

Relații politico-diplomatice româno-slovace (iunie-decembrie 1941)

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Romanian-Slovak political-diplomatic relations (June-December 1941)

Abstract: Our study analyzes the oscillations of Romanian-Slovak political-diplomatic relations in the second half of 1941. The recovery of Bessarabia and northern Bukovina allowed Mihai Antonescu to resume the diplomatic offensive towards Transylvania. But the Romanian Foreign Minister's meetings with diplomat Ivan Milecz, head of the Slovak legation in Bucharest, were not successful. We took into account the contradictions in his diplomatic reports, the mistrust shown in Romania's ability to coordinate an anti-Hungarian diplomatic offensive and Germany's position on it. Contradictions on the Transnistria issue, Antonescu's anti-Slav statements and the position of German Minister Manfred von Killinger were the reasons why Slovak diplomacy did not meet Bucharest's expectations. The position of the Slovak diplomat was illustrated by that of his Romanian counterpart, accredited in Bratislava. The failure of the rapprochement policy did not disarm Mihai Antonescu, who resumed the cultural offensive in the autumn. Numerous cultural actions, the visit of Minister Ion Marinescu to Bratislava and the planned visit of Vojtech Tuka to Bucharest were the only concrete steps in strengthening Romanian-Slovak ties in the autumn of 1941. Last but not least, we have underlined the diplomatic action taken by Mihai Antonescu, visiting Berlin with the foreign ministers of the Tripartite Pact countries in November 1941, which put an end to the efforts of Romanian diplomacy to get closer to Slovakia in 1941.

Keywords: Mihai Antonescu, political-diplomatic relations, Ivan Milecz, Gheorghe Elefterescu, Germany, Budapest, cultural relations.

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