

**TUDOR VIȘAN-MIU\***

CONTRIBUTIONS TO A HISTORIAN'S BIOGRAPHY:  
DAN CERNOVODEANU'S EDUCATION  
AND SHORT DIPLOMATIC CAREER  
(Summary)

*Keywords:* boyars, genealogy, heraldry, King Michael, political prisoner, Royal Classroom.

Dan Cernovodeanu (1921-1999), a Romanian historian well known for his contributions in the study of heraldry, was able to dedicate less than half of his life to a scientific career. His political and diplomatic ambitions, that he sought after finishing his university studies, were ended when, in 1947, at 26 years, he was removed from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Arrested in 1949, after an attempt to cross the border to Yugoslavia, he was held in the communist prisons for the better part of the following two decades (even after the general amnesty in 1964). After his release, he was finally accepted as a scientific researcher, becoming a member of the Committee of Heraldry, Genealogy and Sigillography besides the "Nicolae Iorga" Institute of History of the Academy of Social and Political Sciences. Joining the exile in 1978, in France, he returned, after 1989, to Romania, where he dedicated his last years to historical research. He died on 25<sup>th</sup> November 1999, in Bucharest, being buried in the Bellu Cemetery, where he lies besides the rest of his family.

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