The Danubian Latinity in the First Christian Millennium

Cosmin CĂPRIOARĂ Ovidius University of Constanța

Abstract: The conquest of the Lower Danube area (Illyria, Moesia and Dacia) by the Romans in the first centuries before and after Christ opened the way to local populations' romanization. In the second half of the first millennium, the Romanian language appears, as do the other Romance languages. The substratum (Thraco-Dacian) and Danubian Latin, a more rustic branch of Vulgar Latin, impregnated with Christian terms, fundamentally contributed to the appearance of the new Romance idiom. Previously and subsequently, many large waves of migrants passed through Dacia and the north of the Balkan peninsula, but, obviously, only the Slavic and Turkic peoples had an important linguistic impact. This article offers a short overview of the history of the Romanian language before the year 1000 AD, including the legacy of the substratum and the most important influences of the peoples with which our language entered into contact during this period.

Keywords: *History of the Romanian language, Danubian Latinity, Christian Latin, Thracian-Dacian, romanization, common Romanian, influences.*