

The Political Development Of Romania After World War I (1919-1921 AD)

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Abstract:

Between 1919 and 1921, Romania underwent significant political transformation following its territorial expansion after World War I. The unification with Transylvania, Bessarabia, and Bukovina created the foundation of Greater Romania, but also introduced complex challenges in governance, integration, and minority management. This period saw the consolidation of Romania's new borders through international treaties, including the Treaty of Trianon and Treaty of Saint-Germain. Domestically, universal male suffrage was introduced, and the political landscape shifted with the rise of parties such as the National Liberal Party and the Peasants' Party. The country faced mounting pressures to modernize, centralize administration, and implement agrarian reforms, all while navigating internal divisions and growing ethnic tensions. These years laid the groundwork for Romania's interwar political trajectory and its struggle to unify a diverse and newly enlarged nation.

INTRODUCTION

Romania witnessed significant political developments after the end of World War I that had a significant impact on the domestic situation. Among these developments were political reforms, represented by the establishment of Romania's first parliament after the Great Union, as well as the enactment of a parliamentary election law that introduced male suffrage.

The research consists of an introduction and two axes with a deductive conclusion. The first axle dealt with the election and establishment of the first parliament of Greater Romania in 1919, which addressed the introduction of the electoral legislation law on the basis of which the parliamentary elections were held in Romania in 1919. The task of holding those elections fell on the government of General Arthur Vetoianu, and those elections were the first parliamentary elections held throughout Romania after the First World War. The second axle was entitled the government of General Alexandru Averescu (March 1920 - December 1921) which dealt with the government's program that sought to hold new parliamentary elections in Romania. Despite the success of the Averescu government in holding the elections and his party obtaining a majority in Parliament, political differences between the parties, especially with the Liberal Party, made King Ferdinand I consider forming a coalition government, which ultimately led to the resignation of the Averescu government.

The political development of Romania after World War I 1919-1921 AD

First: The election and establishment of the first parliament of Greater Romania in 1919:

After the Great Union, Romania practically did not have a parliament for almost a year, as elections were organized too late for the union. The failure to organize elections earlier was explained by the special situation in which the country found itself, affected by numerous workers' strikes, general discontent among the entire population, and an unstable economic situation, which was also affected by heavy losses during the First World War. This situation led to the creation and continuation of a state of siege and political censorship for a long time even after the end of the war, and caused the country to be ruled by the executive through decrees with laws that had to be approved by the new parliament.¹⁾

The new electoral reform law introduced universal and equal voting, as the number of voters who nominated a representative rose to (30,000) voters in 1919 AD. The law also stipulated that a senator would be elected for every (20) thousand voters, but only citizens over the age of (40) years were entitled to vote for the Senate. The total number of states was determined according to those rules as (568) elected representatives in (79) electoral districts and (236) elected members in (78) electoral districts. The parliamentary elections were initially scheduled to be held in January 1919 AD, but they were postponed successively in the months of March, May, July and September and were finally set for November 1919

AD on the days (3, 4 and 5 November) for the House of Representatives and on (7 and 8 November) for the Senate.²⁾

Until the end of the First World War there was no gradual expansion of the social base of parliamentary elections in Romania and the electoral phenomenon remained above all an expression of the conservative elites and the more educated and wealthy bourgeoisie. Even the introduction of universal suffrage at the end of the war, which benefits all male citizens over the age of (21), had a limited impact on the democratic system. Instead, new political groupings began to appear on the Romanian political scene.³⁾

The salient feature was party pluralism based on universal suffrage and the primary political objective of the period was to maintain and strengthen parliamentary democracy. As a result, two major parties succeeded in establishing themselves in political life: the National Liberal Party and the National Peasants' Party, which competed for power.⁴⁾

The parliamentary elections seemed to have been decided for sure at the beginning of October and the Central Elections Office informed the voters that the council elections would be on October 5, 1919, and nominations could be submitted until September 16 in the (14) electoral districts. It was decided that the Senate elections would be held on October 10, 1919.⁵⁾ Due to the political crisis facing the country, the population was informed through an official statement that the parliamentary elections would be postponed until a new government was formed, a measure that was expected.⁶⁾

The Transylvanian people refused to form a government, as well as the opposition of the National Conservative Party, so King Ferdinand appointed a non-partisan government and called for elections in 1919. General Arthur Vetoianu was appointed Arthur Văitoianu.⁷⁾ The new government was formed on September 27, 1919, and its task was to organize parliamentary elections. This government maintained the existing administrative powers, i.e., the Liberal government. It was a government favorable to the Liberals. The evidence for this was that both the Conservatives and the local leaders who had been appointed by the Liberal government remained in their previous positions. The main task of the new Prime Minister was to organize the parliamentary elections scheduled for November 1919. In addition to the state of siege and censorship, this aroused the discontent of the People's League, the Conservative Democratic Party, and the Socialist Party, which withdrew from the election campaign.⁸⁾

The main task of the new cabinet was to organize the first general elections in Romanian history based on universal suffrage. The government maintained the old local powers, which were liberal. General Vetoianu had declared upon his inauguration as prime minister that he was far removed from political conflicts and that he had pledged to organize the elections in a spirit of freedom, fairness and order so that their results would express the full and free will of the people..⁹⁾

Despite the absence of three major parties from the electoral competition, the political battle was extremely fierce, as each party wanted to win as many parliamentary seats as possible. On October 18, 1919, under pressure from public opinion, King Ferdinand sent a letter to Prime Minister Vetoianu regarding ensuring free parliamentary elections. The letter drew the attention of the head of the executive branch to the fact that when he appointed him Prime Minister, his desire as a leader was to provide the country with a government that would guarantee free elections. The Prime Minister also addressed the law enforcement agencies and sent them a request to remove any interference in the conduct of free elections by all available means, forcefully and against any party or political group belonging to it. The King of Romania did not neglect the political formations registered in the electoral race, which must express their views publicly, and expressed his desire to apply censorship and the blockade law only as a last resort and in extreme cases.¹⁰⁾

Thus, respect for legitimacy, equality and equal opportunities for all candidates on the lists was followed. Commenting on the King's position, Margilloman confirmed on October 30, 1919, a letter from the King to General Vetoianu in which he expressed his will that the promise of free elections would not remain ink on paper.¹¹⁾

Before the elections, which were finally scheduled for November 3 and 4, 1919, the government, under the influence of other political parties, was forced to change the emergency law that was still in force in Romania after the war. Preventive censorship was replaced by repressive censorship, while restrictive regulations on assemblies remained in place, which actually made it difficult to campaign on the eve of the elections. The fears of conservatives who claimed before 1914 that the introduction of universal suffrage would not actually change anything in Romanian political life were realized, because electoral manipulation would still occur, but this time its scope would be greater.¹²⁾

However, the Prime Minister took note of the desire expressed literally by the King and General Vetoianu immediately sent a circular to the provincial governors, commanders of the gendarmerie corps and police stations in which he warned of the equivalence of the distance. Among the candidates that local authorities must show, as well as the police, gendarmerie and army bodies respectively during the elections, the Prime Minister also pointed out that any interference by officials in the elections except for the exercise of the right to vote is considered gross misconduct. For its part, the Ministry of the Interior, which at that time was subordinate to the entire central and local public administration, strongly announced that any interference by officials in the voting process would be punished with the maximum penalty.¹³⁾

It is also worth noting that as soon as the election campaign began on October 4, 1919, the government, led by General Vetoianu, ordered the partial lifting of the state of siege and censorship. These measures had a positive character. However, the equality and neutrality of the administrative apparatus desired by public opinion, including the masses of voters, was only partially achieved. In a circular issued by the Ministry of the Interior at the beginning of October 1919, the gendarmerie companies in the region were asked to monitor the revolutionary propaganda that the Socialist Party and the trade unions tried to introduce into the villages under the guise of election propaganda. The socialists exploited the plight of the rural and urban population and pressured the governors by threatening to launch a general strike on November 3, 1919. The Progressive Conservative Party tried to exploit the absence of the People's Party, led by Averescu, the Democratic Conservatives, and the Socialists from the elections. Consequently, the leader of the Conservative Party, Margilloman, asked the district organizations of the political formation he led to be more combative. The president's request was necessary, as some local leaders supported not participating in the elections, at the initiative of the leader of the party. The Progressive Conservatives established a Central Electoral Committee in January 1919, which actually began its work on September 13, 1919.¹⁴⁾

Victory went to the National Party led by Iuliu Maniu.¹⁵⁾ It was the main pre-war Romanian party in Transylvania which quickly built a position in the political life of Greater Romania by attracting the support of the peasants of the Old Kingdom in the lands of pre-World War I Romania. Maniu's colleague Alexandru Vajda became voivode Prime Minister and Vajda soon ran the government under his leadership.¹⁶⁾

The first elections of Greater Romania took place in November 1919, after being postponed six times between January and November 1919. Apart from being the first elections of a united Romania, they were also the first elections organized in Greater Romania on the basis of universal suffrage, which led to the emergence of the first unified parliament for all Romanians. However, their legal basis was not unitary, as the elections were held according to special electoral systems. In the old Kingdom of Bessarabia and partly in Bukovina, the proportional representation voting list was used. The electoral system was extended from Old Romania to the two new annexed provinces of Transylvania, Banat, Crișana, Satmar and Maramures. Single-member voting was used by the electoral districts.¹⁷⁾

The parliamentary elections of November 1919 were not only the first held in Romania after the end of World War I, but also the first to replace census suffrage with universal male suffrage. Single general elections from Romania's independence until the end of the 20th century were also a complex process organized according to three different laws and voting systems in all the historical counties that made up Greater Romania.¹⁸⁾

It is known that in 1919 it was not possible to compile complete electoral lists in the old state according to a census of the official gazette data, 1,299,847 voters were registered, i.e. an increase of approximately 150,000 voters, in light of a slight increase in the population of about 500,000, if the total of those who had the right to vote (most of them indirectly) was estimated between 16 and 16.5% of the total population, and in the same year those who had the right to vote represented between 17.00 and 17.5% of the total population.¹⁹⁾

The November 1919 elections in most parts of the country were the first parliamentary elections held in Greater Romania after the end of World War I and the achievement of Greater Union in 1918. The organization of these elections reflected, on the one hand, the turmoil of the first post-war years and, on the other hand, the diversity of the situations in the various historical provinces that made up Greater Romania in a country that had not yet undergone a process of legislative and administrative unification. These elections were held according to different laws that took into account the different electoral traditions of the Old Kingdom and the regions formerly belonging to Austria-Hungary, more specifically

in the Old Kingdom and in Bessarabia. The elections were based on multi-named electoral districts at the county level, and independent candidates were distributed. The districts were distributed according to a proportional system for the Chamber of Deputies and according to a proportional majority system for the Senate. In the provinces of Bukovina and Transylvania, the voting system was unified at the sub-constituency level, with the cities of Chernivtsi, Cluj, Oradea, Arad, and Timisoara being excluded from proportional voting.⁽²⁰⁾

Despite this diversity, parliamentary elections also had an important common element across Romania. Romanian male citizens over (21) years of age had the right to vote for the Chamber of Deputies and those over (40) years of age had the right to vote for the Senate. Universal male suffrage was imposed only in Bukovina, due to its annexation to the Austrian part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, while in Transylvania, Bessarabia and the Old Kingdom, universal male suffrage succeeded in expanding the right to vote and the participation of the population in determining the political will of the country.⁽²¹⁾

In the 1919 elections, the role of the Peasant Party, led by Ion Mihalache, and the People's Party, led by General Averescu, who was at that moment the most popular man in the country, as well as the Romanian National Party in Transylvania, emerged. An electoral system was established based on the absolute majority, and the population participated in the elections for the first time in 1919 in the ancient kingdom of Dobrudja, and in Bessarabia on the basis of the general vote for the elections held by the government headed by General Vetoianu, appointed on September 26, 1919. It included the selection of (568) elected representatives, and ten parties participated in those elections, as the National Party in Transylvania obtained (199) seats. This was due to the increase in his popularity and the increase in his supporters, especially in the provinces that had recently joined Romania. The Peasant Party obtained (130) seats, the Liberals (103), the Nationalists and Democrats (27), and the Conservatives (16). The result of those elections clearly showed how the old and strong Conservative Democratic Party lost, even though Tec Ionescu was still leading it, as his popularity had worsened and he had not yet regained it. Based on the result of the elections, the National Party was tasked with forming a coalition government, and its leader, Dr. Iuliu Maniu, refused that task. The government was formed by Alexandru Vaida, the Voivode, who had previously represented the country in the peace negotiations. The coalition government was based on the National Party, the Peasant Party, and Mr. Voivode's party.⁽²²⁾

Meanwhile, the Transylvanian parliamentarians arrived in Bucharest on Wednesday, November 19, at 4:00 p.m. They were welcomed at the train station by Vasile Goldes, Minister for Transylvania in the Vetoianu government in Bucharest. The Transylvanians were arriving in Bucharest as elected representatives of Romanians across the Carpathians. The next day, Thursday morning, before the opening of the two chambers, all the Transylvanian parliamentarians laid a wreath at the statue of Mihai the Brave.⁽²³⁾

The first session of the new parliament was held on November 20, 1919 AD at twelve o'clock noon in the Roman (Athenaeum) hall, because for more than (700) members of the Senate and representatives, the hall of the building located in (Delu Metropole) for the House of Representatives was not spacious.⁽²⁴⁾ The atmosphere that prevailed during the session of Parliament that day was full of general excitement, as the royal family received an exceptional reception and the meeting was attended by parliamentarians, a large audience, journalists and foreign diplomats accredited in Bucharest. The official opening of the session of the legislative bodies took place.⁽²⁵⁾

Following the first meetings devoted to approving the draft states on November 28, 1919, Paul Bujor, professor at the University of Iași, was elected President of the Senate. In the opening speech of the Chamber of Deputies, chaired by Dean Vasile Stroescu, it was noted that the primary factor working for the unity of the Romanians was the Romanian people themselves. On the same date, the deputies elected Alexandru Vajda-Voivode as President of the Chamber of Deputies. In his speech on that occasion, he considered the parliamentary body an expression of the unwavering will of the Romanian people to establish a truly democratic state through the creation of democratic institutions, without which progress cannot be achieved and Romania's presence among other democratic states cannot be guaranteed. During the session of Parliament and the meetings, the government led by General Arthur Vetoianu, which had completed its primary mission of organizing the first parliamentary elections after the Great Union, submitted its resignation. The new government was formed by a coalition (the parliamentary bloc), and Alexandru Vajda-Voivode became Prime Minister, appointed to that position on December 1, 1919, exactly on the first anniversary of the Great Union.⁽²⁶⁾

After the plenary session resumed, the members of the Chamber of Deputies elected a new president, Nicolae Iorga, at the session of December 9, 1919, to replace Alexandru Vajda, the Voivode, who had become Prime Minister. The discussions in the legislative bodies, in accordance with their working regulations, focused on formulating the response to the royal message and on analyzing the government program presented by the President of the Council of Ministers, Alexandru Vajda, the Voivode. He emphasized the conviction that Parliament owed its existence to the firm will of the Romanians to unite forever, considering that without national unity and freedom, no nation could achieve lasting economic and political progress. The Prime Minister also expressed his conviction that it depended on the wisdom of the Romanian people for Romania to become a strong state..⁽²⁷⁾

At the conclusion of the discussions on December 27, 1919, the Senate's draft response to the Throne Message was also presented. After expressing its support for the ideas presented by His Majesty King Ferdinand I during the opening of Parliament, the members of the Senate affirmed that they would provide all support to the government in implementing the program it had put before the Chambers of Deputies and the Senate. Thus, the Senate would cooperate in improving the constitutional organization by consecrating the union with sister countries and by revising the Constitution so that its articles would conform to the new real situation throughout Romania..⁽²⁸⁾

The opening of the first Parliament on December 29, 1919, was an important political event in Romania when the laws of the Great Union were ratified, presented and adopted in the Chamber of Deputies and then in the Senate by representatives of the Supreme Government itself for promulgation by King Ferdinand. The Government Manifesto for the Bessarabian Union was signed by the Prime Minister Alexandru Vajda Voivode and Ion Incolet. Ion Incolet⁽²⁹⁾ Minister of State (without portfolio) Plenipotentiary for the Administration of the Province of Bessarabia, by her own free will, returned to the Motherland..⁽³⁰⁾

We see that these elections were characterised by the following:

1- It took place in historical provinces and on the basis of different electoral systems, because on the one hand no party had expanded to the level of the entire country and on the other hand legislative unification was still a wish and in its initial stages.

2- No real political struggle took place, except in the Old Kingdom, because in the rest of the unified provinces, the old or newly established parties won almost effortlessly and in some places even without competition. 3- Elections were held on the basis of universal suffrage without the participation of women, and this gave rise to the first Constituent Assembly of Greater Romania. At the same time, after analyzing the results and procedures, these are the first elections in which Romanian political parties participated.

4- The Peasants' Party entered the political arena as the party of the future that ensures balance in political life, replacing conservative political formations.

The Peasant Party members formed a strong shift towards the left side of the party system, a side that resulted from the Peasant Party's second place in the Old Kingdom and the disappearance of the Conservatives, which transformed the National Popular Party into a left-wing party.

5- The elections highlighted the significant role of the National Party in Transylvania as an influential political force.

6- The elections confirmed the failure and decline of the conservative Romanian parties.

Second: The government of General Alexandru Averescu (**March 1920 – December 1921**):

The government of Alexandru Averescu was established on March 13, 1920. The Prime Minister appeared before Parliament, announcing a ten-day adjournment so that the new government could review state affairs. One of the first decisions of the new Prime Minister was to dissolve Parliament. During this period, discussions took place between Averescu, the King, and Bratianu regarding the course of action of the government. Ferdinand was very hesitant about dissolving Parliament, which had been elected only four months earlier, while the legislative council had a term of four years. However, he finally gave in to the insistence of the leader of the National Liberal Party, Bratianu. Accordingly, the King issued the decree dissolving Parliament on March 23, 1920. Bratianu submitted it to King Ferdinand I, and Prime Minister Averescu read it before Parliament..⁽³¹⁾

This initiative resulted from the fact that the People's Party did not have broad representation in Parliament. General Averescu was aware of the real support for his party from broad popular sectors and expressed his hope that the results of the new elections would allow him to govern independently. Parliament was dissolved on March 26, 1920, and new elections were announced for early May and June 1920. In preparation for the elections, the Liberal Party initially tried to establish political contacts with

the People's Party and establish a broad electoral alliance with it. However, Averescu rejected the proposal to form such a coalition. Accordingly, cooperation with Liberal Party activists could only take place after that party unconditionally joined his group.⁽³²⁾

One of the main tasks of the new government was to organize new parliamentary elections, which were scheduled for early May and June 1920, but were postponed to June 4 for the House of Representatives and from June 6 to 7 of the same year for the Senate.⁽³³⁾

In the new electoral campaign that began in April 1920, the Averescu government tried to prove to the people that these elections would be the freest and most democratic in Romania by creating the impression that it would not interfere in any way in the electoral campaign and by stopping any interference in political conflicts during the electoral campaign, granting the widest freedom of propaganda to all political parties participating in the elections, and taking only the measures permitted by law against those who abused constitutional freedoms and threatened the security of the state through speech or writing.⁽³⁴⁾

Eager to form a truly national government, Prime Minister Averescu appointed members of his government from all provinces and from among people representing the middle class. In order to ensure victory in the next elections, he concluded an electoral pact with the Conservative Party led by Tec Ionescu and the Liberal Party, thus creating an alliance of forces that were opposed to any major social and political change.⁽³⁵⁾

The government of Alexandru Averescu won the parliamentary elections without difficulty. During those elections, the number of deputies decreased from (568) to (369) deputies and the number of senators from (236) to (198). Thus, the (206) seats obtained by the People's Party in the Chamber of Deputies and the (124) senators represented a political majority, regardless of the fact that no one could rely on the homogeneity of the ideas of these parliamentarians and their devotion to party discipline. The voters gave the People's Party (44.64%) of the votes, and on the eve of the elections, the agreement between it and the liberals had ended. Both the liberals and the conservatives intended to leave the task of running the country to the People's Party, led by General Averescu, waiting for a more suitable moment to regain power.⁽³⁶⁾

After the election results were announced, in the summer of 1921, Brătiano considered that the mission of the Averescu government had ended.⁽³⁷⁾ As the enthusiasm of the majority of the opposition waned, believing that the king would move to a radical solution of dismissing the Averescu government and forming a national union government, Nicolae Iorga found that Brătiano had a great influence on King Ferdinand I, who was systematically carrying out his work of undermining the position of the Averescu government and antagonizing relations between the National Party and the Peasant Party.⁽³⁸⁾

The king wanted to form a coalition government, as he saw that the government was no longer able to deal with the existing situation and had to bear its consequences. As early as November 30, 1921, King Ferdinand I informed Tec Ionescu that he would appoint him as Prime Minister. Therefore, on December 11, Tec Ionescu resigned from the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs, which caused a government crisis. At first, Averescu did not accept the idea of resigning from the presidency of the government and stressed that he would not leave his position as long as he had a majority in Parliament. Moreover, he announced that even if he was asked to resign, he would not leave the post of Prime Minister.⁽³⁹⁾

The opposition interpreted Averescu's statement as a government rebellion against the king and considered it a threat of a coup by General Averescu. Faced with this situation, the Prime Minister was asked to apologize to the king, who accepted his apology without conviction, especially since the members of the Chamber of Deputies affiliated with Averescu's party asked the king to maintain contact with Prime Minister Averescu and not to allow the liberals to influence him.⁽⁴⁰⁾

On December 13, 1921, Averescu submitted his resignation in accordance with democratic standards. The king should have entrusted the task of forming a new government to the leader of the Peasant Party or the National Party, the opposition parties that had won the largest number of seats in parliament. However, the king asked Tić Ionescu to form the government, even though his parliamentary base was small.⁽⁴¹⁾

King Ferdinand insisted on reaching agreements between the political parties and forming a national union government after the opposition withdrew from parliament in June 1921. He also insisted on concluding a cooperation agreement between the National Liberal Party and the National Party. The Popular Party, however, the negotiations that took place in October and November 1921 did not lead to any results, but on the contrary, they led to the exacerbation of political differences. The liberals accused

the nationalists of seeking to perpetuate regionalism and ensure their political monopoly. The nationalists declared that the liberals showed dictatorial tendencies and that they were actually aiming to transform the National Popular Party into an appendage of the National Liberal Party.⁴²⁾

We note from the above that although Averescu's government won the 1920 elections and secured a parliamentary majority, Averescu sought to establish an authoritarian regime, bypassing the liberals and other opposition parties. This failed because the liberals, led by their leader Brătianu, had significant influence over King Ferdinand, who listened to and complied with Brătianu's decisions. Nevertheless, the reason for Averescu's forced resignation from the government was his personal ambition.

CONCLUSION

We conclude from the research that Romania, after the First World War, succeeded in achieving important political reforms, represented by holding the first parliamentary elections at the national level and establishing the first Romanian parliament that represented the interests of the people in all Romanian provinces. It also succeeded in introducing male suffrage. Despite the absence of a number of Romanian political parties, the elections were held in a fierce competition between the parties. The formation of the repeated Romanian governments had a significant impact on the political stability of the country. Despite the formation of the Averescu government, which organized the 1920 parliamentary elections, the political situation did not stabilize due to the political struggle between the political parties for power, in addition to the great political influence of the leader of the Liberal Party, Brătianu, who had a significant influence on King Ferdinand I, who demanded the resignation of the Averescu government and the formation of a coalition government in order to end the political conflict that the country was witnessing at that time.

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- ⁽⁷⁾ Arthur Vetoianu (1864-1956 AD): A Romanian general and politician, he was one of the great leaders of the Romanian army in the war. He graduated from the Military School for Officers in 1884 AD and the Artillery School in Bucharest in 1886 AD. He rose through the military ranks during the period (1916-1918 AD). He then became Minister of the Interior during the period (October 24 - November 29, 1918 AD) and Minister of War during the period (November 29, 1918 - September 12, 1919 AD). He was appointed Prime Minister of the Romanian government from September 27 to November 28, 1919 AD. After that, he became a prominent member of the National Liberal Party and was elected as a member of the Senate. Since 1925 AD, he became a senator in the Romanian Parliament. On June 17, 1956 AD, he died at the age of (92) years. See:
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17. ⁽¹⁵⁾ Iuliu Maniu (1873–1953): Romanian politician and statesman. He studied law at the University of Cluj in Romania, Vienna and Budapest, and obtained a doctorate in law in 1896. At the beginning of his professional career, he worked as a lawyer in 1898, then as a legal advisor to the Romanian city of Blaj. He is considered one of the leaders of the political struggle for the liberation of Romanians in Transylvania from Austro-Hungarian rule. He became President of the Governing Council in Transylvania during the period (1918–1920), then President of the Transylvanian Romanian National Party during the period (1919–1926), and assumed the presidency of the National Peasant Party during the years (1926–1933–1937). He held the position of Prime Minister several times (November 10, 1928 - June 7, 1930 - June 13 - October 8, 1930 - October 20, 1932 - January 12, 1933), and became Minister of Foreign Affairs during the period (August–November 1944 AD) and after the dissolution of the National Peasants' Party in 1947 AD, he was arrested in July 1947 AD and sentenced to life imprisonment until his death in Sighet Prison. See: =
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27. ⁽²⁴⁾ Ioan Scurtu, Gheorghe Buzatu, *Istoria românilor in secolul XX, Paideia, București, 1999, p.121.*
28. ⁽²⁵⁾ Lavinia Mihaela Vladiă, *op., cit, P. 91.*
29. ⁽²⁶⁾ Gheorghe Sbârnă, *Primul Parlament al României Mari Ratificarea hotărârilor privind Unirea Basarabiei Bucovinei și Transilvaniei, Polis, p. 163.*
30. ⁽²⁷⁾ *Ibide., p. 164.*
31. ⁽²⁸⁾ *Ibide., p. 165.*
32. ⁽²⁹⁾ Ion Incolet (1884-1940): A Romanian politician and statesman, he graduated from the Theological Seminary in Chisinau, then joined the Faculty of Mathematics in Dorpat, Estonia, and then transferred to the Faculty of Physics and Mathematics at Saint Louis University in Petersburg, from which he graduated. He fought for the union of Bessarabia with Romania. After the Great Union, he was appointed Minister of State in Bessarabia, then Minister of Health and Social Protection (1927-1928), Minister of the Interior (1933-1936), and became Deputy Prime Minister (1936-1937). See: . Ekaterina Țarălungă, *Op, cite, p. 392*
33. ⁽³⁰⁾ George Sbârnă, *Op. Cit., p. 166.*
34. ⁽³¹⁾ Ioan Scurtu, *op., cit., P. 98.*
35. ⁽³²⁾ Andrzej Dubicki 256.
36. ⁽³³⁾ Adrian Simion, *Alegerile Parlamentare Din Anul 1920 in Județul Vâlcea, Buletinul cercurilor științifice student. Archeology, nr. 8, 2002, p. 163.*
37. ⁽³⁴⁾ *Ibide., p. 163.*
38. ⁽³⁵⁾ Keith Hitchins, *Romania 1866-1947, trad.: George G. Potra, Delia Răzdolescu. Ed. a 4-a., Humanitas, București, 2013, p. 443*
39. ⁽³⁶⁾ Francesco Guida, *Romania in Secolul*
40. ⁽³⁷⁾ Ioan Scurtu, *op., cit., p. 108*
41. ⁽³⁸⁾ N. Iorga, *O viață de om. As of now, Edit by Valeriu și Sanda Râpeanu, Editura Minerva, București, 1972, p. 589.*
42. ⁽³⁹⁾ *îndreptarea, on December 13, 1921.*
43. ⁽⁴⁰⁾ Ioan Scurtu, *Op., Cit., P. 109.*
44. ⁽⁴¹⁾ *Ibide., pp. 109-110.*