

## ABSTRACT

### 450 years – religious freedom and unitarianism

#### **AXINCIUC, Madeea: The Freedom of Conscience – the Freedom of Religion**

3

Taking its cue from the Resolution on Religion by the Diet of Torda, the study offers a philosophical analysis of religious freedom. Interpreting the text of the Resolution, the author seeks to reveal its theological, philosophical, and socio-political ramifications. Not only does she place the freedom of conscience declared first in Transylvania 450 years ago leading to the establishment of the only Transylvania founded Church in its historical context but also in that of the philosophy of religion.

#### **SZABÓ, Gyula: The Threat of Final Destruction (extracts)**

##### **With notes by Tamás Gusztáv Filep**

16

In the early 1970s, Gyula Szabó (1930–2004), one of the most important Hungarian novelists in Transylvania, began to write his massive novel, ‘historical report’, stream of essays, and textual montage, on the fall of the Transylvanian Principality beginning with György II Rákóczi’s Polish campaigns. Its first four volumes were published by Kriterion between 1978 and 1981. The fifth volume was suppressed by censorship, and came out only in 2002. The literary remains of the writer included the four thick files of its sequel and its prelude, ‘the special historical report’ on the bloody ten years from the mid-1590s to up to the uprising led by István Bocskai, which interlaces the sources of the period with commentary. From the monumental opus (consisting of 1656 type-written pages) with the working title *Balassi and Bocskay*, the extracts chosen for publication here are from the part entitled *The Threat of Final Destruction* about the only Unitarian prince of Transylvania, Mózes Székely, who ruled for a few months in the course of a campaign that ended in a bloody battle near Brassó [Brasov].

#### **JÁNOSI, Csongor: The Ideal Agent in Kolozsvár in 1950s and 1960s.**

##### **‘János [John] Jordáky’ in the Mirror of Secret Service Papers**

44

It is not with daily offenders in mind that the researcher enters the archives of the secret services of the communist regimes. Investigations on individuals are generally about the conduct of the political, clerical, and intellectual elites, and the levels of possible dissidence. Starting out from the materials of renowned/notorious figures, usual enquiries often lead to lesser known, *faceless* persons, those that provided substantial intelligence to secret service

organs. Students of the period are generally satisfied by revealing the name of an insignificant informer, and will not dig deeper, as the job of the ordinary person – factory worker, public service administrator, etc. – hardly provides any ground for further investigation, and will not lead to any story to tell. How do we nonetheless bump into the traces of these ‘faceless’ figures that provided such ‘useful’ services to their hirers?

When studying the various cases, especially within one locality, a person that was not regarded to have any significance may turn out to be central. The secret services materials of such a person suddenly coming into the forefront of research may help to outline his or her ‘faceless’ conspiratorial life, but such a life story cannot be concluded on these basis, as it itself often ends in mysterious circumstances. The mystery is increased by oral history and its methods of interviewing relations and acquaintances, which raise further questions, though do assist in establishing certain details, more gentle characteristics, and the time of the deceasing of the ‘anonymous’ person. The doubts of the researcher concerning the truth value of the secret services sources and the life story outlined along the lines of *Evil* however fail to be really dispelled.

This very story differs from the rest right at the outset; its heroine was a mother of three, and, as a result of her family background (her husband, a former teacher at the Unitarian gymnasium, had been executed after the war) and her gymnasium education (which was regarded as higher than the average at the time), she was able to be in touch with all layers of Kolozsvár [Cluj] society (clerics, aristocrats, intellectuals, speculators, and foreigners). She had begun to cooperate first with the Special Information Service (Serviciul Special de Informații, SSI) in 1947, then the Department of State Security (Departamentul Securității Statului), commonly referred to as Securitate, and went on to be rotated around the various departments of the services as needed.

The none-too mundane story was reconstructed on the basis of the various materials in the Archives of the Committee for Investigating the Securitate Papers, the personal (network and intelligence) files of Emma Ferenczi, and the life interviews with her sons, Sándor and András Ferenczi, émigrés to France, conducted in Mulhouse between 26 and 28 November 2016.

## The treaty of Trianon in memoirs and literature

### **ABLONCZY, Balázs: Just Get Out of Transylvania: The Motifs of Leaving and Remaining in Transylvania after 1918**

77

Following the post-World War I fall, revolutions, occupation of large areas of the Kingdom of Hungary by foreign countries, and the Treaty of Trianon, hundreds of thousands of Hungarians took to the roads to settle in what re-

mained of Hungary. Though we have no statistically established data to date, the number of this mass of people can be estimated to be between the official data (350 thousand), historians' estimates (420–425 thousand), and the publicly circulated numbers (500 thousand). Statistical data however cannot represent the fates of individuals, their decisions, and, most of all, the motives behind them.

The study seeks to show the motives of leavers and remainers. How did they justify their decisions to themselves and to their hopeful readers? How did they relate to those that decided otherwise? What did they deem worthy of comment in their new homeland?

**VALLASEK, Júlia: Can the T Syndrome be Cured? The Figural Variations of the Treaty of Trianon in Contemporary Hungarian Fiction** 100

It is characteristic of fiction to be able to shape our collective knowledge of the past, and to create an image of the past that is capable of enduring and thus embodying the past for generations without direct experience of it. The study seeks to show the memory of the regime changes following World War I and other notions related to the Treaty of Trianon in contemporary (i.e. post-2000) Hungarian fiction. The novels of Barbara Bauer, Zsuzsa Selyem, Magda Szabó, Andrea Tompa, János Térey, and Gábor Vida treat the subject matter from different angles, accord it with different significance, yet use a language for it that fits organically into their individual oeuvres.

**REVIEW**

**KÁNTOR, Zoltán: From human rights to minority rights**

Anna-Mária Bíró – Katrina Lantos Swett (eds.): *The Noble Banner of Human Rights: Essays in Memory of Tom Lantos*. Leiden, Boston: Brill Nijhoff, 2018

131

*Editorial:* HU 1055 Budapest, Falk Miksa u. 6.  
*Phone:* +36-1-445-0473, *fax:* +36-1-445-0479  
*Internet:* [www.prominoritate.hu](http://www.prominoritate.hu)  
*E-mail:* [redactio@prominoritate.hu](mailto:redactio@prominoritate.hu)