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MOLDAVIANS AND FOREIGNERS IN DIPLOMATIC JOBS
IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE 16th CENTURY.
PROSOPOGRAPHIC NOTES
(Summary)

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The study of medieval diplomacy requires a thorough examination of the components that make up the diplomatic apparatus. Studying the fundamental elements of this mechanism, such as envoys or messengers, can bring forward details and outline a more accurate profile of the foreign policy direction approached by the leaders or the princes of the Christian States. The importance given to such a function and the knowledge necessary to accomplish a mission represent criteria that have always been the basis for choosing a diplomatic mission. By researching the lives of people who carried out diplomatic missions, we can better understand the power relations, the different threads of trust, and the political ties that facilitated the connection between states. The vast majority of them were part of the princely chancellery, while others ended up being sent as messengers due to personal experience or, due to connections with important people at the destination. In other cases, “foreigners” were used for some diplomatic missions, either to increase confidence or to speed up the completion of the mission. These connections were often used by princes both for espionage and to explore diplomatic options. As we could see, whether we are talking about chancellery clerks, interpreters or boyars, they were present as messengers according to personal knowledge, experience or political connections, which could mean the mission was accomplished or failed.

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