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FACULTY OF HISTORY  
PHD SCHOOL HISTORY**

**Rural Gendarmerie in Moldavia  
between 1893 and 1918**

**PH.D. THESIS**

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**Keywords:** gendarmerie urban / rural, Moldova, Old Kingdom, public safety, law, administrative and judicial police, police station, the nineteenth century - XX, public force.

## Summary

The main reason that led me to choose this research topic is the respect for the institution of the Gendarmerie, which celebrates, in 2015, 165 years of existence, the pretext being accompanied by other motivations, like desire to remove the aura of mystery hanging over this institution and the impact charging authority and its symbols (the law uniform, rifle) in obtaining obedience in rural areas. In addition, the paper points out that the Rural Gendarmerie precursor of the current rural police. His passion for military history determined by taking the familiarity with the topic of research in Iasi County Department of National Archives, the results being published in the "Journal of Iasi Gendarmerie" and made available to "House traditions" of the Iași County Gendarmerie Inspectorate may come -it thus meeting the interest gendarmes in Iasi unit to a research project on the history of the weapons at local and regional level.

The research focuses on the history of rural Gendarmerie in a tumultuous socio-political context, limiting, in terms of space and time in Moldavia (territorial administrative division in counties and municipalities nets) surprised over two decades at the turn of the nineteenth century and the twentieth century (between 1893 and 1918). At first glance, two decades is not sufficient time bidder for a major paper, but rich unexplored archival material proved a general subject of analysis can not be ignored or untapped.

The study is interdisciplinary (history, law, anthropology, sociology, psychology and pedagogy) and is intended to be a tool used by those interested in the history of rural gendarmerie (students, teachers, military, police) in the analyzed region . However, the project is based on the currently existing bibliographic material and documents archived (laws, legal documents, correspondence, books, memoirs, press).

So far, this area of research is incomplete, concise and marginal, and those who dared to approach and investigate this matter had not only military training and one skilled in the art history. They are, however, admirable ambition and passion for history teaching career military weapons in national archives, gathering information, printing and playback them to military and civilian audiences.

The results were summarized existing research, particularly in works that, the principles, the pattern of manuals containing basic concepts and general Gendarmerie history (with emphasis on the interwar period). Among contemporary authors who have tackled this subject can be mentioned the cost Silion with (Romanian gendarmerie Renaissance Publishing Muntenia, Constanta, 2007), Bunoaică Ion (Romanian Gendarmerie, Signs Publishing, Bucharest, 1994), Vasile Mihalache (Romanian Gendarmerie: 1850 -1949, publishing house, Bucharest, 1993, unwritten pages of history, publishing house, Bucharest, 1993), Ioan Suciu (From the history of Romanian Gendarmerie legislation, Tempus Publishing, Bucharest, 1995); Anghel Andreescu (History of Romanian Gendarmerie, publishing house, Bucharest, 2000), Tudor Cearapin (History of Romanian Gendarmerie, Bren Publishing House, Bucharest, 2004), Viorel Salan (Pages of history. Legion of gendarmes (1918-1949), Publisher Focus, Petrosani 2009 in the service of the nation, Publisher Măiastra, Tg. Jiu, 2012).

In these circumstances, to not fall into the trap mitizării and ocultizării, research activity is meant to be a deep one, original, pragmatic and critical, with the discovery of new and useful information for historians of art, paving thus the way Subsequent approaches strictly specialized and scientific. The focus is mainly on researching and query archive sources in local and county archives region of Moldova, to the nineteenth century.

This doctoral thesis wants to work with a high scientific, and to achieve this it is imperative to outline goals that will be the basis for the project. The research has led to awareness of the importance and utility of a comprehensive monograph on the history of Romanian Gendarmerie, as there is currently a work that meet the required scientific rigor. At the same time, a fact that has intrigued historians is how an institution of French origin was implanted in the Romanian society in the second half of the nineteenth century.

At mid-century, showed a secure search by their own means to develop programs and modern institutions for the defense of public order caused by population growth, the development of trade, economy, monetary circulation abundance, employment growth (urban and rural) transport development and administration, eradication of disease and decrease mortality. All this led social and political elite to pursue an increase in vigilance and administrative supervision, a defense of property and roads, social and health policies to combat and prevent delinquency and epidemics. They were aimed at increasing public safety, vigilance and preventive supervision of morals in the social, health, security, public lighting and public roads. Finally, it aimed to provide a social life safer, better protected against the darkness, fire, murderers, thieves and parasitic elements (tramps and beggars), by establishing modern institutions such as the police and gendarmerie. Social and political elites wanted a safe characterized public security, order and cleanliness to a civilized and harmonious coexistence.

In terms of administrative and territorial urban areas came under the strict control of the Police since 1831, and the areas under gendarmerie since 1850. The phenomenon can be tackled effectively, and linguistic perspective. Understanding foreign loan in the Romanian realities and therefore in the collective mentality, is another objective of this doctoral thesis.

He is interesting to note how the institution has folded Gendarmerie and absorbed the old traditional structure of public order in rural areas (servants-zapcii, vătășeii, dorobanții, watchmen-hauling and guarzii Cămpeni) becoming the central body of the police in rural communities . It is important to underscore the legislative and financial resources that facilitated this military body with powers to impose administrative and police in Romanian rural life plan, explaining the transformations forming another important objective of this paper.

Inter major objectives of the thesis are presenting socio-political context of the time, the removal of embossed contribution of the institution concerned Gendarmerie policing mission in Romanian rural society and its contribution to national major historical events: the War of Independence (1877 -1878), Uprising of 1907 and World War I (1916-1918).

The working methods are historical (analysis, comparison, synthesis, qualitative and quantitative), sociology (investigation, case study) and anthropological. The research will consider two methods of achieving scientific approach: synchronous method (which examines the evolution of the institution in a particular year or period in several areas and socio-political spaces) and diachronic method (which consists of an overview on temporal order multiple intervals).

The work is divided into three chapters, aiming at creating a holistic, integrative and comprehensive rural gendarmerie, the period chosen for discussion, namely, the period between 1893 and 1918.

The three chapters are preceded by a brief introduction to the paper which presents the methodology, objectives, an analysis of the current state of research etc. In all chapters, plus a section devoted to general conclusions, an annex that includes facsimiles of documents, pictures, albums, photos, memories that relate to your topic, and of course the general literature, structured on several levels: sources (documents, regulations, codes

of law: administrative law, contravention, criminal law, criminal procedure, law of general police; specific regulations, books, reports, activity reports, charts, telegrams, correspondence, books), books, periodicals, dictionaries, encyclopedias and secondary works. At the same time, Romanian Gendarmerie section - details terminology and case follows a linguistic analysis of the concept terminologico Gendarmerie (taken by French Connection) and highlighting how implanted in the Romanian, adding as an example and some documentary evidence. Emphasizing the impact on collective mentality Romanian Principalities, the paper envisages replacement of old route and how law and order by the gendarmerie.

**Chapter 1, Regulations and organization beginnings of Romanian Gendarmerie between 1850 and 1893** talking about creating historical picture of the beginnings of existence and functioning of the gendarmerie type Romanian. The first period of the Gendarmerie has a feature that distinguishes the next stage, namely jandameria is why it was a military tool in the hands of the police and the administration of provinces and districts (mesh) having a wider area of competence. In discharging the service, the police must at the same time, prevent and repress offenses to ensure the safety of persons or property, specifically supervise and rural roads in the county, to protect the free movement of goods, to suppress vagrancy and begging, protect crops, to maintain order in public places, to disperse unauthorized gatherings. Insured also military police tasks in addition to regular troops, gather information about crimes and misdemeanors arrest the public and authors. The three gentlemen as benchmarks in the debate this period, namely the reign of Grigore Alexandru Ghica, the reign of Alexandru Ioan Cuza and King Carol I, provide sufficient data for highlighting the institution's growing influence in politics and social Gendarmerie principalities. Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza was the one who felt the Gendarmerie reached full maturity and serve as a factor of political stability, military and social, for which this weapon withdrew from the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Interior and the provinces and into a part standing army, subordinating it directly to the Ministry of War (replacing the counties and mesh with dorobanții turns, vătășeii village and just Cămpeni guarzi). This has kept in this historical period, police appearance, acting only in the big cities predilection, Iasi and Bucharest, as a gendarmerie urban or bourgeois.

**Chapter II, bearing the title The establishment and functioning of Rural Gendarmerie between 1893 and 1918** captures a new stage in history Romanian gendarmerie, with another vision of the institutions. It will require, in the new historical plane, another type of gendarmerie type the countryside. This change was imposed and strengthened by numerous legislative documents. Of these, the most representative organization of rural gendarmerie are Law 1893; Law for organizing the 1903 General State Police; Law of the gendarmes increase from 1903; Law amending the 1908 rural gendarmerie; Amended Law gendarmerie in 1918. Following a watchful eye on these documents, concluded that it was established alongside the bourgeois military gendarmerie, and a gendarmerie-type rural administration under the Ministry of Interior.

The reason was that, amid the social hostilities, traditional structures of public order retrograde respectively vătășeii, sons of boyars (officers on the estate of a nobleman, who oversaw work on the land) and had fallen into disuse Cămpeni guarzii and dorobanții and Călărășii with exchange, which provides rural police were withdrawn from service administration (because they were superficial and very sympathetic to the rural population) and available to the standing army (1891). Gendarmerie institution's aim was to prevent the commission of offenses against public order and ensuring public safety, policing and enforcement of laws, administrative services operable, police and justice in rural areas. Although truncated, it operated as companies, the county seat, polling score (state-funded) and stations in rural districts (funded by the local budget).

The subjects developed in chapters relate to rural gendarmerie between wars, uprisings and maintain social peace, aiming at removing the relief mission and role in rural gendarmerie major national events such as the War of Independence (1877-1878) and World War I (1916 -1918) and in times of great social conflicts, as the revolt of 1907. Although it does not recognize a key role in these events, however, can not minimize the installation effort of gendarmes in peace.

Rural Gendarmerie institution will not immediately become the main force of the public realm and the general political order in the countryside, as it will operate and coexist alongside cotton, guarzii Cămpeni and watchmen, completeness touching her after the 1907 uprising, when the state establishes the gendarme subunit become the most important and most frequently used for administering rural police service territory. Rural Constabulary operated until 1949 when it was converted into a militia.

**The last chapter** of the book, entitled **Duties of Rural Gendarmerie and police station** highlights the activity concerned gendarme (subunit most important and most frequently used for administering rural police service territory) in the social life of the Romanian people. From sources consulted and questioned, it appears that the gendarmes had a significant role in pre-military education and training effort of the masses, establishing moral standards and respect for the rules of social coexistence, which led to the creation of the Romanian state. In doing so, it recognized celelealte gendarmes and fruitful cooperation between public authorities (prefecture, city hall, school, church, prosecutors and judges). Powers gendarme were different. The gendarme was a police officer (the only one with this quality rural communities) and preventive police agent and head of the public security force garrison.

For these qualities, results, summary, the following responsibilities: maintaining public order and security (freedom, assets, people with all derivatives), the prevention of breaches, research (taming acts), within the law of criminal procedure and relinquishment of any crime perpetrators to justice, offering competition to all officials (fiscal agents, customs, forestry, fisheries, etc.) in the execution of various laws sentences; maintaining order judges, offered medical and veterinary aid in combating epidemics and animal etc .; in a word no official regulations and, in the villages, have no need gendarme contest. Also under their jurisdiction, were also participating in the work of recruitment and requisition; To have control over people who were part of military items; Call dividing orders; preparation works to mobilize communities; liaising directly with headquarters territorial regiments and military authorities; Execution of orders all military authorities and all services required by laws and military regulations.

Also longer necessary enforcement, personally, of all transfer throughout the county, atrupamentelor repression that threatened public order, participating in mergers, withdrawals, schools, etc., to maintain its military instruction and education.

In addition, the gendarmes were the only officials who depended on by many authorities while. They were under direct ordinele net administrator, prosecutors and courts of districts and territorial regiments of commands and recruiting centers. Direct bosses supervised the execution of the services, maintaining military discipline and their education, as well as their behavior in service. Failure to timely îndatoririlor deviations from discipline or bad conduct immediately attracted penalties provided for by laws or military regulations.

Often gendarmes were in conflict execution of orders and not direct all heads were aware that gendarmes are military, administrative and police with responsibilities and that the breach of orders or military regulations was one of the most serious crimes. Higher authorities, by whose orders the gendarmes were obliged to obey, not always understand a number of realities, as that was an integral part of rural Gendarmerie active military,

military laws and regulations (related to discipline, hierarchy, interior service) having been fully applied. Also, this army troops have special obligations being placed under orders of the authorities above.

It is important to insist on the purely military nature of the institution, only because its services may be achieved realistic, administrative and general policy.

Noteworthy is the prominent work in rural gendarmes police station Copou Iași (1911-1913), on line and research finding criminal and administrative actions (training of the minutes), warrants and prison correctional retrofit and handing subpoenas procedural. However, in literature and folklore press time, did not lack character descriptions pamphlet at the gendarmes.