The volume XV (No. 2, 2018), published by the Institute of Political Science and International Relations “Ion I. C. Brătianu”, Romanian Academy, brings together articles and studies, as well structured reference works for the political studies spectrum, all marked by the festive event of the Centenary of the Romanian Great Union at the 1918 momentum.

Through the themes proposed by the Romanian Review of Political Sciences and International Relations, in its essence dedicated to political studies, the reader (both researcher or student) is linked to a wide range of titles and directions concerning the spectrum of mentalities, studies of history and sociology, all devoted to the explanation and the understanding of what the Great Union and the post-union period meant, through its specific problems and movements.

Who were the Great Union partisans? How the intellectuals of the moment manifested themselves? How did politics react? Who were the opponents? Who were the allies? How was the Union perceived by civil society? What was the diplomatic initiative? What were the problems? What were the solutions and their repercussions? The answers to all these questions are found within the articles of this volume, which is certainly a reference for the mentioned subject.

The main theme of the volume, through the variety of themes that compose it, lies in the micro-understanding of what the Romanian Unification meant in 1918. The way in which it manifested itself intellectually, politically and diplomatically, everything in accordance with the popular movements on the territory of what we all know today as Romania. And from the micro-perspective the macro-perspective emerges!

The complexity of the volume themes provides the reader a wide range of topics, starting from the intellectual movements of 1918 and even beyond, which formed the basis of the Romanian national identity, mentioning here personalities such as Simion Bărnuțiu, Ion Agârbiceanu or the Romanian national poet, Mihai Eminescu, reaching up to the political analysis and geostrategic problems with which Romania, as a unified state, was facing. The political relations, the diplomacy and the security of the new Romanian state, the international concert of the times, the ethnic and social problems, all these are subjects included and debated professionally in this volume who has already used his readers with innovative perspectives, with the critical apparatus and with its substantial contribution it brings to the themes addressed. Thus, this volume is no exception, especially since it is a festive one.

What meant the Romanian Unification?

The articles also provide a synthesis of the relation between the costs and the gains the Romanian nation had in these one hundred years since 1918. This is another argument that makes the volume indispensable for those passionate about the history and culture of Romania, as well as for those who are experienced in the field of international relations, making it not only a good and refreshing reading, but also a source of precious information.

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