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Ana-Cristina Halichias. *Glosar de termeni românești din documente latino-române secolele al XIII-lea – al XVI-lea*. Bucharest: University of Bucharest Publishing House, 2010, 94 pp

Ana-Cristina Halichias. *Studia medievalia*. Bucharest: University of Bucharest Publishing House, 2010, 149 pp

We enthusiastically welcome the publishing of three important works of Professor Ana-Cristina Halichias in the field of Medieval Latin and Neo-Latin, at the University of Bucharest Publishing House, 2010: *Glosar de termeni românești din documente latino-române secolele al XIII-lea – al XVI-lea*, *Studia medievalia* and *Medievalia et neolatina*. Not only will the scholar interested in the evolution of the Romanian language from its origin to its written form rejoice in the use of such an adequate and valuable auxiliary as *Glosarul de termeni românești din documente latino-române secolele al XIII-lea – al XVI-lea*, but he/ she will also benefit from the introductory studies into Medieval Latin Philology, in order to grasp concepts such as *Middle Latin*, *Neo-Latin* and *Court Latin*. Moreover, the scholar will get acquainted with the issues concerning the effort of editing and translating diplomatic documents, recognizing the linguistic features of Court Latin from the Romanian Lands, as results from the theoretical treaty *Studia medievalia* or from the more concrete study *Medievalia et neolatina*, which, in its turn, resumes the theoretical discussion started in *Studia medievalia*, exemplifying the features of Medieval and Neo-Latin having carefully, with the rigourousity of a Classical philologist, selected Medieval texts as starting point. Such texts include documents issued by the Courts of Romanian Rulers (XV and XVI centuries), the travel notes of a Catholic priest (XVII century), a seventeenth century elegiac couplet or the chronicle of a nineteenth century Greek-Catholic Ukrainian priest who discusses Romanians' Romanness. In what follows, we shall tackle the first two works not yet presented.



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Glosarul de termeni românești din documente latino-române secolele al XIII-lea – al XVI-lea is comprised of 204 words (common nouns, anthroponyms and toponyms) along with their various derivatives that prove once again the well-articulated vocabulary of the Romanian language before the year 1521. The dictionary is based on a sample of Latin diplomatic documents issued by the Courts of the three Romanian Lands, chosen from various sets of familiar and ordinary sources. The author's conclusion is that the year 1600 represents a *terminus ad quem* after which the texts written in Romanian become ever more numerous. Furthermore, the glossary also contains a number of Transylvanian toponyms extracted from Hungarian-Latin documents already featuring *Dicționarul istoric al localităților din Transilvania*, put together by Coriolan Suciu. The method of research modelled after G. Mihăilă in his *Dicționar al limbii române vechi*, but also after the authors of *Dicționarul elementelor românești din documentele slavo-române*, allowed the author to emphasize the similarities between Slavonic-Romanian and Latin documents regarding the existence of Romanian elements, as well as examine the chronologies of documentary assessments and make adequate adjustments where the Latin sources offered examples from a period preceeding that comprised by the Slavonic-Romanian texts. Apart from the introductory study and the list of words, the glossary also contains two appendices: the first one represents a list of syntagms and Romanian expressions loan-translated from Latin and the second one is made up of the Latin documents duplicated either in full or in part, featuring only the excerpts related to the present glossary. The duplicated documents are issued by the three Romanian Lands and are relevant in that they offer a complex picture of local specificities. Each of the duplicated documents is followed by a short summary of its content and an indication of the cited sources. The work is significant not only for the description of the terms (typology, formation and the semantic categories they belong to, types of toponyms and anthroponyms, origin), but also for the chronology of assessments regarding the year in which the word and its meaning were attested in the Romanian language and for the simultaneous presentation of the first attestation of every term in Latin and Romanian, which could bring about a true linguistic and historical revolution.

Studia medievalia is designed to be an introductory, theoretical collection meant to serve as precious guide for the scholar that takes the path of Medieval Studies. The structure of the opuscle is rather a didactical one and, after a brief insight into the historical background of the philological study of Middle-Latin and Neo-Latin (*Scurtă istorie a filologiei medio- și neolatine - Short History of Middle and Neo-Latin*), it tackles the issues regarding the definition of Medieval Latin, Neo-Latin and Diplomatic Latin terms (*Latina medievală, neolatina și latina diplomatică - Medieval Latin, Neo-Latin and Diplomatic Latin*) in the first part of the study. Each of these concepts and periods is also followed by a short characterization in terms of specific phonetical, ortographical, morphological, syntactic and lexical transformations. The second part of the work (*Limba și cultura latină în Țările Române - secolele XI-XVI - Latin Language and Culture in the Romanian Lands – XI and XVI Centuries*) proposes a confinement of the document to the particularities of the Latin language and culture in the Romanian Lands. The third part (*Despre necesitatea editării critice a documentelor diplomatice mediolatine – On the Necessity of the Critical Editing of Middle Latin Diplomatic Documents*) reveals the issue of the necessity of the critical editing of medieval diplomatic documents), while the last part (*Traducerea documentelor latine de cancelarie între lingvistică, paleografie și istorie - The Translation*

of Court Latin Documents – Between Linguistics, Paleography and History) refers to the difficulties and complex effort employed in the translation of Court Latin documents, an endeavour that marks the threshold between Linguistics, Paleography and History. The work contains an appendix that comprises medieval texts presented in Latin and translated by the author herself, as well as a chapter dedicated to the bibliographical acronyms and abbreviations.

The two publications of Professor Ana-Cristina Halchias are reference points in the Romanian and international sphere, depicting a promising undertaking meant to encourage the study of Medieval Latin Philology, long-time isolated in the larger field of Philology. The readership addressed is a large one, from students to researchers who wish to specialize in the field of Romanian language, of old Romanian history and culture, of Middle Latin etc.

