

Final Scientific Report
January 2012 – December 2016
Synopsis

**The Beginning of the Modernization of the Romanian Culture and its Connection to
Western Europe through Translations**

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1. Project Implementation

The actions foreseen under the project objectives were developed as planned, with changes due to the extension of the implementation period and to the redistribution of funds.

Early in the project, preliminary operations characteristic for philology works were conducted: identification of general and specific bibliography (philology), detection of location and multiplication (by scanning, photocopying etc.), setting the extent and limits of the research.

Since all the texts under study are written in Cyrillic script and most of them are manuscripts, establishing the principles of transcription interpretive was one of the important phases of the first part of the project, essential to move to indepth study of texts and to the publication of preliminary results.

National and international documentation was essential to the research foreseen by the project. The 18th century is a period in which numerous texts were published and circulated in Western Europe. However, most of them are now available in very few copies. In addition, the rare book digitization program, initiated at state level in several EU countries, had not reached the 18th century. Even though many libraries have continued this project on their own, some have introduced fees for consulting the scanned texts.

Taking into account that the identification of the particular original of a translation involves the consultation of tens or even hundreds of volumes in a certain area, the only real possibility of access to information has been the documentation in the libraries abroad. Project members studied book funds present in: Austria: Salzburg (University Library); Vienna (Austrian National Library, the Library Center for Translation Studies); Bulgaria: Sofia (Sofia University Library); France: Paris (National Library of France); Germany: Berlin (Staatsbibliothek); Konstanz (University Library), Tübingen ("Karl Eberhard" University Library); Greece: Athens (National Library), Thessaloniki (Aristoteles University Library); Italy: Catania (University Library), Ferrara (Biblioteca Ariostea), Florence (Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale), Milan (Biblioteca Ambrosiana), Napoli (Biblioteca Nazionale), Palermo (Biblioteca Central della Regione Siciliana), Ravenna (Biblioteca Comunale Classen), Rimini (Biblioteca Comunale), Rome (Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana Nazionale Library), Turin (Biblioteca Nazionale Universitaria), Venice (Biblioteca Marciana and Neo-Byzantine studies Institute), Verona (Biblioteca Capitolare Library Civica di Verona); UK: London (British Library), Spain:

Barcelona (Catalunya Library), Madrid (Biblioteca Nacional), Valencia (Historica Library); Turkey: Istanbul (Beyazit National Library).

In order to compare the transcription of the texts (undertaken after microfilm photocopies) with the original manuscripts, several mobilities to the Romanian Academy Library in Bucharest were carried out.

Throughout the project, the team members had access to interactive bibliographic documentation and linguistic information through a database. Articles, transcription, analysis and writing models were centralized in electronic format on the project server. As part of the material is copy-righted, access has been restricted to team members.

2. Dissemination of Research Results

In managing the project's funds, the director prof. Andrei Corbea-Hoișie opted for a greater support of the participation in national and international scientific events by redistributing funds towards this goal, therefore remuneration was drastically limited to a few months a year.

Throughout the project, team members have been particularly active, so they managed to participate in numerous national (22) and international (48) conferences, the latter being organized in various countries in Europe and elsewhere (England, Austria, Bulgaria, China, Germany, Northern Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, USA, Turkey, Ukraine, Hungary), resulting in an extended visibility of the project in particular and of the Romanian philology in general.

Studiile publicate în volumele conferințelor sau în reviste au plecat de la rezultatele parțiale obținute în urma cercetării și s-au încadrat pe trei direcții principale: 1. Prezentarea traducătorilor și a traducerilor, a epocii și influențelor; 2. Probleme de traductologie și lingvistică interculturală europeană și românească; 3. Cercetări privitoare la specificul culturii române și europene înainte și după perioada avută în vedere, pentru corecta încadrare a traducerilor din proiect în cultura română și în ansamblul culturii europene.

The articles published in the proceedings of conferences or in magazines have started from the partial results obtained and followed three main directions: 1. Presentation of translators and translations, of the epoch and of the various influences; 2. Traductology and European and Romanian Intercultural linguistics issues; 3. Research about the specificity of the Romanian and European culture before and after the period of the project, in order to correctly place the translations within the Romanian culture and the European culture in general.

All the participations in conferences are registered on the project website with links to the conference sites (where available). For works published in conference proceedings and in other magazines / books, whenever the editorial policies allow it, the link to the view / download (in full or in summary) is indicated.

3. Final Results of the Project

The final results of the project are reflected in the publication of the research findings in volumes of reference for Romanian philology, traductology in the old period, the study of cultural relations between the Romanian provinces and Western Europe in the 18th century.

After the study of the bibliography regarding the secular translations of Western European authors carried out in the Romanian principalities during the 18th century, the members of the project noticed the absence or lack of coherence in the existant information on the subject. As a result, the project has aimed to thoroughly study some texts to establish the sources of the translation, to identify the translator, to check and confirm or refute insufficiently proved allegations. The extensive studies resulting from this research prompted the research team to structure the material obtained a little differently than initially foreseen. Thus, to create a comfortable, easy to handle working tool, it was decided that the inventory of the translations with all related information should constitute a separate volume, while in-depth studies of some some translations have allowed the publication of two volumes and a text edition with linguistic and philological study. Consequently, the project resulted in the final composition of the following works, whose description is available on the project's website:

1. Eugenia Dima, Gabriela E. Dima – **„Vita di Pietro” de Antonio Catiforo și versiunile în limba română [Life of Peter the Great by Antonio Catiforo and Its Versions into Romanian]**, Editura Universitatii “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Iasi, 2013, 230 p.
2. Andrei Corbea-Hoișie, Eugenia Dima (ed.), **Începutul modernizării culturii române și racordarea la Occident prin traduceri [The Beginnings of the Modernisation of the Romanian Culture and Its Connection to Western Europe through Translations]**, Editura Universitatii “Alexandru Ioan Cuza”, Iasi, 2016, 380 p.
3. Alexandra Chiriac, **Giulio Cesare Croce, „Viața lui Bertoldo” în spațiul european și varianta sa tradusă în Transilvania [“Life of Bertoldo” in the European Area and its Transylvanian Translated Version]**, Editura Universitatii “Alexandru Ioan Cuza”, Iasi, 2016, 220 p.
4. Eugenia Dima, Gabriela E. Dima – **Traducătorii români și traducerile laice din secolul al XVIII-lea [The Romanian Translators and the secular translations in the 18th Century]**, Editura Universitatii “Alexandru Ioan Cuza”, Iasi, 2016, 280 p.

The electronic version foreseen by the project is under elaboration for the last of these works, as it represents a synthesis of the research activities carried out under the grant.

4. Conclusions

The studies undertaken by the project members have led to the consolidation of research team that took part in another project funded by UEFISCDI under the leadership of prof. Andrei Corbea-Hoișie. The resulting volumes, articles and conference participation illustrate their contribution to the clarification of many unsolved problems concerning the authorship of some anonymous translations, the original texts translated, the intermediary texts, the variants into Romanian and their identification. The analysis of the translations has not been limited to merely philological aspects, but occasioned a linguistic analysis in terms of specific features of the old and popular language, of regional characteristics, of word loans

from culture language and the way in which new notions and lexemes were transposed into Romanian. The team members are aware of the problems that could not be resolved (for now) because of information gaps, hoping that future research will elucidate the entire landscape of Romanian culture in the 18th century.

Project leader,
Prof.dr. Andrei CORBEA-HOIȘIE
