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THE NATIONAL PARTY FROM WALLACHIA (1837–1840).
IDEOLOGICAL IDENTITY AND MANIFESTATIONS IN THE PUBLIC SPACE
(Summary)

Keywords: ideological identity, public space, National Party, modern patriot, legitimacy, political solidarities.

For a better understanding of the political group led by Ion Câmpineanu, we bring into discussion two defining elements for a modern political party: the ideological identity and the means through which its members disseminate their discourse in the public sphere. By analyzing the manner in which the National Party was formed and taking into consideration the main factors of cohesion that created political solidarities around a small group of men from the Assembly, we can form a more complex image of this political group. Also, a thorough analysis of the way in which it built its legitimacy, by publically confronting and exposing the weaknesses and the abuses of the administration of the Prince Alexandru Ghica and by trying to offer an alternative through its own political program, shows a group of opposition whose actions – in a public space that was still undeveloped – included both traditional and modern features. Ion Câmpineanu and the other members assumed important responsibilities (such as defending “the rights of the country”) and through their actions embodied a new type of patriot – entirely different from the traditional one –, orientated towards political activism, courageous, unselfish, determined and willing to sacrifice in his fight for the political awakening of the society.

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