

**IOAN-GABRIEL CHIRAȘ\***

“IN THAT DISTRICT, IN THAT COLLEGE,  
THAT GENTLEMAN WAS ELECTED, ALMOST UNANIMOUSLY!”  
THE SENATE ELECTIONS OF THE SUMMER OF 1874  
(Summary)

*Keywords:* Elections, Senate, Lascăr Catargiu, government, senatorial elections, Ion C. Brătianu.

In 1874, the Lascăr Catargiu government had already been in power for 3 years, a significant period from the point of view of internal and external politics. The Senate was reaching its 4-year term, during which, according to the 1866 constitution, new elections had to be held in order to change half of the current senators. The elections were organized, as always, with the involvement of the administration, led by Lascăr Catargiu. The election result did not surprise. The surprise was only the election of the leader of the radical liberals, Ion C. Brătianu, a change which made the government feel threatened about the influence he had in the electoral colleges. The subsequent validations of the senators provided the parliament with a chamber that would last till the first part of 1876.

---

\* Doctorand, Universitatea „Al. I. Cuza”, Iași; e-mail: gaby.chiras@hotmail.com.