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THE “ELITE” CONCEPT IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA HISTORIOGRAPHY
(Summary)

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In this article the author analyzes the main tendencies and the dynamics of the research on political elites in the Republic of Moldova. She argues that the Moldovan historians have for a long time avoided to use the notion of “elite.” According to the ideological standards of the Communist period, they resorted to a vocabulary strongly reminiscent of the language used by the party propaganda apparatus. Such notions as “specialists,” “prominent personalities” or “cadres” were quite frequent in their texts. This situation began to change starting from the mid-1980s, along with the reforms launched by Mikhail Gorbachev. In the final part of the article the author discusses and reviews several works concerning the political elites in the Republic of Moldova.