Problemele de bază și periodizarea istoriei minorității maghiare din România*

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Abstract

Basic Questions and Periodization of the History of the Hungarian Minority in Romania (1918-1989)

The Hungarian minority in Romania was created by a political decision as a forced minority, and became a natural community in a century. Between the two world wars and after 1989 it can be described as an independent community. In the state socialist era certain interests could have been pursued only through the Hungarian policy of the party state, therefore, independent minority policy did not exist then. In the interwar period in Romania Hungarians were considered a national minority, which belonged to another nation and lived beside the majority people of Romania. After 1944 they were considered as an ethnic group, which term did not imply them belonging to another nation, and nor did it refer to the demographic and power asynchron (minority). According to the ethnopolitical concept at that time, ensuring the use of language was enough to preserve identity, and the Hungarian language institutions had to serve the socialist transformation of society (Hungarian Popular Union, Bolyai University, Hungarian Autonomous Territory, Council of Hungarian Workers). From the mid-1980s the category of ethnic group was replaced by the term of Hungarian speaking Romanian workers, which neglected the ethnocultural differences in terms of socialist homogenization.

Keywords: Hungarians living in Romania, ethnic policy, minority history, Hungarian Autonomous Territory

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