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HISTORICAL DISCOURSE IN ROMANIAN PRINCIPALITIES AT THE BEGINNINGS OF MODERN AGE
(Summary)

The first half of the nineteenth century witnessed the beginnings of the modern historical discourse in the Romanian culture. This shaped itself along a difficult and cumbersome process which depended more than other contexts on the agitation of political life and on a lack of elementary tools which legitimize a culture. A carefully considered historical discourse drafted not by professionals but by literary people, various dilletanti or passionate lovers of a past glory which fatefuly contrasted with the decay of their present. Far from being a treatise or a methodically articulated work, the attempts to sketch a national history were either disparate articles in the newspapers of the time or justifications for some editorial attempts such as introductions to compilation published at the time.

This is why the author of this article believes that after the 1800s the relationship between the authors of those texts and their predecessors still lacked in clarity. A credible historical discourse needed institutional support and a research program to be carried out in archives and libraries by the intellectuals of the time; this proved to be a utopian projection.

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