“I HAVE NEVER SAID ROLLER IS NOT ROLLER”:
17 NOVEMBER 1954 MEETING OF THE ROMANIAN HISTORIANS
(Summary)

Keywords: Mihail Roller, historical science, historical front, shortcomings.

The present article proposes an answer to the questions when and why did the downfall of Mihail Roller has taken place. My central argument is constructed upon the interpretation of the contents of a discussion between the most prominent historians of the day, organized in the autumn of 1954 and supervised by the Propaganda and Agitation Section of the Central Committee of the Romanian Workers Party. Although the original purpose of the meeting had been the examination of the general situation into which Romanian historical science had found itself, the discussions sharply turn into an authentic trial of Mihail Roller, an event which, most likely, has contributed to his downfall a few months later. Most likely, this trial had been previously prepared by the Propaganda and Agitation Section of the Central Committee, and thus, it was not a genuine and spontaneous one.