

Abstract

Starting from the introduction of new elements regarding the history of the historical Greek community in Bucharest and its associated school, the thesis includes a comparative analysis of the situation in Greece and Romania during and after the Second World War, as well as a study concerning the presence of Greek communist refugees in Romania following the war.

This doctoral thesis examines the history of the Hellenic community in Bucharest within the context of Romanian–Greek relations, focusing on the period 1944-1948 – years marked by the consequences of the Second World War and the political reconfiguration of South-Eastern Europe. The research is based on previously unpublished archival sources from Romania – particularly the collections of the National Council for the Study of the Securitate Archives, the Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the National Archives – complemented by edited documents from the Contemporary Social History Archives (ASKI) of the Greek Communist Party. The thesis reconstructs the evolution of the Greek community in Bucharest, its internal organization, the role of the Greek school and church, as well as its relations with both the Romanian and Greek states, from its nineteenth-century beginnings to the profound transformations that followed after 1945. Particular emphasis is placed on the post-war period, when Romania became a refuge for thousands of Greeks – mostly Communists – fleeing the Greek Civil War (1946–1949). The study explores the conditions of exile, the Romanian state’s policies toward Greek refugees, and the ways in which their presence influenced the evolution of the Hellenic community in the capital. By combining rigorous historical research with a comparative analysis of the Greek and Romanian contexts, the thesis makes an original contribution to the understanding of Romanian-Greek relations and the twentieth-century history of South-Eastern Europe, filling significant gaps in Romanian historiography regarding ethnic minorities and political exiles.