

**PAUL NISTOR\***

**DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND  
COMMUNIST ROMANIA DURING 1957  
(Summary)**

*Keywords:* Cold War, Communism, Romanian-American Relations, Diplomacy, Romania.

The Romanian-American relations in the '50s of the 20<sup>th</sup> century have evolved from hostility and rejection to acceptance and collaboration. The diversification of the ties between RPR and the US, in non-political fields, has allowed mutual understanding and a decrease of the level of animosity. The loosening of the bilateral relations after 1955 was an important premise for the Romanian-American rapprochement in the '60s.

After the opening initiated by Silviu Brucan in 1956, the Romanians and the Americans agreed on more friendly relations. The fields in which this transformation was predominantly seen were mainly the cultural and economic exchanges. Scientific and economic delegations (chemists, agricultural engineers, economists, doctors) have crossed the ocean from one side to another, laying the foundation for a minimum of knowledge between the two worlds which, until then, felt completely foreign. Furthermore, the Romanian and American artists (singers, musicians, actors, directors, etc.) and artistic/symphonic ensembles were cultural ambassadors of East and West in "enemy" territories. These cultural and economic exchanges have considerably humanized the Romanian-American relations and have improved, to some extent, the climate of the Cold War.

By the end of the sixth decade of the twentieth century the strategies of the two countries in bilateral policy have become clearer. They accepted the opening, but with limitations. Thus, the negotiations in order to extinguish the mutual financial claims resulting from the war and the regime change in Romania, moved forward with slow steps but ended in 1960. Then, Romania was more interested in intensifying the economic exchanges since Bucharest could have had access to technology and could have entered the US market with its own products. On the contrary, the US wanted more fructification on the cultural level. Americans felt that they could use propaganda more efficiently through culture and intended to exert a certain attraction over the Romanians by presenting the American way of life.

---

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