



ORIGINAL PAPER

Oltenia - the image of a post-communist evolution

Florin F. Nacu¹⁾

Abstract:

The article presents a projection of how Oltenia presented itself during the post-communist period. The architecture in Oltenia was of European inspiration, modern and contemporary, trying to reintegrate itself on all levels in the Western European perspective, which had stopped after 1945 and partially resumed in 1965-1980. The article points out the main considerations on the Romanian economic, historical writings, published in books, articles and studies, concerning the post-communist evolution of Oltenia, a well defined and structured region in the South-Western Romania.

Keywords: *Oltenia, post-communism, historiography, economy, evolution*

¹⁾ Scientific Researcher III Florin F.Nacu, PhD, ICSU “C.S. Nicolăescu-Plopșor” Institute for Research in Social Sciences and Humanities, Craiova, Romania, Email: florinnacu86@yahoo.ro

Oltenia - the image of a post-communist evolution

The year 1990 marked the beginning of the transition, for the history of Oltenia. The transition is, from the historiographical perspective, the period between 1990 and 2005, i.e. from the time of the 1990 elections until the signing of the EU accession treaty on April 25, 2005, which entered into force on January 1, 2007. Oltenia, as part of Romania, began the transition by returning to interwar traditions.

This article presents what Oltenia looked like during the transition period and how historians, specialized in economic issues, captured the definition of transition, as well as the defining elements of the transition in Romania in general, in which Oltenia fits as a particular case.

Introductory considerations

The revolution of December 1989 produced a change at the political, national level, but at regional, local level, it was more difficult for a change to be made, economically, socially, or politically. This is because, for example, the year 1990 began under the sign of the situation outlined at the 14th Congress of the PCR Party, in November 1989. Not only had Nicolae Ceaușescu been reconfirmed at the head of the party and the state, but the economic directives of 1990 were the ones that had been voted on at that congress, a month before the Revolution. An evaluation of the end of the five-year period was made (the year 1990 was the end of the five-year cycle) but also a projection of the 1991-1995 five-year period.

From an administrative point of view, until the adoption of the Constitution of November 21, 1991, Oltenia remained, to some extent, centred on the legislation before December 1989. The reforms of the CFSN-CPUN through the decrees of December 1989-April 1990 had been superficial, i.e. the PCR had been abolished, the state function was different from the party function. That is, they went back to the mayor, the prefect, the president of the county council, instead of the names of "first secretary". There was another problem, that of human resources. First of all, the Revolution did not have an elite that completely removed the old organization and the old local and county dignitaries.

Oltenia after 1990. Definition of post-communist era

Florin Marius Th. Pavelescu, from the Institute of National Economy in Bucharest, defines the transition as follows:

"A closer examination of the characteristics of this transformational process reveals that, in the course of history, Romania has not witnessed a single transition to the market economy, but two such transitions, as a result of the specificity of the socio-political developments in the Central and Eastern European space in the period following the Second World War. For this reason, we consider it very useful to have a clear theoretical definition and use in the analysis of the concepts of "the first transition to the market economy" and, respectively, "the second transition to the market economy" (Pavelescu: 2024, 1).

The period 1968-1989 is, for Oltenia, a period in which political regimes follow one another, ideologies are made known, confrontations take place. Due to its strategic position and its historical importance, Oltenia has been constantly subjected to both political and military efforts and historiographical analyses. For a long time, in the modern era, Oltenia had its administrative individuality and political primacy in Wallachia. The Union of Michael the Brave, the Revolutions of 1821 and 1848 depended on the people of Oltenia. Even after the Union of 1859, Oltenia had continued to represent an important

stake in the political games. Being a region with an agrarian and livestock importance, in Oltenia, there were large boyar families who had been actively involved in political life. The city of Craiova, after Bucharest and Iași, was, after 1878, a city that gave Romania numerous more or less controversial personalities (Nacu: 2020 , 1432-1433).

The period 1968-1989 was marked by the entry of Oltenia under the sign of intensive industrialization, systematization of villages, communes and cities. The proclamation of Nicolae Ceaușescu as President of Romania (1974), the earthquake of 1977, the strengthening of the cult of personality, the deep economic and food crisis are elements to which anyone who wants to deal with the history of Oltenia must refer. The year 1989 marked the December Revolution, when Oltenia began to undergo transformations, some areas almost disappearing, others continuing to resist (RRA: 2024).

From 1920 to 1989, Romania went through a history of administrative reforms focused on finding an original path based on the Romanian tradition, but which faced the spectre of influence of the war-conditioned administration and influences of the Soviet administration that were maintained for another decade, after the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Romania. Oltenia has not undergone major changes during this period (Grozoiu: 2016, 187-202).

After 1990, Marian Grozoiu identifies the main legislative elements that influenced Oltenia:

“The Land Fund Law no. 18/1991; Law 36/1991 on the association of agricultural companies; Law no. 68/1991 on the establishment of the Agricultural Register; Law 83/1993 on granting state aid to support agricultural producers; The Leasing Law no. 16/1994; Law no. 34/1994 on income tax; Law no. 75/1995 on the production, quality control and marketing of seeds”(Grozoiu: 2016, 187-202).

Oltenia in the post-communist era: the way towards the market economy

The transition was defined by N. N. Constantinescu as follows:

“When we talk about transition, it is necessary to take into account the fact that there are, in fact, several transitions:

a) a transition from one-party dictatorship to pluralist democracy and the rule of law;

b) a transition from the command economy to the market economy;

c) a transition from the old class structure to a new one;

d) a transition to a new international division of labour at a new place of the country in the world economy;

e) a transition to a new social behaviour of the people (Constantinescu: 1997, 16).”

Evidently, the watchword after 1968 was centralization. Not even in an innocent joke did any party activist try to bring up regionalization or decentralization. The only area where regionalization was preserved was in the technical field of organizing the railway administration, where there were “CFR regionals”. Obviously, these were strictly technical structures subordinated to the Ministry of Transport that answered directly to the centre and had no initiatives.

The main heritage houses from before 1948, which had survived the earthquakes of 1940 and 1977, were of Western architectural inspiration, especially French.

In Oltenia, there was a strong ethnic group of Italians, who came especially at the end of the nineteenth century but also in the interwar period. In Oltenia, there were strong

Oltenia - the image of a post-communist evolution

communities of Greeks and Jews. Greeks were attested from the Middle Ages and the Modern Era, but an important wave was of communist refugees after the civil war of 1946-1949.

As Italy and Greece were on the other side of the Iron Curtain, ties resumed after 1990, with many Greeks or Italians emigrating, but others remaining.

Roman Catholics and Evangelicals, Jews had religious places in the cities of Oltenia.

Drobeta Turnu Severin, in the context of the relationship with Yugoslavia after 1965, a special one, caused by the Iron Gates hydrotechnical project, was a small oasis of Western spirit through the "small trafficking" border, which was preserved even after the 2000s.

Mountain counties, such as Gorj and Vâlcea, but also Mehedinți, having created links with the counties of Transylvania, where Western civilization could not be fully eradicated by the communist regime, also had a resumption of traditions after 1990, especially after the migration of the Saxons from Sibiu and Braşov of the Swabians from Banat to Germany.

The only counties that somehow remained unchanged, but also began to get closer to the Western world in 1990 were Dolj and Olt, but Craiova and Slatina, powerful industrial centres will try to keep up with the Western style.

Marian Grozoiu observes, taking over Gabriel Staicu's observations (Staicu: 2012, 339):

"Following the adoption of Law no. 31/1990 and Decree-Law no. 66 and 67/1990, the possibility was given to the establishment of small and medium-sized enterprises (IMM) of private type, which generated a gratifying "structural transformation" of the Romanian society through the emergence and the development of capital and domestic capitalists. In the summer of 1990, the Romanian Parliament adopted the law on price liberalization – a strategic and mandatory measure for the configuration of a market economy, but which, due to "the non-synchronization of the price policy with the wage policy, created an inflationary spiral"(Staicu: 2012, 339).

The author notes that Oltenia, like Romania, was influenced by the new price policy and the new monetary policy adapted to the transition to the market economy:

"The liberalization of prices was carried out in two stages and aimed to establish the balance between supply and demand on the commodity market:

- 1) As of January 1, 1991, a real exchange rate of the leu was established and 40-50% of the volume of national products was proposed for liberalization;*
- 2) From January 1, 1992, the action was extended to 80-85% of the product nomenclature. This mechanism of balancing supply and demand naturally also led to a significant increase in prices.*

The policy of printing money to help the national currency proved to be harmful, inflation reaching alarming levels in the period 1992-1993. Moreover, the depreciation of the national currency was 200-300%, which led to "the acceleration of price growth to an almost uncontrollable level".

Towards the end of 1993, the monetary authorities calmed the rise in prices and the fluctuations of the exchange rate through the decisive implications of the Romanian National Bank (BNR) (Grozoiu: 2016, 194)."

Obviously, in Oltenia, the Western style and the first private businesses were opened by former Greek, Arab, Turkish, Iranian students in Craiova. Since 1990, a constant flow of foreign students has continued to be maintained in the main university

centre of Oltenia, which was and is Craiova. Gradually, university centres appeared in Târgu-Jiu, Râmnicu Vâlcea and Turnu Severin.

The year 1990 is therefore for Oltenia the year in which the economic changes begin to manifest themselves, some harsh ones, which affected the population, generating unemployment. From an identity point of view, however, Oltenia has kept a European, Western spirit that the four and a half decades of communist regime had not erased, because, as we have shown, the relations of the communist state with the West unfolded at an upward pace from the 60s to the beginning of the 80s, the regime crisis of the late 80s not being likely to change the European spirit of Oltenia.

Marian Groziu (Grozoiu: 2016, 194) , processing the information provided by Ioan Bari (Bari: 1997, 203) shows that the transition to a market economy obviously entailed the privatisation of the:

“Another measure, necessary for the transition was the political and economic decision to privatize the state units, starting with the unprofitable ones, which are in insolvency and inability to pay. Law no. 58/1991 had as a result, until December 31, 1995, the transfer of a number of 1,539 state-owned companies into the field of those with private capital⁵⁷. It is also important to mention that at the beginning of 1996, 488,939 private companies were registered with the Trade Register.”

Undoubtedly, the largest economic and cultural centre of Oltenia in 1990 was Craiova. Having large industrial platforms to the North-East, East and West, Oltenia concentrated the activity of workers from Dolj but also from Vâlcea, Gorj, Olt and Mehedinți. There were all industrial branches, from heavy industry to automotive, food, textile, petrochemical and aviation.

Filiași was a centre dedicated to the production of transformers, Calafat, Bechet were ports, Calafat also benefiting from the food industry.

Drobeta Turnu Severin was well anchored in the economic reality of Oltenia in 1990. There was a wagon, river ship, woodworking, food industry.

Vânju Mare, Orșova, Strehaia also had an important industrial and agricultural weight, with a focus on the production of ships, but also of boilers and industrial pipes.

Râmnicu Vâlcea was a city dedicated to the petrochemical industry, along with Govora, while Drăgășani produced car rims, trainers, but had a role in the food and winemaking industry.

Horezu, Brezoi, Berbești-Alunu were engaged in the system of wood and coal exploitation in surface quarries. In 1990, there was a Târgu Jiu-Râmnicu Vâlcea railway line in the project.

Vâlcea, Gorj and Mehedinți, but also Dolj had some of the most famous thermal power plants, but also the heavy water production plant necessary for the Cernavoda Atomic-Electric Power Plant.

In Olt, Slatina was a centre of aluminium, Balș had the production of axles, railway bogies along with agricultural machinery. In Caracal, wagons were produced, and in Corabia, the food industry was present.

Gorj was dedicated to the timber industry, but also to coal and oil exploitation. Undoubtedly, the hydropower system on the Danube, Olt and Lotru represented an asset of Oltenia. Oltenia was in 1990, the main hydropower of Romania.

The defining elements of the post-communist evolutions in Oltenia after 1990

An important step forward, but made timid, was that of social protection and the updating of pensions and social security.

Authors Cezar Avram and Roxana Radu (Avram&Radu: 2011, 61) observe:

“Another principle, which underpins the organization and functioning of the public pension system, is the principle of equality, which guarantees all participants in the public system, taxpayers and beneficiaries, between persons in the same legal situation, a non-discriminatory treatment in terms of the rights and obligations provided by law. This principle does not ensure the same amount of pension or indemnity for all insured persons, but the application of the same principles and norms to all participants in the public social insurance system, without privileges and without discrimination?” (Radu:2012,497-516).

Analiza KPMG din 2017 defined the transition from an economic point of view as following:

“A special section of the study has been given to the evolution of economic disparities (GDP and private consumption) between Romania and Germany, as they can be an illustration of the evolution of convergence with the developed countries of Western Europe (Germany is considered to be the “engine of Europe”). Two main sub-periods are distinguished here:

1.the initial one (1990-2000) corresponds to the first decade of the transition to a market economy in the EEC countries, associated with a decline in economic performance and a widening of the gaps with Western Europe;

2. the second stage (2000-2008) meant sustained economic growth in most CEE countries (including Romania) and, consequently, a trend towards reducing economic disparities with Western Europe (Germany)” (KPMG:2024).

The Iron Gates I hydroelectric power plant is the largest hydroelectric power plant on the Danube River. It has an installed capacity of 1080 MW. Downstream there is also the Iron Gates II hydropower plant, with an installed capacity of 250 MW. Both hydropower plants are operated in partnership with the Serbian side. The Romanian and Serbian power plants at the Iron Gates I cumulate 2160 MW, and those at the Iron Gates II cumulate 500 MW. The maximum capacity of the turbines is 8700 m³/s. The Iron Gates I Power Plant is located 15 km upstream from the city of Drobeta Turnu-Severin. Iron Gates II Power Plant 60 km downstream. It was erected between September 7, 1964 and May 16, 1972.

Navigation on the Danube is ensured by locks made on both banks at both objectives, which together have a traffic capacity of 52.4 million tons/year for the one-way lock and 37.2 million tons/year for the two-way lock.

The Iron Gates I system is one of the largest hydrotechnical constructions in Europe and the largest on the Danube River. Its reservoir with a volume of over 2200 million cubic meters. The lake mainly includes the area of the Danube Gorge, the largest gorge in Europe, between Baziaș and Orșova. The Iron Gates area is characterized by a rich archaeological, historical and tourist potential. In order to protect its special natural habitat, the Danube Gorge region was included in the Iron Gates Natural Park. The original turbines of the hydropower plant were built by LMZ Leningrad, but later their construction was licensed by UCM Reșița.

Oltenia, from a cultural and ethnic point of view, was inhabited in 1990 by Orthodox Christian Romanians. There were also the Romani, Jewish, Greek, Italian,

Serbian, Bulgarian, Czech minorities. Obviously, before 1989, the communist state's policy was to relocate inhabitants from poorer areas such as Moldova, to industrial and agricultural activities in Oltenia. From Oltenia, an important part of the educated population went to Sibiu, the Jiu Valley, Timișoara and Bucharest (RRA: 2024).

Sibiu, Timișoara, Jiu Valley were preferred by those from Vâlcea, Mehedinți, Gorj, Bucharest was preferred by those from Olt and Dolj especially.

Oltenia undoubtedly remains a picture of the coexistence between tradition and modernity in 1990. Basically, the communist period after the nationalization of 1948 preserved the previously existing reality and increased it in accordance with the economic trend of the Eastern Bloc.

From the second half of the twentieth century, the policy of generalized industrialization and measures to expand the country's agricultural area led to an acceleration of smart specialization, as those responsible for planning and expansion activity tried to reduce the disadvantages found on the spot, which the official line either ignored or wanted reduced, to the point of elimination.

Basically, the traditional field involves the individualization of the South-West Oltenia Region, which gives a sense of local pride and a certain specialization. The presence in the region of Craiova, the largest city in southern Romania located on the Timisoara Bucharest axis, has led to attracting the workforce interested in developing the smart specialization provided by pre-university and university school centres.

The major disadvantage of the traditional field was the danger of capping. Economic areas dependent on a certain type of activity become the most exposed to the danger of impoverishment in the context of economic stagnation and even regression.

Starting with the second half of the twentieth century, in the highly industrialized centres of Oltenia, as well as, until 1989, the only university centre, Craiova, design and research institutes appeared, in all fields (technical, petro-chemical, agricultural-zootechnical, economic, informatics, socio-human, theoretical and professional education) meant to discover, to create modern means that optimize the production process, to ensure a high qualification of the human resource.

In 2015, Mihaela Ceană, summarized the evolution of Oltenia within the National Development Strategy of Romania as follows:

"Following the Development Strategy, Romania, a member country of the European Union, has designed an Operational Program of activities regarding the professionalization and distribution of the workforce by development regions. Starting from an analysis of the occupational structure in the South-West Oltenia Region, the particularities of the area compared to other development regions in Romania, as well as to the Western Countries, are highlighted. The number of employees, the employment of the working-age population in different branches of the economy, as well as the number of unemployed are determined by direct and indirect causes related to the structure of the sectors of the economy. The study of the article also demonstrates the need to make the individual and the state responsible, factors favouring the expected change in the evolution of the labour force" (Ceană:2024).

The South-West Oltenia region was a highly industrialized region. There were and still are elements related to: the extractive industry, in the counties of Gorj, Mehedinți and Vâlcea, Olt (deep and surface mining, oil and natural gas exploitations), the wood processing industry (Vâlcea, Gorj, Mehedinți), the food industry (all counties), the machine manufacturing industry, locomotives, wagons, rolling stock (Dolj, Olt), steel, metallurgy (Olt), petrochemicals (Vâlcea, Dolj), automobiles (Dolj), airplanes (Dolj),

Oltenia - the image of a post-communist evolution

shipyards (Mehedinți), tourism, services (Mehedinți, Vâlcea, Gorj and less in Olt and Dolj), hydropower sector (Mehedinți, Vâlcea, Olt), thermoenergy (Mehedinți, Gorj, Dolj), thermonuclear (Mehedinți), textiles (Dolj), winemaking (Vâlcea, Mehedinți, Dolj, Olt) (Marcu:1979, 10).

Industrialization was based on both the exploitation of regional resources and those from other regions (aluminium processing in Slatina, Olt County), directly influencing the environment.

The south of Olt and Dolj counties had known the creation of an infrastructure meant to boost agriculture on sands (Dabuleni area, Dolj county), vegetable growing, supported by irrigation systems (Marcu:1979, 10).

In Gorj County, before 1989, there was a concern with the construction of the largest artificial lake in Romania, Ceauru Lake, present as such on all maps of Romania. It was designed to be supplied from the streams in the Jiu basin, from floods, being designed to contribute to reducing the risk of floods and even to the production of electricity. However, the project remained unfinished, and in the area designed to be covered by the waters of the lake, the works carried out were destroyed.

In Mehedinți County, in Strehaia, where there was a tradition of non-ferrous metal processing, there was a factory of copper pipes and boilers, where the workforce came almost entirely from the ranks of local craftsmen, who continued their specialization at work (ADR S-V Oltenia:2024).

In Vâlcea County, the most important railway investment aimed at connecting Gorj and Vâlcea counties by rail, which in addition to the industrial purpose, also had a strategic and even tourist purpose.

The destruction of the patrimony of the former General Union of Trade Unions in Romania (UGSR) has caused a large part of Oltenia's tourist infrastructure to be destroyed. In Vâlcea County, the project of one of the largest ski slopes in Romania and that of the largest mountain resort was destroyed.

Conclusions

The transition in Oltenia, in conclusion, from a historiographical point of view, starts from two levels. The first was the sentimental one, that is, an attempt was made to return to the orientation related to the interwar period, although, as I said in this article, in the post-war period, Oltenia kept in touch with the West against the background of the reorientation of the Romanian industry towards the West, after 1964.

The second plan was the economic one itself. The target assumed timidly, then after 1996, more and more decisive and decisive since 2000, was Romania's integration into the EU. Oltenia had to position itself economically on this trajectory and it succeeded. That is, the factories of airplanes, automobiles, tractors-agricultural machinery, garments have managed, in one form or another, to remain standing and to help the horizontal development of Craiova's industry as an essential engine of Oltenia.

Therefore, by combining the two plans, Oltenia managed to win the race for an efficient transition to the European Union and to the market economy.

Oltenia has made the transition from a region with a centralized, communist-type economy to a market economy and a capitalist approach, becoming from the point of view of the management of the European pre-accession and post-accession funds, the South-West Oltenia Region includes on its territory 40 cities (12.5% of all Romanian cities). 11 cities having the status of municipality. The rural area contains 408 communes consisting of 2070 villages (of which 121 villages belong to cities or municipalities).

In terms of population, the main cities of Oltenia are: Craiova (300,182 inhabitants), Râmnicu-Vâlcea (111,701 inhabitants), Drobeta Turnu-Severin (109,444 inhabitants), Târgu Jiu (96,318 inhabitants) and Slatina (80,282 inhabitants). In Oltenia, several urban localities have a population between 10/20,000 inhabitants and 50,000 inhabitants: Strehaia, Vânu Mare, Orșova, Baia de Aramă, Turceni, Rovinari, Târgu Cărbunești, Tismana, Bumbești-Jiu, Țicleni, Novaci, Motru, Segarcea, Filiași Dăbuleni, Băilești, Calafat, Bechet, Caracal, Scornicești, Drăgănești-Olt, Balș, Potcoava, Piatra Olt, Corabia, Horezu, Berbești-Alunu, Govora, Bălcești, Drăgășani, Băbeni, Olănești, Ocele Mari, Brezoi, Călimănești.

In the South-West Oltenia Region, there were a total of 2,225,108 inhabitants, of which 1,068,281 lived in urban areas and 1,156, 827 in rural areas, which indicated the slight preponderance of living in rural areas (52%) compared to urban areas (48%)².

Craiova is today a national pole of growth, from its metropolitan area that includes a radial stretch of about 45 km, being part of a number of 24 localities. 47% of the population of Oltenia works in the field of agriculture. In the industrial field, the energy and raw materials industry predominates in Oltenia, followed by the automotive industry, car components, agricultural machinery, locomotive construction, locomotive repair. A remarkable role is played by services, tourism and commercial activities. Industrial areas considered to have high added value are poorly represented in the South-West Oltenia region³.

The Oltenia region includes three state universities in Craiova (UCV and UMF) and Târgu Jiu and several sections of state or private universities. Universities contribute in particular technologically to integrated regional development.

References:

- Avram, C.& Radu,R. (2011). *Politica socială românească între tranziție, reformă și criză*, 2011, Craiova:Aius Press.
- Bari, I. (1997). *World economics, L economie mondiale. Economia Mondială*, 1997 Bucharest: EDP.
- Ceană, M. (2024). *Structura Ocupațională a Populației Din Regiunea Sud-Vest Oltenia În Procesul Integrării În Piața Forței De Muncă*, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2631529, accessed on May 22, 2024.
- Constantinescu, N. (1997). *Probleme ale tranziției la economia de piață în România. Studii I.*, 1997, Bucharest: “România de Măine” Foundation Press.
- Grozoiu, M.(2016.) *Modelul economiei de piață din România, după căderea comunismului. Arhivele Olteniei*. 30. 2016, 187-202.
- Marcu, N. (1979). *Istoria economică*, 1979, Bucharest: EDP.
- Murgescu, B. (2001). *Istoria României în texte*, 2001, Bucharest: Corint Press, 2001.
- Nacu, F. (2020), *Ideologii și proiecte politice în Oltenia (1920-1989)Aspecte istoriografice regionale, naționale și europene. Journal of Romanian Literary Studies*. 20/2020. 1428-1435.

² http://www.mdrl.ro/_documente/regiuni/4.SW_ro.pdf, accessed on May 30, 2024.

³ *Ibidem*, p.43.

- Pavelescu, F. (2024). *Dinamica macroeconomică a României în cursul celor două tranziții la economia de piață. Studii de Istorie Economică și Istoria Gândirii*, 2024.
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/369369948_Dinamica_macroekonomica_a_Romaniei_in_cursul_celor_doua_tranzitii_la_economia_de_piata_publicat_in_Studii_de_Istorie_Economica_si_Istoria_Gandirii, accessed on May 12, 2024.
- Radu, R.(2012), *Organizarea și funcționarea sistemului de pensii publice, conform legii nr. 263/2010. privire comparativă cu reglementările anterioare. Arhivele Olteniei*. 26, 2012. 497-516.
- Staicu, G. (2012), *De la plan la piață sau despre durerile facerii, în Cosmin Marinescu (coord.), Capitalismul. Logica Libertății*, 2012. Bucharest: Humanitas Press.
- ADR S-V Oltenia (2024). *Planul Regional de Dezvoltare al Regiunii S- V Oltenia (2014-2020)*, 2014. <http://www.adroltenia.ro/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/PDR-SV-Oltenia-2014-2020-1.pdf>, accessed on May 31, 2024.
- MDRL (2000). *Regiunea S-V Oltenia*.
http://www.mdrl.ro/_documente/regiuni/4.SW_ro.pdf, accessed on May 30, 2024
- RRA (2024). *Structuri administrative în istoria României (1920-1968.)*
http://www.romaniaactualitati.ro/structuri_administrative_in_istoria_romaniei_1920_1968-39973, accessed on April 12, 2024.
- KPMG (2017): *Evoluția bunăstării în România 1990-2014*.<https://kpmg.com/ro/ro/home/presa/comunicate-presa/2017/01/evolutia-bunastarii-romania-1990-2014.html>, accessed on April 22, 2024.

Article Info

Received: March 27 2026

Accepted: August 20 2026

How to cite this article:

Nacu, F. (2026). Oltenia - the image of a post-communist evolution. *Revista de Științe Politice. Revue des Sciences Politiques*, no. 91, pp. 192-201.