

editions of the period. This kind of exposure aims to provide an image of the coexistence, survival and even conflicts arising among the different traditions of the time.

A juxtaposition with a similar corpus in Romanian and a selection from Mrs Athinis' stuff in the sense that some of the translations and adaptations were performed on Romanian ground (where they are sure to have left sound traces) would reveal extremely interesting things, let's hope such a research is going to be performed before long.

*Lia Brad Chisacof*

СИМЕОН РАДЕВ, *Лица и събития от моето време*, Т.1, София, Издателство „Захари Стоянов“, 2014, 538 p.

For many years, the unpublished manuscripts of Simeon Radev (1879–1967) have given birth to various legends within the Bulgarian academic community. Publicist, revolutionary and diplomat, Radev witnessed and was involved in some major events that occurred in the modern history of Bulgaria, but also in South-Eastern Europe. Born in Ottoman Macedonia, Gotse Delchev recommended him as a presumptive member of the highly influent Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization (VMORO) when he was only 16 of age. He also established close ties with Boris Sarafov, president of the equally influent Supreme Macedonian-Adrianopole Committee (VMOK). While a student in Geneva and Paris, Delchev and Sarafov financed the editing of two propaganda publications whereby Radev supported the cause of the Christians inhabiting the European territories of the Ottoman Empire. In Geneva he also came into contact with the Bulgarian anarchists involved in the Salonika attacks that happened in April 1903. He was a supporter of Ottoman Macedonia's autonomy, a solution he found “more achievable and more moral” (342–343), given the historical conditions at the dawn of the last century. Once settled in Sofia, Simeon Radev became a famed journalist who collaborated both with the organ of VMOK and the French daily “Le Temps”. He also won reputation by publishing the first two volumes of “Строителите на съвременна България” (*The Builders of Nowadays Bulgaria*), one of the fundamental works of modern Bulgarian historiography. He was a volunteer in the Balkan Wars. In the summer of 1913 he was appointed member of the Bulgarian delegation who signed the Bucharest Peace Treaty. As plenipotentiary minister of Bulgaria, he stopped in the capital of the Romanian Kingdom until August 1916. Being close to some Conservative leaders, Radev was regarded with suspicion by the Liberals, because of his revolutionary past and the country he represented. The only exception was the widow of the former Liberal premier Dimitrie A. Sturdza, Zoe Cantacuzino who “taught me a lot about Romania, politics and people” (489). Radev's diplomatic career spread along three decades. Meanwhile, he was chief of the diplomatic missions to Berne (1916–1917), Hague (1920–1921), Ankara (1923–1925), Washington (1925–1933), London (1935–1938) and Brussels (1938–1940). Simeon Radev was appointed in the delegation who signed the Armistice of Salonika (September 1918) when Bulgaria was defeated in the First World War. However, Radev refused to belong to the delegation who signed the Treaty of Neuilly, as “I remembered how dismaying it was for a defeated people to face the cruel conquerors” (p. 328).

Under the communist regime, Simeon Radev was dismissed from the Bulgarian diplomatic corps and condemned to a dire existence. His chance was a project initiated by Todor Pavlov, the president of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. It offered to former statesmen and diplomats who survived the communist camps the possibility to write their memoirs. With the help of his only son, Traian, Simeon Radev wrote a few thousand pages he did not live to see published. The first volume came out months after his death. It was only after 1989 that five others were published, each of them being a real editorial event. After Traian Radev died in 2010, an impressive amount of manuscripts and correspondence (over 50 boxes) came into possession of the National Archives of Sofia. The Simeon Radev fund has not yet been completely inventoried and classified.

Almost 4,000 pages from this archive fund are expected to be published in an impressive collection entitled “*Лица и събития от моето време*” (*Persons and Events of My Time*). The first

two decades of the 20th century are tackled by the seven forthcoming volumes. The manuscripts to be published are not confined to mere memories doubled by a real talent as a portraitist. Rather, they are a genuine historical study on the Bulgarian national issue up to the end of the First World War. Apart from Simeon Radev's memoirs (previously published) about his studies completed in Constantinople, Geneva and Paris, the first volume also contains an ample study (195 pages) on the Sofia government crisis in a tense period (1899–1901). There were three questions of great concern to the Bulgarian rulers: the financial crisis, the Romanian-Bulgarian conflict and the Macedonian Movement. There are also questions with regard to the diplomatic conflict triggered in Bucharest by VMOK activists in the summer of 1900 which gave the author opportunity to sketch successful (and, on the whole, accurate) portraits of some Romanian and Bulgarian political leaders.

The former diplomat's indisputable journalistic talent doubled by the passion of a genuine historian will be clearly felt by the readers of these memoirs. For south-eastern European historiography, the name of Simeon Radev was already important, as he had been the only diplomat who wrote a memoir about the backstage of Bucharest Peace, which closed the Second Balkan War. Therefore, we look forward to the completion of this editorial project.

Daniel Cain

*Documentele redeşteptării macedoromânilor*, documents recueillis et sélectionnés par Victor PAPACOSTEA et Mihai REGLEANU; édition soignée par Nicolae Şerban TANASOCA et Ştefan VÂLCU, avec la collaboration de Iuliana Deac, Bucarest, Maison d'édition Predania, 2012 („Izvoare privitoare la istoria romanităţii balcanice”, I), 470 p.

L'avant propos du volume, signé par Nicolae Şerban Tanaşoca, fait des précisions importantes sur la manière dont Victor Papacostea envisageait l'histoire des branches roumaines éparses dans l'espace des Balkans. Les siècles XVIII–XIX voient la concentration des efforts des intellectuels et des hommes politiques du nord du Danube et des notables des Aroumains – tant de leurs communautés dans la Péninsule des Balkans que de ceux établis dans les Principautés Roumaines et dans l'Europe Centrale – visant l'affirmation, à l'instar de l'Europe à l'époque, des principes du développement des nationalités : les Aroumains recommençaient à se manifester comme branche éloignée, depuis des siècles, du tronc roumain. Le présent volume témoigne les dimensions réelles de l'importance des initiatives des Aroumains eux-mêmes dans l'intégration de leur mouvement dans le processus de renaissance nationale de tous les Roumains. Les documents de la présente collection mettent en évidence la formation et le fonctionnement des réseaux des écoles et des églises en langue roumaine dans la Péninsule Balkanique à la fin de l'Empire Ottoman.

L'élaboration du volume «Les documents du réveil macédo-roumain» par Victor Papacostea et Mihai Regleanu a été achevée en 1943, dans le cadre de l'Institut des Études et des Recherches Balkaniques, institut fondé et conduit par Victor Papacostea (de 1936 jusqu'en 1948, l'année de la suppression intempestive par le régime communiste). Resté en manuscrit, l'ouvrage a été découvert en 1982 par N.-Ş. Tanaşoca et Anca Tanaşoca – à l'occasion du déménagement de l'actuel Institut des Études Sud-est Européennes – dans l'archive de l'ancien Institut des Études et des Recherches Balkaniques. En éditant ce volume, l'Institut des Études Sud-est Européennes inaugure la collection «Sources concernant l'histoire de la romanité balkanique» (*Izvoare privitoare la istoria romanităţii balcanice*). Les volumes des documents déjà parus ces dernières années par les soins de Gh. Zbucnea et Stelian Brezeanu, Adina Berciu-Drăghicescu et Maria Petre, ne contiennent que très peu de documents compris aussi dans le volume de Victor Papacostea et Mihai Regleanu. Ce dernier contient, donc, dans la grande majorité, des documents publiés pour la première fois qui conservent tout leur intérêt. Il s'agit de 203 documents provenant de la période des années 1865 et 1899 (leur liste existe à la fin du livre), dont la parution est accompagnée par les éditeurs Nicolae Şerban Tanaşoca et Ştefan Vâlcu des instruments qui facilitent l'emploi. De la sorte, N.-Ş. Tanaşoca a rédigé