.

The south of Olt and Dolj counties had known the creation of an infrastructure meant to stimulate the agriculture on the sands (Dăbuleni area, Dolj county), horticulture, supported by irrigation systems¹⁶.

In Gorj County, before 1989, there was concern to build the largest artificial lake in Romania, Ceauru Lake, present as such on all maps of Romania. It was designed to be supplied from the streams in the Jiu basin, from the floods, being designed to contribute to the reduction of the flood risk and even to the production of electricity. However, the project remained unfinished, and in the area designed to be covered by the waters of the lake, the works that had been carried out before, were destroyed.

In Mehedinți County, in Strehaia, where there was a tradition of processing non-ferrous metals, there was a factory of pipes and brass alembics, where the labor force came almost entirely amongst the local craftsmen, who continued their specialisation at work.

In Vâlcea County, the most important railway investment aimed at connecting the Counties of Gorj and Vâlcea on the railway, which, in addition to the industrial purpose, also had a strategic and even touristic.

The destruction of the patrimony of the former General Trade Unions in Romania (UGSR) determined that a large part of the tourist infrastructure of Oltenia to be destroyed. In Vâlcea County, the project of one of the largest ski slopes in Romania and that of the largest mountain resort was destroyed.

The South-West Oltenia region comprises 40 cities on its territory (12.5% of the total cities of Romania), 11 cities having the status of municipality. The countryside contains 408 communes consisting of 2070 villages (of which 121 villages belong to towns or municipalities).

From the point of view of the population, the main cities of Oltenia are: Craiova (300,182 inhabitants), Râmnicu-Vâlcea (111,701 inhabitants), Drobeta Turnu-Severin (109,444 inhabitants), Târgu Jiu (96,318 inhabitants) and Slatina (80,282 inhabitants). In Oltenia, several urban localities have a population between

¹⁵ *Ibidem*.

¹⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 11.

10/20,000 inhabitants and 50,000 inhabitants: Strehaia, Vânu Mare, Orșova, Baia de Aramă, Turceni, Rovinari, Târgu Cărbunești, Tismana, Bumbesti-Jiu, Țicleni, Novaci, Motru, Segarcea, Filiași Dăbuleni, Băilești, Calafat, Bechet, Caracal, Scornicești, Drăgănești-Olt, Balș, Potcoava, Piatra Olt, Corabia, Horezu, Berbești-Alunu, Govora, Bălcești, Drăgășani, Băbeni, Olănești, Ocnele Mari, Brezoi, Călimănești.

In the South-West Oltenia Region, a total of 2,225,108 inhabitants live, of which 1,068,281 live in the urban area and 1,156, 827 in rural areas, which indicates the slight preponderance of housing in rural areas (52%) compared to urban (48%)¹⁷.

Craiova represents a national growth pole, from its metropolitan area that includes a radial expanse of about 45 km, being part of a number of 24 places. 47% of the population of Oltenia is active in the field of agriculture. In the industrial field, the energy and raw materials industry predominates in Oltenia, followed by the automotive industry, automotive components, agricultural machinery, locomotive construction, locomotive repair. A remarkable role is played by services, tourism and commercial activities. The industrial fields considered to have high added value are underrepresented in the South-West Oltenia region¹⁸.

Oltenia region includes three public universities in Craiova (UCV and UMF) and Târgu Jiu and several sections of public or private universities. Universities contribute mainly in technology to integrated regional development.

Conclusions

Historically, physically and geographically, economically, administratively, Oltenia has been a unitary region and the types of organization have largely respected this specificity of Oltenia. Regardless of whether we are talking about the Early Middle Ages, pre-Modernity, the Modern and Contemporary Ages, Oltenia played an essential political role, doubled by the economic, social, administrative and legal roles, especially during the Banishment period.

Even after 1989, in Romania's European path, Oltenia has represented a compact region within its historical limits.

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¹⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 20.

¹⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 43.

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