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The Political Organisation of the Peasantry in Communist Romania: the Ploughmen's Front (1945–1953)

(Abstract)

This article comes to fill a period from the Romanian history that remained not enough explained: the process of communization and the role played by the comrade of the Communist Party. The Ploughmen's Front represented the strongest and the oldest comrade of the Communist Party from Romania. The main task of Ploughmen's Front was to implement the Communist ideology in the countryside, facilitating the process of communization of the Romanian villages, where the Communists were extremely unpopular. The article focuses on the structures of the ploughmen's organization, and especially the manner in which the Ploughmen's Front was involved in the communization of the Romanian countryside. The research work is based on unpublished archival documents exploit, as well as on the assessment of Romanian and foreign historiography and on the propaganda materials used by the Ploughmen's Front. In 1949–1953 the Ploughmen's Front had organizations in almost all the villages and communes of Romania and its main task was to spread the ideas of the Communist party among peasants, to translate them the party thesis imposed by the communists, especially those regarding the socialist transformation, the importance of the party in the peasant life and modernization of the village, etc.