



ACADEMIA ROMÂNĂ  
INSTITUTUL DE ARHEOLOGIE „VASILE PÂRVAN”

# MATERIALE ȘI CERCETĂRI ARHEOLOGICE

SERIE NOUĂ  
NR. XIX, 2023



EDITURA ACADEMIEI ROMÂNE

## Colegiul de redacție

Dr. **STEFAN ALEXANDROV** (National Institute of Archaeology and Museum, Sofia), Dr. **SANDA BALESCU** (Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille, Laboratoire de Préhistoire et Quaternaire, CNRS, France), Dr. **CONSTANTIN BĂJENARU** (Muzeul de Istorie Națională și Arheologie Constanța), Dr. **RADU BĂJENARU** (Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”, București), Dr. **LUMINIȚA BEJENARU** (Universitatea „Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Iași; Centrul de Antropologie „Olga Necrasov” al Academiei Române - Filiala Iași), Prof. Dr. **CLIVE BONSALE** (University of Edinburgh, U.K.), Prof. Dr. **NIKOLAUS BOROFFKA** (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut – Eurasien Abteilung, Berlin, Germany), Dr. **PIERRE DUPONT** (Université de Lyon, CNRS, France), Dr. **UWE FIEDLER** (Berlin, Germany), Dr. **RADU HARHOIU** (Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”, București), Dr. **DOMINIC MOREAU** (Université de Lille, Centre de recherche HALMA-UMR 8164, France), Dr. **EUGEN NICOLAE** (Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”, București), Dr. **CORIOLAN OPREANU** (Institutul de Arheologie și Istoria Artei, Cluj-Napoca), Prof. Dr. **ANNIE RENOUX** (Université du Maine, Le Mans), Dr. **ALEXANDER RUBEL** (Institutul de Arheologie, Iași), Dr. **VIORICA RUSU-BOLINDEȚ** (Muzeul Național de Istorie a Transilvaniei, Cluj-Napoca), Dr. **ANGELA SIMALCSIK** (Centrul de Antropologie „Olga Necrasov” al Academiei Române - Filiala Iași), Academician **VICTOR SPINEI** (Institutul de Arheologie, Iași), Prof. Dr. **ERIK TRINKAUS** (Department of Anthropology, Washington University), Prof. Dr. **ALAIN TUFFREAU** (Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille, Laboratoire de Préhistoire et Quaternaire, CNRS, France)

## Comitetul de redacție

**ROXANA DOBRESCU** – redactor șef  
**ADRIAN IONIȚĂ** – redactor-șef adjunct

**IRINA ACHIM, ADINA BORONEANȚ, MIRCEA DABÎCA, ADRIAN DOBOȘ, RADU-ALEXANDRU DRAGOMAN, ANDREI MĂGUREANU, LIANA OȚA, ADRIANA PANAITE, DANIEL SPĂNU, VLAD VINTILĂ ZIRRA** – membri

**RALUCA KOGĂLNICEANU** – secretar de redacție

**RALUCA KOGĂLNICEANU, OFELIA COȘMAN** – prelucrare ilustrație și așezare în pagină  
**PIERRE DUPONT** (limba franceză), **ROXANA DOBRESCU** (limba franceză), **CLIVE BONSALE** (limba engleză), **ADINA BORONEANȚ** (limba engleză) – consultanți limbi străine  
**ROMEO CÎRJAN** – design copertă

www.mcajournal.ro

Orice corespondență se va trimite Comitetului de redacție pe adresa: Str. Henri Coandă nr. 11, 010667 București, tel./fax 4021 212 88 62 și iab.redactie@gmail.ro.

**Toate lucrările publicate în revista *Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice* sunt recenzate de specialiști în domeniu.  
(peer-reviewed journal)**

**Revista *Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice* este indexată în următoarele baze de date:  
Persée, Copernicus, ERIH PLUS, Scopus, CEEOL, EBSCO și DOAJ.**

Redactori Editura Academiei Române: **ADRIAN MIRCEA DOBRE, CĂTĂLINA VOICAN**  
Tehnoredactor Editura Academiei Române: **MARIANA MOCANU**

Revista se poate procura contracost la sediul EDITURII ACADEMIEI ROMÂNE, Calea 13 Septembrie nr. 13, sector 5, 050711, București, România; tel. 4021-318 8146, 4021-318 8106, Fax 4021-318 2444, e-mail: edacad@ear.ro, periodice@ear.ro

ORION PRESS IMPEX 2000 S.R.L., P.O. Box 77-19, București, România, Tel./Fax: 4021-610 6765, 4021-210 6787, Tel.: 0311 044 668, e-mail: office@orionpress.ro.

S.C.MANPRESS DISTRIBUTION S.R.L. , Piața Presei Libere nr. 1, Corp B, Etaj 3, Cam. 301-302, sector 1, București, România, tel./fax: 4021-314 6339, e-mail: abonamente@manpres.ro, office@manpres.ro, www.romanianjournals.com.

DEREX COM S.R.L., e-mail: derex\_com@yahoo.com.

## SUMAR / SOMMAIRE / CONTENTS

### NEOLITIC / NÉOLITHIQUE / NEOLITHIC

Senica ȚURCANU, Adela KOVÁCS Southern connections. Metamorphosis of a particular type of anthropomorphic vessels in the area of the Cucuteni civilization .....	5
--	---

### EPOCA FIERULUI / L'ÂGE DU FER / IRON AGE

Costin-Alexandru ȘENDROIU Analiza antropologică a depunerilor funerare de la Orlea .....	25
Anthropological analysis of the funerary depositions at Orlea	
Daniel SPÂNU Restituiri. Două mici tezaure descoperite la Poiana în campania 1949.....	37
Restitutions. Two small jewellery hoards discovered at Poiana in during the 1949 campaign	

### EPOCA GREACĂ / ÉPOQUE GRECQUE / GREEK PERIOD

Pierre DUPONT Determination of origin of transport amphorae of Heracleean type: lab reassessment of their recent reallocation to Apollonia Pontica .....	55
---	----

### EPOCA ROMANĂ / ÉPOQUE ROMAINE/ ROMAN PERIOD

Ionuț BOCAN, Mircea DABÎCA Lămpile de la Histria. I. Lămpi romane timpurii din <i>Sectorul Sud</i> al cetății Histria .....	61
The lamps from Histria. I. Early Roman lamps from <i>Sector Sud</i> at Histria	
Bianca-Elena GRIGORAȘ, Adriana PANAIȚE Drinking vessels from Tropaeum Traiani (2 <sup>nd</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> centuries AD).....	79
Ciprian CREȚU The mortuary treatment of children in Late Roman/Early Byzantine (L)Ibida (4 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> Centuries AD).....	99

### EPOCA MIGRAȚIILOR / ÉPOQUE DES MIGRATIONS / MIGRATIONS PERIOD

Erwin GÁLL, Florin MĂRGINEAN, Mihály Huba HÓGYES, Gabriel VASILE Pedepsă după moarte? Cazul mormântului 239 de la Pecica – <i>Situl 15</i> .....	113
Death punishment? The case of burial 239 from Pecica – <i>Site 15</i>	

### EPOCA MEDIEVALĂ / ÉPOQUE MÉDIEVALE / MIDDLE AGES

Florin Gabriel PETRICĂ, Minodora CÂRCIUMARU, Mihai Claudiu NĂSTASE Cercetări arheologice preventive în orașul medieval Târgoviște – <i>Strada Calea Domnească nr. 192</i> .....	131
Preventive excavations in the medieval town of Târgoviște – <i>192 Calea Domnească St.</i>	

Gabriel VASILE	
A new medieval cemetery discovered at Târgoviște (Dâmbovița County, Romania). Bioarchaeological characteristics .....	155
Daniela MARCU ISTRATE, Sebastian Ovidiu DOBROTĂ, Vasile Paul SCROBOTĂ	
Cercetări arheologice la biserica mare din cetatea Aiudului. II: exteriorul bisericii .....	177
Archaeological excavations at the big church from the fortress of Aiud. II: the exterior of the church	

#### **EPOCA CONTEMPORANĂ / ÉPOQUE CONTEMPORAINE / CONTEMPORARY PERIOD**

Radu-Alexandru DRAGOMAN, Sorin OANȚĂ-MARGHITU, Cătălin I. NICOLAE, Mihai FLOREA	
Cercetări arheologice în fosta colonie de muncă forțată din perioada comunistă de la Peninsula, canalul Dunăre – Marea Neagră.....	217
Archaeological excavations in the former communist forced-labour camp from Peninsula, the Danube – Black Sea canal	

#### **RECENZII / COMPTES RENDUS / BOOK REVIEWS**

Valeriu Sîrbu, Dan Ștefan, Maria-Magdalena Ștefan (eds.), <i>Hidden Landscapes. The Lost Roads, Borders and Battlefields of the South-Eastern Carpathians</i> , Editura Cetatea de Scaun, Târgoviște, 2022, 429 de pagini, ISBN 978-606-537-583-3 (Cristian Eduard Ștefan) .....	245
Roxana-Talida Roman, <i>The Edge of Europe. Heritage, Landscape and Conflict Archaeology: First World War Material Culture in Romanian Conflictual Landscapes</i> , BAR International Series 2987, Oxford, 2020, BAR Publishing, 243 p., 180 figs., 5 tables, ISBN 9781407356853 (Radu-Alexandru Dragoman).....	246
<b>Abrevieri / Abréviations / Abbreviations.....</b>	<b>251</b>

**Valeriu Sîrbu, Dan Ștefan, Maria-Magdalena Ștefan (eds.), *Hidden Landscapes. The Lost Roads, Borders and Battlefields of the South-Eastern Carpathians*, Editura Cetatea de Scaun, Târgoviște, 2022, 429 de pagini, ISBN 978-606-537-583-3**

Editura Cetatea de Scaun ne propune un volum foarte interesant, apărut sub egida Institutului de Arheologie "Vasile Pârvan" al Academiei Române, realizat integral în limba engleză. Așa cum ne informează editorii în *Forward*, volumul este, în principal, rodul eforturilor colegilor implicați în proiectul HiLands, finanțat în cadrul Planului Național de Cercetare, Dezvoltare și Inovare (PNCDI III) susținut financiar de UEFISCDI.

Volumul este structurat în patru secțiuni: I. Preliminaries. From Theory to Practice; II. Living in the Highlands; III. Fingerprinting Mountain Roads; IV. Crossing the Mountains. Roads, Borders, Battlefields.

Prima secțiune cuprinde trei studii. Primul dintre ele, scris de D. Ștefan și M.-M. Ștefan, *For an archaeology of the Highlands*, ne introduce într-un subiect mai puțin familiar în cercetarea din România, și anume arheologia spațiului montan. Foarte interesantă aici ni se pare abordarea diacronică a temei, dar și contribuția esențială a abordării care implică LiDAR în zonele împădurite, unde accesul la informații este limitat. Cel de-al doilea, intitulat *A Geographic Journey through the South-Eastern Carpathians*, le aparține lui G. Murătoareanu și lui D. Ștefan și este o binevenită discuție despre relieful și geologia Carpaților, în aria lor sud-estică. Fără îndoială că aceste aspecte au influențat viața oamenilor din cele mai vechi timpuri și, implicit, și exprimarea lor culturală, atât prin urmele materiale, cât și prin cele care astăzi nu se mai văd. Al treilea studiu, *Scent of Archaeology on the roads in the heart of Europe, in the eve of Enlightenment: sites and sights on the Visconti's Mappa della Transilvania (1699)*, este scris de D. Măndescu și V. Sîrbu și explorează o foarte interesantă sursă de cartare a drumurilor vechi și a monumentelor romane din Transilvania, Banat, Oltenia, Muntenia și Serbia. Printre altele, sunt de notat aici Micia, Jidova sau Podul lui Traian de la Drobeta. Deși creatorul este Morando Visconti, se pare că el a avut mai multe surse de inspirație, pe care autorii încearcă să le descopere în acest studiu.

A doua secțiune debutează cu contribuția *First humans in the South-Eastern Carpathians. Mountains and Caves*, fiind un efort colectiv al autorilor M. Cosac, G. Murătoareanu, D. Ștefan și D. L. Buzea. O serie de peșteri din zona Vârghișului, cu urme de activitate umană străveche (Middle Paleolithic), sunt discutate aici, aportul LiDAR dovedindu-se, din nou, esențial. A doua contribuție, *Gumelnița/Stoicani-Aldeni Culture in the Curvature Subcarpathians – influences, contacts, links and channels of communication with the Cucuteni area*, îi aparține lui D. Garvăn și este o interesantă sinteză referitoare la relațiile comunităților eneolitice din zonă cu cele aparținând culturii Cucuteni. Ceramica de tip Cucuteni descoperită în siturile Gumelnița/Stoicani-Aldeni din

zonă este foarte utilă atât în ceea ce privește problemele cronologiei relative, cât și în stabilirea unor eventuale căi de comunicație între comunitățile respective, eventuale relații de exogamie, etc. Al treilea studiu, intitulat *High life in the Early Bronze Age. A few Notes on the Cultural Landscape of the Curvature Carpathians*, este scris de R. Munteanu și abordează unitatea culturală din bronzul timpuriu în zona cuprinsă între sud-estul Transilvaniei și Subcarpații Buzăului, unitate care poate fi desemnată cu sigla *Schenckenberg culture*. Autoarea demontează cu argumente solide anterior postulata posterioritate a descoperirilor din bronzul timpuriu din Subcarpații Buzăului față de cele din sud-estul Transilvaniei, pledând pentru o unitate culturală specifică zonelor montane. Al patrulea studiu, *The Păuleni-Ciuc – Dâmbul Cetății fortified site at the crossroad of trans-mountain connection routes: the dynamics of cultural diversity, interplay, ritual and power in the Southeast Carpathian Region from ca. 4500 BC to 350 AD*, este rodul efortului colectiv al autorilor V. Kavruk, D. Buzea, J. Puskás și D. Ștefan și ne prezintă o sinteză a cercetărilor din așezarea multistratificată de la Păuleni-Ciuc. Situl a fost ocupat în perioadele Cucuteni-Ariușd, Coțofeni, Jigodin, Ciomortan, Wietenberg, a doua epocă a fierului și în perioada romană. Foarte importante sunt observațiile de natură stratigrafică, prospecțiunile geomagnetice, descoperirea unor elemente de îngrădire/fortificație, dar și lotul de date radiometrice. Mormintele de epoca bronzului și elementele de cultură materială, precum și discuția generală privind încadrarea sitului în rețelele regionale și trans-regionale, pentru fiecare epocă în parte, umplu un gol important în arheologia zonei respective.

A treia secțiune cuprinde trei descoperiri monetare, prima dintre ele aparținându-le autorilor T. Isvoranu, L.-O. Savu și V. Sîrbu (*The Dyrhachium Drachmas Hoard discovered at Ormeniș, Brașov County*) și ne prezintă un tezaur alcătuit din 249 de monede din secolul I BC descoperit într-o zonă aflată la cca 5 km sud-est de fortificația dacică de la Tipia Ormenișului. Acestea au fost emise sub autoritatea Imperiului Roman în contextul marelui aflus de monede din argint din anii 75–70/65 BC în aria nord-danbiană. Al doilea studiu, intitulat *The Hoard of Silver Jewellery and Coins discovered at Căndești, Buzău County*, este scris de S. Matei și T. Isvoranu și ne prezintă un mic tezaur alcătuit din trei podoabe de argint (o brățară, o fibulă și un fragment de de inel spiralic) și 19 denari romani republicani. Datarea lui posibilă a fost pasată în epoca augusteică, adăugându-se altor 10 descoperiri de acest tip de pe teritoriul României. Al treilea studiu, *The inventory of coin finds from the area of Curvature Carpathians (14<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> century)*, îi aparține lui A. Vițcu și sintetizează informațiile despre monedele din intervalul secolelor

XIV–XVIII dintre Oituz și Valea Prahovei. Plaja monetară este destul de diversă, de la monede bizantine și groși moldovenești până la acele otomane (autentice sau false), groși polonezi, taleri sau denari ungurești.

A patra secțiune conține șase studii, primul dintre ele fiind scris de A. Popa (*From Angvstia to Cvmidava. The Eastern Frontier of Roman Dacia and the mountain passes in the area of the Curvature Carpathians (I). Case study: The Oituz Pass*). Autorul analizează rolul important al pasului Oituz în sistemul defensiv al Imperiului Roman. Este discutată posibilitatea existenței unui drum roman care să lege sud-estul Transilvaniei de regiunea Dunării de Jos prin pasul Oituz, dar și mutarea interesului către pasul Buzău în perioada migrațiilor. Al doilea studiu, *From the sea to the mountain through the fords of the Danube. On the (Roman) Road through Southern Moldavia* (C. Croitoru) este o binevenită sinteză a informațiilor despre sistemul de drumuri romane care legau fortificațiile din sudul Moldovei. Al treilea studiu, foarte consistent și excelent documentat este scris de E. S. Teodor (*A frontier road crossing the southern Carpathians. The upper part of Limes Transalutanus*). Autorul combină o serie de date și informații (LiDAR, DTM, hărți vechi) cu o intensă activitate în teren pentru a ne crea un tablou cât mai veridic al zonei superioare din LIMES TRANSLAUTANUS. Al patrulea studiu, *High Mountain Pathways in Southern Carpathians, around Bran Pass*, îi are ca autori pe E. S. Teodor și A. Panait și completează informațiile despre rolul important jucat de pasul Rucăr–Bran de-a lungul istoriei, inclusiv în formarea statului medieval al Țării Românești. Una din concluziile interesante a fost aceea că în aceste locuri sunt mai bine cunoscute comunitățile preistorice decât cele medievale,

deoarece arheologia medievală se concentrează pe studiul orașelor. I. Căndea este autorul celui de-al cincilea studiu, intitulat *The Byzantine Military Campaign of 1166 in the Formation of the Danube-Curvature Carpathians Corridor*. Pornind de la un text al cronicarului bizantin Kinnamos, autorul ne propune ipoteza conform căreia drumul urmat de armata bizantină contra ungarilor în 1166 este viitorul drum al Brăilei, de-a lungul văii Buzăului. Ultimul studiu din această secțiune, scris de E. S. Teodor și R. Bolba (*Mountain Passes and Battlefields: Rucăr-Bran corridor*), tratează urmele lăsate de evenimentele Primului Război Mondial în zona culoarului Rucăr-Bran. Acest subiect foarte interesant, mai puțin analizat în arheologia românească, este foarte bine acoperit de către cei doi autori, fiind coroborate o serie de elemente precum LiDAR, GIS, detecția de metale, planuri de bătălie, planurile unor fortificații, etc.

Volumul prezentat aici conține studii valoroase, cu subiecte foarte interesante și care ne prezintă cercetări în cheie modernă, în acord cu arheologia europeană și mondială. Un mare plus este prezentarea lor în limba engleză, ceea ce le face accesibile și cercetătorilor de peste hotare. Toate ilustrațiile sunt de foarte bună calitate, ceea ce vine să completeze în mod fericit textele studiilor. Considerăm că diseminarea proiectului HiLands este o reușită deplină și recomandăm cu căldură lecturarea acestui volum colegilor noștri interesați de arheologia montană și nu numai.

Cristian Eduard Ștefan

Institutul de Arheologie "Vasile Pârvan",  
Academia Română, București, România  
cristarh\_1978@yahoo.com

**Roxana-Talida Roman, *The Edge of Europe. Heritage, Landscape and Conflict Archaeology: First World War Material Culture in Romanian Conflictual Landscapes*, BAR International Series 2987, Oxford, 2020, BAR Publishing, 243 p., 180 figs., 5 tables, ISBN 9781407356853**

The archaeology of the First World War is today a well individualized field of research within the discipline in general and within conflict archaeology in particular, covering frontline areas both in Europe (e.g. Saunders 2010) and the Near East (e.g. Saunders 2020). While, for a long time, archaeological investigations focused almost exclusively on the Western Front, considerably less on northern Italy or Gallipoli, and hardly at all on the Eastern Front (cf. Saunders 2010, p. 202), recently the research has also extended to conflict landscapes in Central and Eastern European countries, for example in Slovenia, Poland or Slovakia (e.g. Košir et alii 2019). In the particular case of Romanian archaeology, we encounter a somehow different attitude. Most Romanian archaeologists perceive the materiality of the recent or contemporary past (including the material traces associated with the world wars) as not belonging to the field of archaeology, leaving its study to other disciplines. In this context, the volume by Roxana-Talida

Roman, published in the well-known British Archaeological Reports series, stands out as the first extensive, book-size treatment of the significance of the First World War heritage on the current territory of Romania. The volume brings to the reader's attention a segment of the Eastern Front – that of the Prislop Pass (1,416 m a.s.l.), connecting the regions of Maramureș and Bukovina from present-day northern Romania, but at the time of the First War World part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, bordering the Russian Empire. The appreciation of Roman's work is clearly expressed both on the back cover of the book and on the publisher's website: 'This is a critically important contribution to conflict archaeology and First World War studies (Professor Nicholas Saunders, University of Bristol)'; 'The quality of this research is of great significance archaeologically in examining the Eastern Front during the Great War (peer reviewer)' (<https://www.barpublishing.com/the-edge-of-europe.-heritage-landscape-and-conflict-archaeology.html>; accessed:

August 10th, 2023). In addition, for the book published at BAR, Roman was awarded the Society for Romanian Studies prize in 2021. However, in contrast with this positive image, I will argue that an analysis of the author's discourse in relation to the archaeological publications on the subject sheds a completely different light on Roman's book.

As stated in the introduction (Chapter 1), the main aim of the research 'was to explore the significance and relevance of Romanian WWI sites as places of remembrance and heritage' (p. 3). As a result, the key segment of the entire work is Chapter 5, a gazetteer of First World War sites in the Prislop Pass area, Maramureş County. According to Roman, the research in the Prislop Pass (designed as a pilot study), can be taken as a model for areas belonging to other countries or associated with other conflicts (p. 2, 180). All the other chapters revolve around Chapter 5, aiming to contribute to a finer contextualization and evaluation of the results obtained during the surveys undertaken in the Prislop Pass: Chapter 2 situates Roman's own approach within the international archaeological research on First World War; Chapter 3 discusses the methodology used in approaching the First World War sites in the Prislop Pass; Chapter 4 presents the Prislop Pass in the historical context of the First World War; Chapters 6 and 7 provide an assessment of the First World War sites in the Prislop Pass area in relation to national and international heritage policies respectively; last but not least, in the conclusions (Chapter 8), the importance of the First World War heritage in the Prislop Pass area is affirmed:

'the Prislop Pass conflictual landscape holds undeniable national and international heritage value both in terms of physical preservation and in terms of mapping on the memorial-historical record. The war sites demonstrate heritage and remembrance value, meeting heritage criteria on account of their preservation state, rarity, authenticity, research potential, embedded war knowledge and historical-memorial functions.' (p. 180)

I mostly agree with Roman's general conclusion, even if I find it somehow too bureaucratic in spirit. However, it is the discourse about her surveys in the Prislop Pass area that I regard as truly problematic and this primarily from an ethical point of view.

In the methodology chapter of the book (Chapter 3) Roman states that she chose this area as a case study 'due to the existence of representative war remains [...]'. This zone still preserves visible bunkers and earth works, a military road, remains of historical buildings, a military cemetery and common graves' (p. 21). According to Roman, her approach went through several successive stages: (1) archival research in order to determine the historical value of the sites; (2) a preliminary mapping of the sites based on historical maps, topographical maps and aerial photographs, a stage in which the archival research

contributed to the exact location of some of the vestiges; (3) based on the first two stages, Roman selected a specific area for the actual field research. This area has been divided into three sectors not only to illustrate the diversity, extent and complexity of the material remains, but also for practical reasons: 'the huge amount of materials spread over an impressively large area needed to be covered by *one person* in a limited time-frame' (p. 23, my emphasis). Roman's narrative presents her fieldwork as the result of a solitary original effort, but this image is far from the truth.

In fact, the first archaeological surveys in the Prislop Pass area started in 2014 (after a preliminary survey carried out in 2012) in the framework of the project *An Archaeology of the Mountains in Maramureş, Romania* (hereinafter: AMM) initiated and coordinated by Dan Pop (Maramureş County Museum of History and Archaeology, Baia Mare) and by the author of this review<sup>1</sup>. The project continued until 2022 despite interruptions caused by limited and intermittent funding, the changing personal commitments of the team members, the instability of institutional policies, and the restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the preliminary phase of the AMM project (2012), the materiality of the recent and contemporary past has been one of the main objectives, as highlighted already in the very first published report:

'We think that archaeological research does not have to operate with chronological fractures and, therefore, all categories of material culture, however "modest", not only those classified as "heritage", and regardless of the time period they belong to, are worth equal attention. Consequently, ruins or remains of events from the recent or contemporary past should also be taken into consideration.' (Dragoman *et alii* 2012, p. 219 – my translation; see also Dragoman *et alii* 2018, p. 64)

In addition, at the end of the 2015 report we pleaded for the legal protection of the vestiges of the two world wars in the Prislop Pass:

'Regarding the material traces from the recent past, a repertory of the vestiges associated with the war should be made and a series of archaeological excavations should be carried out in different structures – buildings, bunkers and casemates, trenches, etc. [...] Unfortunately, in Romania, the ruins of the two world wars have been overlooked by archaeological research and heritage policies, and the current legislation does not include them in the category of archaeological or historical sites and monuments; therefore, we consider necessary to amend the legislation in order to protect such

<sup>1</sup> After the beginning of the project, Bogdan Bobîna (at that time an employee of the Maramureş County Museum of History and Archaeology, Baia Mare) was also co-opted among the coordinators, but he later left the project.

ruins as well.’ (Dragoman *et alii* 2015, p. 205 – my translation)

During all our archaeological surveys, we documented material remains of the First and Second World Wars (buildings, casemates, bunkers, earthworks) and collected pieces of ammunition. Given the density and extent of these material traces, the team members decided to document the conflict landscape through aerial photographs taken with the drone and to select from each category of vestiges a few representative structures or ensembles of structures to be documented in detail. Some of the documented structures were included in the preliminary reports (Dragoman *et alii* 2012, p. 221-222, and fig. 11; Dragoman *et alii* 2015, p. 198, 200-202, 204, and fig. 3, 8-20, 27; Dragoman *et alii* 2017, p. 79, 81, 82, and fig. 1, 9-10, 15, 19), as well as in a poetic essay titled ‘Archaeological Epilogue to Doctor Zhivago’s Diary’ (Dragoman 2015). All these texts were published in Romanian in the *Marmatia* journal (published by the Maramureş County Museum of History and Archaeology, Baia Mare), but another text, in which the material traces from the two world wars were also mentioned, was published in English in a volume dedicated to the archaeology of mountains (Dragoman *et alii* 2018, p. 64, 71-74, 77).

These archaeological surveys were not unknown to Roman. In 2016 she joined the AMM project (see Dragoman *et alii* 2017, p. 82, and fig. 5), being granted the use of a part of the project’s results concerning the materiality of the two world wars for her PhD thesis (submitted to the University of Birmingham in 2019 and published in the form under review here). The study-area in Roman’s book is quite the same as that covered by the surveys carried out within the AMM project. Moreover, most of the structures presented in Chapter 5 of the book are the same as those documented by the AMM project, as can be seen by comparing the said chapter with the aforementioned texts. Last but not least, in her endeavour Roman was helped by some members of the team, as proven by a photo published in her book in which one of the project coordinators can be seen (fig. 105 on p. 89). It is true that Roman conducted research in the Prislop Pass area also outside the periods when the entire team was present on the ground, took her own photos, made her own descriptions, and published in her book more structures than we selected for the preliminary reports. However, it is astonishing that Roman makes no reference whatsoever to the AMM project and related publications, stating instead that her entire endeavour is the result of the work of a single person, arrogating to herself the selection of the Prislop Pass as a study-area and the first documentation of the material remains of the First World War in that region. Taking into account this deliberate silence, Roman’s empathy towards past people and strongly asserted from the beginning of the book looks much more like a form of hypocrisy:

‘For decades the land wore its scars with pride, honouring the memory of the fallen and listening to their silent voice in hope that one day it would arise to be heard. This poses a question: more than a century after the end of the Great War, if you could give voice to those who lost theirs, would you do it? If the earth itself reached to you and urged you to listen to its story, would you do it? Would you? I did, and that is why my research explores the significance of WWI sites.’ (p. 1)

Concerned to give a voice to the past people through her book, Roman treated her own colleagues in the present and their work as being invisible.

Moreover, as indicated by the research carried out within the AMM project, the area of the Prislop Pass is a palimpsest, where vestiges of both world wars (as well as prehistoric materials) coexist. So far, we have identified three broad categories of structures: (1) earthworks (trenches, firing positions, individual shelters); (2) buildings made of stone masonry; and (3) concrete structures (bunkers). Earthworks were built during both world wars, but it is known that some of the First World War earthworks were reused in the Second World War; the stone buildings have remained in the local memory as ruins from the First World War; the bunkers form the largest category of structures after earthworks (see also Chapter 5 in Roman’s book) and they most probably date from the Second World War, being part of the so-called Árpád fortified line, built by the Horthy regime. Without discussing the possible chronological differences between the types of structures, Roman treats them all in her book (bunkers included) as First World War heritage, mentioning only in passing the existence of the Árpád line and the restoration of some of the earthen structures during the Second World War (p. 21, 22, 138, 168, 177). This lack of caution might render the entire chapter on the region in the historical context of the First World War (Chapter 4) almost useless. But even if all the vestiges would definitely date from the First World War, the discussion in Chapter 4 would still be flawed with omissions. Although the military actions in the Prislop Pass were coordinated by the Austro-Hungarian and German armies, on the one hand, and the Russian army, on the other, Roman makes almost no use of the Hungarian, German or Russian historical sources (see her bibliography, p. 211–223). The only exception are the four books written by Erich Friedrich Wilhelm Ludendorff (two titles), Ralph von Rango (one title) and Erich von Falkenhayn (one title), but even these are used without due mentioning of the pages where she got the information from.

We encounter the same type of omission in the case of another bibliographic category. Roman highlights the uniqueness of her approach over and over again as – for example – in the following paragraphs:

‘While large-scale works have been conducted for the Western Front, in terms of memory and

memorialisation, we have little similar knowledge of the Eastern Front. The WWI Eastern Front also remains largely unexamined, both in terms of archaeological works and heritage studies, so that its capacity to inform us about the conflict remains unexplored.' (p. 2)

'The work constructs the first gazetteer of Romanian WWI sites and provides the first scientific investigation of the material culture of war adjacent to the Eastern Front.' (p. 3).

'There is a difference between the various WWI fronts in terms of study and understanding but, so far, there has been no research on the Eastern Front in terms of war heritage. The present work, therefore, aims to fill a gap in our understanding of the war. The Eastern Front remains archaeologically unapproached; hence there is no knowledge of the existent physical remains of war.' (p. 17)

'While large-scale works are widely available about the Western Front [...], the WWI Eastern Front remains largely unexamined from this perspective and its potential to inform us about the conflict therefore remains unexplored.' (p. 19)

'The state of Romanian war remains is representative of the situation at the Eastern Front where war sites are still largely neglected at official and academic levels as indicated by the lack of scientific studies conducted on remains of the conflict, the heritage status and the management of the war remains.' (p. 20)

'Chapter 2 emphasised that the Eastern Front remained mainly unapproached in terms of studies and archaeological works conducted on war remains, hence identifying a gap in WWI knowledge [...].' (p. 174)

'although a tendency to broaden the focus of WWI research beyond the limits of traditional approaches is forming internationally, the Eastern Front is still in need of receiving scientific attention and being re-integrated into WWI heritage.' (p. 174)

'Despite the growth in interest about WWI material culture, the Eastern Front has remained scientifically unapproached from this perspective, resulting in the lack of heritage recognition of identified war sites. [...] The work provided the first ever survey of WWI sites on the Eastern Front [...].' (p. 180)

'from the literature review it emerged that East-European war sites have neither been considered archaeologically nor in a heritage

perspective, and there is a noticeable lack of studies regarding the Eastern Front in this regard.' (p. 181)

Through such statements, Roman gives the impression that in contrast to the intense archaeological research of the First World War conducted in Western Europe, in Central and Eastern European countries at large (not only in Romania) nothing or almost nothing has been done. It is true that First World War archaeology was born in the West, due to the pioneering work of Nicholas J. Saunders in particular (e.g. Saunders 2003; 2010). It is also true that in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe the First World War archaeology is not as developed and well individualized as in the West (considerable differences from country to country notwithstanding), but this does not mean that it is completely lacking. A case in point is the Polish archaeological literature regarding the material remains of the First World War. A number of Polish archaeologists dealt with battlefields (e.g. Zalewska 2016; Zalewska, Czarnecki 2019), war cemeteries (e.g. Piasecki 2017; Zalewska, Cyngot 2017; Zalewska, Kiarszys 2017; Zalewska *et alii* 2018), prisoner-of-war camps (e.g. Kobiółka 2018; Kobiółka *et alii* 2017a; 2017b; Kostyrko, Kobiółka 2019), objects (e.g. Zalewska *et alii* 2017), exhumations (e.g. Rogóź 2019), etc. Roman's book makes no reference to any work whatsoever written by Central and Eastern European archaeologists, all references being to Western publications, thus misleading the reader to believe that, prior to the publication of her book, for an archaeology of the First World War one could only refer to research carried out in the West and in the entire Central and Eastern Europe the interest for the material culture of the First World War was non-existent. I wonder how was it possible that the referees of BAR Publishing did not draw Roman's attention to such serious omissions?

Further, I would like to make one last comment. Roman's narrative is imbued with a modernist Eurocentric ideology which is visible right from the book title, *The Edge of Europe*: 'The Mountains of Maramureş are part of the county of Maramureş, situated in North Romania near the present border with Ukraine and marking the last frontier of the European Union' (p. 2). The choosing of the title and the phrase just cited indicate that Roman is projecting a contemporary political reality onto the past: First World War Europe is conflated with the present-day European Union, thus leaving the Russian Empire out of Europe, much the same as nowadays Ukraine and Russia are not part of the EU. But the main expression in the book of this modernist Eurocentric ideology is Roman's egocentric discourse about the novelty of her research on the First World War heritage in the Prislop Pass area, a discourse rooted in 'the paradigm of authorial individualism privileged by the epistemologies of the North [...]' (Santos 2018, p. 53). As Boaventura de Sousa Santos noted, 'In Western modernity, the concept of author implies notions such as originality, autonomy, and creativity. It is part of the same cluster of idealist philosophies that underlie modern

possessive individualism' (Santos 2018, p. 54). Radically different from an individualist researcher is what Santos calls the 'postabyssal researcher':

'Just like the craftsperson, the postabyssal researcher is humble; she is not obsessed with originality or authorship; as someone knowing-with (rather than knowing-about) she does not aspire to be a superauthor. She will never preach all by herself from the top of the mountain; she will rather work on the world's plains and hills while actively participating in relevant conversations and practices (she is a rearguard researcher). As also happens with the craftsperson, however, her respect for her tools and techniques is her point of departure for exerting her curiosity and creativity.' (Santos 2018, p. 148)

To conclude, although Roman has the merit of having argued in an extended manner for the relevance of a category of monuments long time neglected in Romania both by the official heritage policies and by archaeological research, I consider that the book deserves to be criticized for the lack of basic academic ethics, lack of consideration for the chronology of various types of structures from the First/Second World War, poor use of non-Romanian historical sources, incomplete archaeological bibliography, and ideological undertones.

Radu-Alexandru Dragoman

"Vasile Pârvan" Institute of Archaeology, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania;  
al\_dragoman@yahoo.com

#### REFERENCES

- Dragoman 2015 – R.-A. Dragoman, *Epilog arheologic la jurnalul doctorului Jivago*, Marmatia 12, 2015, p. 235-252.
- Dragoman et alii 2012 – A. Dragoman, D. Pop, B. Bobîna, C. Astaloş, *O arheologie a munţilor din Maramureş, România: preliminarii*, Marmatia 10/1, 2012, p. 217-232.
- Dragoman et alii 2015 – R.-A. Dragoman, D. Pop, B. Bobîna, M. Ardeleanu, C. Şuteu, C. Astaloş, *O arheologie a munţilor din Maramureş, România: cercetările din 2014 şi 2015*, Marmatia 12, 2015, p. 197-234.
- Dragoman et alii 2017 – R.-A. Dragoman, D. Pop, B. Bobîna, M. Ardeleanu, C. Şuteu, C. Astaloş, V. Săsăran, *O arheologie a munţilor din Maramureş, România: cercetările din 2016 şi 2017*, Marmatia 14, 2017, p. 77-102.
- Dragoman et alii 2018 – R.-A. Dragoman, D. Pop, B. Bobîna, M. Ardeleanu, C. Şuteu, C. Astaloş, *An Archaeology of the Mountains in Maramureş, Romania: The Beginning of a Long-Term Project*, in: A. Pelisiak, M. Nowak, C. Astaloş (eds.), *People and the Mountains – Entering into the New Landscapes*, Oxford, 2018, p. 61-78.
- Kobiałka 2018 – D. Kobiałka, *100 Years Later: The Dark Heritage of the Great War at a Prisoner-of-War Camp in Czersk, Poland*, *Antiquity* 92 (363), 2018, p. 772-787.
- Kobiałka et alii 2017a – D. Kobiałka, M. Kostyrko, K. Kajda, *Inconspicuous and Forgotten Material Memories of the First World War: The Case of a POW Camp in Czersk, Poland*, in: A. Zalewska, J.M. Scott, G. Kiarszys (eds.), *The Materiality of Troubled Pasts. Archaeologies of Conflicts and Wars*, Warsaw – Szczecin, 2017, p. 23-39.
- Kobiałka et alii 2017b – D. Kobiałka, M. Kostyrko, K. Kajda, *The Great War and its Landscapes Between Memory and Oblivion: The Case of Prisoner of War Camps in Tuchola and Czersk, Poland*, *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* 21, 2017, p. 134-151.
- Kostyrko, Kobiałka 2019 – M. Kostyrko, D. Kobiałka, *Searching for Remains of the Great War – Prisoner of War Camps in Poland in Perspective of Aerial Prospection*, *AARGnews* 58, 2019, p. 33-43.
- Košir et alii 2019 – U. Košir, M. Črešnar, D. Mlekuž (eds.), *Rediscovering the Great War: Archaeology and Enduring Legacies on the Soča and Eastern Fronts*, London and New York, 2019.
- Piasecki 2017 – K. Piasecki, *Pamięć Wielkiej Wojny. Cmentarze wojenne z I wojny światowej w Puszczy Koziennickiej i Stromieckiej*, in: W. Borkowski, W. Brzeziński, J. Wysocki (eds.), *Konserwacja zapobiegawcza środowiska 5. Dziedzictwo militarne*, *Archaeologica Hereditas* 9, Warszawa, 2017, p. 315-323.
- Rogóż 2019 – J. Rogóż, *First World War Exhumations at Zdziary (South-East Poland): An Anthropological Perspective on Soldiers's Mass Graves*, in: U. Košir, M. Črešnar, D. Mlekuž (eds.), *Rediscovering the Great War: Archaeology and Enduring Legacies on the Soča and Eastern Fronts*, London – New York, 2019, p. 152-180.
- Santos 2018 – B. de S. Santos, *The End of the Cognitive Empire: The Coming of Age of Epistemologies of the South*, Durham, 2018.
- Saunders 2003 – N. J. Saunders, *Trench Art: Materialities and Memories of War*, Oxford, 2003.
- Saunders 2010 – N. J. Saunders, *Killing Time: Archaeology and the First World War*, Stroud, 2010.
- Saunders 2020 – N. J. Saunders, *Desert Insurgency: Archaeology, T.E. Lawrence and the Arab Revolt*, Oxford, 2020.
- Zalewska 2016 – A. Zalewska, *The 'Gas-scape' on the Eastern Front, Poland (1914-2014): Exploring the Material and Digital Landscapes and Remembering Those 'Twice Killed'*, in: B. Stichelbaut, D. Cowley (eds.), *Conflict Landscapes and Archaeology from Above*, Farnham – Burlington, 2016, p. 147-165.
- Zalewska, Cyngot 2017 – A. Zalewska, D. Cyngot, *Problem zanikania pamięci o miejscach spoczynku żołnierzy poległych w walkach nad Rawką i Bzurą w latach 1914-1915*, *Acta Universitatis Lodzianensis. Folia Archaeologica* 32, 2017, p. 119-156.
- Zalewska, Czarnecki 2019 – A. Zalewska, J. Czarnecki, *An Archaeology of 'No Man's Land': The Great War in Central Poland*, in: U. Košir, M. Črešnar, D. Mlekuž (eds.), *Rediscovering the Great War: Archaeology and Enduring Legacies on the Soča and Eastern Fronts*, London and New York, 2019, p. 122-139.
- Zalewska, Kiarszys 2017 – A. Zalewska, G. Kiarszys, *Absent Presence of Great War Cemeteries in the Municipality of Bolimów, Central Poland*, in: A. Zalewska, J.M. Scott, G. Kiarszys (eds.), *The Materiality of Troubled Pasts. Archaeologies of Conflicts and Wars*, Warsaw and Szczecin, 2017, p. 55-82.
- Zalewska et alii 2017 – A. I. Zalewska, D. Cyngot, B. Kłęczar, *Cel-pal: ulotność żołnierskiej codzienności na Froncie Wschodnim Wielkiej Wojny nad Rawką i Bzurą. Między archiwum ziemi a archiwum miejskim (1915-2015)*, in: W. Borkowski, W. Brzeziński, J. Wysocki (eds.), *Konserwacja zapobiegawcza środowiska 5. Dziedzictwo militarne*, *Archaeologica Hereditas* 9, Warszawa, 2017, p. 87-106.
- Zalewska et alii 2018 – A. I. Zalewska, D. Cyngot, J. Czarnecki, G. Kiarszys, *Czysto ludzka sprawa? Archeologiczne przywracanie pamięci o trudnej przeszłości przez tropienie naturo-kulturowych przemian cmentarzy wojennych*, *Folia Praehistorica Posnaniensia* 23, 2018, p. 189-229.

## ABREVIERI / ABRÉVIATIONS / ABBREVIATIONS

- Acta iuvenum: Sectio archaeologica – Acta Universitatis Szegediensis Acta Iuvenum Sectio Archaeologica (Szeged)
- ActaMN – Acta Musei Napocensis, Cluj
- ActaMP – Acta Musei Porolissensis, Zalău
- ActaMT – Acta Musei Tutovensia
- AH – Archaeologia Hungarica (Budapesta)
- AIESSE – Annuaire de l'Institut des Études Sud-Est Européennes, Bucarest
- AJA – American Journal of Archaeology, Boston
- AJPA – American Journal of Physical Anthropology
- AnB – Analele Banatului, Muzeul Banatului, Timișoara
- Angustia – Angustia. Arheologie, Etnografie, Sfântu Gheorghe
- Antaeus – Antaeus. Communicationes ex Instituto Archaeologico Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest
- AnUA-SH – Annales Universitatis Apulensis, Series Historica, Alba Iulia
- AnUVT – Annales d'Université «Valahia» Târgoviște, Section d'Archéologie et d'Histoire
- Apulum – Acta Musei Apulensis. Muzeul Național al Unirii, Alba Iulia
- ARA – Annuaire Roumain d'Anthropologie
- ArchÉrt – Archaeológiai Értesítő, Budapest
- ArhMold – Arheologia Moldovei, Iași
- BAI – Bibliotheca Archaeologica Iassensis, Iași
- BARIntSer – British Archaeological Reports. International Series, Oxford
- BCMI – Buletinul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice
- BCSS - Buletinul Cercurilor Științifice Studentești. Arheologie – Istorie – Muzeologie, Alba-Iulia
- BiblMemAnt - Bibliotheca Memoriae Antiquitatis, Piatra-Neamț
- BiblMusAp – Bibliotheca Musei Apulensis, Alba-Iulia
- BiblThrac – Bibliotheca Thracologica, București
- BSNR – Buletinul Societății Numismatice Române, București
- Bull. Int. Assoc. Paleodont. – Bulletin of the International Association for Paleontology, University of Zagreb
- CAB – Cercetări arheologice în București
- Caiete ARA - Caietele ARA, Revistă de Arhitectură, Restaurare și Arheologie, Asociația ARA, București
- CCA – Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România, București
- CCDJ – Cultură și Civilizație la Dunărea de Jos, Călărași
- Cerclst – Cercetări Istorice, Muzeul de Istorie a Moldovei, Iași
- Dacia – Dacia (Nouvelle Série). Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne. Académie Roumaine. Institut d'archéologie « V. Pârvan », Bucarest
- Danubius - Danubius, Revista Muzeului de Istorie Galați
- Dolgozatok-Szeged – Dolgozatok a Magyar Királyi Ferencz József Tudományegyetem Archaeologiai Intézetéből (Szeged)
- Frühmittelalterliche Studien – Frühmittelalterliche Studien (Münster)
- Germania – Germania. Anzeiger der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Frankfurt
- Histria Antiqua – Histria Antiqua. Journal of the International Research Centre for Archaeology Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade
- HOMÉ – A Hermann Ottó Múzeum Évkönyve (Miskolc)
- Homo – Homo. Journal of Comparative Human Biology, the Australasian Society for Human Biology, Elsevier
- IJO – International Journal of Osteoarchaeology
- Istros - Istros, Muzeul Brăilei, Brăila
- Iuxta Danubium – Iuxta Danubium. Sprvodaj Podunajského Múzea V Komárne (Komárno)
- IzvestijaVarna – Izvestija na Narodnija Muzej (Izvestija na Varnenskoto Arheologičesko Družestvo), Varna
- JAnat – Journal of Anatomy
- JAS – Journal of Archaeological Science
- JHE – Journal of Human Evolution
- JRA – Journal of Roman Archaeology, London
- JRGZM – Jahrbuch des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums Mainz, Mainz
- KSIA (Moskva) – Kratkije Soobščenija Instituta Arheologij Akademij Nauk SSSR, Moskva
- KSIA (Kiiv) – Kratkije Soobščenija Instituta Arheologij Akademij Nauk SSSR, Kiiv

MarNero – Il Mar Nero. Annali di archeologia e storia  
MAZCA – Musei Archaeologici Zagradiensis Collectanea archaeologica (Zagreb)  
MCA – Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice, București  
MemAnt – Memoria Antiquitatis, Piatra Neamț  
MFMÉ-SA – A Móra Ferenc Múzeum Évkönyve – Studia Archaeologica, Szeged  
MHÁS – Magyarország honfoglalás kori és kora Árpád-kori sírleletei, Miskolc–Budapest–Szeged–Szombathely  
MRGZ – Monographien des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums (Mainz)  
Novensia – University of Warsaw, Center for Research on the Antiquity of Southeastern Europe  
NAR – Norwegian Archaeological Review, Taylor & Francis  
OJA – Oxford Journal of Archaeology  
Peuce – Peuce, Studii și cercetări de istorie și arheologie, Institutul de Cercetări Eco-Muzeale, Tulcea  
Pontica – Pontica. Studii și materiale de istorie, arheologie și muzeografie, Muzeul de Istorie Națională și Arheologie Constanța  
RA – Revue Archéologique, Paris  
RAASI – Revista de Arheologie, Antropologie și Studii Interdisciplinare, Institutul de Cercetări Bioarheologice și Etnoculturale, Republica Moldova  
RACr – Rivista di Archeologia Cristiana, Pontificio Istituto di Archeologia Cristiana, Città del Vaticano  
RazPr – Razkopki i Proučvanija, Sofia  
RCAN – Revista de Cercetări Arheologice și Numismatice, Muzeul Municipiului București  
RCRFacta – Rei Cretariae Romanae Fautorum Acta  
RevMuz - Revista Muzeelor, București  
RMM.MIA – Revista Muzeelor și Monumentelor, seria Monumente Istorice și de Artă, București  
SAA – Studia Antiqua et Archaeologica, Iași  
SAP – Studia ad Archaeologiam Pazmaniensia (Budapesta)  
SCIV(A) – Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche (și Arheologie), București  
SMIM – Studii și Materiale de Istorie Medie, Institutul de Istorie „Nicolae Iorga”, București  
SP – Studii de Preistorie, București  
Starinar – Starinar. Scientific Journal of the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade (Belgrad)  
Tyrageia – Tyrageia. Anuarul Muzeului Național de Istorie a Moldovei, Chișinău  
VAH – Varia Archaeologica Hungarica, Publicationes Instituti Archaeologici Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest