

**PAUL NISTOR\***

FOREIGN POLICY IN COMMUNIST ROMANIA DURING THE '50<sup>s</sup>.  
HISTORIOGRAPHICAL APPROACH  
(Summary)

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Historiographical researches on this topic have grown to a respectable size today, although only a decade ago we could hardly speak about consistent directions and more about clarifying several punctual events that woke up some special interest: the Yugoslav Schism, 1956 Hungarian Revolution, the status of PMR (Romanian Workers' Party) leaders in the Sino-Soviet conflict, the first reorganizations of MAE (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), the twists and turns of the Soviet-Romanian relations. As we managed to access the archives, after the year 2000 several doctoral works or parts of research projects that approached issues of great importance regarding the foreign policy of the communist world emerged. Some were books and pamphlets that focused on controversial events or phenomena or which triggered a high dose of public emotions, and others analyzed the bilateral relations of Romania or the presence of Romanian officials in various international organizations. Perhaps the most useful works have been those several syntheses which appeared in the 2000, and which, with their good points or flaws, which have outlined the main sub-themes of the field, giving some directions of research and analysis and launched the first conclusions for the scientific debates regarding more or less controversial issues. On a general view, it has been confirmed that the study on this matters is still in early stages of research, when specialists try to reconstruct the facts, to identify key actors, to sketch some refined research topics, draw theories more appropriate to that special context and look out for documentation funds which should allow the development of more accurate analysis.

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\* Cercetător științific, Institutul de Istorie „A. D. Xenopol” al Academiei Române – Filiala Iași.