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ROMANIA AND AUSTRIA-HUNGARY HISTORY, POLITICS AND DIPLOMACY (1878-1888) (Summary)

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The problem of rights and freedoms of the Romanians within the Austro-Hungarian monarchy would concern the political class in Bucharest, whether conservative or liberal. They all show a nearly constant concern for what happened beyond the Carpathians, even if it contributed in certain moments to a deterioration of diplomatic relations between Romania and Austria-Hungary. Concerned more by the analysis of factors allowing the conquest of state independence, but also by the motivation that contributed to the decision of King Carol I and prime minister I.C. Brătianu to conclude a political alliance with the Central Powers, the difficulties encountered in the implementation of this project were taken into account to an extent we consider reduced by the Romanian historiography. Given the emphasis, prior to 1876, in the liberal leaders’ interventions on the Romanian problem in the foreign territories with a significant Romanian population, it is worthy observing to what extent the government led by I.C. Brătianu managed, after obtaining the independence, to make the cornerstone of his foreign policy out of the rights and liberties of the Romanian diaspora. If we consider it from the perspective of the political-diplomatic relations with Austria-Hungary, a natural fact taking into account the treaty signed in October 1883, the period prior to and following this year provides, upon a closer look, numerous opportunities and directions of investigation. We will present some of them in the following pages.

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