

Scientific report
concerning the implementation of the project PN-III-P4-ID-PCE-2016-0279
during January – December 2019

A. Common scientific objectives:

I. External mobilities (documentation and dissemination). Four external mobilities were conducted, having as goal to undergo the process of documentation, and dissemination of the achieved results, at the following institutions from abroad: The Rheinisches Landesmuseum (Trier/Germany); The Römisch-Germanische Zentralmuseum (Mainz/Germany); The Institute of Archaeology of the University of Warsaw (Warsaw/Poland); The Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften (Berlin/Germany); The British School at Athens (Athens/Greece). The exact dates, as well as the scientific reports and the activity sheets corresponding to the mobilities, are to be found in the record sheet uploaded on the online platform, but they are also available in a print format, in the project's folder, kept at the Romanian Academy, Iași Branch.

II. Internal mobilities (documentation and dissemination). Five internal mobilities were conducted, having as goal to undergo the process of documentation and dissemination of the achieved results, at the following national institutions: The National Museum of Transylvanian History, Cluj-Napoca; The Arad Museum; The Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca; The Institute of Archaeology and Art History, Cluj-Napoca; The Walachia University, Târgoviște. The exact dates, as well as the scientific reports and the activity sheets corresponding to the mobilities, are to be found in the record sheet uploaded on the online platform, but they are also available in a print format, in the project's folder, kept at the Romanian Academy, Iași Branch.

III. Papers presented at national and international reunions (dissemination). Eight papers related to the objectives of the project were presented by the team members, at the following conferences:

III.1. The International Symposium „Pontica et Caucasia II. Interdisciplinary Research on the Antiquity of the Black Sea”, 13-17 May 2019, Warsaw/Poland (V. COJOCARU & L. GRUMEZA: *Bibliography of the Northern Black Sea Area in Antiquity: BCOSPE III*).

III.2. The National Symposium „Cercetări bioarheologice și etniculturale în sud-estul Europei”, 15-17 August 2019, Crihana Veche/Republic of Moldavia (L. MUNTEANU: *Moneda romană imperială în teritoriile „barbare” de la est și sud de Carpați*).

III.3. The International Workshop „Advances in Sarmatian Studies: Artefacts, Bones and Ethnic Identities”, 24-25 September 2019, Iași/Romania (V. COJOCARU: *Greeks and Iranians on the Northern Black Sea Region: After 100 Years*).

III.4. The International Symposium „Migrations and Identity in European History: Communities, Connections, Conflicts”, 26-28 September 2019, Iași/Romania (V. COJOCARU: *Development of Identities in the Black Sea Poleis: The Evidence Provided by Honorific Decrees*; L. MUNTEANU: *Coinage and Identity in the North Pontic Area. The Case of the Bosporan Kingdom*; A.-I. PĂZSINT: *Conflict at the Borders: Negative Interaction Between Communities as Seen Through Personal Tragedies* [in collaboration with R. Varga]; L. GRUMEZA: *Settlers and Nomads West and East of the Carpathians: Sarmatian Identity and Migrations during the 1st-4th Centuries AD*).

III.5. Besides the above-mentioned presentations, one member of the research team also presented a paper on an individual basis: L. MUNTEANU: *Circulația monetară în sud-estul României* (at the „Iulian Antonescu” Museum, Bacău, 10 June 2019).

IV. Publications (dissemination). The results of our research were disseminated by publishing or by sending for publication certain volumes, book chapters, studies and reviews, at prestigious national and international printing houses or journals.

IV.1. The collective volume *Advances in Ancient Black Sea Studies: Historiography, Archaeology and Religion. The Proceedings of the International Symposium, Constanța, August 20-24, 2018*, ed. by V. COJOCARU, L. RUSCU, Th. CASTELLI, A.-I. PÁZSINT, Mega Publishing House: Cluj-Napoca 2019, 666 p. [Pontica et Mediterranea VIII] ([https://www.academia.edu/40382230/ ADVANCES IN ANCIENT BLACK SEA STUDIES HISTORIOGRAPHY ARCHAEOLOGY AND RELIGION](https://www.academia.edu/40382230/ADVANCES_IN_ANCIENT_BLACK_SEA_STUDIES_HISTORIOGRAPHY_ARCHAEOLOGY_AND_RELIGION)).

IV.2. V. COJOCARU: *Bibliographia classica orae septentrionalis Ponti Euxini. III. Ars, res sacrae & mythologica*, Mega Verlag: Cluj-Napoca 2019, 615 p. + 1 CD-ROM [Pontica et Mediterranea IX], all of the team members contributed to the volume by writing introductory chapters.

IV.3. Besides the three above-mentioned volumes – counting 1281 pages (on the contribution of the team members see below point B) –, the results of the research carried out during the project were harnessed also by publishing or sending for publication different papers in collective volumes from abroad and in BDI journals (including SCOPUS and ERIH); more precisely we speak of 12 book chapters, eight studies and articles, respectively two ample critical reviews.

More information corresponding to the published and/or in print works are available on the web page of the project (<https://bibliographiaclassica.ro>, category „Publications”). We mention the fact that all the reported publications include the name of the financing authority, and the financial contract number, as follows: „This work was supported by a grant of the Romanian National Authority for Scientific Research, CNCS – UEFISCDI, project number PN-III-P4-ID-PCE-2016-0279”.

V. Web page (dissemination).

The project’s web page was continuously updated (address: <https://bibliographiaclassica.ro>), and it can be accessed both in Romanian and English. As such, new information was added regularly, bringing detailed information (description and attachment) regarding the events organised as part of the project, but also regarding the activity of the team members, their attendance of various scientific activities and the relevant editorial publications. The web page was built on a WordPress platform. The site contains information regarding the project (title, acronym, code, financing authority, members, contact), and a short presentation of it, with its objectives and expected results, as well as more information on the relevant activities carried out. The address of the page can be accessed through the well-established research engines (Google, Yahoo, Ask, Bing, Duck Duck Go, Yippy, Dogpile, Yandex, The Internet Archive etc.). Responsible for the update of the project’s web page is L. MUNTEANU. Based on the installed plug-in, which monitors the site’s traffic, more precisely the number of visitors, at the moment of the report the web page was accessed over 65000 times.

B. Individual scientific objectives (we briefly present the extent to which the proposed objectives were fulfilled. We mention the fact that in this respect more details are available on the project’s webpage ([https:// bibliographiaclassica.ro](https://bibliographiaclassica.ro)), where one can find the list of publications).

1. The systematic collection and translation into German of over 5650 titles (615 p.) corresponding to the *Bibliographia classica orae septentrionalis Ponti Euxini* thematic; additionally, five introductory chapters have been written. The structure of the volume is the following (= BCOSPE III): A.1. Civilian and Sacred Architecture; A.2. Military Architecture; A.3. Sculptures, Reliefs and representations in the *minor* art; A.4. Paintings and Mosaics; A.5. *Ars varia*; B. *Res sacrae*; C. *Mythologica*. V. COJOCARU is the main member responsible for the systematisation of the information, and for the German translation. L. RUSCU is responsible for verifying the German translations. Each team member wrote one introductory chapter, according to the individual objectives assigned in the project proposal (see the subsequent points). Regarding this objective, a volume, two book chapters and five articles were published, three studies were sent for publication and three presentations were given at international scientific reunions. In particular, we mention the introductory chapter to the volume BCOSPE III “*Ars, res sacrae & mythologica* im nördlichen Schwarzmeerraum. Ein Beitrag zur Forschungsgeschichte”, published by V. COJOCARU and L. RUSCU, in which were discussed the most important stages and milestones in Russian, Soviet, post-Soviet, but also in Western historiography, related to the art, religion and north-pontic mythology from the Greek colonization to the penetration of Christianity in these lands.

2. The study of the Iranian population (especially the Sarmatians) from the north and north-western area of the Black Sea, and their relations with the Greek cities, in the light of the art, religion, rite, and funerary ritual. Responsible for this objective is L. GRUMEZA. Two book chapters and two articles were published, three studies were sent for publication, while three papers were presented at national and international scientific reunions. In particular, we mention the introductory chapter to the volume BCOSPE III „*Iranica: A Survey of Some Main Topics on ars, res sacrae & mythologica*”. The author summarizes some of the most important publications and research paradigms of the last approximately 200 years (from the beginning of the excavations in the 18th century up until the modern times), on topics such as: the Iranian and Greek art styles (the so-called Scythian ‘animal’ style, ‘zoomorphic’ style, ‘Greco-Barbarian’ traditions, etc.), the ‘royal’ barrow graves north of the Black Sea, the interpretation of the Iranian bestiary and mythology, the interactions between Greeks and Scythians based on the art masterpieces, and the perception of the Iranian art in the contemporary historiography and society.

3. The study of the art and religion in the light of the cult associations from the Black Sea area during the Graeco-Roman times, based on the epigraphic sources and on the secondary literature. Responsible for this project is A.-I. PÁZSINT. Two book chapter was been published, as well as two articles and a review, a study was sent for publication and three presentations were given at international scientific reunions. In particular, we mention the introductory chapter to the volume BCOSPE III „Cult Associations on the Northern Shore of the Black Sea”. This study is part of a series dedicated to the cult associations from the northern shore of the Black Sea: if the first dealt with the historiography of the topic, pinpointing the key historiographical moments, the second provided a more general comparative outlook on the cult associations, tackling the associations from all of the Greek cities of the Black Sea, while the current one contextualises the topic by addressing the specificities. Considering these premises, the paper revolves around issues such as: a) the statistic and interpretative data as reflected by the epigraphic and iconographic sources; b) the local specificities; and c) the members of the associations.

4. The identification (based on the systematised bibliographical data) of the interconnectivities that bound the different Pontic regions, in the light of the numismatic researches, with a special focus on the art, religion and mythology from the north of the Black Sea. The common iconographical motifs attested on the monetary emissions of the north-Pontic Greek cities

in the Greek and Roman times have been studied. The artistic evolution of these representations and their connections with the mythological traditions and religious beliefs of the different populations from the area have been mainly surveyed. Responsible for this objective is L. MUNTEANU. Two book chapters and three articles were published, two studies were sent for publication, and two papers were presented at national and international reunions. In particular, we mention the introductory chapter to the volume BCOSPE III „*Ars, res sacrae & mythologica* on the Coins of the Bosporan Kingdom. A General Survey”. The iconography of the Bosporan coinage is extremely rich and diverse, bringing together elements from different cultural traditions. The representations on the Bosporan coins were mainly inspired from the religion and mythology of various populations (Greeks and Barbarians), who marked the history of the Black Sea's northern shore. In some cases, they reflected the main economic activities of the Bosporan communities. The choice of specific iconographic models has often been influenced by the major political and military events in this area. Sometimes, depictions preserved on other contemporary Greek coins have been used as a model. The artistic style used on the monetary iconography of the Bosporan issues differs from one period to another, being subject to the artistic trends of the time, the skills of the Bosporan engravers, or the particular economic and political contexts in which these coins were minted. Since it would be difficult to discuss about the numerous Bosporan monetary types, which emerged over the course of almost a millennium of coinage, the author chooses to bring into question three particular cases, representative for the evolution of the numismatic iconography in different historical periods, in terms of selection, mythological and religious significance and artistic quality: the lion's head, the satyr's head and the image of Aphrodite Ourania.

5. The identification (based on the systematised bibliographical data) of the interconnectivities that bound the different Pontic regions, in the light of the transition from late Roman Paganism to early Byzantine Christianity. Responsible for this objective is D. RUSCU. Two book chapters were published, two studies have been sent for publication, and one presentation were given at international scientific reunions. In particular, we mention the introductory chapter to the volume BCOSPE III „Christianity in the Northern Black Sea Region in Late Antiquity: The Imperial Perspective”. The purpose of this paper is to discuss the Christian presence in the North Pontic regions from the perspective of the Later Roman Empire and its Church, and to observe in what measure they cooperated in securing their positions in the area. Between the reigns of Constantine and Justinian there are two main directions in which the Christian mission and its actions can be followed: on the one hand the Greek cities in the Crimean Peninsula that continued their existence in this period, on the other the barbarians that eventually settled on the northern shores of the Euxine.

To conclude, we believe that we totally fulfilled all of the undertaken objectives from the project proposal at the 2019 stage. The team members continued their successful collaboration with many other researchers in the country and abroad, especially when taking part in international scientific events and editing the collective volume “Advances in Ancient Black Sea Studies”. As such, the project itself contributes to the creation of a communication link between the historical and archaeological research of antiquity carried out in the Eastern-European countries (the former communist countries) and the Western-European ones. For more information regarding the obtained results please see the web page of the project (<https://bibliographiaclassica.ro>).

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