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OCTAVIAN ILIESCU

THE HISTORY OF COINS IN ROMANIA

(cca. 1500 B.C. – 2000 AD)

Chronology – Bibliography – Glossary

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P R E F A C E

The paper preceded by this preface was the research subject of a contract concluded between the author and “Nicolae Iorga” Institute in Bucharest during September – December 1998. Originally, the paper was expected to comprise only Part I. Chronology and Part II. Bibliography, including 80 typed pages; these conditions were met on the date the aforesaid contract was completed. In 1998, apart from any contractual obligations, many supplements as well as Part III. Glossary added to the present paper. The full text was thus completed on 7 October 1998, when it was submitted for being published to the above-mentioned Institute. Some minor additions were made in order to update the paper to the year 2000. Thus, the history of the coin in Romania spreads over no less than 3,500 years.

Because of paucity of funds, “Nicolae Iorga” History Institute could not publish the whole of this paper at an earlier date. Upon the author’s consent, part of the Glossary – referring to names of coins (O. I., *Istoria monetei în România. Glosar numismatic*, in *Studii și Materiale de Istorie Medie*, 19, 2001, p. 199-214) – was published recently.

The present paper could not be published destitute of the bounteous assistance of the National Bank of Romania. This is why the author took this opportunity to express his gratitude to the Governor of the National Bank of Romania, Mr. Mugur Isărescu, and to the Board of Directors of the National Bank of Romania. Finally, for the successful publication of the present paper the author’s thanks go to *Editura Enciclopedică* and Marcel Popa, Director, with whom he has been co-operating for more than three decades.

June 2002

The author

ABBREVIATIONS

Actes du XI^e Congrès International de Numismatique: *Actes du XI^e Congrès International de Numismatique organisé à l'occasion du 150^e anniversaire de la Société Royale de Numismatique de Belgique*, Brussels, 8-13 September, 1991, Louvain-la-Neuve, 1993.

The Romanian-Italian Workshop "Genovezii la Marea Neagră în secolele XIII-XIV": The Romanian-Italian Workshop "*Genovezii la Marea Neagră în secolele XIII-XIV*", Bucharest, 27-28 March 1975, Bucharest, 1977.

La numismatique, source de l'histoire de l'art et des idées: *La numismatique, source de l'histoire de l'art et des idées. Travaux présentés au XV^e Congrès International de Sciences Historiques*, Bucharest, 11 August 1980, foreword by ROBERT A. G. CARSON, published under the guidance of OCTAVIAN ILIESCU.

PERIODICALS

AAR: Analele Academiei Române. Memoriile Secțiunii Istorice

AIIA: Anuarul Institutului de Istorie și Arheologie ("A. D. Xenopol")

AIIN: Anuarul Institutului de Istorie Națională

AISC: Anuarul Institutului de Studii Clasice

AMN: Acta Musei Napocensis

AMP: Acta Musei Porolissensis

ArhMold: Arheologia Moldovei

ASAR: Analele Societății Academice Române

AVSL: Archiv des Vereines für Siebenbürgische Landeskunde

BCMI: Buletinul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice

Blätter für Münzfreunde: Numismatische Monatschrift. Blätter für Münzfreunde

BSH: Bulletin de la Section Historique (de l'Académie Roumaine)

BSNR: Buletinul Societății Numismatice Române

CercIst: Cercetări Istorice

CercNum: Cercetări Numismatice

CN(A): Cronica Numismatică (și Arheologică)

ConvLit: Convorbiri Literare

CreștCol: The Romanian Academy. Creșterea Colecțiunilor, 1911-1915; Selective book of information about the rise in the collections of the Library of the Academy of the People's Republic of Romania, 1961-1965; The Library of the Academy of the People's Republic of Romania. Creșterea Colecțiilor. Selective book of information, 1965-1975.

Dacia N.S.: Dacia, Nouvelle Série

ÉBPB: Études Byzantines et Post-Byzantines

JBLM: Jahrbuch des Bukoviner Landes-Museums

MemAntiq: Memoria Antiquitatis

NAC: Numismatica ed Antichità Classiche. Quaderni Ticinesi

NZ: Numismatische Zeitschrift

RBN: Revue Belge de Numismatique

RdI: Revista de Istorie

RÉSEE: Revue des Étuds Sud-Est Européenes

RevCat: Revista Catolică

RevIst: Revista Istorică

RevMuz: Revista Muzeelor

RHSEE: Revue Historique du Sud-Est Européen

RIAF: Revista pentru Istorie, Arheologie și Filologie

RRH: Revue Roumaine d'Histoire

SCB: Studii și Cercetări de Bibliologie

SCIM: Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Medie

SCIV(A): Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche (și Arheologie)

SCN: Studii și Cercetări de Numismatică

SMIM: Studii și Materiale de Istorie Medie

StCI: Studii Clasice

INTRODUCTION

A mere occurrence, some 70 years ago, awakened within me an indomitable attraction for numismatics. Fairly vaguely at first, as some sort of childish game, this attraction turned little by little to a genuine passion, which opened before me a new path I've been following as long as I live. And if, as the French saying goes, the occurrence improves some matters at least, all I ask of my readers is to let me evoke here some events that happened a very long time ago.

In the autumn of 1928, during the third grade at the Boys' Primary School in Balș, just a few days after the start of the new school year, one of my schoolmates gifted me with an old coin, namely a 20 *heller* coin issued in the Austrian-Hungarian Empire in 1907. I kept it for a while in my pocket until one day when, as I figured it was of no use to me, I threw it away, somewhere in our large courtyard. Before long I found it, I kept it for a while in the same pocket, then I resolved on getting rid of it and tossed it again, this time however in the schoolyard. It was here where I stumbled upon it once again, and turned to a small coin collector afterwards. Indeed, until the end of the school year my schoolmates offered me three other coins, namely one Turkish piece worth 5 *piăștri*, issued in 1925, one Italian *lira* issued in 1922, and finally, the first Romanian coin that became part of my collection, a copper coin of 10 *bani* issued in 1867. In March 1930, my early numismatic collection was enriched by the fifth coin, the first I got hold of from the 20 *lei* issue of 1930, shortly after its being put into circulation. This coin, bearing the portrait of King Mihai as a child on the obverse and a refined allegory of the "Grand Union" on the reverse, had impressed me so deeply that I decided, starting that very day, to attach particular attention to the national currency, in my concerns of an infant yet enthusiastic collector. Driven by such intentions, I stepped up my endeavours towards enriching my small coin collection. My father appreciated my zestful and steadfast efforts and resolved on encouraging them. Thus, in 1930, having passed my entrance examination with flying colours and being enrolled in the first grade of "Carol I" National College in Craiova, he offered me several Romanian and foreign coins issued prior to Romania's entering World War I. The domestic coins included a gold coin of 25 *lei* issued in 1906 and twelve silver coins: three pieces of 5 *lei* each, issued in 1880, 1883 and 1906, one piece of 2 *lei*, three pieces of 1 *leu* issued in 1910, 1912 and 1914, and eventually, four pieces of 50 *bani*, issued in 1900, 1910, 1911, and 1914. There were only two foreign coins, the first was a gold coin worth 20 French *francs* issued in 1906 and the second was a silver coin of 1 *korona*, issued for Austria in 1916. In late 1930, my collection of Romanian coins encompassed 25 pieces issued between 1867 and 1930. Encouraged by the achievements I had had by then, I started scraping together the first catalogue of Romanian coins, putting them in chronological order, as I took hold of them.

The year 1934 was quite a genuine turning point in my numismatic activity. During the fifth grade of "Carol I" National College in Craiova, my collection numbered more than 50 Romanian coins (of which two gold coins), about the same number of foreign coins (of which two gold coins as well), and several bronze coins issued by the Roman Empire. It was my utmost desire to find out as accurate historical data as possible about many of them. Nevertheless, I lacked the

basic documentation in the field. In an effort to overcome the deadlock, I proceeded to materialise the first thought that crossed my mind – during the summer holidays of 1934, I read, line by line, the whole of *Dicționarul universal al limbii române* (Universal Romanian Dictionary), the brainchild of Lazăr Șăineanu, and selected, from A to Z, all the names of coins entered by the cited author. The result was a *Dicționar enciclopedic numismatic* (Encyclopaedic Numismatics Dictionary) whose hand-written copy, completed on 3 September 1934, included 99 entries – names of coins – taken, along with their definitions, from the cited work by Lazăr Șăineanu. The “Encyclopaedic Numismatics Dictionary” was my first guide to the realm of numismatics. On 28 September 1934, the Second National Congress on Archaeology and Numismatics began in Craiova. That day in the morning, at “*Casa Băniei*” in Craiova, which had just been restored and inaugurated on this very occasion as the location of “*Muzeul Regional al Olteniei*”, a large exhibition of coins, medals and artefacts was opened. As 28 September fell on a Friday, when I had to attend courses in the morning, obviously I couldn’t take part either in the opening of the works of the congress or in the varnishing of the exhibition. However, right after having lunch, I instantly headed for “*Casa Băniei*” and, after buying the congress programme, I entered the exhibition. Along with some museums, numerous private collectors from Craiova, Bucharest and other towns, from Oltenia in particular, exhibited various pieces. I stopped in front of a showcase with coins and medals that were part of Dr Aurel Metzulescu collection from Craiova. I couldn’t help staring at the showcase: it was the first time I could lay eyes on Getic-Dacian coins issued by Emperor Traian, commemorating the wars against the Dacians, and especially the coins issued by the rulers of Walachia and Moldavia, by princes of Transylvania, as well as the complete series of gold coins bearing the portraits of King Carol I and King Ferdinand. While I was standing still, I was approached by Dr Aurel Metzulescu who opened the showcase and took out the gold coins devoted to the coronation of King Ferdinand and Queen Mary, about which he was to deliver a speech in the afternoon session of the congress. I took the liberty of asking him information about a coin of 2 *parale*/3 *kopecks*, issued in 1772 at Sadagura, which was one of my latest collectibles. He affably told me all he knew about the coin and, as he noticed my interest in numismatics, he invited me to visit him anytime I chose to so that I could get a closer look at his collection of coins and medals. As soon as the works of the congress were closed, I paid him a visit. He welcomed me exceedingly kindly and showed me patiently all the coins I was interested in, while offering me the chance to examine them thoroughly. Thenceforth, since Dr Aurel Metzulescu and me used to live on the same street in 1934-1936, only a few houses away from each other, I kept paying regular visits to him, thus enriching my numismatics knowledge. It was from him that I learned about the classical catalogues, i.e. Babelon for Roman Republican coins, Cohen for Roman Imperial coins and Sabatier for Byzantine coins; I started consulting these catalogues frequently at Aman Library in Craiova in order to find out the origin of the coins I could possibly take hold of. Thus, in all those years, Dr Aurel Metzulescu served as a guide for my ‘apprenticeship’ in the field of numismatics, which is why I am deeply grateful to him.

From October 1934 until the end of April 1935, during the numerous visits I referred to, my concerns in the field of numismatics focused on examining the Romanian coins in Dr Aurel Metzulescu's collection. By the Doctor's consent, I wrote down the coins, one by one, in a rough notebook, whereas my host kept smoking patiently and read the newspaper or was giving me the explanations I sometimes asked for. Turning to account the documentation thus gathered and adding to it the data taken from the few publications available to me at that time, I began drafting a rough copy of the work titled *Istoria numismaticii române*, which was actually a history of the Romanian coin, starting with the first coins from the reign of Vlaicu Vodă to the coins minted in the early years of the reign of Carol II. The manuscript of this work includes 28 pages and was started on 8 May 1935, with annotations regarding the coin issues of 250 *lei*, 1935, 100 *lei*, 1936, and 50 *lei*, 1937. The new work comprised the following: Walachia – 7 pages, Moldavia – 7 pages, Transylvania – 5 pages, the coins issued in Sadagura by the Russian occupation army – 1 page, the United Principalities – 1 page, and Romania – 4 pages. As a matter of fact this was, as I anticipated above, the outline of a history of the Romanian coin from 1364 to 1934, limited of course to the documentation I could find back then. The same as "Encyclopaedic Numismatics Dictionary" of a year earlier, *Istoria numismaticii române* of 1935 only served, from my then perspective, as the starting point for new research works I intended to make into the field of Romanian numismatics. It appears that the author of these works, a 15-year-old high school boy, was persuaded by the fact that his concerns for the Romanian numismatics were a serious matter, as proved by the maintenance of these manuscripts in my archives to date.

*

* *

I called forth these recollections, steeped in nostalgia, in order for the reader to get a better understanding of the present book. When the idea of drafting it began taking shape, the 15-year-old boy showed up, burning with the desire to be accompanied by a self-confident guide who leads him into the world of an unknown, yet so attractive to him, discipline. The same as little Pierre in the beautiful book by Anatole France, this boy only lives in my memories; just like him, there are scores, maybe hundreds of boys of the same age today and others will definitely follow, small collectors who will want to gain fast and effortlessly as much knowledge as possible about the history of the coin on the territory of Romania. This book is basically dedicated to them; it was designed to meet this particular requirement but it may certainly serve as the starting point for new research works by numismatic experts.

I will refer briefly to the contents of this book. The overview of the major works dealing with the history of the coin in Romania, focusing on either the entire development or only certain aspects of this development, is followed by Part I that investigates the same subject, as a timeline, documenting the major events in the field of pre-monetary and later on monetary economic exchanges. I presented more extensively the pre-monetary exchange since this stage of shifting from the primitive barter to the issuance and use of coins on the territory of today Romania was marked by the resort to the most varied forms of coin-tokens made out of gold, silver or bronze.

As far as the development of the coin is concerned, this subject was dealt with unitarily, throughout Romania, from the first issue of the Histrian drachma to the end of the 13th century, then separately, from 1300 until 1859 for Walachia and Moldavia, and from the same date onwards, until 1867 for Transylvania. Naturally, the next sections are devoted to the United Principalities, from 1859 to 1866, and Romania, from 1866 to date. The manner in which the development of the coin in Romania was described here, over a period of two and a half millenniums, enables easily the insert of new reference points for the events of monetary importance that were left out or that may be determined by subsequent research.

Part II – Bibliography and Part III – Glossary – serve as a documentary support for “The History of the Coin in Romania”. It should be pointed out that the Bibliography is a selective one, showing the papers I thought to be the most representative in order to provide documentation for Part I, from the earliest to the most recent issues. All the books describing coin hoards were deliberately left out of account, even though at times the authors of such presentations of numismatic papers formulated more comprehensive economic and historical considerations. The Bibliography does not include the chronicles on coin discoveries either, as it is the case of those published by Constantin Moisil and Bucur Mitrea, a. o. Moreover, the papers depicting coins that never circulated on the territory of Romania are left out of account, and no mention is made about the contributions of various foreign authors highlighting Romanian numismatic issues. For further information, readers should see the bibliographies mentioned in the introduction to Part II hereof.

The Bibliography tracks closely the Chronology in Part I, with sections for the successive periods and subsections for certain categories of coins, grouped depending on the issuing authority. Inside every section or subsection, the titles of papers making up the Bibliography are recorded as they were published; under the circumstances, the development of Romanian research in that particular domain can be easily pursued. Naturally, the Bibliography wraps up with an index of authors.

Lastly, Part III consists in a Glossary comprising two categories of terms: A. Main coins that were issued or only circulated on the territory of Romania and B. The mints that operated on the same territory, both categories being analysed from ancient times to date. We appreciate that the Glossary is definitely useful and its achievement represents the fulfilment of an idea developed, as shown above, as early as 1934.

Here is where I end my Introduction and hope that, by achieving this “History of the Coin in Romania”, I can strive for joining those about whom the Latin poet Lucretius said so beautifully they are *quasi cursores qui vitae lampada tradunt*.

7 January 1998

PART I
CHRONOLOGY

FOREWORD

The history of the coin in Romania, as a research subject of a monographic nature, seldom entered the focus of attention of Romanian experts, and whenever this actually happened, this issue was dealt with sequentially, within strictly confined periods. The explanation for the somewhat reluctant stance shown in the past by Romanian historiography in exploring such a self-evident interesting issue as the above-mentioned one is as simple as possible. Indeed, achieving such a synthesis work depicting the history of the coin in Romania implies the expansion of research on a triple plan: in history, to delineate the ever-changing historical framework, when a certain money issue, either domestic or foreign, emerges and circulates; in economic history, to comprehend and define the multiple relations and transformations in the unfolding of monetary changes, in a given period; and finally, in numismatics, to identify the types of coins, often very different, associated at a given moment with these changes and to establish their features. The obvious multidisciplinary nature of the present research work implies numerous and significant difficulties, which have been hindering the achievement of such a project.

In an attempt to overcome these difficulties, several notable endeavours were made quite long ago. The first such endeavour comes from Dimitrie A. Sturdza – it deals with the history of money issues of Moldavia and Walachia and was published in German in the Vienna magazine “Numismatische Zeitschrift” in 1872 and separately in 1874, in the author’s edition, in the Austrian-Hungarian capital as well¹. This paper, the first numismatic work by Dimitrie A. Sturdza, provides two overviews of the history of money issues in Moldavia² and Walachia³, and the description of the coins, from the reigns of each of the rulers of Moldavia and Walachia, preceded by a brief historical presentation of the reign of that particular ruler. Therefore, it may be asserted that this work by Dimitrie A. Sturdza is a genuine history of the coin issued by the two Romanian principalities, the first such work in the Romanian historiography.

As for the contents of the work discussed here, one may notice that the author being a Moldavian himself attaches priority to Moldavia, although it is common knowledge – and it was a well-known fact even in the times of Dimitrie A. Sturdza – that Walachia issued its own currency before Moldavia, not even considering that anyway, it was Walachia that initiated the Union of 24 January 1859 and provided the capital city of newly-formed Romania.

¹ DEMETRIUS ALEXANDER STURDZA, *Übersicht der Münzen und Medaillen des Fürstentums Romanien (Moldau und Walachei)*, NZ, 4, 1872, pp. 44-129, and 6 pictures; the paper was also published separately, in the author’s edition, bearing the same title, Vienna, 1874, 4 plus 86 pages and 6 pictures (with separate page numbers, in the following notes, the entry refers first to the pages in the publication’s text in NZ and then to the separate edition).

² *Ibidem*, pp. 45-49/2-6

³ *Ibidem*, pp. 91-92/48-49

Further on, it notes that in 1872 Dimitrie A. Sturdza was familiar with a relatively large number of medieval Romanian coins, stemming from various private collections or belonging to either domestic or foreign museums. The author classified these coins by their issuers as follows:

- Moldavia: 15 issuers, starting with an unknown ruler, prior to 1350, and concluding with Eustratie Dabija⁴;
- Walachia: 9 issuers, starting with Vlad I Basarab (i.e. Vladislav I – Vlaicu Vodă) and ending with Mihai Viteazul in 1600 and Constantin Brâncoveanu in 1713⁵.

The classification proposed by Dimitrie A. Sturdza in 1872, grounded on the exclusive study of some coins kept in various collections, features many and serious errors of assignment; above all, back then, not even the chronology of rulers, particularly those of Walachia, was accurately established. Some of these errors were highlighted ever since 1910 by Nicolae Docan⁶, and more recently the author of this book added all appropriate corrections⁷. I will only note here that Dimitrie A. Sturdza deemed the gold coin of 10 *ducats* issued by Mihai Viteazul in 1600 as the first medal and therefore included it in the series of Walachian issues; as a matter of fact, it was a coin destined solely for economic purposes and belonged to the series of issues of Transylvania principality⁸.

After the publication of *Übersicht*, Dimitrie A. Sturdza published three other versions of this paper, which were more concisely worded in Romanian. The first one was originally presented by Dimitrie A. Sturdza in the meeting of the Romanian Academic Society on 15 September 1877; its text was subsequently published in three versions, of which I will cite the final one⁹.

The second Romanian version of *Übersicht* first came in the form of a speech titled *Numismatica Română* (Romanian Numismatics) delivered by Dimitrie A. Sturdza at the Romanian Athenaeum in the evening of 14 January 1878; the same as in the previous case, the text of this speech was published on three occasions¹⁰.

Eventually, the last version was published as a supplement to the entry *BAN* by Bogdan Petriceicu Hașdeu in the body text of his great Etymological Dictionary¹¹. I have recently made

⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 48-49/5-6

⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 91-92/48-49

⁶ N. DOCAN, *Studii privitoare la numismatica Țerii Românești, I. Bibliografie și documente*, AAR, second edition, 32, 1909-1910, pp. 495-560.

⁷ OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, *Dimitrie Alexandru Sturdza și numismatica românească*, BSNR, 77-78, 1992-1993, pp. 18-32.

⁸ IDEM, *La monnaie-médaille de Michel le Brave (1600)*, RRH, 32, 1993, 3-4, pp. 221-238.

⁹ DEMETRIU A. STURDZA, *Memoriu asupra numismaticei românești*, Bucharest, 1878, 20 pages and 6 pictures (for other versions of the same *Memoriu*, see OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, *op. cit. supra*, note 7, p 33).

¹⁰ DIMITRIE STURDZA, *Numismatica română*, Bucharest, 1878, 28 pages (see the comment in the preceding note regarding other printed versions of the text, *ibidem*, p 35).

¹¹ D. STURDZA, *Banii moldovenești și muntenești*, in: B. P. HAȘDEU, *Etymologicum Magnum Romaniae*, III, Bucharest, 1893, col. 2429-2446 and pictures A-C.

an in-depth analysis of the scientific contribution of these three papers published by Dimitrie A. Sturdza in Romania¹², which is why I refrain from going into further details.

Constantin Moisil began publishing a history of the coin in Romania, bearing precisely this title but having the subtitle “Brief Overview” during 1920-1923 in *Cronica Numismatică* (which turned to *Cronica Numismatică și Arheologică*¹³ since May 1921). The successive periods in the history of the coin are dealt with extremely briefly, in a sequence of sub-chapters and paragraphs, as follows:

1. Antiquity¹⁴;
2. Byzantine period¹⁵;
3. The period of common *Denarius* coins¹⁶;
4. Circumstances prior to the establishment of the Romanian national mint¹⁷;
5. Establishment of the first national mints¹⁸;
6. First Romanian coins¹⁹;
6. (for the second time – NB) Coins issued by Radu I Basarab²⁰;
7. Coins issued by Dan I and Mircea cel Bătrân²¹;
8. The successors of Mircea cel Bătrân²²;
9. Dan II and the loss of the right to mint coins²³;
10. The mint of Vlad Dracul in Sighișoara²⁴;
11. The last Walachian rulers who minted coins: Basarab Voievod and Vladislav II²⁵;
12. The Moldavian mint during the reigns of the successors of Petru I²⁶;
13. Coin minting during the reign of Alexandru cel Bun²⁷;

¹² OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, *op. cit.*, pp. 33-43.

¹³ CONST. MOISIL, *Istoria monetei în România – Expunere sumară*, CN(A), 1, 1920-1921, pp. 19-23, 34-36, 44-47, 58-60, 64-66, 72-76; CNA, 2, 1921-1922, pp. 13-16, 25-28, 32-41, 62-63, 76-80; CNA, 3, 1922-1923, p. 24-32, 40-41, 57-60, 71-74; CNA, 4, 1923-1924, pp. 27-32.

¹⁴ IDEM, *op. cit.*, CN(A), 1, 1920-1921, pp. 19-23.

¹⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 34-36.

¹⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 44-47.

¹⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 58-60.

¹⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 64-66.

¹⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 72-76.

²⁰ CONST. MOISIL, *op. cit.*, CNA, 2, 1921-1922, pp. 13-16.

²¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 25-28.

²² *Ibidem*, pp. 32-34.

²³ *Ibidem*, pp. 34-36.

²⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 36-40.

²⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 40-41.

²⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 62-63.

²⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 76-80.

14. The successors of Alexandru cel Bun: Iliăş, Ştefan II, Roman II, Bogdan II and Alexandru II²⁸;
15. Coins issued by Petru Aron²⁹;
16. Coins issued by Ştefan cel Mare³⁰;
17. The successors of Ştefan cel Mare: Bogdan III and Ştefăniţă³¹;
18. Decommissioning of the Moldavian mint³²; and
19. The Transylvanian mint until 1526³³.

The above-mentioned 20 (not 19, as No. 6 is erroneously repeated) paragraphs or little articles that make up a brief history of the coin in Romania starting with the pre-monetary exchange and concluding, somewhat unexpectedly, at the end of the 16th century in Transylvania. Indeed, no sentence in the text of the last article – indent No. 19, namely 20 – reveals any hint by the author at suspending the publication of this series devoted to the history of the coin in Romania, and the circumstances that led Constantin Moisil to give up working on this project remained completely unaccounted for.

Apart from this drawback, the book “History of the Coin in Romania” written by Constantin Moisil in 1920-1923 features two other peculiarities one should allow for before consulting it. First, it should be pointed out that some historical periods are treated much too briefly. Of course, the subtitle warns the reader on its dealing with a short overview; but to devote only one paragraph (1. Antiquity) comprising less than five pages to the early times of money history, from the pre-monetary exchange to the fall of the Western Roman Empire, appears to be a rather poor presentation of this period relative to its time span and historical importance. The reader can easily notice that the author presented much widely the medieval coin issues of Walachia and Moldavia.

Second, some comments can be made about the scientific level of “History of the Coin in Romania”. It is definitely a medium level, rather than that of a popularisation work, targeting the general public reading the host-publication, which was established by Constantin Moisil in 1920, i.e. *Cronica Numismatică (şi Arheologică)*. For these readers, “History of the Coin in Romania” by Constantin Moisil was a precious guide and it is a pity that its drafting and publication did not continue until 1867, when the first coins of modern Romania were minted.

Based on the first attempt, Constantin Moisil prepared and published two other versions, both of them including data on the period of modern history. The first one was part of the series of basic studies in Volume I of *Enciclopedia României* (Encyclopaedia of Romania) released in 1938 and

²⁸ CONST. MOISIL, *op. cit.*, CNA, 3, 1922-1923, pp. 24-32.

²⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 40-41.

³⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 57-60.

³¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 71-73.

³² *Ibidem*, pp. 73-74.

³³ CONST. MOISIL, *op. cit.*, CNA, 4, 1923-1924, pp. 27-30.

co-ordinated by Dimitrie Gusti. Sticking to the same structure, until the early 16th century, the new version continues showing the money issues of the 16th and the 17th centuries, concluding with paragraph 24 titled *Cuza Vodă și moneta națională. Legile monetare ale lui Carol I* (Cuza Vodă and the National Currency. Monetary Laws of Carol I)³⁴; this time, we are therefore dealing with a complete, albeit brief, history of the coin in Romania. The above comments addressing the text initially published in *Cronica Numismatică (și Arheologică)* remain fully relevant.

The second version of this book was issued in 1945, being included in the 10-year anniversary book edited by the State Mint in Bucharest³⁵. This time, Constantin Moisil considered particularly a well-defined issue, namely the establishment, organisation and functioning of the old mints that operated on the Romanian territory, starting with the mints of Greek settlements at Istros/Histria, Callatis (Mangalia) and Tomis (Constanța), then referring to local mints of Geto-Dacian tribes, continuing with the mints of the three Romanian provinces, i.e. Walachia, Moldavia and Transylvania, and finally the State Mint in Bucharest, which became operational on 24 February 1870. On that day, the State Mint minted the first Romanian coin with face value of one *leu* as well as gold coins worth 20 *lei*. As stated before, the study by Constantin Moisil was a brief overview of the history of the coin in Romania, starting from ancient times and ending with the founding of the national money system in 1867-1870; this was the last study the author dedicated to some numismatic issues, once his long painstaking scientific career was drawing to conclusion.

In 1932, Constantin I. Băicoianu started publishing a renowned monograph focusing on the history of the National Bank of Romania, at the same time depicting some aspects relative to the history of the coin, both in the introduction and throughout the book³⁶. Thus, the first volume/Part I opens with Chapter I entitled “Historical Notes on the Coin in General and the Monetary Development of Romanian Principalities until the 19th Century”³⁷. This chapter begins with a rich specialised bibliography³⁸, unfortunately deprived of the researcher’s systematisation and rigour³⁹. The author differentiates three main stages in the general economic development: the stage of barter, of money and credit⁴⁰. Further on, Constantin I. Băicoianu reviews the major stages in the history of the coin in Romania, from the emergence of the pre-

³⁴ IDEM, *Monetele României*, in *Enciclopedia României*, I, Bucharest, 1938, pp. 98-125.

³⁵ IDEM, *Vechile monetării din România. Istoric – organizare – activitate monetară*, in: *Monetăria Națională. Zece ani de activitate 1935-1945*, Bucharest, 1945, pp. 25-50.

³⁶ CONSTANTIN I. BĂICOIANU, *Istoria politicii noastre monetare și a Băncii Naționale*, Bucharest, I Part I, 1932, 378 pages and 3 plus 59 pictures; I Part II. *Acte și documente*, 1932, 911 pages; II Part I, 1933, 1880-1914, 1923, 725 (726) pages and 40 pictures; II Part II, III. 1914-1920, 1933, 476 (478) pages and 20 pictures.

³⁷ IDEM, *op. cit.*, I Part I, Bucharest, 1932, pp. 3-54.

³⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 3-5 (see footnote).

³⁹ In the beginning, the titles of works are entered in alphabetical order by their author afterwards no order whatsoever is observed (p 5).

⁴⁰ *Ibidem*, p 5.

monetary exchange until 1821, supporting his work with excerpts from documents and laws from the 17th century, as well as a great deal of pictures⁴¹.

Chapter II bears the title “Political Development of the Principalities in the 19th Century and its Influence on Economic and Social Developments”⁴², and Chapter III is entitled “The Monetary Issue in Light of the Organic Regulation 1828-1859”⁴³; the two chapters cover the period from the early 19th century until the Union of the Principalities and encompass, in the footnotes, extended excerpts of numerous documents referring to particular aspects of the history of the coin back then.

Chapter IV is devoted to credit developments⁴⁴, and Chapter V – titled “Monetary Policy during Cuza’s Reign (1859-1866)”⁴⁵– deals extensively with the successive attempts, made during the reign of Alexandru Ioan Cuza, at establishing a national money system and at issuing the country’s own currency.

Chapter VI titled “Strengthening of the Modern State Romania Following the 1866 Constitution. The 1867 Monetary Reform Halts Currency Disarray”⁴⁶ looks at the historical background accompanying the currency law of 14/26 April 1867, its text and the ensuing measures, in order to enforce the law governing the mintage of the first copper, silver and gold coins of the new state in 1867-1874. Chapter VII investigates the issue of mortgage bonds as the means to overcome the 1877 crisis⁴⁷; Chapter VIII is titled “The 1877 Independence War. The Romanian-Russian Currency Convention”⁴⁸. Finally, Chapter IX – the final – provides an overview of the banking system during 1859-1880⁴⁹.

The book features, in all its chapters and footnotes, a bountiful collection of documents: general bibliography and the description of ancient and Byzantine coins set out in pictures VI-XIV (Chapter I), numerous documents reproduced, as a rule, in full, regarding various aspects of money history (Chapters II-IX).

The great variety and number of illustrations, fifty-nine in all, is at the end of the book; mention should be made that pictures XV-XVII referring to coin issues of Walachia and Moldavia are the reproduction of tables A-C accompanying the note published by Dimitrie A. Sturdza in *Etymologicum*⁵⁰; however, picture XVII fails to reproduce completely table C of the cited paper, as it leaves aside the gold coin issued in 1600 and bearing the effigy of Mihai Viteazul, as well as the shilling issued in 1658 by the Walachian ruler Mihail Radu, otherwise named Mihnea III,

⁴¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 5-54.

⁴² *Ibidem*, pp. 57-77.

⁴³ *Ibidem*, pp. 81-181.

⁴⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 185-224.

⁴⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 227-258.

⁴⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 261-279.

⁴⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 283-288.

⁴⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 291-306.

⁴⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 309-355.

⁵⁰ See footnote 11 above.

though this coin is described in the text⁵¹. It is noteworthy that, in the text, the author corrects some of the mistaken assignments in Dimitrie A. Sturdza's *Etymologicum*⁵².

Special mention deserves the fact that the author reproduced, in pictures 43-53, all the coin issues from the reign of Carol I, starting 1867 until 1914, thus surpassing the chronological limit of the first volume of his monograph⁵³; it notes the bizarre feature of reproducing the coins with the issuer's effigy as the reverse.

Volume I/Part II⁵⁴ of the monograph encompasses documents concerning the circulation of money and dating back to 1832-1876 whereas the next volumes⁵⁵ deal with the history of the National Bank of Romania, from its establishment in 1880 until 1920; naturally, in this context, the author attached particular attention to the developments in Romania's monetary policy, including the paramount changes it was subjected to⁵⁶.

The remarkable work *Istoria politicii noastre monetare și a Băncii Naționale* (History of Our Monetary Policy and of the National Bank of Romania) released by Constantin I. Băicoianu during 1932-1933 is distinguishable for the fact that it presents both to economists and historians a complete history of the coin in Romania, from its remote origins of pre-monetary exchange until the end of the second decade of the 20th century. The numerous documents concerning manifold, various aspects of monetary economy – indeed, most of them dating back to the early 19th century onwards – reproduced by the author in full either inside this book or in a separate volume⁵⁷ render his monograph the quality of a precious working tool, as well as that of a documentation source and a starting point for potential more in-depth studies, but having narrower aims in terms of both time and space. For these reasons, with a few partial corrections inherent due to the inexorable passing of time, the monograph by Constantin I. Băicoianu still holds a special place in Romanian historiography.

The second complete history of the coin in Romania was released in 1964-1971. It was written by Constantin C. Kirițescu (nowadays a member of the Romanian Academy) who, after studying the development of the national money system, from 1867 until mid-20th century, felt the urge to show, in a retrospective introduction, the precursors of this system, starting from pre-monetary exchange in prehistory. In this vein, the cited author worked with some collaborators who analysed the period prior to enactment of the law of 14-26 April 1867–The Currency Law. Under the circumstances, the year 1964 saw the issue of the first volume of the monograph titled *Sistemul bănesc al leului și precursorii lui* (Money System of the Leu and Its Precursors); the

⁵¹ CONSTANTIN I. BĂICOIANU, *op. and vol. cit.*, p 34, footnote.

⁵² *Ibidem*

⁵³ See footnote 36 above.

⁵⁴ *Ibidem*

⁵⁵ *Ibidem*

⁵⁶ For instance, it is worth noting the following monetary policy measures: the first banknotes ever to be issued by the National Bank of Romania in 1881; abandonment of bi-metalism and the adoption of mono-metalism based on the gold standard in 1890.

⁵⁷ Volume I Part II and volume II Part II; see footnote 36 above.

other two volumes⁵⁸ were published, on a different basis, in 1967 and 1971. Following is an attempt at sketching out the main features of the above-mentioned book, which looks at the history of the coin in Romania.

As a reflection of the idea the author used in the very title of the monograph, the first volume opens with part I titled “Money System of the Leu and its Precursors”⁵⁹. The four chapters making up the first part, each of them divided into several paragraphs, give an overview of the history of the coin in Romania, from the first pre-monetary exchange forms to the foundation of the national money system of the *leu* pursuant to Law of 14/26 April 1867–The Currency Law. Against this background, texts written by three collaborators⁶⁰ are inserted, part I of this volume having the following structure:

Chapter I (from the pre-monetary exchange to the Roman conquest of Dacia)⁶¹:

- para. 1. Early use of money as a form of value (by Constantin Iacobovici and Costin C. Kirițescu)⁶²;
- para. 2. The circumstances surrounding the emergence of money circulation on the territory of Romania – para. 6. Money circulation during the rule of Burebista and Decebal (by Constantin Iacobovici)⁶³;

Chapter II (from the Roman conquest of Dacia to the departure of the Romans from Dacia during the reign of Aurelius)⁶⁴:

- para. 1. Money circulation in Roman Dacia;
- para. 2. Influence of the crisis of Roman slave-owning society on the money system (by Constantin Iacobovici)⁶⁵;

Chapter III (from the departure of the Romans from Dacia to mid-18th century)⁶⁶:

- para. 1. Money circulation in the period of development of the Romanian people and in the period prior to feudalism; 3rd-9th centuries (by Constantin Iacobovici)⁶⁷; 10th century (by Constantin Iacobovici)⁶⁸;

⁵⁸ COSTIN C. KIRIȚESCU, *Sistemul bănesc al leului și precursorii lui*, Bucharest, I, 1964, 423 (424) pages and 20 pictures (collaborators: CSELÉNYI BÉLA, CONSTANTIN IACOBOVICI and OCTAVIAN ILIESCU); II 7, 1967, 581 pages and 20 pictures (collaborators: EGYED ACAȚIU and KECSKÉS IOSIF); III, 1971.

⁵⁹ COSTIN C. KIRIȚESCU and collaborators, *op. cit.*, I, Bucharest, 1964, pp. 11-130.

⁶⁰ The contribution of each collaborator is specified by the monograph's author in Preface, *ibidem*, p 6.

⁶¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 11-44.

⁶² *Ibidem*, pp. 11-16.

⁶³ *Ibidem*, pp. 16-44.

⁶⁴ *Ibidem*, p 45.

⁶⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 45-58.

⁶⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 59-110.

⁶⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 63-64.

⁶⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 64-66.

- para. 2. Coins in circulation in early feudalism; Walachia and Moldavia (by Octavian Iliescu)⁶⁹; Transylvania (by Constantin Iacobovici)⁷⁰;
- para. 3. Coins in circulation in developed feudalism;
- para. 4. Last own currency issues in Walachia. Changes in the money system in Moldavia. The monetary situation in Transylvania in the 15th century; Bobâlna uprising (by Octavian Iliescu)⁷¹;
- para. 5. Money circulation under Ottoman domination. Disruption in own coin mintage in Moldavia; emergence, development and conclusion of own issues in Transylvania. Circulation of Dutch *leu-thaler*; Walachia and Moldavia (by Octavian Iliescu)⁷²; Transylvania (by Cselényi Béla)⁷³;

Chapter IV (from mid-18th century to the currency reform in 1867)⁷⁴:

- para. 1. Currency disarray in the Romanian principalities and the attempts at confining it;
- para. 2. The currency issue following the Union of the Romanian Principalities (by Octavian Iliescu and Costin C. Kirițescu)⁷⁵;
- para. 3. Money circulation in Transylvania (by Cselényi Béla)⁷⁶.

Part II of the first volume encompassing the next four chapters (V-VIII) provides a detailed description of the history of the national money system of the *leu* during 1867-1900, being written by Costin C. Kirițescu alone⁷⁷. The author examines thoroughly the major stages in the development of this system over the cited period, as follows: Adoption of the national money system (Chapter V)⁷⁸; Paper money: Mortgage bonds (Chapter VI)⁷⁹; Credit money: The banknotes issued by the National Bank (Chapter VII)⁸⁰ and lastly: Abandonment of bi-metalism and the adoption of mono-metalism based on the gold standard, the basis for the money system of the *leu* (Chapter VIII)⁸¹.

The annexes at the end of volume I provide a real documentary support, allowing the reader to look through the monograph more easily. Thus, Annex I. Coin Discoveries on the Romanian Territory (10th-14th centuries)⁸² shows numismatic sources dating back to 919-1400 and spread

⁶⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 66-67, 69-70, 70-71.

⁷⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 67-68, 69-70, 72-81.

⁷¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 81-96.

⁷² *Ibidem*, pp. 96-102.

⁷³ *Ibidem*, pp. 102-110.

⁷⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 111-130.

⁷⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 111-123.

⁷⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 123-130.

⁷⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 133-343.

⁷⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 133-214.

⁷⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 215-232.

⁸⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 233-316.

⁸¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 317-343.

⁸² *Ibidem*, pp. 347-363.

over all three main historical regions of Romania, i.e. Walachia (including Dobrudja), Moldavia and Transylvania (including Banat, Crişana and Maramureş). Annex II. Weight-related Relations provides an overview of the origins and metrology-related bases of money systems adopted in the latter half of the 14th century by the first medieval Romanian states, Walachia and Moldavia⁸³. Annex III. Currency Issues of Romanian States⁸⁴ lists briefly these issues (Annexes I-III were prepared by Octavian Iliescu). Annex IV encompasses Chronological Data regarding the monetary policy of member states of the Latin Union and Romania in 1865-1885⁸⁵ while Annex V is titled Coins Issued on the Basis of the National Money System⁸⁶ (from 1867 until 1900 included).

Annexes VI-VIII, which should not have been classified as such, actually comprise the following indices: (personal) name index⁸⁷, index of geographical locations⁸⁸, and coin index⁸⁹. Annex IX, the final, lists the pictures⁹⁰.

The illustrations in this book were selected and organised by Octavian Iliescu⁹¹, consisting in twenty pictures taken from the numismatic collection of the Romanian Academy, except picture XX representing some coins provided by Constantin Iacobovici.

Volume II of the monograph⁹² features part III and continues to depict the history of the national money system in 1900-1944. Chapters IX-XI of this part⁹³ show the stages in the development of the national money system from 1900 until the end of World War I. Chapter XII titled The money system in Transylvania from the adoption of the national money system in former Romania (1867) until the currency unification in 1920-1921⁹⁴ was prepared, under the author's guidance, by two collaborators, as follows⁹⁵:

- para. 1. Economic Development of Transylvania in the First Two Decades of Dual System Implementation (authors: Kecskés Iosif and Egyed Acaţiu)⁹⁶;
- para. 2. Money system in Late Pre-monopolistic Capitalism. Silver Mono-metalism. Debasement of Austrian Florin (author: Kecskés Iosif)⁹⁷;

⁸³ *Ibidem*, pp. 364-366.

⁸⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 369-396.

⁸⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 397-398.

⁸⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 399-400.

⁸⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 401-408.

⁸⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 409-414.

⁸⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 415-418.

⁹⁰ *Ibidem*, p 419.

⁹¹ *Ibidem*, p 6.

⁹² See footnote 58 above.

⁹³ COSTIN C. KIRIŢESCU, *op. cit.*, II, pp. 11-134.

⁹⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 135-258.

⁹⁵ *Ibidem*, p 7.

⁹⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 135-163.

⁹⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 163-193.

- para. 3. Economic Development of Transylvania in Early 20th Century (author: Egyed Acațiu)⁹⁸;
- para. 4. Monetary Reform in 1892: Switch from Silver Mono-metalism to Gold Mono-metalism;
- para. 6. Money System during World War I (author: Kecskés Iosif)⁹⁹;
- para. 7. Social and Economic After-effects of Inflation in World War I (authors: Kecskés Iosif and Egyed Acațiu)¹⁰⁰;
- para. 8. Transitory Monetary Measures in the Period from the Union between Transylvania and Romania until the Currency Unification in 1920-1921 (author: Kecskés Iosif)¹⁰¹.

The author continues to depict in Chapters XIII-XVI¹⁰² the history of the national money system from the currency unification in 1920-1921 to the economic crisis in 1929-1933. Chapter XVII¹⁰³, covering the period 1934-1941, includes para. 3. Monetary Aspects of the Vienna Dictate (authors: Kecskés Iosif and Costin C. Kirițescu)¹⁰⁴.

The final chapter – XVIII¹⁰⁵ – sets forth the development of the national money system in the context of Romania's participation in World War II until 23 August 1944.

Annexes I-VI at the back of the book consist of statistical tables drafted by Constantin Săndulescu-Godeni¹⁰⁶, having the following titles: I. Banknotes issued in 1881-1944¹⁰⁷; II. Coins issued on the basis of the national money system during 1901-1944¹⁰⁸; III. Circulation of banknotes and coverage from 1880 until 1944 (end-of-year)¹⁰⁹; IV. Discount and Lombard rates from 1880 to 1944¹¹⁰; V. Exchange rate on foreign stock markets (1892-1942)¹¹¹; VI. Prices and cost of living (variable intervals)¹¹². Annexes VII-IX are, in fact, indices, namely (personal)

⁹⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 193-209.

⁹⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 209-251.

¹⁰⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 251-256.

¹⁰¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 256-258.

¹⁰² *Ibidem*, pp. 259-420.

¹⁰³ *Ibidem*, pp. 421-490.

¹⁰⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 466-470.

¹⁰⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 491-539.

¹⁰⁶ *Ibidem*, p 8.

¹⁰⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 543-546.

¹⁰⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 547-548.

¹⁰⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 549-550.

¹¹⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 551-553.

¹¹¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 554-556.

¹¹² *Ibidem*, pp. 557-563.

name index¹¹³, index of geographical locations¹¹⁴, and index of coins¹¹⁵. Annex X is actually the list of illustrations¹¹⁶.

The same as for the previous volume, the documentation serving to illustrate volume II of the monograph was selected and organised by Octavian Iliescu¹¹⁷ in twenty pictures.

Volume III, the final part of the monograph by Costin C. Kirişescu¹¹⁸, starts its narration on 23 August 1944 and finishes with the currency reform on 26 January 1952 and its manifold effects, both domestically and abroad – 1971 was the cut-off year for data collection to completely draw up the paper¹¹⁹. During the said period, the national money system experienced the most thorough and dramatic changes in its over thirteen-decade-long history.

The above-mentioned volume opens with a preface¹²⁰ and is made up of two parts, numbered consistent with the order set forth in the previous volumes. Part IV is titled “Money System of the Leu after 23 August 1944. Continuation and Annihilation of Inflation”¹²¹ and consists, in turn, of chapters XIX-XXII; the part ends looking at the currency reform of 15 August 1947 and showing the outcomes of this reform¹²².

Part V is titled “Money System of the Leu in the Context of Building Up Socialism”¹²³ and includes chapters XXIII-XXVI. Chapter XXIII, entitled “Money in Socialist Economy”¹²⁴ was drafted by Dionis Patapieviçi¹²⁵; furthermore, para. 3. Money Circulation and Credit Planning¹²⁶ and para. 4. Money Relations Supporting Socialist Economic Development¹²⁷ were prepared by the same collaborator¹²⁸. Part V focuses, of course, on the currency reform of 26 January 1952 and its after-effects, a topic dealt with in para. 5. of Chapter XXV¹²⁹. Eventually, Chapter XXVI titled “Money System of the Leu and Foreign Affairs”¹³⁰ completes the data concerning the history of the national money system from 1867 until 1971.

¹¹³ *Ibidem*, pp. 564-568.

¹¹⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 569-573.

¹¹⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 574-575.

¹¹⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 577.

¹¹⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 8.

¹¹⁸ COSTIN C. KIRIŞESCU, *Sistemul bănesc al leului și precursorii lui*, III, Bucharest, 1971, 405 pages and 16 pictures. In the text, with partial collaboration of Dionis Patapieviçi (see Specifications, pp. 4 and 7).

¹¹⁹ See Annex VI, *ibidem*, pp. 355-356.

¹²⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 5-8.

¹²¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 9-138.

¹²² *Ibidem*, pp. 101-138 (Chapter XXII).

¹²³ *Ibidem*, pp. 139-328.

¹²⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 141-179.

¹²⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 4 and 7.

¹²⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 235-249.

¹²⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 249-260.

¹²⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 4 and 7.

¹²⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 261-270.

¹³⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 271-328.

Lastly, Volume III of Costin C. Kirițescu's monograph also includes sixteen pictures in the text¹³¹, featuring reproductions of coins, bills and banknotes issued in 1944-1952; eleven annexes¹³² (of which annexes VII-X are actually various indices)¹³³; summaries of the book (volumes I-III) in English¹³⁴, French¹³⁵, and Russian¹³⁶.

By simply reading the titles of the eight chapters and the subtitles of the paragraphs, one can easily comprehend the great number and variety of the issues depicted in this volume, issues relating to the post-war development of the national money system. However, a fact that is not clearly brought to the fore is the tremendous hardship that had to be overcome in exploring these issues, considering the time period when the investigation was made, namely the end of the seventh decade of the 20th century. It is common knowledge that both the preparation and the implementation of key monetary policy measures taken by the communist regime – the monetary reform of 15 August 1947, the currency reform of 26 January 1952, and the change of the legal gold contents of the *Leu* on 31 January 1954 – were top secret, and the final step, pursuant to Decision No. 127 of 31 January 1954 issued by the Council of Ministers, was not even published¹³⁷. Since the archives of the communist regime were not available even after 22 December 1989, it is obvious that the analysis of the issues in the final volume of Costin C. Kirițescu's monograph is doomed to face the same tremendous difficulty.

Moreover, the historical background against which the above-mentioned monetary policy matters were investigated had a dampening impact on their clarification and interpretation, as the author had to obey the ideological theses of the former regime. The class-related feature of key monetary policy measures, which simply shows off, had to be seen in a positive light alone¹³⁸. No one could utter a word about what the communist regime in Romania actually aimed at and even managed, through the draconian monetary policy measures taken in 1947 and 1952, i.e. to do away with the country's middle classes – the economic cornerstone of any civilised society – and turn its inhabitants into genuine economically crippled, bound in the beginning, and afterwards even willing to get everything from the almighty state. It is all the more noteworthy the author's courage to criticise the contents and the after-effects of monetary policy measures the communist regime in Romania took during 1947-1954¹³⁹.

¹³¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 329-344.

¹³² *Ibidem*, pp. 345-366.

¹³³ *Ibidem*, pp. 357-358 (Annex VII – Index of names), 359-360 (Annex VIII – Index of geographical names), 361 (Annex IX – Index of coins), and 362-365 (Annex X – Index of subjects of volumes I-III).

¹³⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 367-377.

¹³⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 379-389.

¹³⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 391-401.

¹³⁷ The piece of legislation was enforced only to determine exchange rates, on a purely fictitious basis; *ibidem*, pp. 268-269.

¹³⁸ See for instance the following titles: “The Shift of the Money System of the Leu into the Hands of the Working Class” (Chapter XXI); “Money System of the Leu in the Context of Building Up Socialism” (Part V); *ibidem*, pp. 73 and 139 respectively.

¹³⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 261-270.

Although it was drawn up and published at a time when everybody had to obey the restrictive ideology of a totalitarian regime, even at present Costin C. Kirîţescu's monograph constitutes a complete history of the coin in Romania, covering the period starting with the pre-monetary exchange in the Bronze Age until the 1950s. Thanks to its broad-based documentation, this work is even nowadays completely useful, although the events that ensued may bring into discussion various perspectives in presenting and dealing with the topics.

As for the ancient coin in Romania, in 1969, Constantin Preda published a book bearing precisely this title¹⁴⁰ and representing a brief history of the coin on the territory of Romania, from very long ago until the fall of the Western Roman Empire in 476. A preface¹⁴¹ and a short introduction¹⁴² are followed by the chapters titled "Pre-Monetary Exchange"¹⁴³; "The Very First Coins"¹⁴⁴; "The Coins of Histria. The First Coins Issued on the Territory of Romania"¹⁴⁵; "The Coins of Callatis"¹⁴⁶; "The Coins of Tomis"¹⁴⁷; "The Thraco-Get and Scythian Coins in Dobrudja"¹⁴⁸; "The Coins of Macedonian Kings in Dacia"¹⁴⁹; "The Coins of Geto-Dacians"¹⁵⁰; "Koson-type Gold Coins of Dacians"¹⁵¹; "The Coins of Celts"¹⁵²; "The Coins of Apollonia and Dyrrhachium"¹⁵³; "The Coins of Macedonia Prima"¹⁵⁴; "The Coins of Thasos"¹⁵⁵; "Roman Republican Coins"¹⁵⁶; and finally "Roman Imperial Coins"¹⁵⁷.

Moreover, Constantin Preda's monograph includes a short Bibliography¹⁵⁸, a Glossary¹⁵⁹, a List of Illustrations¹⁶⁰, and 45 pictures apart from the text, as well as 51 figures.

"The Ancient Coin in Romania" was drafted as a paper of large popularisation, the text being limited to the bare necessity. Given this well-defined feature, it constitutes a succinct history of the coin in Romania, covering a period starting with the pre-monetary exchange in the Bronze Age

¹⁴⁰ CONSTANTIN PEDA, *Moneda antică în România*, Bucharest, 1969, 48 pages and 45 unnumbered pictures, and 51 figures.

¹⁴¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 5-6.

¹⁴² *Ibidem*, pp. 7-8.

¹⁴³ *Ibidem*, pp. 8-10.

¹⁴⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 10-11.

¹⁴⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 11-14.

¹⁴⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 14-15.

¹⁴⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 15-16.

¹⁴⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 16-17.

¹⁴⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 18-19.

¹⁵⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 19-27.

¹⁵¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 27-28.

¹⁵² *Ibidem*, p. 28.

¹⁵³ *Ibidem*, pp. 29-30.

¹⁵⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 30-31.

¹⁵⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 31-32.

¹⁵⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 32-36.

¹⁵⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 36-42.

¹⁵⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 43-44.

¹⁵⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 45-46.

¹⁶⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 47-48.

until the 5th century AD. In view of the chronological framework, the layout of illustrations leads to confusion. Hence, Figure 1 shows the collection of sickles at Drajna de Jos while Figure 2 sets out the collection of gold daggers at Perşinari, although the latter is older than the former. Figure 4, the first featuring coin reproductions, shows two bronze coins issued in Callatis during the Hellenistic era (3rd-1st centuries BC), even though the oldest coin issues on the territory of Romania are the silver *drachmas* of Istros/Histria, which were traced back to the early 5th century BC but are shown in Figures 11-13 whereas the silver *drachmas* issued in Callatis around the mid-4th century BC, i.e. prior to the bronze coins at Figure 4, are shown in Figures 14-15. Figure 9, featuring the collection of coin patterns in the Dacian burg of Tilişca (first half of the 1st century BC) should be placed before Figure 37 showing Koson-type coins, not before Figure 10 with reproductions of electrum *staters* of Cyzicus city, which were minted in the 5th century BC. Such comments could be continued but this is where they are brought to a conclusion.

In line with the above-mentioned short popularisation monographs, in 1970 the author of this book resumes his narration from the moment when the previous paper concluded and elaborates the subject, starting from the coins issued in the Byzantine Empire and circulating on the territory of Romania until Alexandru Ioan Cuza's endeavours to have in place a local coin¹⁶¹. The new monograph on money history opens with a preface¹⁶² and a very brief introduction¹⁶³, followed by topics such as: Circulation of Byzantine coins on the territory of Romania in the 5th-14th centuries¹⁶⁴; Coin issues of Walachia¹⁶⁵; Coin issues of Moldavia¹⁶⁶; Coin issues of Transylvania¹⁶⁷; Circulation of foreign coins in the Romanian Principalities (13th-19th centuries)¹⁶⁸; Attempts at issuing a national Romanian coin in the 19th century¹⁶⁹, and finally, a Conclusion¹⁷⁰.

¹⁶¹ OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, *Moneda în România 491-1864*, Bucharest, 1970, 64 pages and 45 pictures apart from the text.

¹⁶² *Ibidem*, pp. 5-6.

¹⁶³ *Ibidem*, pp. 7-8.

¹⁶⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 8-13.

¹⁶⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 13-24. In picture 19, while describing the knight-type *dinars* from the reign of Radu I, because of the author's regretful inaccuracy, an error slipped in. The error should be corrected as follows: the beginning of the legend MONETA RADOLI VAIVO is given on the reverse, not on the obverse (featuring the coat of arms) while the end of the legend TRANSALPINI is embossed on the obverse, not on the reverse (featuring the issuer's knight-effigy); the error was underscored by RADU OCHEŞEANU, *Despre semnificația reprezentării voievodului Radu I în armură pe monedele Țării Românești*, BSNR, 86-87, 1992-1993, p 141, n. 3.

¹⁶⁶ OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, *op. cit.*, pp. 25-39. On page 35, the following corrections should be made: the silver coin of one *ort* equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ (not $\frac{1}{2}$) of a *thaler*, which was attributed to Despot Vodă, is most likely an apocryphal creation dating back to the early 20th century.

¹⁶⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 39-46.

¹⁶⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 47-52.

¹⁶⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 53-56.

¹⁷⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 56-57.

The cited book also includes a General Bibliography¹⁷¹, a List of Illustrations¹⁷² and 45 pictures apart from the text¹⁷³.

As shown from the list of the chapter headings, the new paper actually traces the history of the coin in Romania from the Byzantine Empire when the emperor Anastasius I (491-518) issued the first coins which were in circulation on the Romanian territory, up to the period when the ruler Alexandru Ioan Cuza made several attempts to issue the legal tender during 1860-1864. As a matter of course, the author attached special attention to the chronology of coins starting with the beginning of coinage in Romania by making an attempt to present the coins minted by the rulers of Walachia and Moldavia during the 14th and 15th centuries; the coinage date is not inscribed. In the meantime, the latest research brought into the forefront additional information on the 1970 general presentation, especially as regards coinage in Walachia¹⁷⁴.

Publication of the Chronological History of Romania¹⁷⁵ (in English¹⁷⁶ and French¹⁷⁷) provided Octavian Iliescu with the opportunity to present the chapter on money from a historical perspective¹⁷⁸. The second section of this introduction will address the contribution of these works to the history of money.

In 1977, three outstanding members of the Numismatic Society, i.e. George Buzdugan, Octavian Luchian and Constantin C. Oprescu, published a catalogue of Romanian coins, notes and banknotes starting with monetary issues of Moldavia, Walachia and Transylvania and ending with those of the Socialist Republic of Romania, which circulated until 1977. The catalogue published by the three authors can be considered as a new Romanian history on money, obviously within the limits of the period dealt with, which contains data, sometimes in brief, on the coins issued¹⁷⁹ or which were in circulation on the Romanian territory from ancient times and historical data on the coinage.

The Catalogue on Romanian coins and notes contains the following: Abbreviations and

¹⁷¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 59-61.

¹⁷² *Ibidem*, pp. 63-64.

¹⁷³ In some copies of the last edition, because of a printing error, the reproduction of the reverse of the 100 *ducats* coin in picture 35 was placed in the wrong position, i.e. horizontally.

¹⁷⁴ Data presented in this paper were updated to bring them in line with the findings of the latest research, Costin C. Kirişescu – *Sistemul bănesc al leului și precursorii lui*, vol. I, second edition, Bucharest, 1997, for the 10th century to 1864. Because of a clerical mistake, the name of Bogdan III (1504-1517) as issuer is left out in the table shown at p. 363 (Annex IIIC).

¹⁷⁵ *Istoria României în date*, Bucureşti, 1971.

¹⁷⁶ *Chronological History of Romania*, Bucureşti, 1974.

¹⁷⁷ *Histoire chronologique de la Roumanie*, Bucureşti, 1976.

¹⁷⁸ OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, Monetary Emission and Circulation on Romanian Territory from Ancient Times up to 1859; Monetary Emission in Modern Romania (1867-1973); The Legal Tender of the Leu (the Romanian Currency) (1867-1973), in: *Chronological History of Romania*, cit. supra, p. 493-496; IDEM, La circulation monetaire en Roumanie environ 1800 av.n.e.-1859 – données principales; Emissions monetaires de Roumanie (1859-1975) – données principales; Définition legale du leu (1867-1975); Cours du leu base sur la parite en or, în: *Histoire chronologique de la Roumanie*, cit. supra, p 430-434.

¹⁷⁹ GEORGE BUZDUGAN, OCTAVIAN LUCHIAN, CONSTANTIN C. OPRESCU, *Monede și bancnote Românești*, Bucureşti, 1977, XL-429 p. și 20 pl. color-printed, including two annexes.

conventional signs¹⁸⁰; Overview by academician Emil Condurachi¹⁸¹; Foreword¹⁸²; A brief summary¹⁸³; Walachia: Introduction¹⁸⁴; Monetary issues¹⁸⁵; Mints of Walachia and a map¹⁸⁶; Description of coins¹⁸⁷; 2. Moldavia: Introduction¹⁸⁸; Monetary issues¹⁸⁹; Mints of Moldavia and a map¹⁹⁰; Description of coins¹⁹¹; 3. Transylvania: Introduction¹⁹²; Monetary issues¹⁹³; Mints of Transylvania and a map¹⁹⁴; Description of coins¹⁹⁵; 4. Coin of modern and contemporary Romania: Introduction¹⁹⁶; Description of coins: A. Metal coin¹⁹⁷; Mints¹⁹⁸; Chronology of monetary issues (1867-1975)¹⁹⁹; B. Samples of coins²⁰⁰; C. Romanian modern coins forged²⁰¹; D. Demonetisation, errors²⁰²; E. Monetary tokens²⁰³; 5. Romanian notes: Introduction²⁰⁴; Description of notes” A. The first attempts to issue banknotes in Romania²⁰⁵; B. Mortgage notes²⁰⁶; C. Mortgage notes supra-impressed “Banca Națională a României”²⁰⁷; D. Notes and banknotes issued by the National Bank of Romania and the Ministry of Finance²⁰⁸; E. Notes issued by German occupation troops in 1917 through the General Romanian Bank (the war *leu*)²⁰⁹; F. Banknotes issued by Austro-Hungarian Bank, which were in circulation in Romania after 1 December 1918²¹⁰; G. Notes issued by the Red Army Command in 1944²¹¹; H. Watermarks in Romanian banknotes²¹²; I. Coats of arms printed on Romanian banknotes²¹³;

¹⁸⁰ *Ibidem*, p. IX.

¹⁸¹ EM. CONDURACHI, Foreword, *Ibidem*, p. XI-XXI.

¹⁸² *Ibidem*, p. XXIII-XXIV.

¹⁸³ *Ibidem*, p. XXV-XL.

¹⁸⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 3.

¹⁸⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 4.

¹⁸⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 5-6.

¹⁸⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 7-35.

¹⁸⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 39.

¹⁸⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 40.

¹⁹⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 41-42.

¹⁹¹ *Ibidem*, p. 43-107.

¹⁹² *Ibidem*, p. 111.

¹⁹³ *Ibidem*, p. 112-114.

¹⁹⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 115-119.

¹⁹⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 120-249.

¹⁹⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 253-254.

¹⁹⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 255-277.

¹⁹⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 279-281.

¹⁹⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 202-299.

²⁰⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 300-306.

²⁰¹ *Ibidem*, p. 306-308.

²⁰² *Ibidem*, p. 308.

²⁰³ *Ibidem*, p. 308-317.

²⁰⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 321-322.

²⁰⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 323-324.

²⁰⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 324-328.

²⁰⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 328-329.

²⁰⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 329-353.

²⁰⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 354-357.

²¹⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 358-364.

²¹¹ *Ibidem*, p. 364-365.

²¹² *Ibidem*, p. 366-369.

²¹³ *Ibidem*, p. 370-372.

J. The text penalties on Romanian banknotes²¹⁴; K. Chronological survey of notes and banknotes issued during 1853-1973, listed in accordance order indicating the face values and signatures²¹⁵; L. Chronological survey notes and banknotes issued during 1853-1976 in terms of face value, types, issue and issuer²¹⁶; M. Chronological review of notes and banknotes issued during 1853-1976, listed in ascending order of the face value²¹⁷; N. Banknotes with errors²¹⁸; O. Samples of banknotes²¹⁹; P. Forged banknotes²²⁰; Q. Paper assignats, exchange notes, notes, and various paper money²²¹; English²²², German²²³ and Russian²²⁴ summary; Bibliography²²⁵; Institutions and numismatists²²⁶; Criterium in measuring the approximate exchange value of the Romanian coins and banknotes in 1976²²⁷.

Besides the text, the catalogue of the three numismatists also contains twenty colour-printed illustrations coins with four illustrations for each of the five sections and two annexes focusing on genealogical tables on the two Romanian ruling dynasties, i.e. the Basarabs in Walachia and the Muşatins in Moldavia.

As clearly shown in the titles and subtitles of the book the authors endeavoured, and, in our opinion, succeeded in providing a comprehensive picture of the history of money. Moreover, sometimes the content of the chapter provides a more complex investigation of the subject than mentioned in the title. Thus, the chapter “A brief summary”²²⁸ provides a brief history of coin in Romania, from the silver drachma issued in Istros/Istria²²⁹ to coin²³⁰ issued in the Byzantine Empire.

In this context, it is worth mentioning that the coins minted at Sadagura during 1771-1774 for Moldavia and Walachia²³¹ and *pondurile monetare* of the treasury of Moldavia²³² were included at the end of the chapter describing monetary issues of Moldavia; both coins issued at Sadagura, which were intended to circulate in Moldavia and Walachia and *pondurile monetare* – to which one can add that of the treasury of Walachia – would have been more appropriately dealt with in separate chapters.

²¹⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 372-373

²¹⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 373-382

²¹⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 383-384

²¹⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 385-388

²¹⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 388-390

²¹⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 390-392

²²⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 392-396

²²¹ *Ibidem*, p. 396-405

²²² *Ibidem*, p. 407-408

²²³ *Ibidem*, p. 409-410

²²⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 411-412

²²⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 413-415

²²⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 417-418

²²⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 419-429

²²⁸ *Ibidem*, p. XXV-XL

²²⁹ *Ibidem*, p. XXV-XXVI

²³⁰ *Ibidem*, p. XXXVIII-XL

²³¹ *Ibidem*, p. 102-105

²³² *Ibidem*, p. 105-107

The coins illustrated in this catalogue belong largely to the authors' collection and to other private collectors as well as to some institutions' collections, special mention deserving the collection belonging to the Numismatic Office of the Romanian Academy's Library; bibliographic sources laid also at the basis of the book²³³, excepting monetary issues in Transylvania that were almost entirely reproduced from Adolf Resch's well-known catalogue²³⁴. Excepting the coins issued by rulers and cities of Transylvania, which are reproduced from the Resch's catalogue, as mentioned above, the source of the other categories included in the numismatic articles depicted in "*Romanian coins and banknotes*" is not mentioned; in addition, one can observe that the authors did not indicate the bibliography sources, where the rare or even unique coins were mentioned in which for the first time; the authors took for granted the descriptions and interpretations of the first editors and they did not mention the source. The lack of specification showing the origin of some coins held in public collections²³⁵ and described for the first time by the authors in the catalogue causes difficulties for researchers of these coins as they will be willing to know if such coins have ever been shown in a catalogue or they are a novelty. By not mentioning the record of publications which showed the coins for the first time, but which were made available to the authors of this catalogue, points to a serious lack of rigorousness as proved by the people responsible for the publication of this catalogue. Thus, we mention in this respect the coins minted by Vlaicu Vodă and Radu I²³⁶, Dan I and Mircea cel Bătrân²³⁷ and Iliăș I and Ștefan II²³⁸; the anepigraph money issued by Vlad Dracul²³⁹; the dinar minted by Alexandru Lăpușneanu²⁴⁰ in 1588; the thalers minted during 1562-1563 and the golden ducat minted by Despot Vodă²⁴¹ in 1563 a.s.o. It is worth mentioning the gold 3-ducat coin minted by Gabriel Bethlen at Baia Mare²⁴² in 1628 (sole piece).

The catalogue is structured as follows: Section 1. Walachia with 295 coins, of which:

32 coins issued by Vladislav I – Vlaicu Vodă²⁴³;

4 coins issued by Vladislav I and Radu I²⁴⁴;

3 coins issued by Radu I and Vladislav I²⁴⁵;

41 coins issued by Radu I²⁴⁶;

²³³ *Ibidem*, p. XXIV

²³⁴ ADOLF RESCH, *Siebenburgische Muzen und Medallien*, Hermannstadt (Sibiu), 1901.

²³⁵ The explanations for not indicating the private collections to which some rare coins and banknotes belonged were the fear of theft and especially the legal restrictions in place in the communist regime, which prohibited individuals to hold collections.

²³⁶ *Monede și bancnote românești*, p. 11-12, nr. 33-39.

²³⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 17-18, nr. 89-91.

²³⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 68-69, nr. 502-509a.

²³⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 31, nr. 253-255.

²⁴⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 87-88, nr. 783-784.

²⁴¹ *Ibidem*, p. 88-89, nr. 788, 793-797.

²⁴² *Ibidem*, p. 185, nr. 1831.

²⁴³ *Ibidem*, p. 7-11, nr. 1-32.

²⁴⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 11-12, nr. 33-35.

²⁴⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 12, nr. 36-39.

²⁴⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 12-16, nr. 40-78b.

11 coins issued by Dan I²⁴⁷;
2 coins issued by Dan I and Mircea cel Bătrân²⁴⁸;
1 coin issued by Mircea cel Bătrân and Dan I²⁴⁹
6 coins issued by Vlad I²⁵⁰;
123 coins issued by Mircea cel Bătrân²⁵¹;
19 coins issued by Mihail I²⁵²;
2 coins issued by Dan II²⁵³;
24 coins issued by Nicolae Redwiz, ban de Severin²⁵⁴;
4 coins issued by Vlad Dracul²⁵⁵;
8 coins issued by Vladislav II²⁵⁶;
3 coins issued by Radu cel Frumos²⁵⁷;
7 coins issued by Basarab cel Bătrân - Laiotă²⁵⁸;
12 coins issued by Mihail Radu - Mihnea III²⁵⁹;
10 coins issued by Constantin Brâncoveanu²⁶⁰.

Several remarks on this section appear useful. First, we find that the authors included in their catalogue a very small number of coins minted in Walachia, i.e. 295 coins minted from Vlaicu Vodă to Constantin Brâncoveanu. For the sake of comparison, we point out that in a catalogue comprising the coins minted under the reign of Mircea cel Bătrân, which was elaborated by Octavian Iliescu in 1945, but was not published, no less than 338 various issues had been listed²⁶¹. In addition, we mention that a Corpus of coins of Walachia, elaborated in 1956 but unpublished²⁶², contained the description of 196 coins minted by Vlaicu Vodă, 293 coins minted by Radu I, 520 coins minted by Mircea cel Bătrân and 80 coins minted by Vladislav II to

²⁴⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 16-17, nr. 79-88.

²⁴⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 17-18, nr. 89-90.

²⁴⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 18, nr. 91.

²⁵⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 18, nr. 92-97.

²⁵¹ *Ibidem*, p. 18-28, nr. 98-220.

²⁵² *Ibidem*, p. 28-29, nr. 221-227.

²⁵³ *Ibidem*, p. 29, nr. 228-229.

²⁵⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 29-30, 230-252a.

²⁵⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 31, nr. 253-255.

²⁵⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 31-32, nr. 256-263.

²⁵⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 32, nr. 264-266.

²⁵⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 33, nr. 267-273.

²⁵⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 33-34, nr. 274-285.

²⁶⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 34-35, nr. 286-295.

²⁶¹ OCTAVIAN OCT. ILIESCU, *Monetele lui Mircea cel Bătrân*, 1945.

²⁶² OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, *Corpus Nummorum Valachia*, 1956. This manuscript was mentioned by P.P. Panaitescu, *Economia și viața politică*, în: V. COSTĂCHEL, P.P. PANAITESCU, A. CAZACU, *Viața Feudală în Țara Românească și Moldova*, București, 1957, p. 73, n. 1.

mention just the main issuers of Walachia. This finding allowed us to appraise without difficulty the research activity which made possible drafting of this section of the Catalogue “Romanian coins and banknotes”.

Second, the description of coins minted by Vlad I (1395-1396)²⁶³ was wrongly inserted, i.e. before the coins minted by Mircea cel Bătrân and not after the mintage of these coins.

Following publication of this catalogue, the latest research brought forth additional information on coins of Walachia; thus, after 1977, following the investigation we identified new issuers in Walachia, such as Basarab II (1442-1443)²⁶⁴, Vlad Țepeș (1448, 1456-1462, 1476)²⁶⁵ and Basarab IV cel Tânăr – Țepeluș (1477-1481, 1481-1482)²⁶⁶ and some coins were wrongly attributed as having been struck by Nicolae Redwitz, ban de Severin, since these coins were issued by Dan II (1420-1427 with interruptions)²⁶⁷.

Section 2. This section contains description of 1,073 coins of Moldavia (without listing the Russian issues manufactured at Sadagura mint and “*ponduri monetare de vistierie*” which had been mentioned above). These coins are the following:

350 coins issued by Petru I²⁶⁸;

3 coins issued by Ștefan I²⁶⁹;

120 coins issued by Alexandru cel Bun²⁷⁰;

31 coins issued by Iliăș I²⁷¹;

9 coins issued Iliăș I and Ștefan II, associates²⁷²;

29 coins issued by Ștefan II²⁷³;

14 coins issued by Petru II²⁷⁴;

²⁶³ Monede și bancnote românești, p. 18, nr. 92-97. About the coins issued by Vlad I, see also OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, Vlad I^{er}, voivode de Valachie: le regne, le sceau et les monnaies, RRH, 27, 1988, 1-2, p. 73-105.

²⁶⁴ OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, Ducatul de argint emis de Basarab al II-lea, SCN, 7, 1980, p. 109-116. Two pieces of the silver ducat issued by Mircea cel Bătrân and his son, Mihail I, were found by CONSTANȚA ȘTIRBU, PARASCHIVA STANCU, New data on coins issued by Mircea cel Mare, in: Marele Mircea voievod, București, 1987, p. 103.

²⁶⁵ OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, Vlad l'Empaleur et le droit monetaire, RRH, 18, 1979, 1, p. 107-131; IDEM, unknown ducats issued by rulers of Walachia in the 15th century, BSNR, 77-79, 1983-1985, p. 263-278.

²⁶⁶ IDEM, op. cit. supra, n. 264, p. 115.

²⁶⁷ ELENA ISĂCESCU, Monedele atribuite lui Nicolae Redwitz, SCN, 7, 1980, p. 99-107; ANA MARIA VELTER, Câteva probleme de numismatică românească: monedele atribuite lui Nicolae Redwitz, CercNum, 3, 1980, p. 93-115.

²⁶⁸ Monede și bancnote românești, p. 43-57, nr. 1-350; nr. 350 a, apocriph coin manufactured in the 19th century.

²⁶⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 43-44, nr. 351-351 b.

²⁷⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 44-65, nr. 352-470 i.

²⁷¹ *Ibidem*, p. 65-68, nr. 471-501 d.

²⁷² *Ibidem*, p. 68-69, nr. 502-509 a.

²⁷³ *Ibidem*, p.69-71, nr. 501-538.

²⁷⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 72-73, nr. 539-550 b.

15 coins issued by Roman II²⁷⁵;
12 coins issued by Alexandru II²⁷⁶;
14 coins issued by Bogdan II²⁷⁷;
20 coins issued by Petru III Aron²⁷⁸;
140 coins issued by Ștefan cel Mare²⁷⁹;
19 coins issued by Bogdan III²⁸⁰;
21 coins issued by Ștefăniță²⁸¹;
2 coins issued by Alexandru Lăpușneanu²⁸²;
15 coins issued by Despot Vodă²⁸³;
2 coins issued by Ștefan Tomșa²⁸⁴;
8 coins issued by Ion Vodă cel Cumplit²⁸⁵;
4 coins issued by Ștefan Răzvan²⁸⁶;
8 coins issued by Ieremia Movilă²⁸⁷;
24 coins issued by Eustratie Dabija²⁸⁸.

Series of monetary issues of Moldovia also includes 229 forged coins issued by Suceava Mint, which was re-opened by Dabija Vodă²⁸⁹ in 1662.

The richer numismatic references contained by section 2 show Moldavia as a representative region for the history of coinage. This section can play a significant part in providing information on the subject of money. Actually, after 1977, the only important finding was that half *gros* was issued under the reign of Petru I²⁹⁰.

²⁷⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 73-74, nr. 551-564.

²⁷⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 74-75, nr. 565-576.

²⁷⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 75-76, nr. 577-584.

²⁷⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 76-78, nr. 585-603.

²⁷⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 78-84, nr. 604-742.

²⁸⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 85-86, nr. 743-761.

²⁸¹ *Ibidem*, p. 86-87, nr. 762-782.

²⁸² *Ibidem*, p. 87-88, nr. 783-784.

²⁸³ *Ibidem*, p. 88-90, nr. 785-798.

²⁸⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 90, nr. 799-800.

²⁸⁵ *Ibidem*, p.90-91, nr. 801-808.

²⁸⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 91-92, nr. 809-812.

²⁸⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 92-93, nr. 813-820.

²⁸⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 93-94, nr. 821-844.

²⁸⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 94-102, nr. 845-1073.

²⁹⁰ OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, Monedă divizionară emisă de Petru Mușat. *CercNum*, 3, 1980, p. 87-92.

Section 3 on Transylvania looks on the 1538-1780 period, and one can observe that it is broadly a Romanian version of the already mentioned²⁹¹ catalogue published by Adolf Resch in 1901, containing scanty additions²⁹². This section describes 3,247 coins that were issued during various periods from Ioan I Zapolya (1538-1540) to Maria Theresia (1740-1780), when the principality of Transylvania struck coinage of its own²⁹³. The Transylvania series includes 224 coins intended for general circulation struck by the Habsburgs at Alba Iulia (1765-1867)²⁹⁴; 13 coins intended for general circulation, struck by the Habsburgs at Șiclova – Oravița (1812-1851)²⁹⁵ as well as 12 coins²⁹⁶ counterfeited. The map of mints located inside or outside the borders of the principality of Transylvania that struck coins for Transylvania²⁹⁷ is of a great practical value.

Section 4 on the modern and contemporary Romanian coin describes 183 coins issued by Romanian State during 1867-1966²⁹⁸; 61 sample coins dated 1860-1960²⁹⁹; 76 forged coins³⁰⁰; 8 coins demonetized³⁰¹ and 149 tokens³⁰². Description of the coins issued by Romanian State is followed by an index of mint marks³⁰³ (symbols, acronyms or names) and a record of issues of metal coins³⁰⁴ chronologically arranged. This picture amends the chronological record of descriptions, which is incorrect, in our opinion, as this sets monetary issues in terms of face value, in ascending order. It is worth mentioning in this context the series of coins issued under the reign of Carol II, starting with the coin with face value of 1 leu, which was issued during 1930-1940 (No. 94-96) and continuing with coins with face value of 10 lei and 20 lei issued in 1930 (No. 97-98), although these coins were first issued by Carol II. The classification criterium as adopted by the authors of the catalogue may stand for the viewpoint of dilettante coin collector but it offends against the rigorous historical succession.

The last section of this catalogue – 5. Romanian notes and banknotes – explores in detail this category of money, from the earliest known forms of money at the mid-nineteenth century³⁰⁵ down to the mortgage notes³⁰⁶, notes issued by the Ministry of Finance and banknotes issued by the National Bank of Romania³⁰⁷, banknotes issued by the General Romanian Bank³⁰⁸ and those

²⁹¹ See above, note 236.

²⁹² See the 3-gold ducat coin issued by Gabriel Bethlen in 1628, sole piece; *Monede și bancnote românești*, p. 185, nr. 831.

²⁹³ *Ibidem*, p. 1120-240, nr. 1-3247.

²⁹⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 241-247, nr. 3248-3571.

²⁹⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 248-249, nr. 3584-3596.

²⁹⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 247-248, nr. 3572-3583.

²⁹⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 115-118.

²⁹⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 255-277, No. 1-183. We specify that the 1- and 3-lei coins, dated 1966 were minted until 1989, with the year of issue remaining unchanged.

²⁹⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 300-306, nr. 184-244.

³⁰⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 306-308, nr. 245-320.

³⁰¹ *Ibidem*, p. 308, nr. 321-327, demonetisation; nr. 328, mintage error.

³⁰² *Ibidem*, p. 308-377, nr. J 1-J 149.

³⁰³ *Ibidem*, p. 279-281.

³⁰⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 282-299.

³⁰⁵ *Ibidem*, p.373-374, nr. 1-3.

³⁰⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 324-329, nr. 4-16.

³⁰⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 329-353, nr. 17-345 a.

³⁰⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 354-357, nr. 346-353 a.

produced by Austro-Hungarian Bank that were in circulation in Romania after the Grand Union had been proclaimed in Alba Iulia³⁰⁹ and notes issued by the Red Army Command³¹⁰ in 1944. As in the case of the sub-chapter comprising the catalogue of metal coins, the main classification criterion adopted by the authors in this section was the face value, so that the catalogue of Romanian notes and banknotes begins with the 10-bani note issued in 1917 at Iași (No. 16) and ends with the 5,000,000-lei banknote issued by the National Bank of Romania on 25 June 1947 (No. 344-345) thus breaking the chronological arrangement of issues. In our opinion, the notes issued by the Ministry of Finance are forms of money which distinguish from the banknotes issued by the National Bank of Romania and, therefore, it was more properly to list them under a separate group.

Section 5 also comprises other chapters, as mentioned above, we do not linger upon. Moreover, we consider it is superfluous to provide any additional remark on the final sub-chapters of the book – Bibliography, Benchmark criteria. This book of bold proportions brings out an extensive list of coins, referring especially to the 1867-1966 period. The catalogue of the Romanian coins and banknotes is and will be not only a guide for coin collectors but also a valuable instrument for researchers who will approach the subject of money in Romania from a historical perspective. Availing myself of the opportunity of having been involved in drawing up this paper, it is our belief that it is incumbent on us to emphasize the significant contribution made by engineer Octavian Luchian who is not only the initiator and the main author of this undertaking but also the *animus rector* of this book.

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This was the stage of research focusing on the History of money in Romania when, at the end of 1996, following the resumption of investigation of a topic, which was briefly addressed in 1975-1976 in the English and French versions of the History of Romania – a Chronology³¹¹ we commenced the drafting of this paper. We thought of providing researchers and the general public with a tool intended to offer a way of looking at and understanding the intricate topic dealing with the history of money in Romania.

The new History of coins in Romania comprises three separate parts. Part one is a summing up of the main chronological data tracing the development of trade, from the earliest known forms of trade when the metal was used as a standard means of accounting for the value. That is why the first part of this book takes a look at the stages of the first records of monetary activity, from the gold dagger from the Perșinari hoard found in county of Dâmbovița, dated to the age of bronze³¹², to the bronze arrow-heads from Dobrudja hoards (c. 500 BC)³¹³.

³⁰⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 358-364, nr. 354-380.

³¹⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 354-365, nr. 381-386.

³¹¹ See above note 180.

³¹² OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, Cum arătau banii primitivi. Tezaurul de la Perșinari, CercNum, 7, 1996, p. 7-14 și 3 pl.

³¹³ See G. SEVEREANU, *Sur les monnaies primitives des Scythes. Lingots-monnaie en forme de pointe de flèche*, BSNR, 21, 1926, p. 2-6; ANDREI ARICESCU, *Tezaurul de semne de schimb premonetare de la Enisala*, SCN, 6, 1975, p. 17-24 și 4 pl.; CONSTANTIN SCORPAN, *Vârfuri de săgeți – semne premonetare și monede histriene cu “roata” descoperite la Tomis*, SCN, 7, 1980, p. 25-34; MIHAELA MĂNUCU ADAMEȘTEANU, *Tezaurul de semne premonetare în formă de vârf de săgeată de la Vișina* (com. Jurilovca, jud. Tulcea), SCN, 8, 1984, p. 17-24.

The second section deals with the development of monetary economy in Romania that traces back to the issue of the first local coin, i.e. silver drachma of Istros³¹⁴ (c. 480 BC)³¹⁵. Ever since the stages of the monetary economy covered the ancient period (500 BC –1,000 AD), the Romanian medieval period (1000 – 1821); and the modern and contemporary period (1821 – onwards). From c. 500 BC to 1300 the data cover non-discriminatorily the historical territory of the Romanian people; for the 1300 – 1859 period, the data on the history of coin are separately classified, i.e. Walachia (including Dobrudja), Moldavia and Transylvania (including Banat, Crişana and Maramureş). The section includes two annexes: Official definition of the leu (1867-1954) and Official exchange rates of the main currencies against the leu (1867-1996).

Part two – Bibliography and part three – Glossary of this book are separately dealt with. By way of conclusion, it is our hope that the History of coin in Romania will provide the people interested in this topic with a helpful tool of working; moreover, it will represent a source of inspiration and a starting point for future research intended to make us acquire more knowledge on the history of coin in Romania.

³¹⁴ Called Histria following the settlement of Romans in Dobrudja.

³¹⁵ See CONST. MOISIL, *Cele mai vechi monete din Istros*, BSNR, 16, 1921, p. 108-112; OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, *Cel mai vechi sistem monetar adoptat de teritoriul de azi al României*, *Viaţa economică*, 5, 1967, nr. 4(180) din 27 ianuarie, p. 11; IDEM, *Le système monétaire et pondéral à Istros, Callatis et Tomis aux V^e-II^e siècles av. N.è.*, în: *Actes du 8^{ème} Congrès International de Numismatique New York-Washington*, Septembre 1973, Paris – Bâle, 1976, p. 85-98 și pl. 6-7 (in separate volumes).

CHRONOLOGY

Pre-monetary exchange

I. THE ANCIENT PERIOD

(c. 1500 – c. 500 BC)

c. 1500 – 1400 BC: Gold ingots of various sizes and shapes made at local mints are the earliest evidence of pre-monetary exchange; the earliest source known – the hoard of 11 ingots shaping spearhead, found in 1962 at Perșinari (county of Dâmbovița).

c. 1300-c.1200 BC: Gold ingots of various shapes further used as a means of payment: the hoard found in 1963 at Sacoșu Mare (Darova, Timiș county) contained gold ingots shaping simple spirals, double spirals and bracelets, three bracelets and a ring, fragments of gold wire and ingots.

c. 1300 – c.1200 BC: Use of a bronze sickles as a means of payment in the pre-monetary exchange; the hoard found at Drajna de Jos (Drajna, Prahova county) contained 198 bronze sickles used as a monetary medium.

c. 500 BC: bronze arrowheads used as a means of payment; the hoard found at Enisala (Tulcea county) contained 118 bronze arrowheads.

II. MONETARY ECONOMY

The earliest period (500 BC –1000 AD)

c. 480 BC: The citadel Istros (subsequently called Histria by the Romans) first issue: the archaean silver drachma of the phocaeic system (weight: 8.40 g). The first coin issued by a former authority, which was established on the Romanian territory.

c. 450 BC: The first bronze coins issued by Istros (Histria).

450 – 260 BC: City of Istros (Histria) continued to issue silver drachma and, infrequently, silver half-drachma, adopting various monetary systems; the city of Istros continued to issue bronze coins intended for local use.

c. 350 BC: The first issue of the city of Callatis: the silver drachma under the persian monetary system (weight: 5.64 g); Callatis also issued silver half-drachma and bronze coins. Silver drachma and half-drachma ceased to be issued in 300 BC.

c. 350 – c.180 BC: Silver tetradrachma and gold staters issued by Macedonian Kings Philip II (357-336 BC), Alexander the Great (336 – 323 BC), Philip III (323 – 316 BC), Lysimac, King of Thrace (323 – 281 BC) and Selencus I, King of Syria (312-280 BC) circulated on the territory inhabited by Geto-Dacian tribes, both in Dacia and in today Dobrudja; until around 180 BC, silver tetradrachma and gold staters bearing the names of Kings Philip II, Alexander the Great, and Lysimac, posthumous issues, coming from various Greek cities, circulated on the territory of Dacia.

c. 300 BC: The Gets in northern Dobrudja took as the model the silver coin issued by Istros (Histria) and issued coins occasionally.

c. 280 – 260 BC: The city of Istros (Histria) issues gold staters taken as the model the staters struck by Lysimac.

c. 280 – 80 BC: Monetary issues by Geto-Dacian tribes adopting various designs and denominations taken as model the Greek and Macedonian coins.

c. 250 BC: The cities of Istros (Histria) and Callatis issues gold staters similar to those struck by Alexander the Great; Callatis also issues silver tetradrachma similar to those struck by Alexander the Great.

c. 250 BC: The first coins issued by the city of Tomis: bronze coins intended for local use; bronze coins were issued until the end of the first century BC.

End of the third century – second century BC: coins issued by Scythian kings in southern Dobrudja.

c. 180 – 150 BC: The city of Callatis issues silver tetradrachma adopting the standard weight and copying the models and legend of tetradrachma issued by Lysimac, the king of Thrace (323-281 BC).

c. 150 BC: The city of Tomis issues gold staters taking as model those struck by Lysimac.

c. 150 – c. 100 BC: Silver tetradrachma issued by Amphipolis in Macedonia Prima circulated on the territory of Dacia.

c. 130 – c. 55 BC: The cities of Istros (Histria), Tomis and Callatis issue gold staters taken as the model those struck by Lysimac.

c. 120 – End of the first century BC: Silver tetradrachma issued by the city of Thasos in the Thasos Island circulate in Dacia.

c. 120 – c. 60 BC: Silver drachma issued by the cities of Apollonia and Dyrrhachium on the eastern arm of Adriatic Sea circulate in Dacia.

c. 100 BC: The silver denarius of the Roman Republic circulates in Dacia following the influx of Roman merchants (cives romani in Dacia consistentes).

c. 70 – c. 60 BC: After the union of Geto-Dacian tribes by king Burebista, the mints of Dacia start to issue coins imitating the Roman denarius, which circulated on the territory of Dacia. Such a mint was found in the Dacian city of Tilișca (Sibiu county). The mints on the territory of Dacia continued to issue imitations and copies of the Roman denarius until about the year 30 BC, even after the death of Burebista.

30 BC: The dacian king Coson (Koson) of Transylvania issues three series of gold staters used for paying his army.

End of the first century BC – beginning of the first century AD: The coin of the Roman Empire enters Dacia, i.e. silver denarius and gold denarius (aureus), while bronze coins are less widely used.

27 BC – 249 AD: The city of Tomis issues bronze coins showing the portraits of Roman emperors and the legend written in the Greek language.

44 – 249: The city of Callatis strikes bronze coins.

106 – 271: The Roman coin is the legal tender of the Province of Dacia and circulates too on the Geto-Dacian territory outside this Province.

117 – 244: The city of Histria issues bronze coins.

246 – 257: The city of Apulum strikes Imperial bronze coins for the Province of Dacia.

271 – 395: The coin of the Roman Empire continues to circulate as the legal tender in Dobrudja (Scythia Minor); this coin circulates occasionally on the territory of Dacia as well, especially after the union of the empire in 324 and after Constantin the Great established bridge heads at Drobeta, Sucidava.

380: The Visigoths bury gold ingots in Transylvania; such hoards were found at Crasna (Sita Buzăului, Brașov county) and Feldioara (Brașov county).

395 – 491: The coin of the Eastern Roman Empire circulates as the legal tender in Dobrudja (Scythia Minor) and circulates occasionally on the territory of the former Dacia; in addition, the coins of the Western Roman Empire circulates occasionally on the Carpathian-Danubian-Pontic territory.

491 – 680: The coin of the Byzantine Empire circulates as the legal tender of Dobrudja (Scythia Minor) and circulates occasionally on the left-side Danube territory.

680 – 969: The coin of the Byzantine Empire continues to circulate occasionally on the territory of Dobrudja (Scythia Minor).

The 8th – 10th centuries: Silver coins and, seldom, bronze coins struck within the lands of the Abbasid Caliphate enter occasionally in the East-Carpathian region.

969 – 1025: The coin of the Byzantine Empire circulates as the legal tender in Dobrudja lands, which was a military region in 971 under thema Paristrion (Paradunavon); this coin circulates occasionally on the left-side Danube territory.

Medieval Romania (1000 – 1821)

The 11th and 13th centuries

1025 – 1203: The coin of the Byzantine Empire circulates in Dobrudja even after the setting up of the Walachian-Bulgarian state of Asănești; occasionally, this coin circulates on the Romanian territory of the left-side Danube.

c. 1030: The silver denarius issued by the Hungarian Empire circulates in Crișana and Transylvania.

1068 – 1081: A Byzantine mint in Dobrudja strikes silver coins reproducing various issues of follis.

c. 1090: Silver denarius struck by the Hungarian Empire also circulate in Banat.

c. 1200 – c. 1260: Denarius issued by the Hungarian Empire gave way to silver denarius (pfennigs) produced by various authorities of Austria at Friesach and other localities; this coin circulated widely in Banat, Crișana and Transylvania; in southern area of Carpathians, denarius were found in the hoarding discovered prior to 1869 at Filiași (Dolj county).

1224: The earliest evidence for a local coin used as a means of weighing precious metals, equaling 206.77 g was found in Transylvania; it is a local coin called successively Sibiu coin (1224), Rodna coin (1268), local coin (1271-1337), smaller-weight coin (1287), Bistrița coin (1332-1337), Transylvania coin (1317-1390), Sebeș coin (1328), Alba Iulia coin (1329-1342) and Cluj coin (1350).

c. 1245 – 1261: Gold *hyperperon* (*perperi*) struck by the Byzantine Empire circulate in the lands of Dobrudja and are spread across the Romanian regions bordering the left-side Danube and the Carpathians; the gold *hyperperon* issued by Ioan Vatatzes (1222-1254) are the most widely spread and continue to circulate in Dobrudja and left-side Danube until the mid of the next century.

1261 – 1328: After restoration of the Byzantine Empire at Constantinople, the gold *hyperperon* issued by emperors continue to circulate in Dobrudja and left-side Danube. Hyperperons issued by Andronic II and Mihail IX (1294-1320) prevail in both number and area of circulation and they will circulate in Walachia until 1375. The name of this coin *perper*, *părpăr* or *părpărit* will be taken over by Walachia to indicate the customs duty levied on exports of grains and wine and was recorded in documents as a coin circulating until the turn of the 18th century.

c. 1270 – c. 1325: *Banales denarius* of Slavonia (or *banales*, in Romanian language *ban*, plural *bani*, a low-denomination coin) circulate in Banat; a *banales denarius* of Slavonia, issued in the name of Ladislau IV Cumanul (1272 – 1290), King of Hungary, was found at Biserica Domnească (Curtea de Argeș) in 1920.

1281: Commercial contracts recorded by a Genovese notary in Pera (Constantinople) highlight amounts of old gold hyperperons as *sagium vecine* (namely, checked by the weighing standard of Vivina, a Danubian city).

1286 – 1300: Issuance of silver dirhams and bronze coins at Isaccea in the name of Gjuhezes Han of Golden Horde (1286-1292) and in the name of Nogai Han (1296-1300), these coins were intended to circulate in the Danube area.

c. 1290 – c. 1300: Four successive undated issues of bronze coins of Isaccea city, under the reign of Mongolian Han Nogai.

The 14th – 15th centuries

A. Walachia (including Dobrudja)

c. 1301 – c. 1307: Bronze coins (follari) issued at Isaccea, under the reign of Toctai Han of the Golden Horde.

1307 – 1311/1312: Issue of bronze coins (follari) by a Genovese colony of Isaccea under the reign of Toctai Han of the Golden Horde.

1330: In order to avert an encounter between armies, Basarab I (1310-1352) offers the king Carol Robert 7000 silver coins (about 1400 kg of silver) as war damage but the offer is rejected by the latter.

1331 – c. 1380: Circulation of silver *groși* issued at Târnovo by the Bulgarian tzar Alexandru (1331-1371).

1344: Nicolae Alexandru, as ruler of Walachia, along with Basarab I, pays the king of Hungary, Ludovic I of Anjou 1,000 gold *pounduri* (equalling 4.300 kg) as a tribute.

c. 1355 – c.1380: Circulation of silver *groși* issued at Vidin by the Bulgarian tzar Sracimir (1355-1365, 1369-1396).

1360 – 1361: Commercial contracts recorded by a Genovese notary at Chilia mention as circulating coins the silver *aspri* of Chilia and *summi argenti ad pondus Chili* (silver *sommi*, silver ingots weighted by *sommo* standard of Chilia).

c. 1360 – c. 1368: Issue of bronze coins (follari) of Genovese colony at Enisala under the rule of the Tatar prince Dimitrie.

1365: Vladislav I – Vlaicu Vodă (1364 – c. 1377) lay the groundwork of the monetary system of Walachia, based on one silver *marca* weighing 210 g, with three face values: one ducat, weighing 1.05 g; one dinar weighing 0.70 g, and one ban weighing 0.35 g, all made of silver. 1 ducat = 1 ½ dinar = 3 bani; 1 dinar = 2 bani.

1372 – c. 1377: Vladislav I – Vlaicu Vodă and Radu I, issue silver dinars.

c. 1374: Vladislav I – Vlaicu Vodă establish an annual rent of 1000 *perperi* to the Vodița Monastery, plus 300 *perperi* per year to be paid to the monks.

c. 1377 – c. 1383: Radu I continues to issue the three face values of the monetary system created by this predecessor: ducat weighing 1.05 g, dinar weighing 0.60 g, and ban weighing 0.21 g.

c. 1377 – 1379: Terter, senior of Dristra-Silistra (1376 – 1388) issues silver *groși* and bronze *stamena*.

c. 1383 – 1386: Dan I confines the monetary system of Walachia to two face values, issuing the silver ducat weighing 0.50 g and silver ban weighing 0.20 g, the ratio being 1 ducat = 3 bani.

c. 1383 – 1396: The Hungarian dinar issued by Queen Mary and then by Sigismund I (King of Luxembourg) circulates along with the new ducats in Banatul Severinului (western Oltenia)

1383: Commercial contracts recorded by a Genovese notary at Licostomo mention silver *aspri* of Licostomo as coins in circulation.

1385 – 1386: Dan I and Mircea cel Bătrân issue together silver ducat weighing 0.50 g.

1386 – 1388: Ioan Terter, despot of Carbona and Dristra, issues at Caliacra silver coins with face value of 1 follaro.

1386 – 1390: Mircea cel Bătrân (1386-1418) issues silver ducat weighing 0.50 g and silver ban weighing 0.30 g.

c. 1390: The earliest evidence of the Ottoman silver *aspru* circulating in Dobrudja.

c. 1390 – 1417: Mircea cel Bătrân issues at Dârstor/ Silistra bronze coins to circulate in Southern Dobrudja.

1391 – 1395: Mircea cel Bătrân issues the silver ducat weighing 0.36 g and low silver content.

1395 – 1396: Mircea cel Bătrân issues the silver ducat weighing 0.21 g and low fineness.

1395 – 1396: Vlad I (1395 – 1396) issues silver ducats weighing 0.30 g.

1397 – 1418: Mircea cel Bătrân undertakes the reform of the monetary system of Walachia and issues silver coins with high fineness: *ducați* weighing 0.48 g and *bani* weighing 0.30 g; the ratio between the two coins is 1 ducat = 1 ½ bani.

1408 – 1418: Mircea cel Bătrân and Mihail I issue together silver *ducați*.

1413: Mircea cel Bătrân awards customs privileges to the merchants of Brașov by establishing customs duties expressed in *fertuni* and *perperi* as calculation units, *ducați* and *bani* as coins; the ratio is: 1 fertun = 1 1/3 perperi = 24 ducats = 36 bani; 1 perper = 18 ducati = 24 bani; 1 ducat = 1 ½ bani.

1417: Mircea cel Bătrân pays the Ottoman Empire a yearly tribute worth 3,000 Hungarian gold *ducați* (florini).

1418 – 1420: Mihail I (1418-1420) issues silver ducat weighing 0.36 g.

1424: Dan II (1422-1431, with interruptions) together with Sigismund of Luxembourg, King of Hungary issues silver ducat weighing 0.21 g which circulates in Transylvania as well.

1424 – 1430: Dan II issues bilon-alloy coins for Banatul de Severin.

1427 – 1430: Dan II undertakes the reform of the monetary system of Walachia and issues silver ducat weighing 0.60 g.

1431: The earliest document evidencing circulation of the Ottoman aspru in Wallachia.

1433: Alexandru I Aldea grants an annual rent of 3,000 Ottoman aspri to the Zografu Monastery of Mount Athos.

1436 – 1437: Vlad II Dracul (1436-1442, 1443-1447) issues bronze coins weighing 0.25 g.

1442 – 1443: Basarab II (1442-1443) issues silver ducat weighing 0.21 g.

1448 – 1456: Vladislav II (1447-1448, 1448-1456) issues silver ducat weighing 0.60 g.

c. 1454 – 1455: The earliest evidence of the sale of a village – Negoiești, which was bought for 680 Ottoman aspri.

1456 – 1457: Vlad III Țepeș (1448, 1456-1462, 1476) issues silver coins weighing 0.40 g.

1459 – 1461: Vlad III Țepeș issues silver ducat weighing 0.60 g.

1462 – 1463: Radu III cel Frumos issues silver ducat weighing 0.60 g.

c. 1470: Silver Hungarian dinar issued after the monetary system reform in 1467 during the rule of King Matias Corvin circulates widely in Walachia along with Ottoman aspri: 1 aspru = 2 dinars.

1475 – 1476: Basarab III Laiotă (1473-1477) issues silver ducat weighing 0.40 g.

1477 – 1481: Basarab IV Țepeluș (1477-1482) issues silver ducat weighing 0.60 g.

B. Moldavia

1300 – c. 1370: Coins issued by Golden Horde han dynasty circulate on the territory of Moldavia extending from Prut to the Dniester.

1363 – 1369: Tatar silver and bronze coins issued by the Golden Horde are minted in the “new City” (Yangi-şehr/Şehr al-djedid) in Orheiul Vechi.

c. 1377: Hoarding found in 1912 at Siret (Suceava county) contained *groși* and half *groși* issued by Kings of Bohemia, half silver *groși* (kwartnici) issued for Halici and silver dinar issued by Vlaicu Vodă, the ruler of Walachia.

1377: Petru I (1375-1391) lays the groundwork of the monetary system of Moldavia based on the Moldavian silver *marca* weighing 192 g; Petru I issues two silver coins: *grosul* weighing 0.96 g and the half gros weighing 0.24 g.

1387: Petru I lends Vladislav Jagello of Poland 3,000 silver roubles (genovese), i.e. 3,000 silver *sommi*, in the form of ingots, equal to 600 kg of silver.

1394 – 1399: Ștefan I (1394-1399) issues silver *groși* weighing 0.90 g.

c. 1400: Hoard found in 1952 at Brăești (Botoșani county) contained Hungarian and Venetian gold ducats, imitations of Venetian gold ducats, a Genoese gold ducat, and a gold coin (tankah) issued by a sultan in Delhi (India).

1400 – 1431: Alexandru cel Bun (1400-1432) issues three silver coins: 1 ½ gros weighing 1.35 g; the gros weighing 0.90 g and the half gros weighing 0.45 g. Along with the three silver coins – 1 ½ gros, gros and half gros – Alexandru cel Bun issues coins with similar designs but made of bilon alloy or bronze, sometimes of silver alloy; it is not known what these coins made of bilon

alloy or bronze were issued for and which was the ratio between these coins and similar silver coins.

8 October 1408: Alexandru cel Bun awards customs privileges to merchants of Lvov establishing customs duties to be paid in silver roubles (ingots), groși and half groși.

13 December 1421: Alexandru cel Bun engages to pay his ex-wife Rimgaila lifetime income worth 600 Hungarian gold ducats or florins payable in two instalments.

1426 – 1428: Alexandru cel Bun issues several series of petty coins made of silver, bilon alloy and bronze intended for local circulation purpose in Chilia (Chilia Veche), which was under the domination of the Moldavian troops since 1426.

1432 – 1433: Iliăș I (1432-1433 alone and 1435-1442 together with Ștefan II) issues silver coins with face value of 1 ½ groși; coins made of bilon alloy and bronze; coins of bronze with face value of ½ gros.

1433 – 1447: Ștefan II (1433-1435 alone, and 1435-1442 together with Iliăș I; 1442-1444 alone; 1444-1445 together with Petru II; 1445-1447 alone) issues silver coins with face value of 1 ½ gros and groși, coins made of bilon alloy and bronze; coins of bronze, with face value of ½ gros.

1435 – 1442: Iliăș I and Ștefan II issue silver coins with face value of 1 ½ gros and bronze coins. Besides these coins inscribed with the names of both rulers, Iliăș and Ștefan, it appears that each of them issued coins separately until 1442 in Suceava and Bârlad or Cetatea Albă respectively.

3 April 1439: Half of Plișineți village is sold for 90 zloty; it is the oldest deed of sale known so far in Moldova.

20 June 1446: Two deeds of sale: Boziani village sold for 130 Tatar zlotys and Vlasinești village sold for 50 Tatar zlotys.

1447 – 1448: Roman II (1447 and Petru II; 1447-1448 alone) issues bronze coins with face value of one gros and ½ gros.

1448 – 1449: Petru II (1444-1445 and Ștefan II; 1447 together with Roman II; 1448-1449 alone) issues bronze coins with face value of one gros and ½ gros.

1449: Alexandru II – Alexăndrel (1449, 1452-1454, 1455) issues silver coins with face value one gros.

1449 – 1451: Bogdan II (1449-1451) issues silver coins with face value of one gros and ½ gros.

c. 1450: City of Asprokastron (Cetatea Albă) countermarks with its coat of arms the Tatar silver aspers for local use.

1451 – 1452, 1454 – 1455: Petru Aron (1451-1452), 1454-1455, 1455-1457) issues bronze coins with face value one gros and ½ gros.

1451 – 1455: City of Asprokastron (Cetatea Albă) issues bronze coins with face value of one follaro, showing the Moldavian coat of arms on the obverse and coat arms of the issuance city on the reverse.

1452 – 1454: Alexandru II – Alexăndrel issues bronze coins with face value of one gros and ½ gros.

1456: Under the reign of Petru Aron Moldavia pays, for the first time, the tribute demanded by the Ottoman Empire; initially, the cash payment was set at 2,000 Hungarian gold florins (ducats).

1456 – 1457: Petru Aron issues silver coins under the new monetary system, i.e. groși weighing 0.60 g and half gros weighing 0.30 g, with silver fineness of 500 ‰.

1457 – 1475: Ștefan cel Mare (1457-1504) carries out the reform of the monetary system of Moldavia and issues silver coins with fineness of 800 ‰ and face value of one gros, weighing 0.60 g and half gros weighing 0.30 g, the coins issued during 1457-1475 show a split shield on the obverse.

10 May 1466: Ștefan cel Mare pays an annual allowance of 100 Hungarian gold ducats to the Zografu Monastery on Mount Athos.

1476 – 1504: Ștefan cel Mare issues groși and half gros of silver, with hallmarks established by the monetary reform; coins issued during 1476-1504 show a shield with a double cross on the obverse.

C. Transylvania (including Banat, Crișana and Maramureș)

1323 – 1338: King Carol Robert carries out several reforms of the Hungarian monetary system and in 1323 he issues coins of silver with face value of one dinar, weighing 0.974 g and half of dinar weighing 0.48 g; in 1325, for the first time in Hungary, Carol Robert issues coins of gold with face value of one florin (ducat), weighing 3.55 g, with fineness of 989 ‰; in 1329 Carol Robert issues silver coins with face value of one gros, weighing 3.90 g, with fineness of 937 ‰; this denomination was issued until 1337; under Ludovic I this denomination was issued during 1345-1369, the last issue was dated to 1468, under Matias Corvin. The florin (ducat) of gold and the dinar of silver were the main face values of the Hungarian coinage, which played a significant part in the monetary systems of Transylvania, Walachia and Moldova; initially, the ratio between the two denominations was 1 florin = 100 dinars.

1333: A document found in Transylvania mentions *banales de Clusvar*, dinars struck at Cluj, as coins circulating in the region; this is the first document proving coinage in Transylvania.

1336, 1338: The Mint of Transylvania is established at Sibiu (1336); Mints are established at Satu Mare, Oradea, and Lipova in 1338.

1413: Mircea cel Bătrân awards customs privileges to the merchants of Braşov to pay customs duties in *fertuni* and *perperi* and ducats and bani, which are the coins circulating in Walachia.

1424: Sigismund I and Dan II lay the foundation of a monetary union, the coin issued by the latter being allowed to circulate in Transylvania too.

5 April 1425: Sigismund I asks Dan II to refrain from introducing in Braşov the coin (ducat) struck by him.

1427 – 1431: Sigismund I issues a silver coin called ducat, intended to circulate in Transylvania and Walachia following the monetary union with Dan II.

1430 – 1435: Sigismund entitles Vlad Dracul, claimant to the throne of Walachia, to open a mint in Sighişoara to strike Hungarian dinars of bilon alloy with face value of one ducat (Hungarian ducat, 1430) and of one *quarting* (1430-1435).

24 October 1446: Iancu de Hunedoara, governor of the Hungarian Kingdom, informs people of Braşov of his intention to issue a new coin and asks them to refrain from making use of *aspri* or of the coin issued by the ruler of Walachia or other old coins.

1467: King Matias Corvin carries out the reform of coinage improving the silver content of the dinar, which has fineness of 500‰ and weighs of 0.50 g, re-establishing the ratio at 1 florin (ducat) of gold = 100 dinars of silver, which remains in place until the mid 16th century.

The 16th – 17th centuries

A. Walachia

5 March 1560: A deed written in Romanian proved that part of estate was sold for 18 *ughi*, meaning the Hungarian florin (ducat) of gold.

12 November 1562: Deed attesting that an estate was sold for 35 thalers.

1596: Mihai Viteazul buys a village for 30,000 *costande*, Polish silver coins with face value of 3 groşi.

1658: Mihail Radu – Mihnea III issues coins of bronze and bilon alloy with face value of one shilling; these coins were struck probably in Sibiu.

B. Moldavia

1504 – 1517: Bogdan III (1504-1517) resumes the former monetary system of Moldavia and issues silver coins with face value of one gros, weighing 0.80 g and half gros weighing 0.66 g and bronze coins, with size and shape similar to the gros and half gros of silver.

1517 – 1527: Ștefăniță (1517-1527) keeps in place the former monetary system of Moldavia and issues coins of bilon alloy, brass, and bronze with face value of one gros and half gros.

1526 – 1532: Ștefăniță in 1526-1527 and Petru Rareș (1527-1538, 1540-1546) in 1527-1532 counterfeit the Lithuanian silver coin with face value of one *polgros* (half gros).

1558: Alexandru Lăpușneanu (1552-1561, 1564-1568) issues silver coins with face value of one dinar weighing 0.55 g, similar to the Hungarian dinar; by this denomination, the issuer aimed to facilitate trading between Moldavia and Transylvania.

1562 – 1563: Despot Vodă (1561-1563) introduces in Moldavia the Western and Central European monetary system and issues coins of gold with face value of one ducat weighing 3.55 g (1563); coins of silver with face value of one dinar weighing 0.50 g (1562 and 1563) and with face value of one thaler weighing 28.50 g (1562 and 1563) and coins of bronze with face value of one *mangâr* (in the monetary system of the Ottoman Empire) weighing 1.20 g (1562 and 1563). There is only one piece of the thaler issued in 1562 and one piece of the gold ducat.

1563 – 1564: Ștefan Tomșa (1563-1564) issues silver coins with face value of one dinar weighing 0.45 g (1563-1564).

1573: Ion Vodă cel Cumplit (1572-1574) issues a bronze coin with face value of *accea* weighing 6.50 g. *Akcè* is the Turkish official name for the Ottoman *aspru*; the one *accea* issued by Ion Vodă was probably equivalent to the Ottoman *aspru* of silver. It is the first coin with the legend written in the Romanian language.

1579: Internal paper mentioning that 4 thalers of a previous loan worth 9,260 *aspri* were paid back.

1595: Ștefan Răzvan (1595) issues a silver coin with face value of 3 groși weighing 2.20 g; this coin had been issued in 1594 in Transylvania by Sigismund Bathori, copying the Polish coins.

1579 – 1600: Ieremia Movilă (1595-1600, 1600-1606) issues silver coins imitating the Polish coin of 3 groși, showing the names and effigies of Kings Ștefan Bathori and Sigismund III Vasa; the original coats of arms on the obverse were substituted for an oval medallion featuring a buffalo head. These coins were struck and put into circulation following the treaty between Ieremia Movilă and King of Poland signed in 1597, which entitled Ieremia Movilă to issue a coin similar to the Polish one to circulate in Moldavia and Poland. Although this treaty was not

ratified by the Polish Senate, Ieremia Movilă took probably into consideration the clause entitling him to issue the coin.

1600: The letter of Bistrița city sent to Siret city mentioning *potronicu*, the name of the Polish silver coin with face value of 3 groși.

1662 – 1665: Eustratie Dabija (1661-1665) issues copper coin with face value of one shilling weighing 0.60 g; coins were issued at the Mint opened in Suceava in 1662. Concomitantly, the Mint counterfeits large amounts of Swedish, Polish, Lithuanian, Prussian shillings and shillings circulating in Riga and Elbing cities. The Mint will continue to counterfeit foreign coins under Gheorghe Duca (1665-1666, 1668-1672) and Iliăș Alexandru (1666-1668).

C. Transylvania and Banat

1527: Ioan Zápolya, the ruler of Transylvania, issues silver coins in his position of king of Hungary.

1538 – 1540: Ioan I Zápolya, King of Hungary, issues coins of gold with face value of 1, 6, and 10 ducats in the Mints of Cluj and Sibiu.

1551: Ioan II Sigismund Zápolya, King of Hungary, and Isabella, regent (1540-1551) issue a silver coin with face value of one dinar at Baia Mare Mint.

1551 – 1555: Ferdinand I of Habsburg, King of Hungary (1527-1565) issues at Sibiu gold coins with face value of one ducat and silver coins with face value of one dinar, ½ gulden, 1 gulden, 1 ½ gulden, 1, 1 ½ thalers and 2 thalers to circulate in Transylvania.

1556 – 1559: Ioan II Sigismund Zápolya, King of Hungary and Isabella, regent, issue at Baia Mare, Sibiu, and Cluj gold coins with face value of 1, 2, 5 and 10 ducats and fractional coins of ½ and ¼ ducats; silver coins with face value of one dinar, one gulden, one thaler and fractional coins of one *obol*.

1559 – 1571: Ioan II Sigismund Zápolya, King of Hungary, issues at Baia Mare, Cluj, and Sibiu gold coins with face value of one ducat and 10 ducats; silver coins with face value of one dinar, one gulden, one thaler and fractional coins of one *obol*.

1566: The Ottoman Sultan Soliman I (1520-1566) issues gold coins (*altâni*) and silver coins (*aspri*) at Mudava (Moldova Veche, Caraș-Severin county).

1572 – 1576: Ștefan Bathori, ruler (1571-1575) and prince of Transylvania (1575-1583) issues at Sibiu gold coins with face value of one ducat.

1577 – 1583: Christofor Bathori, ruler of Transylvania (1576-1581) issues at Sibiu gold coins with face value of one ducat, 1 ½, 2, 4, 5, and 10 ducats and fractional coins of ¼ ducats; silver coins with face value of one dinar, one gulden, and one thaler.

1577: Elisabeta Bocskay, Christofor Bathory's wife, issues gold coins with face value of 2, 3, 5, and 10 ducats; silver coins with face value of one thaler.

1581 – 1597: Sigismund Bathori, prince of Transylvania (1581-1598, 1598-1599, 1601-1602) issues gold coins with face value of 1, 5, and 10 ducats at Sibiu, Baia Mare, and Cluj; silver coins with face value of one solidus (shilling), one dinar, 3 groși, one gulden, one thaler, 1 ¼ and 2 thalers; copper coins with face value of one solidus (shilling). Coins with face value of one solidus (shilling) and 3 groși were taken over from the monetary system of Poland.

1598: Rudolf II, ruler of Transylvania, issues at Cluj gold coins with face value of one ducat and 2 ducats.

1598: Sigismund Bathori issues gold coins with face value of 1, 9, and 10 ducats; silver coins with face value of 3 groși.

January-March 1600: Mihai Viteazul issues at Sibiu gold coins with face value of 10 ducats (at present there is only one such piece).

1603: Moise Szekely issues gold coins with face value of 10 ducats; silver coins with face value of one thaler.

1604 – 1605: Rudolf II issues at Cluj gold coins with face value of 1, 2, and 3 ducats.

1605 – 1608: Ștefan Bocskay (1605-1606) issues gold coins with face value of 1, 5 ducats and subunits of ½ and ¼ of a ducat at Baia Mare, Sibiu, and Cluj; silver coins with face value of 3 and 6 groși, 1, 2 and 3 guldens, one thaler, 1 ½ and 2 thalers. Coins dated 1607 (one ducat and 3 groși), 1608, and 1609 (3 groși) were posthumous issues.

1607 – 1608: Sigismund Rakoczi issues at Cluj gold coins with face value of one and 10 ducats and subunits of ¼ of a ducat; silver coins with face value of one gulden and one thaler.

1608 – 1613: Gabriel Bathori issues gold coins with face value of 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, and 10 ducats and subunits of ½ and ¼ of a ducat at Baia Mare, Cluj, Sibiu, and Alba Iulia; silver coins with face value of one dinar, one gros, 3 groși, one gulden, one thaler, and 1 ½ of a thaler.

1613 – 1629: Gabriel Bethlen issues gold coins with face value of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 10 ducats and subunits of ¼ of a ducat at Cluj, Sibiu, Alba Iulia, Kremnitz (Kremnica in the Czech Republic), Baia Mare, Oppeln (Opole in Poland) and Kaschau (Košice in Slovakia); silver coins with face value of one dinar, one kreutzer, 3 and 24 kreutzers, one, 2 and 3 *groși*, one wide gros (breitergroschen), one gulden, 1 ½, 2, 3, and 4 guldens, one thaler, 1 ½, 2, 2 1/2, and 3 thalers

and subunits with face value of one *obol*. Coins with face value of one kreutzer, 3, and 24 kreutzers were taken over from the monetary system of Austria while coins with face value of one breitergroschen were adopted from the monetary system of Hungary.

1630: Catherina de Brandenburg (1629-1630), Gabriel Bethlen's widow, issues at Cluj gold coins with face value of one ducat.

1630: Ștefan Bethlen issues at Cluj gold coins with face value of one ducat.

1631 – 1648: Gheorghe Rakoczi I (1630-1648) issues gold coins with face value of 1, 2, 5, 6, and 10 ducats at Cluj, Baia Mare, and Alba Iulia; silver coins with face value of one *gros*, $\frac{1}{2}$, 3, and 6 *groși*, $\frac{1}{2}$ gulden, one gulden, $\frac{1}{2}$ thaler, one thaler, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 thalers.

1648 – 1660: Gheorghe Rakoczi II issues gold coins with face value of 1, 7, 10, 12 and 13 ducats and fractional coins with face value of $\frac{1}{4}$ ducat at Baia Mare, Alba Iulia and Cluj; silver coins with face value of one dinar, $\frac{1}{2}$ gulden, one thaler and 2 thalers.

1659 – 1660: Acatius Barcsai (1658-1660) issues gold coins with face value of 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 10 ducats at Cluj, Sibiu, Brașov and Sighișoara; silver coins with face value of one gulden and one thaler.

1661: Ioan Kemeny (1661-1662) issues gold coins with face value of 1, 2, 5 and 10 ducats at Cluj and Sighișoara; silver coins with face value of one gulden, one thaler and 2 thalers.

1662 – 1690: Mihail Apafi (1661 – 1690) issues gold coins with face value of 1, 2, 3, 4, 4 $\frac{1}{4}$, 5, 6, 10, 25, 50 and 100 ducats at Sibiu, Brașov, Sighișoara, Făgăraș, Cluj, Bistrița, Aiud and Alba Iulia; silver coins with face value of 6, 12 dinars, one gulden, one thaler, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 thalers; copper coins with face value of 12 dinars.

1683: Emeric Thököly issues gold coins with face value of 4 and 10 ducats.

1690 – 1691: Emeric Thököly issues gold coins with face value of one ducat and 3 ducats.

1692 – 1705: Leopold I Habsburg, ruler of Transylvania (1691-1705) issues gold coins with face value of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 and 12 ducats at Sibiu and Cluj; silver coins with face value of $\frac{1}{2}$ kreutzer, 3 and 15 kreutzers and one thaler; copper coins with face value of 15 kreutzers.

The 18th – 19th centuries

A. Walachia (until 1859)

1711: Following the annexation of the Low Countries to the Habsburg Empire, the Dutch silver thalers which circulated widely in Walachia, Moldavia and Transylvania (*talerei-lei* or *lei*) ceased to be issued by the provinces and cities making up the Confederacy of the United Provinces. The Dutch *taler-leu* will give way to the Austrian thaler and especially to the Ottoman *piastru* (thaler) called Turkish leu.

1713: On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Constantin Brâncoveanu reign, jubilee gold coin-medals with face value of 2, 3, 5, 6 and 10 ducats were struck at the Alba Iulia Mint; at present, there are only several pieces with face value of 5 and 6 ducats. Pieces of this series were sent to the Ottoman Empire as material evidence of one of the counts of indictment which led to the overthrow and murdering of Constantin Brâncoveanu at Constantinople.

1718 – 1739: Following the annexation of Oltenia to the Habsburg Empire based on the Passarowitz peace treaty, the Vienna imperial administration imposes Austrian coins to circulate as legal tender. Following the Belgrad peace treaty, Oltenia re-joined Walachia and Austrian coins were called in.

c. 1750 – c. 1760: Creation of a monetary unit of account called leu, with fractional coins 40 *parale* to be used as a unit of value in Walachia, derived from model of the Ottoman *piastre* (the Turkish leu).

1772 – 1774: The Russian occupation army imposes bronze coins struck at Sadagura mint (near Cernăuți) for local use. The face value was set according to both the Ottoman monetary system and the Russian one, i.e one *para/3 denghi* and 2 *parale/3 copeici* (6 *denghi*). On the obverse are shown coats of arms of the United Principalities and the legend in Russian language; the coin of Moldavia and Walachia.

1830: The Organic Regulations of Walachia set forth the legal tender adopting bi-metal system; the Dutch gold unit with face value of one ducat (called Dutch *galben* or *olan*) was adopted as gold standard while the Austrian silver coin with face value of 20 kreutzer (called *șfanț* or *șfanțic* derived from *Zwanziger*) was adopted as silver standard. The Dutch gold ducat weighing 3.49 g and fineness of 900‰ was equivalent to 31 *lei* and 20 *parale*; the Austrian silver *șfanț* weighing 6.68 g and fineness of 583‰ was equivalent to 2 *lei* and 10 *parale*; the parity of the two standard coins was 1 to 14.

1834: The Treasury of Walachia produces and puts into circulation a brass pound (Treasury stone – *piatră de visterie*) weighing 3.49 g intended for checking the weight of the Dutch gold ducat.

c. **1850:** Barbu Știrbei (1849-1853) failed to issue a coin of Walachia with coins of low denomination; if put in circulation, such coins would have been called in following external political pressures.

B. Moldavia (until 1859)

18 November 1705: The agreement signed in Warsaw between Stanislas Leszczinski, King of Poland, and Carol XII, King of Sweden prohibits coins which were called “solidi valachici vulgo Dumnicze” in the original text to circulate; the agreement refers to various issues of shilling counterfeited during the reign of Eustratie Dabija (1661-1665) and of some of his successors.

1711: As in the case of Walachia, when following the annexation of Low Countries to the Habsburg Empire the Dutch thaler-lei ceased to be issued, in Moldavia this coin was replaced by the Austrian imperial thalers and, especially, by Ottoman piaștri called Turkish lei in local documents.

c. **1730 – 1750:** Money of account called leu with fractional coins of 40 *parale* was created in Moldova.

1771: The leaders of the Russian occupation army signs the franchise agreement with the German baron Nikolans Gartenberg over the setting of a mint at Sadagura (near Cernăuți), designed to produce low-denomination bronze coins intended for payment by the Russian army in Moldavia and Walachia.

1772 – 1774: The Russian occupation army imposes low-denomination bronze coins to circulate in Moldova. These coins were struck at Sadagura mint; their face value was set according to the Ottoman and Russian monetary system: one *para/3 denghi* and 2 *parale/3 copeici*.

1774: After the occupation, the Russian military authorities refused to exchange low-denomination bronze coins minted at Sadagura, and imposed as means of payment in Moldavia entailing outburst of riots in Iași.

1775: Following the annexation of Bucovina, the Habsburg Empire imposes the Austrian coins as the legal tender in this region of Moldavia. This state of affairs will last until Bucovina joins Romania on November 28, 1918.

1806 – 1812: During the Russian – Turkish war, the Russian government counterfeits Ottoman silver *piaștri* (thaler) at Sankt Petersburg; large amounts of forged coins are introduced in Moldavia and Walachia as means of payment used by the Russian occupation army.

1812: Following the annexation of Basarabia, Russia imposes Russian coins as legal tender in this region of Moldavia. This state of affairs will last until Basarabia joins Romania on March 27/April 9, 1918.

1832: The Organic Regulation of Moldavia sets forth the same legal standard-coins as in Wallachia: the Dutch gold ducat and the Austrian silver coin with face value 20 kreutzer, at a fixed ratio of 1 to 14.

1834 – 1849: The Treasury of Moldavia produces and puts into circulation brass or bronze *ponduri* intended for checking the weight of some gold coins, such as the Dutch or Austrian ducat (1834 and 1837); *rubiaua* (1848), *irmilic* (1848) and Turkish *dublon* (the Turkish lira) – 1848 and 1849; the Austrian *dublon* (*dublul ducat*) – 1849 and $\frac{1}{2}$ *imperial rusesec* (with face value of 7.5 roubles) – 1849.

1835: Mihail Sturdza (1834-1849) orders (probably in Vienna) coinage of a low-denomination coin with face value set according to the Ottoman and Russian monetary systems, i.e. 5 *parale*/10 copeici; given the external political pressure this coin was no longer issued, the only piece was found on the occasion of the numismatic exhibition organised in Bucharest in 1906.

1837: Mihail Sturdza failed to abolish the leu for calculation purposes.

C. Transylvania (until 1867)

1705 – 1710: Francisc Rakoczi II (1704-1711) issues gold coins with face value of one ducat; the coins were minted at Cluj; copper coins with face value of 5, 10, 15, and 20 *polture* are issued at Oradea and Lipova.

1705 – 1711: Iosif I issued at Sibiu gold coins with face value of 1, 3, 5 and 10 ducats and fractional coins of $\frac{1}{4}$ ducat; silver coins with face value of one kreutzer, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 kreutzers; copper coins with face value of one *poltura* (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ kreutzer).

1706 – 1710: Oradea Mare, under the siege of the Austrian troops (1706-1710) issues copper coins with face value of one *poltura* (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ kreutzers).

1712 – 1740: Carol VI (1711-1740) issues at Alba Iulia gold coins with face value of 1, 2, 4, 5 and 10 ducats and fractional coins of $\frac{1}{4}$ ducat; silver coins with face value of one thaler, one kreutzer, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$, 3, and 15 kreutzers, $\frac{1}{2}$ gulden, one gulden and one thaler; copper coins with face value of $\frac{1}{2}$ kreutzers (*poltura*).

1740 – 1780: Maria Theresia issues at Alba Iulia gold coins with face value of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, and 12 ducats and fractional coins with face value of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{8}$, and $\frac{1}{16}$ ducats; silver coins with face value of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$, 3, 7, 10, 15, 20, and 30 kreutzers, one gulden, and one thaler; copper coins with face value of one dinar, $\frac{1}{2}$, kreutzer and one kreutzer, $\frac{1}{2}$ *greschel*, and one *greschel*.

1746 – 1765: Francisc I (1745-1765) issues at Alba Iulia gold coins with face value of one ducat; silver coins with face value of 15 and 20 kreutzers and one thaler; copper coins with face value of one dinar, $\frac{1}{2}$ kreutzer and one kreutzer.

1780: Coins issued by Maria Theresia in 1780 are the last coins struck for Transylvania. These coins were engraved on one side with Maria Theresia's coat of arms.

D. Austrian coins struck by the mints of Transylvania and Banat

1765 – 1790: Iosif II issues Austrian gold coins in Alba Iulia, with face value of 1, 2, and 3 ducats; silver coins with face value of 3, 10, and 20 kreutzers.

1791 – 1792: Leopold II (1790-1792) issues gold coins in Alba Iulia, with face value of one ducat and silver coins with face value of 10 and 20 kreutzers.

1792 – 1805: Francisc II (the emperor of the Roman – German Empire; 1806 – 1835 Francisc I the emperor of Austria) issues gold coins in Alba Iulia, with face value of one ducat and fractional coins with face value of $\frac{1}{2}$ ducat; silver coins with face value of 6, 7, 10, 12, and 20 kreutzers; copper coins with face value of 1, 3, and 6 kreutzers and fractional coins with face value of $\frac{1}{2}$ kreutzer.

1807 – 1814: Francisc I issues silver coins in Alba Iulia, with face value of 20 kreutzers; copper coins with face value of 1, 3, 15, and 30 kreutzers.

1812, 1816: The Empire's government issues copper coins in Șiclova (near Oravița), with face value of one kreutzer and 3 kreutzer (1812) and $1\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ kreutzers (1816).

1815 – 1835: Francisc I issues gold coins in Alba Iulia, with face value of one ducat; silver coins with face value of 3, 5, 10 and 20 kreutzers and $\frac{1}{2}$ thaler and one thaler; copper coins with face value of one kreutzer.

1835 – 1848: Ferdinand I issues gold coins in Alba Iulia, with face value of one ducat and 4 ducats; silver coins with face value of 3, 10, 20 kreutzers.

1848 – 1849: Copper coins with face value of 1, 3, and 6 kreutzers and iron coins with face value of 1, 2, and 3 kreutzers were issued by rulers of the Austrian Imperial troops, which were under siege of the Hungarian revolutionary forces in the Arad fortress. The coins do not indicate the issue date.

1851 – 1867: Gold coins with face value of one ducat and 4 ducats, $\frac{1}{2}$ koruna and 1 koruna; silver coins with face value of 20 kreutzers, $\frac{1}{2}$ florin, one florin and one thaler (Vereinstaler); copper coins with face value of one 2, 3, and 4 kreutzers were issued in Alba Iulia under Francisc Iosif I (1848-1916).

Coins and notes issued in Romania (1859-2000)

– in brief –

In order to provide a thorough picture of the main coins issued in Romania since 1859 to 2000, the chronological list presented below shows metal coins and paper money; moreover, the main pieces of legislation – some of them draft laws – underlying the issue of coins listed were recorded. The list does not include coins issued by the National Bank of Romania on several occasions during 1995-2000 for numismatic purposes, not intended for circulation as a legal tender.

6/12 August 1860: Draft law drawn up by the Central Commission of the United Principalities in Focșani to issue a national coin called “*romana*”.

1860: Mintage of a bronze coin with face value of 5 *parale*, the United Principalities; it was not issued; the place of mintage is not known.

August 1864: Draft law drawn up by the Ministry of Finance to regulate the exchange rate of the currency in circulation in the United Principalities; the name of the coin is not set.

1864: Mintage of a copper coin with face value of 5 *sutimi*, the United Principalities; the place of mintage: Paris (?); the coin was not issued.

22 April, 4 May 1867: Law passed following the Decree No. 578 of 14/26 April 1867 on creating a new monetary system and minting of the national coins was published in the Official Gazette No. 89/22 April/4 May 1867; according to this law, the leu, with fractional unit 100 bani is set as the unit of the national monetary system; according to law, the leu contains 5 g silver and fineness is 835‰.

1867: Issue of bronze coins with face value of 1, 2, 5 and 10 bani, with the inscription “România”; the coin was struck by Heaton and Watt & Co. mint in Birmingham (England).

1868: Mintage of a gold coin with face value of 20 lei with the issuer’s rank “Domnul Românilor” printed on it; the coin was probably struck by the State Mint in Bucharest, in 200 pieces.

1869: Mintage of some silver coins with face value of 50 bani, 1 leu and 2 lei, with the issuer’s rank “Domnul Românilor” printed on it; there were only several coins produced by Heaton Mint in Birmingham (England); the coins were not issued.

1870: Issue of some silver coins with face value of 1 leu and gold coins with face value of 20 lei; the rank of issuer “Domnul României”; the State Mint in Bucharest minted the coins.

1872 – 1876: Issue of some silver coins with face value of 2 lei (1872, 1873, 1875 and 1876), 1 leu (1873, 1874 and 1876) and 50 bani (1873 and 1876); the coins were struck by José Allard Mint in Brussels.

12/24 June 1877: Law on issue of mortgage notes, passed on 7/19 June 1877 published in the Official Gazette No. 123 of 12/24 June 1877.

1877: The Ministry of Finance issues mortgage notes, paper money, with face value of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 500 lei; the notes were printed by the Bank of France in Paris.

1879: A silver coin with face value of 5 lei is struck by the State Mint in Bucharest; the coin was not issued.

8/20 April 1879: Law on striking silver coins with face value of 5 lei was passed following the Decree/28 March, 9 April 1879 and published in the Official Gazette No. 80/8/20 April 1879.

1879 – 1880: Bronze coins with face value of 2 bani struck by the State Mint in Bucharest.

1880: Silver coin with face value of 5 lei issued by the State Mint in Bucharest.

17/29 April 1880: Law on the establishment of a discount and circulation bank, by the name of National Bank of Romania, published in Official Gazette No. 90 of 17/29 April 1880.

9/12 September 1880: Take-over and suprainpression of mortgage bonds by the National Bank of Romania; their retirement from circulation was concluded in 1885.

1/13 January - 13/25 March 1881: Issuance of bronze coins with face value of 2 *bani* and of silver coins with face value of 5 *lei*, struck by the State Mint in Bucharest; silver coins with face value of 50 *bani*, 1 *leu* and 2 *lei*, struck by the Vienna Mint; the last money issues are inscribed “*DOMNUL ROMÂNIEI*”.

1881: The National Bank of Romania issued its first notes with face value of 20 *lei* (19/31 January 1881), 100 *lei* and 1,000 *lei* (28 February/12 March 1881).

14/26 March 1881 - until the end of the year: Issuance of silver coins with face value of 5 *lei*, struck by the State Mint in Bucharest; the first money issues bearing the name of the issuer: “*REGE AL ROMÂNIEI*”; two issues, the first one after 14/26 March, the second one after 10/22 May 1881.

1882: Issuance of bronze coins with face value of 2 *bani* and 5 *bani*, and of silver coins with face value of 5 *lei*, struck by the State Mint in Bucharest.

1883: Issuance of bronze coins with face value of 5 *bani*, of silver coins with face value of 5 *lei* and of gold coins with face value of 20 *lei*, struck by the State Mint in Bucharest.

1884 – 1885: Issuance of bronze coins with face value of 5 *bani* and of silver coins with face value of 50 *bani*, 1 *leu* and 5 *lei* (1884 and 1885), struck by the State Mint in Bucharest.

17/29 March 1890: Law on the amendment of the Law of 14/26 April 1867 relative to the creation of a new currency system and the minting of national coins, promulgated by Decree No. 837 of 12/24 March 1890 and published in Official Gazette No. 275 of 17/29 March 1890.

1894: Issuance of silver coins with face value of 50 *bani*, 1 *leu* and 2 *lei* struck by the Brussels Mint.

3/16 April 1900: Law on minting fractional copper-nickel coins and reminting used silver coins, promulgated by Decree No. 2085 of 5/18 April 1900 and published in Official Gazette No. 9 of 13/26 April 1900.

1900: Issuance of bronze coins with face value of 1 *ban* and 2 *bani*, struck by the State Mint in Hamburg; copper-nickel coins with face value of 5 *bani*, 10 *bani* and 20 *bani*, struck by the Brussels Mint and silver coins with face value of 50 *bani*, 1 *leu* and 2 *lei*, struck by the Hamburg Mint.

1901: Issuance of silver coins with face value of 50 *bani*, 1 *leu*, 2 *lei* and 5 *lei*, struck by the Hamburg Mint.

1905: Issuance of perforated copper-nickel coins with face value of 5 *bani*, 10 *bani* and 20 *bani*, struck by the Brussels Mint.

19 December 1905/1 January 1906: Law on minting the gold and silver jubilee coin, promulgated by Decree No. 5286 of 19 December 1905/1 January 1906 and published in Official Gazette No. 209 of 20 December 1905/2 January 1906.

1906: Issuance of copper-nickel coins with face value of 5 *bani*, 10 *bani* and 20 *bani*, struck simultaneously by the Mints in Brussels and Hamburg; issuance of silver jubilee coins with face value of 1 *leu* and 5 *lei* and of gold coins with face value of 12.5 *lei*, 20 *lei*, 25 *lei*, 50 *lei* and 100 *lei*, struck by the Brussels Mint.

1910 – 1912, 1914: Issuance of silver coins with face value of 50 *bani*, 1 *leu* and 2 *lei*, struck simultaneously by the Brussels Mint (1910, 1912 and 1914) and the Hamburg Mint (1911, 1912 and 1914).

1914 – 1915: Issuance by the National Bank of Romania of notes with face value of 5 *lei* (31 July/13 August 1914) and of 1 *leu* and 2 *lei* (12/25 March 1915).

1917: Issuance by the Ministry of Finance of paper money with face value of 10 *bani*, 25 *bani* and 50 *bani*, printed in Iași city by the Geography Section of the Army.

1917: Issuance by the General Bank of Romania (Bucharest) of notes with face value of 25 *bani* and 50 *bani* as well as of 1 *leu*, 2 *lei*, 5 *lei*, 20 *lei* 100 *lei* and 1,000 *lei*; the notes were put into circulation on the territory of Romania which was under German occupation.

30 August 1920: Law on vesting the Ministry of Finance with the power to put into circulation metal coins with face value of 50 *bani* and 25 *bani*, promulgated by Decree No. 3652 of 30 August 1920 and published in Official Gazette No. 125 of 9 September 1920.

1921: Issuance of perforated aluminium coins with face value of 25 *bani* and 50 *bani*, minted by Huguenin Frères & Co. in Le Locle (Switzerland).

20 June 1923: Law on replacing the notes with face value of 1 *leu*, 2 *lei* and 5 *lei* by metal coins of the same face values, promulgated by Decree No. 3156 of 16 June 1923 and published in Official Gazette No. 61 of 20 June 1923.

1924: Issuance of copper-nickel coins with face value of 1 *leu* and 2 *lei*, struck simultaneously by the Brussels Mint and Société Française de Monnayage in Poissy (France).

4 June 1927: Law on minting gold coins with face value of 20 *lei*, 25 *lei*, 50 *lei* and 100 *lei*, promulgated by Decree No. 1712 of 2 June 1927 and published in Official Gazette No. 120 of 4 June 1927.

1929: Issuance of some commemorative gold coins with face value of 20 *lei*, 25 *lei*, 50 *lei* and 100 *lei*, dated 1922, struck by the Royal Mint in London; these coins played no economic role.

7 February 1929: Currency Law No. 15 promulgated by Decree No. 359 of 7 February 1929 and published in Official Gazette No. 30 bis of 7 February 1929.

1 August 1929: Law regarding the issuance of fractional metal coins with face value of 20 *lei* and 5 *lei*, promulgated by Decree No. 2678 of 29 July 1929 and published in Official Gazette No. 168 of 1 August 1929.

1 January – 7 June 1930: Issuance of copper-zinc-nickel coins with face value of 5 *lei*, struck by the Paris Mint, Heaton Company in London and King's Norton Metal Company in Birmingham (England) and face value of 20 *lei*, struck by Heaton Company in London and King's Norton Metal Company in Birmingham (England).

25 June 1930: Law regarding the issuance of fractional metal coins with face value of 10 *lei* and 20 *lei*, promulgated by Decree No. 2296 of 24 June 1930 and published in Official Gazette No. 138 of 25 June 1930.

3 June – 31 December 1930: Issuance of copper-zinc-nickel coins with face value of 10 *lei* and 20 *lei*, struck simultaneously by the Paris Mint, and by Heaton Company in London and King's Norton Metal Company in Birmingham (England).

31 March 1931: Issuance by the National Bank of Romania of notes with face value of 5,000 *lei*.

21 December 1931: Law No. 216 on the issuance of silver coins, promulgated by Decree No. 4150 of 19 December 1931 and published in Official Gazette No. 298 of 21 December 1931.

1932: Issuance of silver coins with face value of 100 *lei*, coinage struck by the Paris Mint and Heaton Company in London.

23 February 1935: Law regarding the regulation of metal coin issues, promulgated by Decree No. 391 of 22 February 1935 and published in Official Gazette No. 46 of 23 February 1935.

1935: Minting of silver coins with face value of 200 *lei* by the Rome Mint; the coin was not put into circulation.

1935 – 1940: Issuance of silver coins with face value of 250 *lei* (1935, 1939 and 1940); nickel coins with face value of 100 *lei* (1936 and 1938) and 50 *lei* (1937 and 1938), as well as copper-zinc-nickel coins with face value of 1 *leu*, all struck by the National Mint in Bucharest.

5 June 1939: Law No. 489 on minting gold coins, promulgated by Decree No. 2301 of 3 June 1939 and published in Official Gazette No. 127 of 5 June 1939.

1939: Issuance of jubilee gold coins with face value of 20 *lei* and 100 *lei* and of a large gold *galben* with no face value; two three-piece sets were struck by the National Mint in Bucharest; these coins played no economic role.

4 June 1940: Decree-Law No. 1775 of 31 May 1940 on vesting the Ministry of Finance with the power to mint jubilee gold coins, published in Official Gazette No. 128 of 4 June 1940.

1940: Issuance of jubilee gold coins with face value of 20 *lei* and 100 *lei*, and of a large gold *galben*, with no face value; two three-piece sets were struck by the National Mint in Bucharest; these coins played no economic role.

December 1940: Issuance of silver coins with face value of 250 *lei*, bearing the hallmark of *Garda de Fier*; the coin was struck by the National Mint in Bucharest but it was not put into circulation.

1941 – 1944: Issuance of copper-zinc-nickel coins with face value of 1 *leu* (1941); zinc coins with face value of 2 *lei* (1941), 5 *lei* (1942) and 20 *lei* (1942, 1943 and 1944); nickel-plated iron coins with face value of 100 *lei* (1943 and 1944); silver coins with face value of 200 *lei* (1942), 250 *lei* (1941, two issues) and 500 *lei* (1941 and 1944); the 5 *lei* coin was struck by the Berlin Mint, while the other coins were struck by the National Mint in Bucharest.

1941 and 1943: Issuance by the National Bank of Romania of notes with face value of 2,000 *lei* (18 November 1941) and 5,000 *lei* (28 September 1943).

1944: Issuance by the Red Army Command of notes with face value of *5 lei*, *10 lei*, *20 lei*, *100 lei*, *500 lei*, *1,000 lei* and *5,000 lei*, imposed as a means of payment (occupation money) by the Soviet troops and exchanged by the National Bank of Romania, according to the obligation stipulated in the Armistice Agreement of 12 December 1944, at an exchange rate of 1 Soviet *leu*/ 5 *lei*.

23 December 1944: Decree-Law No. 2510 of 22 December 1944 on authorising the issuance of commemorative gold coins, published in Official Gazette No. 298 of 23 December 1944.

15 January 1945: Issuance of a commemorative gold coin, dated 1944, with no face value, having a weight of 6.55 g and fineness of 900‰; the coin was used unofficially as a means of payment for large-value transactions of a civil or commercial nature.

1945 – 1947: Issuance of copper-zinc-nickel coins with face value of *200 lei* and *500 lei* (1945), *2,000 lei* (1946) and *10,000 lei* (1947), and aluminium coins with face value of *500 lei* (1946), struck by the National Mint in Bucharest.

25 November 1945: Issuance by the Ministry of Finance of notes with face value of *20 lei* and *100 lei*.

1945: Issuance by the National Bank of Romania of notes with face value of *10,000 lei* (18 May 1945) and *100,000 lei* (7 August 1945).

1 April 1946: Decree No. 870/20 March 1946 on vesting the Ministry of Finance with the power to mint and put into circulation jubilee silver coins, published in Official Gazette No. 78 of 1 April 1946.

1946: Issuance of jubilee silver coins with face value of *25,000 lei* and *100,000 lei*, struck by the National Mint in Bucharest.

16 April 1947: Issuance by the National Bank of Romania of notes with face value of *1,000,000 lei*.

5 June 1947: Issuance by the National Bank of Romania of notes with face value of *5,000,000 lei*.

15 August 1947: Decree No. 1689 of 14 August 1947 on vesting the Ministry of Finance with the power to mint and put into circulation metal coins with face value of *50 bani*, *1 leu*, *2 lei*, *5 lei* and notes with face value of *20 lei*, published in Official Gazette No. 186 of 15 August 1947.

16 August 1947: Law on currency reform promulgated by Decree No. 1727 of **15 August 1947** and published in Official Gazette No. 187 of 16 August 1947.

15 August 1947: Issuance of copper-zinc coins with face value of 50 *bani*, 1 *leu* and 2 *lei*, and aluminium coins with face value of 5 *lei*; the 2 *lei* coins were minted in former Czechoslovakia, the other coins were struck by Metrom Works in Hungary.

15 August 1947: The Ministry of Finance issued notes with face value of 20 *lei*.

15 August 1947: Notes with face value of 100 *lei*, 500 *lei* and 1,000 *lei*, issued by the National Bank of Romania, are put into circulation on 25 June 1947.

25 January 1948: The Ministry of Finance issued notes, with face value of 20 *lei*, bearing the new name of the state *REPUBLICA POPULARĂ ROMÂNĂ*.

22 June 1948: Decree No. 160 of 21 June 1948 on minting and putting into circulation of coins with face value of 5 *lei*, bearing the Arms of Republica Populără Română, published in Official Gazette No. 167 of 22 June 1948.

25 January 1948 – 1952: Issuance of copper-zinc-nickel coins with face value of 1 *leu* (1949, 1950 and 1951) and 2 *lei* (1950 and 1951) as well as aluminium coins with face value of 1 *leu* and 2 *lei* (1951 and 1952), 5 *lei* (1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951) and 20 *lei* (1951), struck by the State Mint in Bucharest.

1948: The National Bank of Romania, nationalised based on Law No. 1056 published in Official Gazette No. 298 of 28 December 1946, changed its name into *Banca Republicii Populare Române* – State Bank.

18 June 1949: Issuance by *Banca Republicii Populare Române* – State Bank of notes with face value of 1,000 *lei*.

15 October 1949: Issuance by *Banca Republicii Populare Române* – State Bank of notes with face value of 500 *lei*.

30 January 1950: Issuance by the Ministry of Finance of notes with face value of 20 *lei*.

15 June 1950: Issuance by the Ministry of Finance of new notes with face value of 20 *lei*.

26 January 1952: Decision No. 147 issued by the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Romanian Workers' Party regarding implementation of the currency reform and reduction of prices, published in Official Gazette No. 7 of 26 January 1952.

26 January 1952: Decree No. 37 of 26 January 1952 concerning implementation of the currency reform and reduction of prices for staples and main industrial goods, published in Official Gazette No. 7 of 26 January 1952.

26 January 1952: Issuance of copper-aluminium coins with face value of 1 *ban*, 3 *bani* and 5 *bani* and copper-nickel coins with face value of 10 *bani* and 25 *bani*, struck by the Moscow Mint.

26 January 1952: Issuance by the Ministry of Finance of paper money with face value of 1 *leu*, 3 *lei* and 5 *lei*.

26 January 1952: Issuance by *Banca Republicii Populare Române* – State Bank of notes with face value of 10 *lei*, 25 *lei* and 100 *lei*.

1953 – 1957: Issuance of copper-aluminium coins with face value of 1*ban*, 3 *bani* (1953 and 1954) and 5 *bani* (1953, 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957) and of copper-nickel coins with face value of 10 *bani* (1954, 1955 and 1956), 25 *bani* (1953, 1954 and 1955), and 50 *bani* (1955 and 1956), struck by the State Mint in Bucharest.

1960 – 1963: Issuance of nickel-plated steel coins with face value of 5 *bani* and 25 *bani* (1960), 1 *leu* and 3 *lei* (1963), struck by the State Mint in Bucharest.

1966: Issuance of nickel-plated steel coins with face value of 5 *bani*, 15 *bani*, 25 *bani*, 1 *leu* and 3 *lei*, bearing the new name of the State: *REPUBLICA SOCIALISTĂ ROMÂNIA*, struck by the State Mint in Bucharest.

1966: Issuance by the *Banca Națională a Republicii Socialiste România* of notes with face value of 1 *leu*, 3 *lei*, 5 *lei*, 10 *lei*, 25 *lei*, 50 *lei* and 100 *lei*.

1975 – 1982: Issuance of aluminium coins with face value of 5 *bani* and 15 *bani* (1975), 25 *bani* (1982) and 5 *lei* (1978), struck by the State Mint in Bucharest.

1982 – 1983: Issuance of some commemorative gold coins with face value of 500 *lei* (1982 and 1983) and 1,000 *lei* (1983), struck by Franklin Mint in New York; these coins played no economic role.

1990 – 1996: Issuance of copper-plated steel coins with face value of 1 *leu* (1991-1995); nickel-plated steel coins with face value of 5 *lei* (1992-1995), 10 *lei* (1990-1995) and 100 *lei* (1991-1996); copper-zinc-plated steel coins with face value of 20 *lei* and 50 *lei* (1991-1995), struck by the State Mint in Bucharest.

29 March 1991: Law No. 33/1991 regarding banking activity, promulgated on 29 March 1991 and published in Official Gazette. Law No. 34/1991 lays down the organisation of the National Bank of Romania.

1991 – 1996: The National Bank of Romania issued notes with face value of 200 *lei* (December 1992), 500 *lei* (April 1991), 1,000 *lei* and 5,000 *lei* (May 1993), 10,000 *lei* (February 1994) and 50,000 *lei* (November 1996).

1998 – 2000: Law No. 58/1998 –The Banking Act, Law No. 101/1998 – The National Bank of Romania Act; the National Bank of Romania issued notes with face value of 2,000 *lei* (August 1999), 100,000 *lei* (June 1998), and 500,000 *lei* (November 2000).

1999 – 2000: Issuance of aluminium coins with face value of 500 *lei* (1999-2000) and 1,000 *lei* (2000), struck by the State Mint in Bucharest.

Legal definition of the *leu* (1867-1954)

1867: 1 *leu* = 5 g silver, fineness 835‰; Law on the establishment of a new currency system and the mintage of national currency, promulgated by Decree No. 578 of 14/26 April 1867 and published in Official Gazette No. 89 of 22 April/4 May 1867.

1890: 1 *leu* = 0.3226 g gold, fineness 900‰; Law on amending the Law of 14/26 April 1867 regarding the establishment of a new currency system and the mintage of national currency, promulgated by Decree No. 837 of 12/24 March 1890 and published in Official Gazette No. 275 of 17/29 March 1890.

1929: 1 *leu* = 0.010 g gold, fineness 900‰; Currency Law No. 15, promulgated by Decree No. 359 and published in Official Gazette No. 80 *bis* of 7 February 1929.

1947: 1 *leu* = 0.60 mg (0.006 g) gold, fineness 900‰; Currency Reform Law No. 287, promulgated by Decree No. 1727 of 15 August 1947 and published in Official Gazette No. 187 of 16 August 1947.

1952: 1 *leu* = 0.079346 g fine gold; Decision No. 147 issued by the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Romanian Workers' Party regarding currency reform and reduction of prices for staples and main industrial goods, published in Official Gazette No. 7 of 26 January 1952.

1954: 1 *leu* = 0.148112 g fine gold; Decision No. 127 issued by the Council of Ministers on 31 January 1954, unpublished.

Fine gold: gold fineness 999,9‰.

NOTE: After 31 January 1954, no pieces of legislation are known to deal with the legal definition of the *leu*.

Exchange Rate of the *leu* against Major Currencies

I. Exchange Rate Set on the Basis of *leu* as Legal Tender (1867-1954)

Registration Date	US Dollar	British Pound	French Franc
22 April /4 May 1867	5.16	25.56	1.00
17/29 March 1890	5.16	25.56	1.00
7 February 1929	167.18	813.60	6.55
15 August 1947	150.00	602.22	1.26
28 January 1952	11.20	31.36	0.032
31 January 1954	6.00	16.82	0.0171

II. Exchange Rate Set by *Banca Națională a Republicii Socialiste România*, *Banca Națională a României* respectively (1975-2000)

Registration Date	US Dollar	British Pound	French Franc
31 December 1975	4.97	10.16	1.185
31 December 1980	4.47	–	–
31 December 1985	–	–	–
31 December 1990	34.71	–	–
4 April 1995	1,850.00	2,988.00	382.00
20 November 1995	2,548.00	–	–
20 November 2000	25,149.00	–	–

Note: As at 31 December 1985, the US dollar was quoted as follows: 1 USD = 11.23 *lei* (non-trade exchange rate) and 15.73 *lei* (trade exchange rate).

PART II
BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. BRIEF HISTORY

The author of the first bibliography dealing with Romanian numismatics was the Romanian researcher Dimitrie Alexandru Sturdza³¹⁶. He used to pay frequent visits to the numismatic sections of some big European museums – particularly those in Vienna³¹⁷, Berlin³¹⁸, Budapest³¹⁹ – in order to study the coins issued in Walachia and Moldavia which represented the favourite object of his historical concerns³²⁰. Dimitrie A. Sturdza also studied thoroughly the books and magazines in the library of these sections. He wrote down every piece of information he came across in old publications³²¹ about Romanian coins and medals, the earliest piece of information dating back to 1572, when a coin catalogue, including price estimates, mentioned for the first time *talerul de argint* (silver thaler), issued in 1562 at Suceava by Despot Vodă³²². Using the notes extracted from publications issued between 1572 and 1877, the cited author compiled the first bibliography regarding the numismatic issues in Walachia and Moldavia³²³. The detailed description of each title of the publications excerpted by the author is completed by brief indications on the information published, Sturdza often making personal remarks as well. These remarks are highly important if we take into account that most of the publications studied by Sturdza are bibliographic rarities, unavailable to the Romanian researcher. As we have recently dealt with the Bibliography of Romanian Numismatics written by Dimitrie A. Sturdza and its usefulness even to this date, we shall no longer dwell on this topic³²⁴.

The following bibliography focusing on Romanian numismatics – actually only numismatics in Walachia – written by Nicolae Docan³²⁵, was published in 1910 and represents his masterpiece in the field of numismatics. Nicolae Docan was a distinguished intellectual, a career diplomat who was assigned longer-period missions at Romania's legations in Vienna and Budapest³²⁶ and a dedicated researcher of Romania's history. Following in the footsteps of Dimitrie A. Sturdza, on the road initiated by the latter in 1872, Nicolae Docan managed to put together, after years of painstaking efforts, the largest private collection to date, of coins issued in Walachia and

³¹⁶ D. A. STURDZA, *Bibliografia numismaticii române*, ASAR, 11, section II, 1978, pp. 105 – 164 and 6 pictures; separate edition, Bucharest, 1879, 60 pages and 6 pictures.

³¹⁷ Nowadays *Kunsthistorisches Museum – Bundessammlung von Medaillen, Münzen und Geldzeichen*.

³¹⁸ Nowadays *Münzkabinett der Staatlichen Museen*.

³¹⁹ National Museum of Hungary – Cabinet of coins and medals.

³²⁰ A recent assessment of these concerns by OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, *Dimitrie Alexandru Sturdza și numismatica românească*, BSNR, 86-87, 1992-1993, pp. 17-58.

³²¹ The oldest publications studied by the author date back to the 16th century; D.A. STURDZA, op. cit., pp. 108-111.

³²² *Ibidem*, pp. 108-110.

³²³ See note 1.

³²⁴ See OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, op. cit., pp. 43-46.

³²⁵ N. DOCAN, *Studii privitoare la numismatica Țerii Românești*. 1. *Bibliografie și documente*, AAR, series II, 32, 1909-1910, pp. 459-567.

³²⁶ On the life and historiographical work of Nicolae Docan, see the brief note published in *Enciclopedia istoriografiei românești*, Bucharest, 1978, p. 128 (author: NICOLAE STOICESCU); see also CONSTANTIN MOISIL, *Colecția N. Docan*, CNA, 11, 1935, pp. 97-101.

Moldavia, that he donated to the Romanian Academy³²⁷ in 1906; he had dedicated himself to the thorough study of these coins³²⁸ as early as 1902. Anyone who pays close attention to the numismatic work of Nicolae Docan realizes from the very beginning that, in author's vision, the bibliographic study of 1910 opened a new stage in the research³²⁹ of the issues he was concerned with.

The same as the Bibliography written by Dimitrie A. Sturdza, the similar work of Nicolae Docan has a retrospective character and lists publications issued between 1787 and 1908 in which information on the coins issued in Walachia or on the studying of these coins is mentioned. Benefiting from the advance achieved by the end of the 19th century, Nicolae Docan examined with keen critical spirit every new contribution to the abovementioned chronological period, correcting many of the determination errors that earlier works³³⁰ in particular are fraught with. Such restitution work is highly valuable as it laid the groundwork for further research dealing with the same issues; the study published by Nicolae Docan in 1910 has the same scientific value to this day and represents, as pointed out earlier, his capital work.

We shall not linger on the current bibliographies published in Romania after the end of World War I, which reflect the development of the national historiography and sometimes signal contributions to the field of numismatics³³¹. We shall dwell neither on other bibliographies, although some of them deal with the concerns related to the history of the coin in Romania, from origin to present days³³². We shall further focus only on those bibliographies that exclusively recorded papers dealing with the topic of the present research paper.

The idea of putting together a general bibliography concerning the history of the coin in Romania was mentioned for the first time in 1955 by the author of this paper. During the first session of bibliography and documentation, organised by the Academy Library of the People's Republic of Romania at that time³³³, I presented a dissertation entitled Bibliography of

³²⁷ CONSTANTIN MOISIL, op. cit., p. 97.

³²⁸ His first numismatic studies were dedicated to the coins struck in Moldavia: N. DOCAN, *Die Münzen des moldauischen Fürsten Stephan des Grossen. Numismatische Monatschrift, Blätter für Münzfreunde*, 37, 1902, col. 2771-2777; IDEM, *Notiță despre monetele lui Petru Mușat*, AAR, series II, 30, 1906-1907, pp. 117-182.

³²⁹ Nicolae Docan saw his paper which included, besides the bibliography we have previously dealt with, an index of documents, as the first part of a more extensive study dedicated to numismatics in Walachia. According to the announcement the author made at the end of the paper, he intended to study further the different coins mentioned in the index of documents as being in circulation in Walachia between 1364 and 1521. For reasons unknown, Nicolae Docan discontinued his numismatic work; therefore, part II of his paper of 1910 has never been written.

³³⁰ See N. DOCAN, *Studii privitoare la numismatica Țerii-Românești*, cit., supra, passim.

³³¹ As an example, we cite the bibliographical repertoires published, starting 1926, by IOACHIM CRĂCIUN (see the list of his papers in *Enciclopedia Istoriografiei Românești*, cit., supra, p. 112, note signed by DAMASCHIN MIOC) and the bibliographical chronicles published in *Revista Istorică Română*, both of them making known numismatic papers as well on a regular basis.

³³² It is mainly the case of the bibliography regarding the work of CONSTANTIN MOISIL: ILIE ȚABREA, *Opera științifică a domnului Constantin Moisil*, Bucharest, 1938, 13 pictures (excerpt from *Revista Arhivelor*, 3, 1939, pp. 383-393); IDEM, *Constantin Moisil, pionier al numismaticii românești*, 1970, pp. 118-154 (List of papers written by Constantin Moisil).

³³³ The session was held in Bucharest, on 15 and 16 December 1955.

Romanian Numismatics³³⁴, which displayed the basic principles governing such a comprehensive work. An abridged version of this dissertation was published in 1957 in a volume dedicated to the said session³³⁵ and the text in full, without any alterations, was published 17 years after its being released³³⁶. We shall dwell on this contribution further.

The introduction sketches the history of Romanian concerns in the field of numismatics, next come the main bibliographical papers relating to these concerns and published before the time our dissertation³³⁷ was released. We tried to formulate the principles that should guide the general bibliography of Romanian numismatics. Such a bibliography must focus on two completely different aspects, namely: (i) the contribution of Romanian and foreign authors to Romanian numismatics, more precisely to the history of the coin in Romania and (ii) Romanian contributions to general numismatics, with no connection to the history of the coin in Romania. Given this general framework, we have identified the bibliographical sources that are likely to make the object of the projected general bibliography of Romanian numismatics: monographs (books), studies and smaller articles scattered in all sorts of periodicals, brief notes on coins discovered on the territory of Romania. In our vision, it was important to include the contributions that mentioned only briefly the information in the field of Romanian numismatics. It was decided that the bibliographical description of each title should be accompanied by critical observations regarding the present value of the respective contribution or by rectification of some errors rendered manifest following the research advances in the field³³⁸.

In section III, written in 1955, but published in full as late as 1972, I analysed the most appropriate methods to be used in achieving the best formulas of general bibliography³³⁹ and in the end I stressed the particular importance of such an ample bibliographical paper to the development of research in the field of the Romanian numismatics³⁴⁰. The annex presents the contents scheme of the projected bibliography³⁴¹.

It was indeed an impressive project. At the same time, it was quite clear that it could not be finalised by the author's efforts alone. Under these circumstances, the Bibliography of Romanian Numismatics, as it was outlined in the project of 1955, remained one of that *pia desideria* any research field is fraught with.

³³⁴ The dissertation was delivered on 16 December 1955.

³³⁵ OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, *Bibliografia numismaticii românești* in: *Prima sesiune științifică de bibliologie și documentare*, Bucharest, 15-16 December 1955; *Comunicări și discuții*, Bucharest, 1957, pp. 97-99 (abridged version).

³³⁶ IDEM, *Bibliografia numismaticii românești*, SCB, 12, 1972, pp. 239-252.

³³⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 239-243.

³³⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 243-247.

³³⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 247-248.

³⁴⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 248-249.

³⁴¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 249-252.

Bucur Mitrea, who was a more pragmatic person, took on in 1960, the task of writing and publishing current bibliographies that list Romanian numismatic papers and papers dealing with related fields such as metrology, seal and medal sciences. These bibliographies were successively published under different titles in 1960³⁴², 1968³⁴³, 1971³⁴⁴, 1975³⁴⁵ and 1980³⁴⁶. The unsparing efforts made by the author to compile the bibliographic material listed in these chronicles is obvious if we consider the increasing number, starting 1960, of historical and archaeological publications released in different country towns; nevertheless, his bibliographies had been permanently updated for two decades.

The numismatic papers listed by Bucur Mitrea in his bibliographic chronicles follow the chronology of the themes tackled, within the following large sections: ancient numismatics (with the sub-sections: Greek numismatics, Getic-Dacian and Celtic numismatics; Republican and Imperial Roman numismatics); Byzantine numismatics; medieval numismatics (with the sub-sections: Moldavia, Walachia and Transylvania), modern and present-day numismatics. The papers taking a general approach, such as bibliographies and collections of coin discoveries, are presented in a separate section at the beginning of the chronological bibliography. In each section (namely sub-section) the titles of the papers are listed in alphabetical order by the authors' names. The bibliographies compiled by Bucur Mitrea also listed papers by foreign authors, published abroad, every time these papers dealt with Romanian numismatics. Each bibliographical chronicle published by Bucur Mitrea concludes with an index of authors' names, that renders the chronicles even more useful.

The resumption, after 25 years, of the periodical *Buletinul Societății Numismatice Române*³⁴⁷ enabled to review the activity carried out during this period in the field of Greek³⁴⁸, Getic-Dacian³⁴⁹, Roman³⁵⁰, Byzantine³⁵¹ and Romanian numismatics *stricto sensu*³⁵². Two reviews, namely, in the order of their occurrence, those dealing with the Romanian³⁵³ and Byzantine³⁵⁴

³⁴² BUCUR MITREA *Cincisprezece ani de activitate numismatică în Republica Populară Română, Bibliografie*, SCN, 3, 1960, pp. 603-621.

³⁴³ IDEM, *Bibliografia numismatice românești, 1960-1967*, SCN, 4, 1968, pp. 467-487.

³⁴⁴ IDEM, *Bibliografia numismatice românești, 1968-1969*, SCN, 5, 1971, pp. 399-421.

³⁴⁵ IDEM, *Bibliografia numismatice românești, IV (1970-1972)*, SCN, 6, 1975, pp. 263-277.

³⁴⁶ IDEM, *Bibliografia numismatice românești, V (1973-1978)*, SCN, 7, 1980, pp. 171-195.

³⁴⁷ The Bulletin of the Romanian Numismatic Society was published by this society right after its establishment on 28 December 1903, year I being released in 1904. The Bulletin was published with some interruptions in 1909 and 1917-1918 until 1947 when volume 38-41 covering the 1944-1947 period was published. In 1948, following the imposition of ideological censorship by the communist regime, the publishing of the Bulletin of the Romanian Numismatic Society was discontinued. It was resumed in 1972, with volume 42-66, covering the 1948-1972 period (published in 1974).

³⁴⁸ GH. POENARU BORDEA, *Studii de numismatică greacă în România între anii 1947-1974*, BSNR, 67-69, 1973-1975, pp. 17-41.

³⁴⁹ CONSTANTIN PREDĂ, *Numismatica geto-dacică după un sfert de veac de cercetare*, BSNR, 42-66, 1948-1972, pp. 13-22.

³⁵⁰ BUCUR MITREA, *Probleme de numismatică română în ultimul sfert de veac*, ibidem, pp. 23-28.

³⁵¹ OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, *Cercetări românești de numismatică bizantină (1948-1977)*, BSNR, 70-74, 1976-1980, pp. 19-68.

³⁵² IDEM, *Cercetări de numismatică românească în ultimii 25 de ani*, BSNR, 42-66, 1948-1972, pp. 29-59.

³⁵³ See previous note.

³⁵⁴ See note 36 above.

numismatics, are accompanied by comprehensive bibliographies that will be subsequently referred to.

Our first bibliographical contribution, published under the above mentioned circumstances, centred on the researches that offered the more restrictive themes, from the chronological standpoint, that pertain to the field of genuine Romanian numismatics, which includes only research papers regarding the coins issued in Walachia, Moldavia, Transylvania and Romania³⁵⁵. Staying within this historical, political and economic framework, our bibliography published in 1972 has two sections: I. Papers published and II. Dissertations, the latter counting as an innovation in specialised literature in our country³⁵⁶.

Section I presents the papers published between 1950-1972³⁵⁷, in the order of their occurrence, with a supplement covering the issues between 1968-1972, that had been left out of the first drafting³⁵⁸. The titles registered are arranged by year of occurrence, printed in boldface, which makes the research to be pursued more easily; within the same year of occurrence, the succession of the titles is made in alphabetic order by authors' names. This bibliographical list is followed by an index of authors³⁵⁹, an index of themes³⁶⁰ and an index of locations³⁶¹ for better consultation.

Section II includes dissertations on Romanian numismatics, presented between 1946 and 1972³⁶² during the sessions of the Romanian Numismatic Society³⁶³. As most of these dissertations were not published, this section, despite some gaps, offers a clearer image of the developments in Romanian numismatics during 1946-1972.

The second bibliography focused on the progress made by the Romanian research work in the area of Byzantine numismatics, and, as it was written later, it covered a wider time frame including three decades of activity³⁶⁴. The commentary that opens this bibliography is much more comprehensive than the introduction to the prior bibliography³⁶⁵ in contrast to which, the bibliography of the Romanian research in the area of Byzantine numismatics includes only the list of papers published. The titles of these papers are listed in order of their occurrence³⁶⁶ and are accompanied by an addendum for the period 1958-1977³⁶⁷; both the main list and the addendum record some papers of Byzantine seal science. The bibliographical list is completed by an index of names of authors³⁶⁸, an index of themes³⁶⁹ and an index of Byzantine coin

³⁵⁵ OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, op. cit., supra, note 37, p. 29.

³⁵⁶ *Ibidem*.

³⁵⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 34-35.

³⁵⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 45-46.

³⁵⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 47-48.

³⁶⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 49-50.

³⁶¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 51-52.

³⁶² *Ibidem*, pp. 53-58.

³⁶³ For the 1946-1952 period, available data are incomplete; *ibidem*, p. 53.

³⁶⁴ OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, op. cit. in note 36 above, p. 19.

³⁶⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 19-33.

³⁶⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 34-59.

³⁶⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 59-62.

³⁶⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 63-64.

³⁶⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 64-65.

hoards³⁷⁰, the last one featuring two sections: a) an alphabetic index and b) a chronological index.

A comprehensive general bibliography centred on the Romanian numismatics presented *in extenso* was compiled and published by two members of the Romanian Numismatic Society, namely professor Aurel H. Golimas, honorary member³⁷¹ and colonel doctor Cristache C. Gheorghe³⁷². This wide-ranging bibliography—encompassing 319 pages and 3,864 titles—opens with an extensive introductory study³⁷³, translated into English³⁷⁴. The bibliography divided into 16 chapters arranged in thematic order as follows: Part I. *Generalia*: 1. Papers of General Interest³⁷⁵; 2. Romanian Numismatics Sources³⁷⁶; Part II: Monetary and Pre-monetary Numismatics; 3. Pre-monetary Objects (signs and symbols)³⁷⁷; 4. Scythian and Greek Numismatics³⁷⁸; 5. Celtic and Getic-Dacian Numismatics³⁷⁹; 6. Roman Numismatics³⁸⁰; 7. Byzantine Numismatics³⁸¹; 8. Medieval Romanian Numismatics³⁸²; 9. Modern and Contemporary Numismatics³⁸³; 10. Mints. Monetary Law³⁸⁴; 11. Issues, Controversies. Numismatico-Financial Comments³⁸⁵; 12. Numismatic Metrology³⁸⁶; Part. III: Romanian and Foreign Figures in the Numismatic Movement; 13. Foreign Numismatists on Romanian Numismatics and Numismatists³⁸⁷; 14. Romanian Numismatists on Foreign Numismatics and Numismatists³⁸⁸; Part. IV: *Miscellanea*, 15. Other Numismatic Facts³⁸⁹; 16. *Obituarium* – Prominent Romanian Numismatists³⁹⁰. The bibliographical work of the above-mentioned researchers concludes with an index of authors³⁹¹. We find it useful to make a brief comment on this Romanian Numismatic Bibliography.

In the introductory study the authors first review the foreign research findings in the field of universal numismatics, from the publishing of Eckhel's³⁹² work up to these days³⁹³; next the

³⁷⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 65-67.

³⁷¹ Deceased on 3 January 1995.

³⁷² AUREL H. GOLIMAS, CRISTACHE C. GHEORGHE, *Bibliografie numismatică românească. Bibliographia numismatica daco-romana*, Bucharest, 1984.

³⁷³ *Ibidem*, pp. 9-39.

³⁷⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 40-71.

³⁷⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 89-114, no. 1-352.

³⁷⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 114-130, no. 353-463.

³⁷⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 131-132, no. 464-491.

³⁷⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 132-147, no. 492-770.

³⁷⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 147-158, no. 771-995.

³⁸⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 159-185, no. 996-1494.

³⁸¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 185-193, no. 1495-1650.

³⁸² *Ibidem*, pp. 193-225, no. 1651-2264.

³⁸³ *Ibidem*, pp. 225-232, no. 2265-2430.

³⁸⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 233-243, no. 2431-2651.

³⁸⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 243-251, no. 2652-2810.

³⁸⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 251-255, no. 2811-2898.

³⁸⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 256-270, no. 2899-3139.

³⁸⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 270-283, no. 3190-3490.

³⁸⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 285-301, no. 3491-3741.

³⁹⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 301-306, no. 3742-3863.

³⁹¹ *Ibidem*, pp. 306-311.

³⁹² JOSEPHUS HILARIUS ECKHEL, *Doctrina numorum veterum*, 8 volumes, Vienna 1792-1798 (numourum with a single m), father of numismatics as a modern science.

³⁹³ AUREL H. GOLIMAS, CRISTACHE C. GHEORGHE, *op. cit.*, pp. 11-16.

study deals with Romanian numismatics from two standpoints: as history of the coin in Romania and as history of the Romanian research³⁹⁴. However, the two aspects of the issues labelled as “Romanian numismatics” are not clearly defined and, for this reason, interference and inconsistencies appear in the text; on the other hand, the timeline of events was not always observed.

In a subsequent “Note on the paper”³⁹⁵, the authors present the principles that guided them and the rules they observed in compiling their bibliographical work. From the very beginning, the authors contend that they focused on Romanian numismatic literature published by both Romanian and foreign authors³⁹⁶. Stressing that their bibliographical work includes 3,864 papers published before 1982, the authors present the manner in which they organised the documentary materials in four parts; these parts contain 16 chapters and, in some cases, specific sections and subsections³⁹⁷, as shown earlier. The authors resort to an original solution: every time they come across a case in which an elaborate paper is referred to twice or several times, in different chapters or subsections – as it is frequently the case with any general bibliography; in this case, the respective paper will be further given a current number but written in italic letters³⁹⁸. This solution definitely renders the inquiring the bibliography easier. At the same time, however, it gives a false impression as regards the real volume of specialised literature that makes the object of this bibliography, as it is quite clear that the total number of papers registered can no longer reach 3,864. In our opinion, in this case, the usual solution would have been better: “see also no. ...” making reference to the first registration number.

Another peculiarity of the bibliography under scrutiny is the registration of some entire collections of historical documents in part I of the Bibliography, in chapter 2. Romanian Numismatic Sources, 2.2. Documents (selected collections)³⁹⁹. The Bibliography in question lists collections such as the Hurmuzaki collection⁴⁰⁰ or “Documents on Romanian History”⁴⁰¹, but the documents published in these collections, mainly those prior to the 16th century, do not always provide information on money circulation, and therefore studying these documents is not useful for a research focusing only on this aspect of the past economic life in Romania. As, on the other side, the cited collections have no indices⁴⁰², as it is the case of the more recent *Documenta Romaniae Historica*⁴⁰³, their inquiry meant to identify only the sources interesting from the numismatic standpoint is very difficult and requires tremendous effort; such an endeavour should

³⁹⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 16-39.

³⁹⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 72-75; English version, pp. 76-79.

³⁹⁶ *Ibidem*, p. 72.

³⁹⁷ *Ibidem*, pp. 73-74.

³⁹⁸ *Ibidem*, pp. 72-73.

³⁹⁹ *Ibidem*, pp. 115-127, no. 364-398.

⁴⁰⁰ *Ibidem*, no. 378, pp. 119-120.

⁴⁰¹ *Ibidem*, no. 391, pp. 123-124.

⁴⁰² Between 1951-1953, a research team headed by professor Andrei Oțetea working with the History Institute in Bucharest compiled indexes for the documents published in the Hurmuzaki collection. The documents were first listed by authors' names. Following the ideological pressure exerted by the communist regime, this activity was discontinued depriving historical research of a vital working instrument.

⁴⁰³ AUREL H. GOLIMAS, CRISTACHE C. GHEORGHE, op. cit., pp. 125-126, no. 394.

make the object of a separate study. Moreover, the document collections represent historical sources that should be dealt with in a historical bibliography rather than in a numismatic one. In our opinion, sub-chapter 2.2. Sources (document collections) only burdens the bibliography.

Other observations refer to some incongruities in the organisation of the bibliographic material. Thus, in part I, chapter 1. Albums. Catalogues. Monetary Discoveries, the authors have created sub-chapter 1.3. Monetary Discoveries, in which they included papers dealing with the discovery of coins from different periods; this category also includes the chronicles of monetary discoveries, published over the years by a large number of researchers⁴⁰⁴. The authors justify their decision by the fact that the respective papers provide data on coins and coin hoards from different periods, which would have required their repeated registration in several chapters and sub-chapters in part II of the Bibliography⁴⁰⁵. We fully agree to this argument, but keeping in mind the excellent quality of the numismatic sources, we consider that the respective papers would belong to chapter 12. Numismatic Sources.

It is also questionable the manner in which the bibliographic material is organised in chapter 6. Roman Numismatics⁴⁰⁶, where the papers exploring imperial Roman coins are recorded together with the papers dealing only with republican Roman coins. The authors give their reasons in favour of this solution and express their opinion that an exact separation (of these papers) would be inoperative, given the composition of many of the coin hoards and the continuity in the steady money circulation on the territory of Romania of the issues from the two periods of the Roman state⁴⁰⁷. First of all, the hoards that consist of both republican and imperial Roman coins are relatively scarce, contrary to the authors' opinion but, on the other hand, neither the continuity of the republican and the imperial Roman coins in Dacia is an obstacle to the creation of two parts under chapter 6, the first one focusing on the republican Roman numismatics, the second part dealing with imperial Roman numismatics. In this case, the papers that present hoards dating back to the beginning of the empire, including republican and imperial Roman *denari*, would follow the usual protocol of the Bibliography, being listed in both the first and the second part of chapter 6.

There are still some inadvertences to point out. The most blatant ones were detected in chapter 8. Medieval Romanian Numismatics. We document them here to prevent further confusion by less experienced researchers. The most serious error to be found in the sub-chapter on Walachia, where the authors have listed a study by George Severeanu on the Ostrovu Mare hoard⁴⁰⁸ (Mehedinți county); this study actually deals with an archaeological hoard consisting of prehistoric gold *falere* and therefore it should not be included either in chapter 8 or in any other numismatic bibliography.

⁴⁰⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 90-96, no. 24-178.

⁴⁰⁵ *Ibidem*, pp. 73.

⁴⁰⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 159-185, no. 996-1494.

⁴⁰⁷ *Ibidem*, p. 74.

⁴⁰⁸ *Ibidem*, no. 1794, p. 200 (with wrong reference; the correct reference is the following: SEVEREANU, GEORGE, Gold Treasure of Ostrovu Mare, Bucharest, 3, 1937, pp. 6-19).

Other recording errors consist in associating some writers with titles of papers they have never written. Thus, an article titled Romanian Coins⁴⁰⁹ is attributed to Aurel Metzulescu but the article was published by the undersigned; medieval Romanian coins described in this articles belonged to the collection of Dr. Aurel Metzulescu from Craiova city, which explains the faulty registration in the Bibliography.

Finally, in part III of the Bibliography, in chapter 13. Foreign Numismatists on the Romanian Numismatics and Numismatists, I came across another faulty registration: the Hungarian count Dessewffy Miklos appears to be the author of a study written in German on the coins struck by Ștefan cel Mare⁴¹⁰. In fact, the study was written by Nicolae Docan⁴¹¹ being the first numismatic paper of this author⁴¹²; the study should be registered in part II of the Bibliography, chapter 8, sub-chapter on Moldavia, p. 203, right before no. 1852.

The above remarks – undoubtedly a more thorough examination would reveal similar or less striking remarks – prove most clearly the difficulties the authors had to overcome in drafting this Bibliography. Given these circumstances, the more greater is the merit of the authors and we trust that their bibliographical work will be for many years to come a useful tool for further research in the field of Romanian numismatics.

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The Bibliography presented below as an integral part of this paper is intended to offer a documentary support imperative for the history of Romanian money, being no more than a timeline of crucial events. Defined within this framework, the numismatic bibliography we present here necessarily has a selective nature.

On the other hand, we attempted to illustrate as truthfully as possible the evolution of the Romanian research, focusing on the topic of this paper starting with the latter half of the 19th century until the end of the 20th century. We deliberately excluded any reference to the contributions of other foreign researchers dealing with different aspects of the history of the coin

⁴⁰⁹ *Ibidem*, no. 1740, p. 198; the correct reference is the following: ILIESCU, OCTAVIAN OCT., *Monete românești, Oltenia*, 2, 1941, pp. 122-124; in *Bibliografie*, the place of the corrected reference is just before no. 1703, p. 196. The reference under no. 1703 is also incorrect; the correct reference is: ILIESCU, OCTAVIAN OCT., *Sigilele (instead of Sigile) de pe monetele Țării Românești*, CNA, 18, 1942 (instead of 1944), pp. 10-16.

⁴¹⁰ *Ibidem*, no. 2940, p. 258.

⁴¹¹ The correct reference is: DOCAN, NICOLAE, *Die Münzen des (instead of der) Moldauischen Fürsten Stephan des (instead of der) Grossen*, Numismatische Monatschrift. Blätter für Münzfreunde, 37, 1902, col. 2771-2777.

⁴¹² The first study by Nicolae Docan on the medieval Romanian numismatics remained for a long time unknown in the Romanian dedicated literature. It was commented upon for the first time in Romania as late as 1964, when I used for this purpose a microfilm graciously offered, at our request, by *Staatsbibliothek* in Berlin; see OCTAVIAN ILIESCU, *Emisiunile monetare ale Moldovei în timpul domniei lui Ștefan cel Mare*, in: *Cultura moldovenească în timpul lui Ștefan cel Mare*, Bucharest, 1964, p 222, no. 20.

in Romania, although sometimes the results of their research are of scientific value even today⁴¹³.

In light of these premises that constantly guided us in drawing up this monograph, we should make, from the start, several remarks essential to understand its role and place among the concerns of Romanian historiographers at the end of the 20th century. First, we want the readers to note that this bibliography was not and could not possibly be intended to copy, not even in part, the Romanian Numismatic Bibliography written by the said authors. The objective nature of the “History of the Coin in Romania” as a synthetic paper requires maintaining some clearly defined limits and the related bibliography. It can only play a recommendation role and, in this case, will necessarily be highly selective. For a more thorough documentation, focusing on a certain topic, other bibliographical sources will also be used, particularly the said *Bibliografie Numismatică Românească*.

On the other hand, to simultaneously review the evolution of Romanian numismatic research, the papers were listed within the same section of this bibliography in the order of their occurrence. This criterion enables the reader to make a quicker assessment of the stage reached by this type of research today. To attain this goal, I observed the order of occurrence even when listing several papers by the same author; for this reason, they may be inserted among papers belonging to different authors. At the end of the bibliography, there is an alphabetical index of the authors’ names, which allows the reader to consult the paper in terms of this criterion as well.

We should finally say a few words on the classification method used for the paper titles listed in the present bibliography. Their succession follows the historical stages of the pre-monetary exchange and monetary economy on the territory of Romania, since the middle of the Bronze Age till the end of 2000. Within a certain period, sub-sections have been created either for the categories of coins, as in the case of ancient times (for example, the money issues in our Pontic cities) or for sub-periods including two centuries, as in the case of the Middle Ages; in the latter case, I have created separate sub-sections for each of the three Romanian provinces: Walachia, Moldavia and Transylvania. Finally, we have to specify that, if a paper deals with coins that can be included in several categories that represent distinct sub-sections, its title was registered only once, and next reference is made to the respective current number by using the formula: “see also no. ...”, where the title was recorded initially.

⁴¹³ In this respect, we will only cite the valuable research papers published by the following foreign researchers: M. BAHRFELDT, *Über die Koson-Münzen*, Berliner Münzblätter, Neue Folge, 1912, pp. 251-255, 323-326, 360-369, with a separate backdated edition, titled: *Über die Goldmünzen des Dakerkönigs Koson, 725/729*, Berlin, 1911, 16(20) pp. (the wrong entry cited by AUREL H. GOLIMAS, CRISTACHE C. GHEORGHE, op. cit., no. 2908, p. 256 will be corrected); LJ. KOVAČEVIĆ, *O natpisu na najstarim vlaškim novcima, Prilog rumunskoj numizmatici*, Starinar, 2, 1907, pp. 48-60.

2. LIST OF PAPERS

The abbreviations used in this bibliography have been included in the abbreviation list at the beginning of the paper.

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General papers: 1-12

Pre-monetary exchange: 13-24

Monetary economy

Coins issued by the cities of Istros/Histria, Callatis and Tomis: 25-52

Coins issued by the Scythian Kings in Dobruja: 53-57

Other Greek coins in local circulation (4th century B.C. – 1st century B.C.): 58-70

Coins issued by the Geto-Dacians and the Celts:

A. Geto-Dacian coins: 71-102

B. Celtic coins: 103-107

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Coins issued by the Byzantine Empire: 130-155

Other money issues of 11th-13th centuries: 156-161

Money issues of 14th-16th centuries:

A. Walachia: 162-252

B. Moldavia: 253-292

C. Transylvania: 293-307

17th-19th centuries:

A. Walachia: 308-314

B. Moldavia: 315-328

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D. Russian military occupation administration in Moldavia
and Walachia (1769-1774): 335-338

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GENERAL PAPERS

1. DEMETRIUS ALEXANDER STURDZA, *Uebersicht der Münzen und Medaillen des Fürstenthums Romanien (Moldau und Walachei)*, NZ, 4, 1872, p. 44-129 și ediție separată, Viena, 1874, 4 plus 86 p. și 6 pl.

2. CONST. MOISIL, *Istoria monetei în România – Expunere sumară: I. Antichitatea*, CN(A), 1, 1920-1921, p. 19-23; 2. *Epoca bizantină*, *ibidem*, p. 34-36; 3. *Epoca dinarilor banali*, *ibidem*, p. 44-47; 4. *Împrejurările premergătoare înființării monetăriei naționale românești*, *ibidem*, p. 58-60; 5. *Întemeierea monetăriilor naționale*, *ibidem*, p. 64-66; 6. *Primele manete românești*, *ibidem*, p. 72-76; 6. *Monetele lui Radu Basarab*, CNA, 2, 1921-1922, p. 13-16; 7. *Monetele lui Dan I și Mircea cel Bătrân*, *ibidem*, p. 25-28; 8-11. *Urmașii lui Mircea cel Bătrân*, *ibidem*, p. 32-41; 12. *Monetăria Moldovei sub urmașii lui Petru I*, *ibidem*, p. 62-63; 13. *Activitatea monetară a lui Alexandru cel Bun*, CNA, 3, 1922-1923, p. 76-80; 14. *Urmașii lui Alexandru cel Bun: Iliș, Ștefan H, Roman II, Bogdan II și Alexandru II*, CNA, 3, 1922-1923, p. 24-32; 15. *Monetele lui Petru Aron*, *ibidem*, p. 40-41; 16. *Manetele lui Ștefan cel Mare*, *ibidem*, p. 57-60; 17-18. *Urmașii lui Ștefan cel Mare: Bogdan III și Ștefănița*, *ibidem*, p. 71-73; 19. *Monetăriile Transilvaniei până la 1526*, CNA, 4, 1923, p. 27-30.

3. CONSTANTIN I. BĂICOIANU, *Istoria politicii noastre monetare și a Băncii Naționale*, I, București, 1932.

4. CONST. MOISIL, *Monetele României*, în: *Enciclopedia României*, I, București, 1938, p. 98-125.

5. CONSTANTIN MOISIL, *Vechile monetarii din România. Istoric - Organizare - Activitate monetară*, în: *Monetăria Națională. Zece ani de activitate 1935-1945*, București, 1945, p. 25-50.

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PART III
GLOSSARY

SPECIFICATIONS

As shown in the first part of the present book, Romania witnessed for almost two millennia and a half the circulation of various coins, that were either issued by local authorities and therefore enjoyed the status of legal tender, or brought in from very far away, entering the local circulation only sporadically. Under the aforesaid circumstances, it is obvious that the intrinsic and extrinsic features, and the names of these coins were completely different from one species to another and from one age to another. Hence, the Romanian monetary terminology is a very rich one, which may enjoy a numismatic dictionary of its own.

The dedicated foreign literature has long seen such numismatic dictionaries⁴¹⁴. So far, such a book in Romanian has not been published in Romania, in spite of various encyclopaedias⁴¹⁵ and general⁴¹⁶ dictionaries and history⁴¹⁷ dictionaries explaining very briefly, indeed, numismatic terms.

The Glossary in the following pages meets more modest exigencies. Representing an additional part of *The History of the Coin in Romania*, this glossary includes only two categories of terms: A. Names of Coins and B. Mints. The first category encompasses the names of the main coins, currency units, multiples and submultiples, which have circulated on the territory of Romania since ancient times. The second category encompasses the names of the mints that operated during the same period within the boundaries of the same territory. Conceived as such, the Glossary completes the data recorded in the Chronology, offering a real support to readers.

¹ The best known works in this field are the following: ED. MARTINORI, *La moneta*, Rome, 1915; FR. Frhr VON SCHRÖTTER (editor), *Wörterbuch der Münzkunde*, Berlin-Leipzig, 1930; A. R. FREY, *Dictionary of numismatic names*, New York, 1947.

² C. DIACONOVICI, *Enciclopedia română*, 3 vol., Sibiu, 1898, 1900 and 1904; *Minerva. Enciclopedia română*, Cluj, 1930; *Dicționar enciclopedic*, I-II, Bucharest, 1993, 1996 (vol. III and IV in course of publication); *Enciclopedia civilizației române*, co-ordinator DUMITRU TUDOR, Bucharest, 1982; *Enciclopedia arheologiei și istoriei vechi a României*, co-ordinator CONSTANTIN PREDA, 3 vol. (letters A-Q), Bucharest, 1994, 1996, 2000.

³ For example: LAZĂR ȘĂINEANU, *Dicționar universal al limbii române*, Craiova, 1896 and numerous subsequent re-publications; *Dicționarul limbii române literare contemporane*, 4 vol., Bucharest, 1955, 1956, 1957; *Dicționarul explicativ al limbii române*, Bucharest, 1975.

⁴ *Dicționar de istorie veche a României (Paleolitic – sec. X)*, Bucharest, 1976.

ABBREVIATIONS

Arab.: Arabic language

Engl.: English language

Fr.: French language

Germ.: German language

Gr.: Greek language

Ital.: Italian language

Lat.: Latin language

Pol.: Polish language

Rus.: Russian language

Slav.: Slavonic language

Turk.: Turkish language

Hung.: Hungarian language

s.: see

Note: Some names taken from Turkish have a grave accent on the last syllable in order to point out the correct pronunciation: **accè**; **zoltè**.

A. NAMES OF COINS

A

accea, accè: **1.** s. **aspru 4** (Ottoman); **2.** **accè**, name of a Moldavian copper or bronze coin, issued in 1573 at Suceava by Ion Vodă cel Cumplit (1572-1574); it had an equal value to the Ottoman silver *aspru*, which explains its name on the reverse legend; it is the first coin with a legend in Romanian.

altân, altun: Turk. *altun*, gold; official name of the Ottoman gold coin issued for the first time by sultan Mahomed II in 1477; initially it weighed 3.55 g, featuring fineness of 993‰, and was equal to 40 Ottoman silver *aspri*, being equal to a Venetian gold *ducat*.

antoninian: Lat. *antoninianus*; Roman silver coin issued for the first time in 215 by Emperor Caracalla–Marcus Antoninus, from whom it took over the name; initially it was worth two silver *denars*. In the second half of the 3rd century, the *antoninian* became an insignificant bronze coin whose discontinuation occurred in 324.

as, (plural) ași: Roman bronze or copper coin, the unit of the Roman money system, issued during the Republic and thereafter, during the Empire between 269 BC-275 AD.

assignat: Fr. *assignat*; paper money issued in France between 1789-1796 and also between 1769-1796 in Russia, where it circulated until 1843.

aspru, (plural) aspri: **1.** Gr. *aspron*, white; Byzantine coin made of electrum (white gold and silver alloy) issued for the first time by Emperor Alexius I Comnenul, within the currency reform of 1092/1093; its worth was equivalent to 1/3 of a gold *hiperper*; **2.** Byzantine silver coin, currency unit, issued in Trebizonda Empire between 1235-1446; **3.** silver coin, currency unit, issued by various Tatar khanates during 1266-1780; **4.** Turk. *akcè*, white, silver coin, Ottoman currency unit, issued between 1326–1819; originally it was worth 4 bronze pieces (*mangâri*), and in 1478 it represented 1/40 of an *altun*, Ottoman gold coin. The *aspru* lowered in value against the gold coin. Starting in the latter half of the 15th century, up to the end of the 17th century, the Ottoman *aspru* was the legal tender of Walachia.

aspru ban: name given to the Hungarian silver *dinar* in documents issued in Walachia starting 1556; initially it was equal to 1/2 of an Ottoman silver *aspru*; as the latter depreciated at the end of the 16th century, the exchange rate reached 1:1.

assarion: bronze coin, the unit of a domestic money system, adopted at the end of the 2nd century, during the Roman Empire, by the Greek cities of Histria, Tomis and Callatis; coins with the face value of 1, 2, 3, 4½ and 5 units were issued; these domestic coins discontinued in 244, and in 249, in Histria and, respectively, Tomis and Callatis.

aureus: Lat. *nummus aureus*, gold currency; Roman gold coin issued during the Republic, and

later on under the Empire, between 85 BC-383 AD; in the beginning, one *aureus* was worth 25 Roman silver *denars*.

B

babcă: **1.** name given in Moldavia around 1632 to the silver coin with face value of 3 *groși* issued by the Polish kingdom, starting 1528, and subsequently also by other state authorities; **2. bubcă, babcă,** name given in Transylvania in the 18th century to the Austrian bronze coin with face value of $\frac{1}{4}$ of a *kreutzer*.

ban, (plural) **bani:** **1.** Medieval Lat. *denarius banalis*, a *dinar* issued by a high-rank official, holding the title of ban; silver coin with the face value of one *dinar* issued during 1255-1325 by the Croatian bans of Slavonia; **2.** silver coin issued starting 1365-1368 by Vlaicu Vodă, the ruler of Walachia (1364-1377), and then by his successors: Radu I (1377-1383), Dan I (1383-1386) and Mircea cel Bătrân (1386-1418). In the beginning, one *ban* was equal to $\frac{1}{3}$ of a *ducat* or $\frac{1}{2}$ of a *dinar*, both coins being made of silver; all three face values taken together formed the first money system of Walachia, created by Vlaicu Vodă in 1365. After 1418, there were three other issues of the *ban* as the fractional coin of Walachia: between 1424-1430 during the reign of Dan II (1422-1431 with interruptions) (bilon alloy coins); between 1436-1437 during the reign of Vlad Dracul (1436-1437) (bronze coins); between 1456-1457 during the reign of Vlad Țepeș (1448, 1456-1462, 1476) (silver coins); **3.** name given to the Hungarian *dinar* in the documents issued in Walachia since 1594-1598; during the reign of Mihai Viteazul (1593-1600), an Ottoman *aspru* had the same value as two *bani* (Hungarian *dinars*); s. also **aspru ban**; **4.** s. **decima**; **5.** fractional coin, representing 1% of a *leu*, the Romanian currency unit, set up by the law of 14/26 April 1867; coins with the face value of 1 *ban*, manufactured of copper alloys were issued in 1867, 1900, 1952, 1953 and 1954.

bancnotă/banknote: note issued by a central bank vested by the state with the power of issuing notes and coins, which provides a legal backing to the face value of such notes. The first Romanian banknotes were issued by the National Bank of Romania in 1881 and had face values of 20, 100 and 1,000 *lei*.

bani: **1. paper money,** notes issued by state authorities, with mandatory face value in circulation but without backing; **2. necessity money,** Germ. *Notgeld*, coin manufactured of various materials, issued by a state or communal authority, under exceptional circumstances; **3. war money,** coin issued in time of war.

barbută: name given in Walachia at the beginning of the 19th century to the Austrian silver coin with face value of 20 *kreutzers*; s. also **creițar, sfaț.**

basilicon: Byzantine silver coin issued during 1295-1341; some contemporary documents also called it **ducat**.

băncuță: popular name given to the Romanian silver coin with face value of 50 *bani* issued between 1873-1914.

bănișor: s. **centimă**

beșlic: **1.** Ottoman silver coin with face value of 5 *parale* issued in 1703; **2.** Ottoman silver coin worth 5 *piaștri* issued starting 1855.

bilet ipotecar/mortgage bond: note issued by the Romanian State in 1877 and backed by a mortgage on the own landed properties; these notes had face values of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 500 *lei*.

C

caragros: name given to the imperial *thaler* in Walachia in the 18th century and in the early 19th century.

carboanță, carboavă, carbont: name given to the Russian *rouble* in the Romanian Provinces during the 18th and 19th centuries.

carboavă: s. **carboanță**

carbont: s. **carboanță**

carol: name given in 1870 to the gold coin worth 20 *lei* featuring the Romanian king Carol I. This coin was issued in 1870, 1883, 1884 (dated 1883), 1890 and 1906; the 20 *lei* coin, dated 1868, was minted in a number of 100–200 copies, without being officially issued.

centimă: **1.** fractional coin equivalent to 1% of a French or Belgian franc; **2. centimă, bănișor,** fractional coin equal to 1% of a **romanat**, a unit of the money system that was to be adopted by the United Principalities, according to a project drawn up on 18 November 1859 by the Council of Ministers, which failed to be implemented.

cercliu: name given in the Romanian Provinces to an Ottoman gold coin, with face value of 5 *piaștri*, issued by sultan Mahmud II in 1808.

colonat, direcliu, stâlpar: names given on the territory of the Romanian Provinces to the Spanish silver coin, with face value of 8 *reals* (one *thaler*), issued during 1732-1823 for the use of Spanish colonies in America; the name of this coin was inspired by the two columns of Hercules, on the coat of arms of the Spanish kingdom embossed on the reverse.

constantinat: **1.** Byzantine gold coin (*nomisma*) issued by Emperor Constantin X Ducas (1059-1067); **2.** popular name given nowadays to the Byzantine gold coin (*hyperper*) issued by Ioan Vatatzes, Emperor of Niceea.

copeică: **1.** Russian silver coin issued since 1535; **2.** Russian fractional coin equivalent to 1% of a *rouble*, manufactured of silver until 1701 and thereafter of bronze.

coroană: **1.** Austrian gold coin issued between 1858-1866; **2.** Austro-Hungarian silver coin, currency unit issued between 1892-1916.

costandă: name given in Walachia, in the 17th century, to a silver coin equal to 3 *groși*, issued starting 1528 by the Polish kingdom, and thereafter also by other states or cities vested with the power to mint coins; in the Walachian documents from this century, *costanda* was worth 10 *bani* (Hungarian silver *dinars*).

creițar: **1.** Germ. *Kreuzer*; originally this coin had on the reverse the sign of a cross (Kreuz); small silver coin issued in Tyrol starting 1278, and thereafter in other estates of the Habsburg Dynasty as well; starting in the 18th century, the Austrian *kreutzer* became a fractional coin manufactured of bronze; in 1891, during the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, the coin discontinued; **2.** currency unit issued for Transylvania by the Habsburg emperors, starting 1710 as a silver coin, and during 1761-1765, as a bronze coin.

cremnițer: name given in the Romanian Provinces, during the 18th and 19th centuries, to the Hungarian gold *ducat* (*florin*), minted after 1526 by the Habsburgs at Kremnitz (nowadays Kremnica, in Slovakia).

crontaler: Germ. *Krontaler*; silver coin worth 1 *thaler* issued by the Habsburg emperors between 1756-1800.

crucer: name given in Transylvania to the 1 *creițar* (*kreutzer*) coin.

D

decimă, ban: fractional coin, accounting for 1/10 of a *romanat*, currency unit designed to be issued by the United Principalities, in accordance with the proposition made by the Council of Ministers of Walachia on 18 November 1859.

denar: Lat. *nummus denarius*, piece of 10; Roman silver coin issued during the Republic regime, subsequently during the Empire, between 187 BC-315 AD, which was initially worth 10 and later on 16 bronze *ași*.

denga: Russian coin, initially made of silver, issued starting the 14th century, equivalent to 1% of an *ingot-rouble*, subsequently manufactured of bronze, issued during 1700-1828, worth ½ of a *kopeck*.

didrahmă, stater: ancient Greek silver coin issued by various state authorities in ancient times, equal to 2 *drachmas*.

dinar: **1.** silver coin, minted by different European states, cities and other authorities, starting in the 9th century until the 18th century; **2.** Walachian silver coin from the reigns of Vlaicu Vodă (1364-1377) and Radu I (1377-1383); initially, it weighed 0.70 g and was equal to 2/3 of a *ducat* or 2 *bani*; **3.** silver coin issued in Moldavia under Alexandru Lăpușneanu (1552-1561, 1564-1568) in 1558, Despot Vodă (1561-1563), during 1562–1563, and Ștefan Tomșa (1563-1564) in 1563 and 1564.

direcliu: **1.** Turk. *direkli*, with columns; s. **colonat**

dirhem: **1.** silver coin issued on the territory of the Arabian Caliphate; **2.** silver coin, currency unit, issued in various Tatar khanates under the name of *aspru*; **3.** Ottoman silver coin, issued between 1520-1687, initially worth 5-6 Ottoman silver *aspri*, also called at that time **șahiu**, **șahin** or **șain**.

distater: gold coin issued by Alexander the Great, king of Macedonia (336-323 BC) worth 2 gold *staters*.

dodecar: name given in the Romanian Provinces in early 19th century to the Ottoman *adliè* coin, which could be exchanged, on the domestic market, at a rate of 12 *lei*, money of account.

dolar: currency unit of the United States of America issued since 1795, first as a silver coin and thereafter either as a common metal coin or as a banknote.

drahmă: ancient silver coin, Greek currency unit, issued in various states and city-states in ancient times; it was divided into 6 *obols* and its weight varied based on the weight standard adopted by the respective issuing authority.

dublón: gold coin worth 2 gold *ducats* issued by different states and other authorities in Europe during the 16th-19th centuries.

ducat: **1.** Venetian silver coin issued for the first time in 1202; starting 1284 it was called **gros** or **matapan**; **2.** Venetian gold coin issued starting 1284 up to 1545, when it becomes **techin**; **3.** name given by some contemporary written sources to a Byzantine silver coin issued between 1295-1341 and officially called **basilicon**; **4.** s. **florin**; **5.** silver coin, the currency unit of Walachia, issued for the first time by Vlaicu Vodă (1364-1377) in 1365; initially, this coin had an average weight of 1.05 g, was worth 1/200 of a local silver mark and was equal to 1½ *dinars* or 3 *bani*, fractional coins along with which it formed the Walachian money system. This system was further maintained by Radu I (1377-1383). Dan I (1383-1386) reduced the weight of the Walachian *ducat* to 0.50 g and discontinued the intermediate coin, called **dinar**. Starting 1386, the *ducat* continued to be issued by the following rulers of Walachia: Mircea cel Bătrân (1386-1418), Vlad I (1395-1396), Mircea cel Bătrân and Mihail I, (1408-1418), Mihail I (1418-1420),

Dan II (1422-1430, with interruptions), Basarab II (1442-1443), Vladislav II (1447-1448, 1448-1456), Vlad Țepeș (1448, 1456-1462, 1476), Radu cel Frumos (1462-1475, with interruptions), Basarab Laiotă (1473-1477, with interruptions) and Basarab Țepeluș (1477-1482), under whose reign this coin discontinued. The *ducat*, as a Walachian coin, was constantly mentioned in the customs privileges awarded by the Walachian rulers to the Transylvanian Saxon merchants in Brașov during 1413-1437; **6.** Hungarian silver coin, with the same value as the Walachian *ducat*, issued between 1427-1431 within a currency union concluded between Sigismund I, king of Hungary, and Dan II, ruler of Walachia; **7.** gold coin issued by various states, cities and other authorities in Europe starting in the 14th century; in the Habsburg Empire, the gold *ducat* was the legal tender until 1915. The mint in Vienna continued to issue gold *ducats* dated 1915, for the trade with the Oriental countries until 1938; **8.** gold coin issued by the Principality of Transylvania between 1538–1690, and subsequently by the Habsburg Emperors for this principality during 1690-1780, when Transylvania discontinued its currency issuance; it had a wide range of multiples and sub-multiples, reaching values of 25, 50 and 100 *ducats*, issued by Mihail Apafi (1661-1690) and worth 1/8 and 1/16 respectively of a *ducat* during the reign of empress Maria Theresia (1740-1780); **9.** gold coin issued by Despot Vodă in Moldavia (1561-1563) in 1563; it was intended to pay his mercenaries; **10. Dutch ducat, olan**, gold coin of one *ducat*, issued by the United Provinces (Belgium and Holland) between 1586-1830; the Dutch gold *ducat* was adopted as a standard gold coin by the Constitutional Regulations of Walachia in 1830 and by the Constitutional Regulations of Moldavia in 1832, with the mandatory equivalent value of 31 *lei* and 20 *parale*, money of account; **11.** Venetian silver coin equal to 1 *thaler* issued between 1562-1786; **12.** silver coin of one *thaler* issued by the city of Ragusa (nowadays Dubrovnik) between 1722-1777.

ducaton: silver coin of 1 *thaler* issued by various Italian states and cities in the 16th century.

dupondiu: Lat. *dupondius*, two units of weight; the Roman bronze or brass coin, worth two *ași*, issued during the Republic, and thereafter during the Empire, between 195 BC-268 AD.

ducă: name given in Transylvania in the 17th century to the silver coin worth 3 *groși*, issued starting 1528 by the Polish kingdom and subsequently by other European states, cities and various authorities as well; among them the Principality of Transylvania issued this coin starting 1594.

E

English pound: s. *lira*

F

fertun: old Germ. *Vierding*, one fourth; **1.** unit of weight equivalent to ¼ of a **mark**; **2.** money of account, representing ¼ of a mark, money of account. In the customs privilege awarded by

Mircea cel Bătrân to the Transylvanian Saxon merchants in Braşov in 1413, a *fertun* was equal to 24 silver *ducats* in Walachian currency.

filer: **1.** small coin made of bilon alloy issued by the Hungarian kingdom around 1420-1430; **2.** Hungarian fractional coin equal to 1% of the Hungarian currency unit from 1893 to date.

fiorin: Ital. *fiorino*; s. **florin 1.**

florin: **1. florin, fiorin,** gold coin issued by the city of Florence starting 1252; **2. florin, ducat,** Hungarian gold coin issued between 1325-1526; originally, it imitated the Florentine *florin* and was equal to 100 Hungarian *dinars*; **3. Walachian florin,** Lat. *florenus valachicus*, money of account, equal to 100 Hungarian silver *dinars*, in use on the territory of Transylvania from the second half of the 16th century until the beginning of the 18th century; **4. Rhenish florin,** German gold coin, issued between the 17th and 18th centuries, manufactured of the gold extracted from the Rhine; **5. conventional florin,** silver coin, issued both in the Habsburg Empire and Bavaria, with common technical features, based on a currency convention concluded in 1759; **6. florin, gulden,** silver coin, money system unit, issued by Austria and subsequently by Austro-Hungarian Empire between 1857-1892.

follaro: **1.** bronze coin issued during the 13th-15th centuries by some Genovese colonies in the Black Sea area: Sacci (Isaccea) between 1290-1312, Stravichi (Enisala) between 1359-1368 and Caffa between 1427-1435; **2.** bronze coin issued by political structures in Southern Dobrudja: the Seniorate of Dristra (Silistra) during 1370-1388 and the Despotate of Carvona (Cavarna) during 1386-1388.

follis: **1.** Roman bronze coin – sometimes made of silvered bronze – issued during 293-361; **2.** Byzantine bronze coin equal to 40 units – **nummia**, the plural of **nummion** – issued between 498-1091.

franc: French coin, money system unit, first minted in 1798, manufactured both of silver – until 1920 and common metal alloys thereafter; it is divided into 100 **centimes**.

funduc, funducliu: Ottoman gold coin issued between 1766-1807 and equal to 480-600 *aspri*.

G

galben, (plural) **galbeni:** generic name given in the Romanian Provinces, during the 17th-19th centuries, to the gold coins such as the coin called **ducat:** imperial *galbeni*, Austrian *ducats*, royal *galbeni*, Turkish *altuni*, foreign *galbeni*, *ţechini*; s. **altun, ducat, florin, ţechin.**

genovin: gold coin issued in Genoa between 1252-1440.

greşel: Germ. *Groschen, gros*; bronze coin equal to 1/3 of a *kreutzer* issued by Transylvania Principality during 1764-1765.

gros, (plural) **groși**: **1.** silver coin issued starting the 13th century by various European states, cities and other authorities, with different technical features according to the currency adopted by the respective issuer; **2.** Moldavian silver coin, the currency unit issued by Petru I (1375-1391) since 1377; it had an average weight of 0.96 g (1/200 of a Moldavian silver mark) and its fractional coin was half of a silver *gros*. Subsequently, the silver *gros*, as the currency unit of Moldavia, was incessantly issued between 1394-1527, while the half of a *gros* enjoyed continuous issuance between 1400-1527. During 1400-1447, under Alexandru cel Bun (1400-1432), Iliăș I (1432-1433), Ștefan II (1433-1435, 1442-1447) and Iliăș I and Ștefan II (1435-1442), a new coin equal to 1½ *groși* added to the Moldavian money system.

gulden: **1.** silver coin issued since the 16th century by various European states and other authorities; it was equal to 2/3 of one silver *thaler*; **2. s. florin 6.**

H

hainalie: Ottoman gold coin equal to 3 *funduci* issued in 1757.

hairea: Ottoman gold coin equal to 22 *piaștri* issued during 1829-1830.

heller: Austrian fractional coin equal to 1% of a *korona* during 1893-1920.

hemiobol: ancient Greek silver coin equal to ½ of one *obol*.

hergoș, horgoș: name given in Transylvania to the Austrian silver coin equal to 17 *kreutzers* issued between 1676-1815.

hiperper, iperper, perper: **1.** Gr. *hyperpyron* (gold) passed through fire, namely refined by successive melting; Byzantine gold coin, the basic coin of the money system created by Emperor Alexius I Comnenul (1081-1118) following the currency reform in 1092/1093; originally, it had a theoretical weight of 4.42 g (1/72 of a Byzantine *libra* and fineness of 869‰; the gold *hiperper*, with a wide range of fractional coins, was issued by the following Byzantine emperors, until Alexius III (1195-1203); after Constantinople was conquered by the knights in the 4th crusade (1204), the issuance of the gold *hiperper* was first taken over by the Byzantine Empire of Niceea (1208-1261) and thereafter by the Constantinople Empire, re-established during the reign of Mihail VIII and continued to circulate until the common reign of Ioan V Paleologul and Ioan VI Cantacuzino (1347-1355), when it was discontinued; **2.** Byzantine money of account, minted in 1370-1375 under the reign of Ioan V Paleologul, equal to real silver coins, weighing approximately 16 g; one *hiperper*, money of account had as real backing the following real silver coins: 2 pieces of one coin of approximately 8 g, 4 pieces of one coin of nearly 4 g and/or 16 pieces of one coin of about 1 g. This system was in place until the Byzantine Empire was conquered by the Ottomans in 1453; **3. Latin perper**, gold coin issued by the Constantinople Latin Empire (1204-1261), an imitation of the gold *hiperper* issued by the Byzantine Empire of Niceea; **4. perper**, money of account, equal to 18 Walachian silver *ducats* mentioned in the

customs privilege awarded by Mircea cel Bătrân to the Transylvanian Saxon merchants in Braşov in 1413.

horgoş: s. **hergoş**

husăş: Hung. *huszas*, twenty; name given both in Transylvania and Moldavia, during the 18th–19th centuries, to the Austrian silver coin worth 20 *kreutzers*.

I

ichilic: Turk. piece of two; Ottoman silver coin equivalent to 2 *piaştri* issued between 1789–1807.

icosar, icuşar: Gr. piece of 20; Ottoman gold coin equivalent to 20 *piaştri* issued between 1822–1838.

icuşar: s. **icosar**

imperial: Russian gold coin equal to 10 roubles issued between 1755–1886 and worth 15 roubles during 1886–1897.

ioachim, ioachimic: silver coin of 1 *thaler* issued at St. Joachimsthal in Bohemia (nowadays the Czech Republic) between 1518–1561.

ioachimic: s. **ioachim**

irmilic: Turk. piece of 20; **1.** Ottoman silver coin equivalent to 20 *parale* issued during 1703–1805; **2.** s. **icosar**

iuşluc: Turk. piece of 100; Ottoman silver coin worth $2\frac{1}{2}$ *piaştri* or 100 *parale* issued between 1791–1807.

J

There are no coins to be mentioned under this section.

K

kopeck: s. **copeică**

korona: s. **coroană**

kreutzer: s. **creiţar**

L

lăscaie, lescaie, lețcaie: name used in the Romanian provinces for the small coin of $\frac{1}{2}$ *para* during the 18th and the 19th centuries.

left: name used in the Romanian provinces for the Austrian gold coin with face value of 4 *ducats* and issued between 1761-1915.

leiță: name used in the Romanian provinces since the second half of the 18th century for the money of account worth $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 *leu* or 20 *parale*, issued as money of account as well.

leu, (plural) lei: **1.** name used in the Romanian provinces, in the 17th and the 18th centuries, for the Dutch *thaler-leu*; s. **thaler 4**; **2.** money of account issued in Moldavia and Walachia, around the middle of the 18th century, and divided into 40 *parale*, also considered a money of account; it was used until 1867 even after the Union of the Principalities; **3.** Romanian coin, the unit of Romania's national money system, issued by the law of 14/26 April 1867 and divided into 100 *bani*; by law, *leu* was defined as equal to 5 grams of silver with fineness of 835‰, therefore it was equal to the French franc and other coins issued in other states of the Latin Currency Union. Later on, the legal definition of the *leu* was also given, though on a different basis, in 1890, 1929, 1947, 1952 and 1954. The coin with face value of 1 *leu* was the main purpose of the following successive issues: silver in 1870, 1873, 1874, 1876, 1881, 1884, 1885, 1894, 1900, 1901, 1906, 1910, 1911, 1912 and 1914; copper-nickel in 1924; copper-zinc-nickel in 1938, 1939, 1940 and 1941; copper-zinc in 1947, 1949, 1950 and 1951; aluminium in 1951 and 1952; nickel-plated steel in 1963 and 1966 (1 *leu* coins featuring identical characteristics and dated 1966 were further issued until 1989); copper-plated steel in 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995; **4. Soviet leu**, currency unit created by the Red Army Command to cover the expenses of the Soviet occupation troops on Romania's territory; thus, under the Russian army's occupation, in the summer of 1944, notes with face value of 5, 10, 20, 100, 500, 1,000 and 5,000 *lei* were issued. The soviet state imposed the exchange rate of these notes at 1 soviet *leu* for 5 *lei*; **5. Moldavian leu**, currency unit adopted in 1993 by the Republic of Moldova.

libră: money of account used during the 9th-14th centuries in Western and Central Europe, consisting of 240 real coins; **libra denariorum**, *dinars libra*, representing an amount of 240 silver *dinars*.

lira: **1. English pound or pound;** English coin, money system unit, issued in 1816; initially, the pound was a gold coin, weighed 7.98 grams, had the fineness of 22 carats (916.66‰) and had as fractional coins 20 silver shillings, worth 12 bronze pennies each. In 1931, the pound ceased to be issued as a real gold coin and began to be manufactured of common alloy. In 1971, the United Kingdom embraced the decimal system, therefore the pound was divided into 100 pennies since then; **2. Ottoman lira**, Ottoman gold coin, money system unit, issued in 1844 on the occasion of the monetary reform under the reign of sultan Abdul Medgid I, and having 100 *piaștri* as fractional coins.

lisimac: **1.** name used in the numismatic literature for the gold *stater* issued by Lysimac, king of Thrace (323-281 BC) and also for the gold *stater* of the same kind, issued in several Greek cities after 281 BC; **2.** name used in the Hungarian and Transylvanian documents in 1566-1759 for some gold coins that initially imitated the general features of a *lisimac*, weighing about 35 grams; thereafter, the multiples of a gold *ducat*, from 2 to 100 *ducats*, were called *lisimac* as well.

livră sterlină s. liră 1.

ludovic: Fr. *louis d'or*; French gold coin issued between 1640-1792 and featuring successively one of the following kings' images: Louis XIII, Louis XIV, Louis XV or Louis XVI.

M

mahmudea, (plural) **mahmudele:** name used in Romanian provinces for an Ottoman gold coin, equal to 25 *piaștri*, and issued by sultan Mahmud II between 1816-1822; it weighed 4.75-4.80 grams and had fineness of 950‰. This coin was easy to bend because of its high fineness and, for this reason, it used to be called *mahmudea moale*, unlike another Ottoman gold coin, that was similar both in terms of size and appearance, but it weighed 4.60-4.70 grams and had fineness of 850‰; this coin was equal to 16 *piaștri* and was called *mahmudea tare*.

mangâr, (plural) **mangâri:** **1.** fractional bronze coin issued during 1326-1688 and initially worth $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ of one Ottoman silver *aspru*; **2.** Moldavian fractional bronze coin issued by Despot Vodă (1561-1563) in 1562 and 1563.

mark: **1.** Medieval money of account, equal to an amount of 180-200 silver *dinars*, as real coins; **2.** German coin, unit of the money system, adopted in 1871, manufactured of silver until 1914 and made of common alloy thereafter; its fractional coins are 100 *pfennigs* (sg. *Pfennig*, pl. *Pfennige*).

mariaș: name used in Transylvania for the silver coin of 15 *kreutzers* issued during the reign of Maria Theresia (1740-1780) in 1751-1764 for Hungary and having on its reverse the portrayal of the Holly Virgin and the Christ Child.

matapan: s. **ducat 1.**

medal: official name given to a Romanian gold coin, having no face value, weighing 6.55 grams, having fineness of 900‰, and issued on 15 January 1945, to celebrate the liberation of Northern side of Transylvania by the Romanian Army on 25 October 1944. A coinage of one million pieces was issued and a total gold amount of 6,550 kg from the National Bank of Romania's reserves was used for this purpose. It served as an illegal means of payment for large civil and commercial transactions during 15 January 1945–15 August 1947. As the 1944 law makers designed it, this medal-coin was intended to incorporate identical intrinsic features as the

napoleon – weight of 6.45 grams, gold with fineness of 900‰; however, by mistake, the National Mint manufactured coins of 10 mg above the legal standard that required a supplementary amount of 100 kg of gold taken over from the National Bank of Romania's reserves.

medallion: **1.** Roman coin made of gold, silver or bronze, occasionally issued by the emperors that ruled successively, from Augustus (27 BC-14 AD) to Honorius (395-423) inclusively; gold and silver medallions were, in fact, variable multiples of the currency unit corresponding to the respective metal, whereas bronze medallions did not have any correspondent in the empire's money system. Bronze medallions bearing the portrait of the ruling emperor and the legend in Greek were issued in some Greek cities that were conquered by the Roman Empire; **2.** Byzantine gold or silver coin, having the same features as the previous, issued seldom under the emperors Anastasius I (491-518), Iustinian I (527-565) and Tiberiu II Constantin (578-582). The term **medallion** was created by dedicated literature and derives from **medal**.

medgidie, patacă: Ottoman silver coin worth 20 *piastri* issued during the reign of sultan Abdul Medgid I in 1844.

miliarensis: Roman silver coin issued during 315-423.

miliaresion: Byzantine silver coin issued in 491-565 and 717-1092.

misir: (Arab. Misr) Ottoman gold coin issued at Cairo during 1725-1819; s. **zermahbub**.

mortgage bond: s. **bilet ipotecar**

N

napoleon: French gold coin with face value of 20 francs, weighing 6.45 g and having fineness of 900‰; it was issued by Napoleon I in 1804-1815 and Napoleon III in 1853-1870; in Romania, it was used in 1870, 1883, 1890 and 1906.

nesfià: Ottoman gold coin equal to ½ of one *zermahbub* issued during 1703-1807.

nomisma: Byzantine gold coin issued in 963-1092.

O

obol: **1.** old Greek silver coin worth ⅙ of one *drachma* issued in various ancient states and cities; **2.** silver coin worth ½ of one *dinar* issued during the Middle Ages in different states, cities and other authorities from Western and Central Europe.

olan: s. **ducat 9**.

ort: silver coin worth $\frac{1}{4}$ of one *thaler* issued during the 16th-18th centuries in different states, cities and other authorities in Western and Central Europe.

P

para, (plural) **parale**: **1.** Ottoman silver coin worth 3 *aspri* issued starting 1623; in 1687, on the occasion of monetary reform of sultan Soliman II, the worth of this coin lowered to that of the fractional coin, i.e. $\frac{1}{40}$ of one newly minted Ottoman silver *piastru*, while the 1 *para*:3 *aspri* exchange rate was left unchanged. The monetary reform of 1844 depreciated the *para* to a small bronze coin still worth $\frac{1}{40}$ of one Ottoman *piastru*; **2.** money of account worth $\frac{1}{40}$ of one *leu* used in Walachia and Moldavia starting mid-18th century and thereafter in the United Principalities and Romania, until 1867; **3.** bronze coin with face value of 1 *para*/3 *denghi* issued in 1772, 1773 and 1774 by the Russian occupation Army and put into circulation in Moldavia and Walachia; simultaneously, coins with face value of 2 *parale*/3 *kopecks* were issued. All these coins were minted at Sadagura (near Cernăuți); **4.** bronze coin with face value of 5 *parale* manufactured in the United Principalities in 1860, albeit not actually issued.

patacă: s. **medgidie**

perper: s. **hiperper**

petac, **pitac**: name used in the Romanian provinces during the 19th century for a Russian bronze coin with face value of 5 *kopecks*.

piastru, (plural) **piaștri**: Ottoman silver coin issued in 1687 on the occasion of the currency reform of sultan Soliman II; its fractional coins were also made of silver, i.e. 40 *parale* worth 3 *aspri*, equal to the silver *thaler* in Western and Central Europe; it used to be called **Turkish leu** in the Romanian provinces. Under the reign of sultan Mahmud II (1808-1839), the Ottoman *piastru* depreciated significantly, while following the 1844 currency reform of sultan Abdul Medgid I it turned into a fractional coin worth 1% of one Ottoman *lira*.

pineg: name used in the Romanian provinces during the 16th and the 17th centuries for the Hungarian silver *dinar*.

pitac: s. **petac**

pițulă: name used in Bucovina for the Austrian silver coin with face value of 10 *kreutzers* issued in 1754-1887.

pol: Rus. *pol*, $\frac{1}{2}$ of one unit; **1.** money of account worth $\frac{1}{2}$ of one *leu*, i.e. an amount of 20 *parale*, also used as money of account; by extension, *pol* is used to designate any coin or banknote with face value of 20 units: initially, French gold coins with face value of 20 French francs issued in 1805-1914, then the Romanian coins, notes and banknotes with face value of 20

lei as follows: gold coins issued in 1870, 1883, 1890 and 1906; base metal coins minted in 1930 (two issues), 1942, 1943, 1944, 1951, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995; notes issued by the Ministry of Finance in 1878 (mortgage bond), 1945, 1947, 1948 and 1950 (two issues); banknotes of the National Bank of Romania issued periodically during 1881-1929 and the banknotes of the Romanian General Bank issued in 1917; **2. imperial pol**, Russian gold coin worth $\frac{1}{2}$ of one **imperial**, i.e. 5 or 7.5 *roubles*; **3. pol irmilic**, Ottoman gold coin worth $\frac{1}{2}$ of one **irmilic**, i.e. 10 *piaștri*.

poltorac, polturac: Polish coin made of silver or bilon alloy equal to $1\frac{1}{2}$ *groși* issued starting 1614.

poltura: coin made of bilon alloy issued in Transylvania and Hungary in the 17th and the 18th centuries, worth $1\frac{1}{2}$ *groși*.

potronic: Pol. *potrojniki*, piece of three; name used in Moldavia during the 17th and the 18th centuries for the silver coin with face value of 3 *groși* issued starting 1528 in the Polish kingdom and thereafter in other states, cities and authorities in Central and Eastern Europe; it was equal to 10 *aspri* or 10 *bani*.

pound: s. **lira**

Q

quinar: Lat. **quinarius**, piece of five; Roman silver coin worth $\frac{1}{2}$ of one *denar* or 5, subsequently 8 *ași*; it was issued during 187 BC-267 AD; Lat. **quinarius aureus**, gold *quinar*, Roman gold coin worth $\frac{1}{2}$ of one *aureus* issued during 27 BC-309 AD.

R

romanat: money system unit used by the United Principalities, designed in 1859, albeit not issued, and equal to the French franc; its fractional coins were 10 *decime*, also called *bani*, or 100 *centime*, also called *bănișori*.

român: the unit of the money system used by the United Principalities, it was designed in 1860, albeit not issued, and equal to the French franc; its fractional coins were 100 **centime**.

rubiâ: Ottoman gold coin issued in 1703-1807 and worth $\frac{1}{4}$ of one **zermahbub**.

rublă: Russian silver coin, money system unit, issued starting 1704 and having 100 *kopecks* as fractional coins.

S

scud: Fr. *écu*, It. *scudo*; **1.** gold coin issued by the French kingdom during 1266-1653 and by different Italian states and cities in 1507-1864; **2.** silver coin equal to one silver *thaler* issued in Italy starting 1551 and in France in 1641-1795.

semis, semissis: **1.** Roman bronze coin worth $\frac{1}{2}$ of one *as* issued in 269-28 BC and 54-68 AD; **2.** Roman gold coin worth $\frac{1}{2}$ of one *aureus* issued in 27 BC-305 AD during the Empire; **3.** Roman and Byzantine gold coin worth $\frac{1}{2}$ of one *solidus* issued in 309-886.

semissis: s. **semis**

sesterț, sesterțiu: Lat. *sestertius*; **1.** Roman silver coin worth $2\frac{1}{2}$ *ași* issued in 187-170 and 90-85 BC during the Republic; **2.** Roman bronze coin worth 4 *ași* issued in 27 BC-268 AD during the Empire.

șfanț, șfanțig, șfanțih: Germ. *Zwanziger*, coin of 20; name used in the Romanian provinces for the Austrian silver coin, with face value of 20 *kreutzers*, issued during 1754-1872 in the Habsburg Empire; it weighed 6.69 g and had the silver fineness of 583‰. The “Organic Regulations” of Walachia (1830) and Moldavia (1832) established the bi-metal regime in both principalities and enforced the Dutch gold *ducat* and the Austrian silver *șfanț* as mandatory currencies; according to the said laws, the Dutch *ducat* was equal to 31 *lei* 20 *parale* (money of account), while the Austrian *șfanț* was equal to 2 *lei* 10 *parale*, also money of account, the legal exchange rate of the two currencies being set at 1:14. Other names used for *șfanț* were **husăș** and **sorocovăț**.

silicvă: Lat. *siliqua*; Roman silver coin, worth $\frac{1}{24}$ of one Roman gold **solidus**, issued starting 323; it was further issued in the Byzantine Empire during 491-613.

solid, solidus: Lat. *solidus*, meaning “the whole amount”; **1.** Roman gold coin, weighing 4.50 g ($\frac{1}{72}$ of one Roman gold *libră*) and having the gold fineness of about 950‰, issued in 309 by Constantin cel Mare (306-336). It used to be considered the main currency of the Roman money system until the fall of the Empire and was further adopted and issued during 491-963 in the Byzantine Empire; **2.** s. **șiling**; **3. solidus valachicus**, name used in 1705 in a Polish-Swedish treaty for different types of **șilingi**, counterfeited at Suceava starting the reign of Eustratie Dabija (1661-1665).

sorocovăț: name used in Moldavia for the Austrian silver coin with face value of 2 *kreutzers*, also called **șfanț**.

speciestaler, spetiestaler: Germ. *Speciestaler*; silver *thaler* issued concurrently during 1754-1857 in the Habsburg Empire and the Bavarian kingdom on the basis of a currency convention.

stambol: Ottoman gold coin worth 360-420 *aspri* issued at Istanbul during 1716-1808.

stamenon: **1.** Byzantine coin made of bilon alloy issued on the occasion of the 1092/1093 reform of emperor Alexius I Comnenul, worth $\frac{1}{48}$ of one gold *hyperper*; **2.** copper coin issued in 1388-1417 at Dristra (Silistra) by Mircea cel Bătrân (1368-1418) as the ruler of Dristra Seniorate and Carvona Despotate.

stater, (plural) **stateri:** **1.** s. **didrahmă**; **2.** old Greek gold coin issued by different ancient states and cities; in terms of units of weight, it equalled two *drachmas*.

stâlpar: s. **colonat**

sutime, (plural) **sutimi:** 1% of a draft currency unit of the United Principalities, albeit not legally adopted; in 1864, coins bearing the portrait of Alexandru Ioan Cuza, with face value of 5 *sutimi* and most likely of 10 *sutimi* were struck in bronze – however, these coins were not issued.

Ş

şahiu, şahin, şain: s. **dirhem 3.**

şahin, şain: name used in Walachia at the end of the 16th century for the Ottoman silver *dirhem*.

şalău: name used in Moldavia, in the 17th and 18th centuries, for the coin made of silver, bilon alloy or bronze, worth 1 *shilling*, issued in Poland, Lithuania, Baltic cities and Prussia; **şalău** is the distorted pronunciation of the Polish word “**şelong**” (*shilling*).

şiling: Germ. Schilling, Lat. solidus; **1.** small coin made of silver or bilon alloy, and of bronze thereafter, issued during the 14th-18th centuries in different states and cities in Western, Central and Northern part of Europe; **2.** *şilingi* were issued in Romanian provinces as follows: in Transylvania, by Sigismund Bathori (1589-1598, 1598-1599, 1601) in 1589 (silver) and 1591 (silver and bronze); in Walachia, by Mihail Radu (1658-1659) in 1658 (bronze) and in Moldavia, by Eustratie Dabija (1661-1665) in 1662-1663 (bronze).

şuștac: Pol. piece of six; Polish silver coin with face value of 6 *groși* issued between 1526-1765.

T

taler: s. **thaler**

teston: Ital. *testa*, head; silver coin featuring the issuer’s image, issued in France and different Italian states in the 15th and 16th centuries.

tetarteron: Byzantine bronze coin issued on the occasion of the reform under emperor Alexius I Comnenul's reign in 1092/1093 and worth 1/864 of a gold *hyperper*.

tetradrahmă: old Greek silver coin worth 4 *drachmas* and having variable weights, depending on the money system adopted by the respective issuing authority.

timf: Polish silver coin worth 18 *groși* issued between 1654-1765; its name was inspired by Andreas Tymff, the lessee of the mint where this coin was struck for the first time.

thaler: **1.** large silver coin, first issued in 1484 in Tyrol (Austria) and initially called *Guldengroschen*, equal to 1 gold *gulden (ducat)*; it was further issued during 1518-1525 in Bohemia at St. Joachimsthal (nowadays Jachimovo, in Czech Republic), the location from which it borrowed the name of *Joachimsthaler*, in *thaler*. As from the second half of the 16th century, the *thaler* issuance extended to the Central, Southern and Western Europe, the new coin bearing different names related to the issuing authority. In 1857, the issue of the *thaler* was discontinued; **2.** in Romanian provinces, the *thaler* is issued in Transylvania Principality between 1551-1690, and later on, until 1780 under the reign of Habsburg House, whereas in Moldavia the *thaler* is issued by Despot Vodă (1561-1563) in 1562 and 1563.

tremissis: Roman, and subsequently Byzantine gold coin worth 1/3 of one **solidus**, issued between 383-886.

triier: Germ. *Dreier*, piece of three; Austrian coin made of silver or bronze worth 3 *kreutzers* issued between 1792-1851.

triplu gros: **1. troiac**, Polish silver coin, worth 3 *groși* and issued between 1528-1794; it was also issued in Lithuania and in Baltic cities subdued to Poland, as well as in Silesia and Ragusa (nowadays Dubrovnik, in Croatia); **2.** in Romanian provinces, the silver *triplu gros*, similar to the Polish one, was issued in Transylvania by the following rulers: Sigismund Bathori (1589-1598, 1598-1599, 1601), in 1594, 1596, 1597 and 1598; Ștefan Bocskay (1604-1606), in 1605, 1606, 1607, 1608 and 1609 (1607-1609, posthumous issues); Gabriel Bathory (1608-1613), in 1608, 1609, 1610, 1611, 1612 and 1613; Gabriel Bethlen (1613-1629) in 1623 and Gheorghe Rakoczi I (1630-1648) in 1637; in Moldavia, the *triplu gros* was issued by Ștefan Răzvan (1595). The *triplu gros*, named **grossus triplex** in Latin, was extensively used in the Romanian provinces under different names; s. **babcă, costandă, dutcă, potronic** and **troiac**.

troiac: Polish name of the coin officially called *triplu gros*.

tult: Ottoman silver coin worth 15 *parale* and issued in 1759.

tunus, tunusliu: Ottoman gold coin issued in Tunis between 1574-1878.

turaliu: Ottoman gold coin issued in 1697 and featuring the image of the sultan who issued it on the obverse; by extension, this name was also given to other Ottoman coins that were issued until 1844 and bore the same feature.

tuzluc, utuzluc: Turk. *utuzluc*, piece of 30; Ottoman silver coin equal to 30 *parale* and issued between 1703-1789; also called **zloty, zoltè**.

T

techin: Ital. *zecchino*, from *zecca*, mint; Venetian gold coin issued between 1543-1805; it replaced the Venetian gold *ducat* by imitating its types; it weighed 3.53 grams compared with 3.55 grams, the weight of the Venetian gold *ducat*. In the 17th and 19th centuries, Romanian provinces used to call it **galben venetic** or simply **venetic**.

U

ughi: name used in Walachia, in the 16th and the 17th centuries, for the Hungarian *ducat*, the oldest certification dating back to 1560 (a deed in Romanian); the name of *ughi* is based on Hung. abbreviation *zlatii*, *Hungarian zloty*, that is *Hungarian gold ducats*, frequently mentioned in Slav deeds of the time.

utuzluc: s. **tuzluc**

V

venetic: s. **techin**

victoriat: Roman silver coin issued during the Republic between 225-150 BC and equal to 1/3 of a silver **denar**.

Z

zarmacup, zermacup: name used in the Romanian provinces for the **zermahbub**, an Ottoman gold coin, in the 18th and the 19th centuries.

zermahbub, zarmacup, zermacup: Ottoman gold coin issued during 1725-1808 and equal to 110-140 *parale* or 330-420 *aspri*.

zgripsor, zgriptor: name used in the Romanian provinces for the Austrian imperial silver *thaler*, featuring a bicephalous eagle on the reverse.

zingirliu: Ottoman gold coin issued in 1716 and equal to 120-140 *parale* or 360-420 *aspri*.

zlot: Slav. *zlat*, gold; **1.** generic name used in Moldavia, starting the 15th century, for the gold coins deriving from different sources, featuring, however, the same technical characteristics – size, weight and, sometimes, fineness – and even typological characteristics similar or identical to those of the gold *ducat*: **Hungarian zloties**, Hungarian gold florins (ducats); **Tatar zloties**, identified for some time with the Venetian gold *ducats*, and, more recently, with money of account that was initially equal to 2½ Hungarian gold *florins* (ducats), this exchange rate being much reduced later on; **Turkish zloties**, Ottoman or Genovese imitations of the Venetian gold *ducat*; **zloties of Moncastro** (*Cetatea Albă*), dating back to 1453, although their identity was not detected up to now; **2. zloty, zoltè**, name used in the Romanian provinces for an Ottoman silver coin equal to 30 *parale*; s. **tuzluc**.

zoltè: s. **zlot 2**.

B. MINTS

A

AIUD: silver coins worth 6 and 12 *dinars* issued in Transylvania Principality during 1672-1673 and 1675 were minted here.

ALBA IULIA: gold and silver coins issued in Transylvania Principality during 1610-1690 were manufactured here; moreover, during 1691-1780, it produced gold, silver and bronze coins issued by the Habsburg emperors, whereas between 1780-1871, it made Austrian coins, after 1867, Hungarian gold, silver and bronze coins; in 1713, it struck gold coins worth 5 and 6 *ducats* or 2 and 10 *ducats*, in accordance with other sources, that were ordered by Constantin Brâncoveanu (1688-1714) in order to celebrate 25 years since his enthronement in Walachia. s. also **APULUM**

APULUM (nowadays Alba Iulia): during 246-257, it minted bronze coins issued by the Roman Empire for Dacia province.

ARAD: during 1848-1849, it issued currency to fulfil cash requirements, i.e. local bronze coins, with face value of 1, 3 and 6 *kreutzers*.

ASPROKASTRON: s. **CETATEA ALBĂ**

B

BAIA MARE: it minted gold and silver coins for the following issuing states: the Hungarian kingdom throughout different dynasties between 1338-1526, then under the House of Habsburg during 1530-1851, Transylvania Principality during 1551-1660 and Polish kingdom during 1584-1585.

BISTRIȚA: during 1672-1673, it produced gold and silver coins issued by Transylvania Principality.

BRAȘOV: in 1427-1430, it manufactured silver coins issued by the Hungarian kingdom; during 1601-1602, it minted its own silver coins; in 1612-1615 it produced gold, silver, copper or bronze coins; during 1662-1674 the gold and silver coins issued by Mihail Apafi (1661-1690) were struck here.

BUCUREȘTI: 1. during 1456-1481, it minted silver and bilon alloy coins issued by the following rulers of Walachia: Vlad Țepeș (1449, 1456-1462, 1476), silver coins in 1456-1457 and silver *ducats* in 1459-1461; Radu cel Frumos (1462-1475, with interruptions), silver *ducats*

in 1462-1463; Basarab Laiotă (1473-1477, with interruptions), silver *ducats* in 1475-1476 or 1476-1477; Basarab Țepeluș (1477-1482, with interruptions), silver or bilon alloy *ducats* in 1477-1481; **2.** State Mint, in a building on the spot where Kisseleff Road and Monetăriei Street corner (this building was demolished at the beginning of the 20th century; instead, the building that houses the Museum of Romanian Peasant at present was raised); during 1870-1890, it struck gold, silver and bronze coins issued by Carol I (1866-1914): gold coins worth 20 *lei*, in 1870, 1883 and 1890; silver coins worth 1 *leu*, in 1870, 1884 and 1885; 5 *lei*, in 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884 and 1885; 50 *bani*, in 1884 and 1885; bronze coins worth 2 *bani*, in 1879, 1880, 1881 and 1882; 5 *bani*, in 1882, 1883, 1884 and 1885; golden bronze tokens worth 1 *ban* issued for humanitarian purposes, 1883 and 1888; **3.** National Mint, State Mint since 1948, in Fabrica de Chibrituri St., minted starting 1935 Romanian metal coins except for the following issues: 5 *lei* in 1942; 50 *bani*, 1 *leu*, 2 and 5 *lei* in 1947; 1 *ban*, 3, 5, 10 and 25 *bani* in 1952, these coins being minted abroad.

C

CALLATIS (nowadays Mangalia): minted its own coins starting the second half of the 4th century BC: silver coins, *drachmas* and fractional coins, around 350-300 BC; bronze coins, autonomous and semi-autonomous issues, from the 3rd century BC until the beginning of the 1st century AD; silver *tetradrachmas* and gold *stateri* imitating the features of the respective issues minted by Alexander the Great (around 250 BC); silver *tetradrachmas* (around 180-150 BC) and gold *stateri* (around 120-55 BC) imitating the features of Lysimac's respective issues; bronze coins bearing the effigy of Roman emperors during 44-249, with some interruptions.

CALIACRA: during 1386-1388, it minted a bronze coin worth 1 *follaro*, for the Seniorate of Dristra (Silistra) and the Despotate of Carbona (Cavarna).

CETATEA ALBĂ: during 1435-1456, it struck silver and bronze coins, *groși* and ½ *gros*, issues during the reigns of the following rulers of Moldavia: Ștefan II (1433-1435, 1436-1442, together with Iliăș I; 1442-1444, 1444-1445, together with Petru II; 1445-1447); Alexăndrel (1449, 1452-1454, 1455) and Petru Aron (1451-1452, 1454-1455, 1455-1457). During 1451-1455, it minted local bronze coins worth 1 *follaro* equal to ½ of the Moldavian *gros*; these coins featured on obverse the coat of arms of the issuer city along with its name in Greek: Asprokastrou (the genitive form of **ASPROKASTRON**, Cetatea Albă). s. also **TYRAS**

CHILIA: (nowadays Chilia Veche, Tulcea county): Genovese colony dating back to 1360-1361, which used, according to the same source, silver *aspri* from Chilia for commercial purposes, coins that were most likely imitations of Tatar *aspri* and made by local mint.

CLUJ (Cluj-Napoca): it struck gold and silver coins issued by the Hungarian kingdom between 1333-1540 and by Transylvania Principality during 1558-1707.

CURTEA DE ARGHEȘ: during 1365-1418, it struck silver coins issued by the following rulers of Walachia: Vlaicu Vodă (1364-1377) – *ducats*, *dinars* and *bani*; Vlaicu Vodă and Radu I (1372-1377) – *dinars* and *bani*; Radu I (1377-1383) – *ducats*, *dinars* and *bani*; Dan I (1383-1386) – *ducats* and *bani*; Dan I and Mircea cel Bătrân (1385-1386) – *ducats*, Mircea cel Bătrân (1386-1418) – *ducats* and *bani*; Vlad I (1395-1396) – *ducats*; and Mircea cel Bătrân and Mihail I (1408-1418) – *ducats*.

D

DIONYSOPOLIS (nowadays Balcic, in Bulgaria): minted its own bronze coins during 200-72 BC, and bronze coins under the Roman Empire, between 138-244.

DRISTOR, DRISTRA (nowadays Silistra, in Bulgaria): during 1388-1417, it minted bronze coins, in the Byzantine currency system *stamena*, issued during Mircea cel Bătrân's reign (1386-1418) and used to make payments locally.

E

There are no mints to be mentioned under this section.

F

FĂGĂRAȘ: during 1666-1689, it struck gold and silver coins issued by Mihail Apafi, the prince of Transylvania (1661-1690).

G

There are no mints to be mentioned under this section.

H

HISTRIA, Gr. ISTROS: minted its own coins starting the 5th century BC, as follows: bronze coins (with a wheel), at the beginning of the 5th century BC; silver coins: *drachmas* and fractional coins in different currency systems, between 480-260 BC; gold coins: *stateri* resembling those issued during the reign of Lysimac (around 281 BC) and Alexander the Great (250 BC), and subsequently, during 120-55 BC, it minted *stateri* resembling those issued by Lysimac; bronze coins, autonomous issues (the 4th and the 1st century BC) and semi-autonomous issues (the beginning of the 1st century AD), featuring the image of Roman emperors, during 117-244, with interruptions.

I

ISACCEA, SACCY: **1.** minted silver *dirhemi* and bronze coins for different khans of Golden Horde between 1286- around 1350. **2.** minted bronze coins worth 1 *follaro* between 1290-1300 and 1301-1307 in the local Byzantine community, dominated by the Golden Horde; **3.** bronze coins worth 1 *follaro*, during 1307-1311/1312 were issued in the local Genovese colony, dominated by the Golden Horde. s. also **NOVIODUNUM**

ISTROS: s. **HISTRIA**

J, K

There are no mints to be mentioned under this section.

L

LICOSTOMO (located most likely in Periprava area, Tulcea county): Genovese colony where economic ties used as current coin, according to some sources dating back to 1373 and 1383-1384, silver Licostomo *aspri* made locally, probably imitations of Tatar *aspri*.

LIPOVA (Arad county): starting 1338, it minted silver *dinars* issued by the Hungarian kingdom; in 1705, during the uprising led by Francisc Rackoczi II, it struck bronze coins, with face value of 5, 10 and 20 *polture*.

M

MOLDOVA VECHE (Caraş-Severin county): minted, under the name of MUDAVA, Ottoman gold and silver coins issued by sultan Soliman I in 1566.

N

NOVIODUNUM (Isaccea): in order to cover the needs for local currency circulation, it minted, around 1040-1081, bronze-founded coins, imitating some Byzantine bronze coins worth 1 *folliis* and issued at Constantinople.

O

ORADEA: starting 1338, it minted silver *dinars* issued by the Hungarian kingdom; during 1706-1710, the Austrian troops besieged by Hungarian revolvers in Oradea issued local necessity copper-made coins initially worth 10 *polture*.

ORHEIUL VECHI (nowadays Trebujeni, Republic of Moldova): in 1363-1369, it struck Tatar silver and bronze coins, local issues of Golden Horde, bearing the name of “New City” (**YANGI-ŞEHR/ŞEHR AL-DJEDID**).

P, Q, R

There are no mints to be mentioned under this section.

S

SADAGURA (near Cernăuți): in 1772, 1773 and 1774, it struck bronze coins with face value of 1 *para*/ 3 *denghi* and 2 *parale*/ 3 *kopecks*, issued for Moldavia and Walachia by the Russian occupation army.

SARMIZEGETUSA REGIA (nowadays Grădiştea de Munte, Hunedoara county): during 31-29 BC, it minted gold coins, *stater*, bearing the name of Koson/Coson, the Dacian king.

SEVERIN (nowadays Drobeta-Turnu Severin): minted silver coins issued by the Walachian rulers Radu I and Vlaicu Vodă (1372-1377), *dinars*, in 1372-1377; Dan II (1422-1431, with interruptions), *bani* in 1424-1430.

SIBIU: it produced gold and silver coins issued by Hungarian kingdom in 1336-1528 and by Transylvania Principality in 1540-1709; in 1605, it minted gold and silver urban coins.

SIGHIŞOARA: during 1433-1435, it minted Hungarian silver coins, under the intendency of Vlad Dracul, as an aspirant to the throne of Walachia, while in 1661-1675, it minted gold and silver coins issued by the Transylvanian rulers Ioan Kemeny (1661-1662) and Mihail Apafi (1661-1690).

STRAVICHI (nowadays Enisala, Tulcea county): Genovese colony dominated by a Tatar prince called Demetrius; in 1360-1370, it minted bronze coins worth 1 *follaro*, intended for local use.

SUCEAVA: during 1377-1665, with some interruptions, it minted the coins issued by the rulers of Moldavia, as follows: silver *groși* and ½ *gros*, issues of Petru I (1375-1391); silver *groși* issued by Ștefan I (1394-1399); silver 1½ *groși*, *groși* and ½ *gros*, some coins of identical or similar types being concurrently made of bronze; these issues were successively minted in 1400-

1442; further on, until 1457, the mint in Suceava struck silver and bronze *groși* and ½ gros, under the same circumstances as previously. During Ștefan cel Mare's reign (1457-1504) the mint made silver *groși* and ½ gros at Suceava, while his followers Bogdan III (1504-1517) and Ștefăniță (1517-1527) return to the former system, issuing concurrently *groși* and ½ gros made of silver and copper alloys, of the same types. During 1521-1538, under the reign of Ștefăniță and the 1st reign of Petru Rareș (1527-1538, 1541-1546), the mint of Suceava counterfeited some Lithuanian silver coins worth ½ gros. Thereafter, coins were minted by the following rulers of Moldavia: Alexandru Lăpușneanu (1552-1561, 1564-1568), silver *dinars* in 1558; Despot Vodă (1561-1563), *talers* and silver *dinars* in 1562-1563, bronze *mangâri* in 1562-1563 and gold *ducats* in 1563; Ștefan Tomșa (1563-1564), silver *dinars* in 1563-1564; Ioan Vodă cel Cumplit (1572-1574), bronze *acceà* in 1573; Ștefan Răzvan (1595), silver *tripli groși*; Ieremia Movilă (1595-1600, 1600-1606), silver *tripli groși*, of Moldavian-Polish type, in 1597-1600; in 1662, Eustratie Dabija (1661-1665) reopened the mint in Suceava where bronze Moldavian *shillings* were struck successively, thereafter it began to massively forge Polish, Lithuanian and Baltic *shillings*, this activity being carried on in Suceava by his successors.

Ș

ȘEICA MICĂ (Sibiu county): made silver coins with face value of 3 *groși* issued by 1610 by Gabriel Bathory (1608-1613), prince of Transylvania.

ȘEHR AL-DJEDID: s. **ORHEIUL VECHI**

ȘICLOVA (nowadays Ciclova Română, Caraș-Severin county): minted Austrian bronze coins with face value of 1 *kreutzer* and 3 *kreutzers* in 1812 and of 1, ½ and ¼ *kreutzer* in 1816; the issuance of the last three face values continued until 1851, with the inscribed year of issue – 1816 – being left unchanged.

T

TÂRGOVIȘTE: struck silver and bronze coins issued by the following rulers of Walachia: Mihail I (1418-1420), silver *ducats*; Dan II (1422-1431, with interruptions), silver *ducats*, in 1424 and 1427-1430; Vlad Dracul (1435-1442, 1443-1447), *bani* made of bronze, in 1435-1437; Basarab II (1442-1443), silver *ducats*; Vladislav II (1447-1448, 1448-1456), silver *ducats*, in 1448-1456.

TILIȘCA (Sibiu county): mint working in a Dacian burg; during 70-60 BC, it made silver coins, imitating the Roman republican *denars*.

TOMIS (nowadays Constanța): minted its own coins starting the middle of the 3rd century BC; bronze coins until the end of the 1st century BC; gold coins, *stateri* imitating those issued during

Lysimac's reign, in 150-55 BC; bronze coins featuring the effigy of Roman emperors, during 27 BC-249 AD.

TYRAS (Cetatea Albă): produced its own coins in II-I BC: silver *drachmas* and bronze coins, and *stateri* of Lysimac-type until the end of the 1st century BC; under the Roman Empire, it minted local bronze coins during 72-235.

Ț, U, V, W, X

There are no mints to be mentioned under this section.

Y

YANGI-ŞEHR: s. ORHEIUL VECHI

Z

ZLATNA (Hunedoara county): in 1626 and 1630, it minted small bronze coins for the use of miners working in the local gold mines.