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## 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The dramatic events of the 1848-1849 Revolution in Transylvania led to the destruction of many libraries and archives, that drew attention, more than ever, to the necessity of creating an academic institution with a museum profile at the national level. On the one hand, it was meant to bring together the already existing private collections and, on the other, to watch over the Transylvanian historical heritage. Thus, such an institution was established in 1859, the Transylvanian Museum Society (Erdélyi Múzeum-Egylet). This was the second museum-type institution within the Transylvanian province, following the Brukenthal Museum, founded in 1817 in Sibiu based on the project of Baron Samuel Brukenthal.

The Society's statutes mention its main aims: to support and develop the material resources of the Transylvanian Museum Society, the scientific processing of its collections, the cultivation of science, the promotion of the country's knowledge, and, in general, of the scientific phenomena.

The establishment of the Transylvanian Museum Society was received with interest by the entire Transylvanian public. At the founding meeting of the Transylvanian Museum Society, Count Imre Mikó emphasised that the newly created institution aimed to represent, on a cultural level, all the ethnic and social groups of Transylvania. Romanian personalities such as Andrei Țăgănuș, Alexandru Sterca Țăluțiu, and Timotei Cipariu contributed financially to the support of the society. Later, in 1861, when the Transylvanian Association for Romanian Literature and the Culture of the Romanian People (ASTRA) was founded in Sibiu, leading members of the Transylvanian Museum Society – Count Mikó himself, for example – were also among those who contributed to the cause of the Romanian culture.

*Acta Musei Napocensis* (ActaMN) first appeared in 1964, shortly (two years) after the official establishment of the History Museum, the successor of the museum activities of two other cultural institutions in Cluj: the Transylvanian Museum Society, already mentioned, and the Institute of Classical Studies of the “King Ferdinand” University (1929). The Society and the Institute had published under their aegis scientific journals: *Dolgozatok az Erdélyi Múzeum Érem- és Régiségtárából*, starting with the year 1916, and *Anuarul Institutului de Studii Clasice*, from 1932. *Acta Musei Napocensis* has reached 60 published issues and is distributed in over 250 national and international libraries.

The founder of ActaMN and the first director of the editorial board was the Academician Prof. PhD Constantin Daicoviciu, also one time Director of the History Museum in Cluj and Rector of the “Babeș-Bolyai” University. Over time, highly established names in academia also became editorial board members: H. Daicoviciu, I. Ferenczi, I. Kovács, M. Macrea, Șt. Pascu, G. A. Protopopescu, I. I. Russu, N. Vlăssă, later adding N. Cordoș, I. Glodariu, Fr. Pap, E. Glodariu, D. Alicu, Șt. Matei, E. Iaroslavschi, or N. Gudea, mentioning here only those who are no more.

The journal covers a wide thematic area of history in general, along with archaeology, art history, classical studies, museography, conservation, and restoration.

Starting with issues 26-30 (1989-1993) published in 1994, the journal has been reorganised, with two separate volumes currently being published, one for the Prehistory - Ancient History - Archaeology (I) section, the other for the History (II) section, making it more user-friendly and logical. There are so many research institutions worldwide whose specialists no longer deal with the whole of history but focus on a particular period: institutes of classical studies, archaeology, medieval history, etc. I myself have seen in their libraries how some of the voluminous issues of the scientific journals were practically reorganised and separated into two parts to fit in with specialist libraries.

Since 1998 (issue 35/I), the journal has been published in international languages, attracting a large number of foreign scholars who publish their research results here, which is significant for the quality of the publication. The rush, sometimes due to the obligations imposed on researchers, to publish a greater number of journals, for which indexing is compulsory (if possible, by the Institute for Scientific Information – ISI), is not always warranted. Thus, publications are often produced in a hurry, in an online format, of course, with generally mediocre articles, in order to meet the requirements in the researchers' job descriptions. I believe that, in Romania, the journals that existed before the Revolution were sufficient, most of them containing good-quality articles. Their publication in foreign languages, which should be generalized, is essential for the access of foreign specialists to Romanian research. There are well-known international journals that do not focus on indexing and on artificial scores, but on the scientific content of their journals. Indexing is more appropriate for journals in non-humanistic fields. In Romania, the evaluation of journals is formal rather than based on scientific value. This leads to a strong competition for their inclusion in various national and international databases.

For reasons semi-imposed in the Romanian research policy, we have also indexed ActaMN in international databases, but in some more suitable for the humanities: ERIH PLUS, SCOPUS, and currently pending evaluation for Web of Science. Doubtlessly, there are also benefits, such as a wider accessibility due to DOI (Digital Object Identifier) registration and the effort to publish an annual journal issue because of conditions imposed by these indexations, which was not always accomplished before. Open access is also provided via the dedicated website: <https://amn.mnit.ro>.

The following articles are published in particular: summaries, archaeological analyses, and important discoveries in context, avoiding simple archaeological research reports and analyses without scientific arguments. All articles are reviewed, anonymously and voluntarily, by prestigious researchers whom I gratefully acknowledge. I extend my gratitude to the authors who contributed to the creation and recognition of this journal, to the members of the Scientific Board of the journal, and especially to the editors, as the effort of the colleagues who have been part of the editorial staff in recent years goes beyond the simple task of revision.

PhD Felix Marcu