Romania's Political, Military and Diplomatic Relations, 19th-21st Centuries: Documentary Sources and Historical Research

Project Code: *PSC-MApN-2022-ISPAIM-02*
Coordinating Institution: Institute for Defence Policy Studies and Military History (IPSDMH)
Project Director: Dr. Carmen-Sorina Rîjnoveanu
Project Team: Dr. Andreea Bădilă, Dr. Cristina Brăgea, Dr. Sorin Cristescu, Dr. Vlad Gheorghiță, Dr. Dragoș Ilinca, Dr. Alexandru Madgearu, Dr. Manuel Stănescu, Dr. Tudor Vișan-Miu
Implementation Period: 2022-2030; a multi-year project carried out on the basis of IPSDMH's annual research programmes
Number of Hours: 1,560/year
Partners: Romanian National Military Archives, National Archives of Romania, Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Council for the Study of the Securitate Archives (CNSAS)

Project Description

The project involves the publication of a dedicated series of documentary volumes presenting political, military and diplomatic sources relating to Romania's international relations from the nineteenth to the twenty-first century. The series focuses on the preparation of scholarly critical editions of documents held in Romanian archives and, where appropriate, in foreign archival collections. Its purpose is to bring Romania's documentary heritage to wider scholarly attention while complementing it with relevant sources from archives abroad, thereby supporting further research into Romanian military history and foreign policy.

Objectives

General Objective

By making archival sources accessible to researchers, the project contributes to a deeper understanding of the development of Romania's diplomatic and security relations, supports fundamental historical research, and strengthens the country's documentary heritage. The published volumes are intended as research tools for scholars, university lecturers, students, diplomats, security specialists and others interested in the history of international relations.

Specific Objectives

- Identifying relevant archival collections in Romania and abroad;
- Researching military, political, and diplomatic documents;
- Selecting documents that are representative of the development of bilateral relations;
- Transcribing and annotating documentary sources;
- Preparing introductory studies and critical apparatus;
- Disseminating the research findings among academic, civilian and military audiences.

Activities

- Archival research in archives and library in Romania and abroad;
- Digitisation of historical documents;
- Scholarly editing and publication of documentary volumes;
- Organising scientific events addressing the themes covered by the project;
- Presenting and promoting the published volumes through activities held in military and civilian secondary schools, at book fairs, and at cultural and scholarly events organised by institutions of the Ministry of National Defence, with the aim of encouraging young people's interest in military history and contributing to the preservation of historical memory.

Results

Documentary Volumes on Romania-Türkiye Relations (*Open Access*)

- *Romanian-Ottoman-Turkish Political and Military Relations, 1878–1989: Documents. Volume I, 1878–1938*, Carmen-Sorina Rîjnoveanu (ed.), Manuel Stănescu (volume editor), with contributions by Andreea-Iuliana Bădilă, Cristina Elena Brăgea, Sorin Cristescu, Vlad-Cristian Gheorghiță, Dragoș Daniel Ilinca, Alexandru Cristian Madgearu, Amelia Cerasela Moldoveanu, Șerban Liviu Pavelescu and Tudor Vișan-Miu, Bucharest, Editura Militară, 2023, ISBN 978-973-32-1298-0;
- *Romanian-Ottoman-Turkish Political and Military Relations, 1878–1989: Documents. Volume II, 1939–1989*, Carmen-Sorina Rîjnoveanu (ed.), Manuel Stănescu (volume editor), with contributions by Dragoș-Daniel Ilinca, Tudor Vișan-Miu, Andreea-Iuliana Bădilă, Vlad-Cristian Gheorghiță, Sorin Cristescu, Șerban Liviu Pavelescu and Amelia Cerasela Moldoveanu, Bucharest, Editura Militară, 2024, ISBN 978-973-32-1322-2.

Documentary Volume on Romania-Japan Relations (*Open Access*)

- *Romanian-Japanese Political and Military Relations, 1880–1989: Documents*, Carmen-Sorina Rîjnoveanu (ed.), Manuel Stănescu (volume editor), with contributions by Dragoș-Daniel Ilinca, Tudor Vișan-Miu, Andreea-Iuliana Bădilă, Vlad-Cristian Gheorghiță and Sorin Cristescu, Bucharest, Editura Militară, 2025, ISBN 978-973-32-1393-2.

Forthcoming Volumes

- Political and Military Relations between Romania and Portugal, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America – forthcoming.

Costs

Total project value: Determined annually through the Institute's research programme.
Funding Source: Sectoral Programme of the Ministry of National Defence.