THE WALACHIANS AND THEIR RULERS
IN THE VENETIAN-OTTOMAN WAR OF 1499-1503
(Summary)

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Based on documents extracted from Italian (Roman and Venetian) Austrian (Viennese) and Hungarian archives, the paper discusses the involvement of the rulers of Walachia and Moldavia in the plans of the Roman papacy and of the Venetian republic at the start of the 16th century. The analysis focuses in particular on the “return” of Walachia among the states listed as pillars of crusading in the East after decades of decay and of “treasonable attitudes” towards the Cross. At the same time, the present study emphasizes the distinction between intention, interest and action, as indicated also by the fact that the ruler of Walachia, Radu IV, proved more useful for Venice as a mediator between her and the Porte, than as a soldier of the Serenissima. Eventually, the main benefit for Walachia and Moldavia from these events was their inclusion in the general peace of Buda between Hungary, in Christendom’s name, and the Ottoman Empire, which also marked the official acceptance of the Porte as an European partner.