

THE MYTH OF THE SAVING HERO - GENERAL ALEXANDRU AVERESCU" CASE

(SUMMARY)

In this study the author intends to show the way in which general Alexandru Averescu was perceived by the Army, then by the Romanian public opinion between the years 1917 and 1921, the way in which, due to some military victories, he suffered a process of transfiguration, taking successively the shape of the military hero, of the man of peace, of the providencial leader, of the reformer.

Alexandru Averescu represents the typical case of a saving hero. His myth appeared on the background of a protesting state, of a legitimacy crisis specific to Romania after World War I. "The Averescu phenomenon" appeared and extended only in Old Romania, it didn't ever really entre the regions over the mountains. "The Averescian religion" had its followers among peasants. It didn't have the adhesion of the young intellectuals and of the students.

General Alexandru Averescu's myth belongs to the type of the providential character, of the saving hero, a positive and exemplary character by definition. General Averescu imposed himself on the people at a spiritual and emotional level and identified himself even for a short time, with the collective destiny of Romanians.