THE QUESTION OF ROMANIAN UNION AND ALEXANDRU IOAN CUZA’S VISIT TO ISTANBUL

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Abstract

This study examining the process of Wallachian and Moldavian unification under one single ruler, which had previously remained under the authority of the Ottoman State for many years, the developments starting from the Crimean War and lasting between 1853-1856 are analyzed. The 1856 Paris Peace Treaty, the subsequent diplomatic relations and the elections in parallel with these relations led to the unification of Wallachia and Moldavia. The enthronement of Alexandru Ioan Cuza, the first voivode of the united principalities, his visit to the Ottoman capital afterwards in 1860 and the short-term outcomes of this visit represent the theme of this study.

Keywords: Ottoman State, Wallachia, Moldavia, Romania, Alexandru Ioan Cuza

Introduction

Wallachia and Moldavia, which had been under the rule of the Ottoman State for centuries, gained their independence through an almost rapid process after the second half of the XIX century. Following the Crimean War between 1853-1856 and Paris Treaty, which was subsequently signed on 30 March 1856, Wallachia and Moldavia united under a single governance for the first time and gained its independence with the Ottoman-Russian war between 1877-1878. Considering from that aspect, as a result of the political developments in Europe and the Ottoman-Russian conflict, the independent Romania could be established with the Berlin Treaty on 13 July 1878. However, this comment should not suggest that people and rulers of the region did not follow a pro-independence policy; because various movements and groups aiming at independence were active in the period until 1878 in Romania, especially in Bucharest and Iași.

As mentioned above, the first step in the independence process of the Wallachian and Moldavian beylicates, which were affiliated to the Ottoman State with a special status, started with the unification of two beylicates and their governance under one single administration. This could only be possible within the process after the Paris Treaty. Although many governments were established within the process lasting from the unification until the independence, the country was ruled by two figures, namely Alexandru Ioan Cuza and Karl

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Friedrich Hohenzollern – Sigmaringen. These two figures probably had a special place in the Romanian history. Cuza can be defined as the leader unifying Wallachia and Moldavia, and Prince Carol as the leader enabling Romania to gain its independence.

This study will examine the election of Alexandru Ioan Cuza as the voivode and the following developments, together with Cuza’s visit to Istanbul in the autumn of 1860.

1. 1853 – 1856 Crimean War and the Question of Unification of Wallachia and Moldavia

Although the Crimean War, which started between the Ottoman State and Russia in 1853 and ended in 1856, seemed to arise apparently from a conflict called The Question of Holy Places, it turned into a war in which the great powers of Europe intervened.

With the outbreak of war, Wallachia and Moldavia went under Russian occupation. The Russian army, which started action under the command of Prince Gorçakov on 3 July 1853, passed over the Prut River and occupied Moldavia, and positioned a Russian force of 50,000 strength in Wallachia and Moldavia within a short period. The voivodes in charge in both beylicates had to leave their country. On 4 October 1853, the Ottoman State declared war on Russia officially and military struggles started soon.

This time, the Ottoman State was not alone in its fight against Russia. Britain and France, which were against Russia from the very beginning of war, decided to make an alliance with the Ottoman State on 12 March 1854. These two states declared war on Russia on 28 March 1854. On 14 June 1854, a treaty was signed between Austria and the Ottoman State. Through this treaty, it was decided that the Russian soldiers in Wallachia and Moldavia would be taken out of those territories and Austria would later establish a transitional administration in the region until the end of the war. The last state to participate in this alliance in Europe against Russia was Piedmont. Another alliance was also established between the Ottoman State and Piedmont on 15th March 1855. With these treaties, the Ottoman State escaped being alone in the face of Russia, gained two important allies such as Britain and France, and took the indirect support of Austria. However, this war came to a more significant place in the whole of Europe as of 1854.

Eventually, Russia, in the aftermath of military struggles, could not obtain a success in the face of this alliance, and the peace initiatives as of the end of 1855 ended with the Congress of Paris. Congress of Paris started its studies officially in the building of French Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the participation of the Ottoman State, England, France, Russia, Austria, Prussia and Piedmont on 25 February 1856. During these negotiations, France insisted on the unification of Wallachia and Moldavia. The Ottoman State objected this idea, stating that Wallachia and Moldavia were separately governed for a long period and they had different cultures and traditions, and that Russia raised a serious threat. At the end of the negotiations, although France, Piedmont and Russia voted for the unification of Wallachia and Moldavia, this decision could not be made due to the opposition of the Ottoman State and Austria.

Thanks to the Paris Treaty signed on 30 March 1856, the Russian threat in Wallachia and Moldavia ended for that time being. Through this treaty (Articles 20-27), European states became the guarantors of these two beylicates that were subject territories of the Ottoman State, and the continuation and revision of the autonomous structures and privileges of Wallachia and Moldavia were determined. Accordingly, it was decided that one council should be established for each beylicate.

The Austrian military units replacing the Russian soldiers who had withdrawn from Wallachia and Moldavia following the treaty signed approximately 10 months after the onset of the Crimean War started to evacuate the region subsequent to the signing of Paris Treaty; however, the cleaning of Wallachia and Moldavia from foreign soldiers could only be possible in March 1857.

In September 1856, the representatives of European states came to Istanbul for the question of Wallachia and Moldavia. The participants in these negotiations were Talleyrand Prigor for France, Henry Bulwer for Britain, M. Basili for Russia, Baron Richthofen for Prussia and
M. Benzi for Piedmont. In this commission, the report on Memleketeyn [Twin Domains of Wallachia and Moldavia] was discussed, which was prepared by Thouvenel, French ambassador to Istanbul, and it was decided that laws in both beylicates should be rearranged. This decision, which was approved by the Ottoman padishah in January 1857, was communicated to Bucharest and Iaşi through a firman. The commission, which ended its studies in Istanbul, moved to Bucharest, and it continued studying until the spring of 1858.

In addition to the developments in Istanbul, this issue was also discussed among the states in Paris and a protocol of 30 articles on Memleketeyn was signed between the Ottoman State and the European states on 11 February 1857. Although this protocol confirmed the rights of the Ottoman State on Wallachia and Moldavia and the special status of these two beylicates, it adopted their separate governance. This protocol, which determined the principles for the voivode election, also included judicial and financial issues.

2. The Invalidated Elections of 1857 and the Agreement of 19 August 1858

Within a one-year period after the signing of Paris Treaty ending the Crimean War, the issue of Wallachia and Moldavia constituted one of the significant items of the diplomatic agenda. As a result of the negotiations, elections could be made in June 1857. Those opposing the unification won the elections in Moldavia. However, this result led to many discussions.

France, Russia, Prussia and Piedmont objected this decision, claiming that those agreeing for unification were not included in the elections through the false lists prepared by the kaimakam of Moldavia, and thus, the Ottoman State, together with Austria, worked for such an outcome. The Sublime Porte, in return, defended that the elections were held properly.

Especially as a result of the pressure of France, the Ottoman State had to decide for the renewal of the elections. Despite all its objections, the Ottoman State could not resist the pressure of the mentioned states any longer and sent a telegraph to the office of the Moldavian kaimakam on 24 August 1857, stating that the Sublime Porte agreed with the signatory states of Paris Treaty on the renewal of the Moldavian elections and ordered that necessary measures be completed for it.

In the end, elections were re-held in Moldavia on 19 September 1857 and Wallachia on 26 September 1857. As a result of these elections, a great majority of the council membership was won by the unionists.

Through a motion proposed by Mihail Kogalniceanu on 7 October 1857 in the Moldavian council, which convened after the elections, it was decided that Wallachia and Moldavia be united under the name of “Romania”, a member of the European dynasty be appointed as its ruler and the sultanic rule be established. The same motion was proposed in the Wallachian council on 8 October 1857 and adopted after voting.

The Ottoman State reacted very strongly to this decision of Wallachian and Moldavian councils. Upon this initiative, which was evaluated as contrary to the resolutions of the Paris Treaty and the convening aim of the council, the Sublime Porte decided for the closure of the Wallachian and Moldavian councils. Based on Articles 23 and 24 of the Paris Treaty, the written order given to the Moldavian and Wallachian kaimakams on the mentioned date stated that there was no more need for the Moldavian and Wallachian councils, which had been set up in order to represent the demands of people in Memleketeyn and help the European Commission. The written order also required that those councils should be closed and the kaimakams follow the necessary procedures for it. The firman ordering the closure of the councils reached to Bucharest and Iași at the end of January 1858. Being translated, the firman was reported to the metropolitan bishops, monasteries and assemblies through the Wallachian and Moldavian kaimakams. After the declaration of the decision, neither in Wallachia nor in Moldavia was experienced a negative incident.

In this period, the commission that consisted of European official representatives in Bucharest also completed its studies and prepared its final report on 3 April 1858. Thereupon, the representatives of European states came together in
Paris and agreed upon a written agreement on 19 August 1858 as a result of the negotiations. In this text composed of 50 articles, the name of Wallachia and Moldavia was defined as “Eflak ve Boğdan Emâreteyn-i Müctemiası” [United Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia]; their previous status and rights together with their liabilities to the Ottoman State were reiterated, and detailed decisions were taken on issues such as the position of a voivode, and the duties and authority of the assemblies to be formed.

With this written agreement of 50 articles, Memleketeyn territories continued to be ruled under the Ottoman State; however, these two beylicates were almost restructured. This historical document, in which the names of the beylicates were even changed, established a new structure in Wallachia and Moldavia, consisting of voivode, assembly and the central commission. Although the concessions and exemptions, which were previously granted to Wallachia and Moldavia by the Ottoman padishahs centuries ago, were accepted once again, this written agreement can be said to have given the mentioned beylicates the chance to move more freely.

As of the mentioned date, it is hard to say that there was left a clear and continuous relation between the Ottoman State and beylicates, except for the article stipulating for the payment of annual taxes. Although it was decided that beylicates should be governed by separate voivodes and assemblies, a process of institutional unification was started. In any case, the developments in 1859 would lead to the ruling of Wallachia and Moldavia by a single ruler; because the decisions made and the order envisioned on 19 August 1858 would be soon violated and a significant step would be taken for an independent Romania.

3. The Election of Alexandru Ioan Cuza as Voivode

The padishah’s firman necessitating the fulfillment of required procedures after the signing of the written agreement dated 19 August 1858 was sent to Bucharest and Iaşi, and thus started the process for the election of a voivode.

The first initiative in the voivode election process came from Moldavia. As a result of the election made in the Moldavian Assembly on 17 January 1859, Alexandru Ioan Cuza was elected as voivode. On 5 February 1859, the Wallachian Assembly signed the same resolution. This development was quite an unexpected one for the Ottoman State. The news that the election was first made in Moldavia and that Cuza was elected as the voivode came to the Sublime Porte. Thereupon, it was decided that the eligibility of Cuza as a voivode should be examined. However, before the completion of this process, the news of the resolution by the Wallachian Assembly reached Istanbul. Ahmed Cevdet Pasha, one of the important statesmen of that period, expressed that the Ottoman government expected totally different figures to be elected as voivode and the election of Cuza as the voivode was quite a surprise. However, Ahmed Cevdet Pasha further stated, while the astonishment caused by the news still persisted, the information that the same person was also elected as the Wallachian voivode reached Istanbul.

Although the Ottoman State opposed those voivode elections and asserted that they were in violation of the treaties, France recognized Cuza as the common voivode of Wallachia and Moldavia on 10 February 1859. Britain claimed that those elections were against the existing treaties and took the side of the Ottoman State. Still, it would not persist much in its decision. When the calendar showed April 1859, Cuza was recognized as the prince of Wallachia and Moldavia by all states except for the Ottoman State and Austria. In the end, the Ottoman State, which could not resist the policies of great powers any longer, had to recognize Cuza as the voivode through a firman it issued on 24 September 1859. The firman pertaining to the appointment of Cuza as the voivode was sent to Bucharest and Iaşi respectively.

The decree sent to Cuza stated that, being an exceptional case peculiar to his term, he was appointed as the voivode of the two beylicates upon the recommendations of European states. The decree also required that he should comply with the articles of the written agreement dated 19 August 1858, cooperate with the Ottoman government and adopt different governance attitudes in two beylicates.

Following a critical struggle, Wallachia and Moldavia were united under a single ruler in...
1859. Alexandru Ioan Cuza succeeded in making history as the first ruler of the united principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia. Cuza, who would continue his term until 1866, would make a visit to Istanbul one year after the Ottoman State accepted his appointment to that position and, bearing the title of prince of the united territory of Wallachia and Moldavia, he would meet with the Ottoman padishah.

4. Istanbul Visit of Alexandru Ioan Cuza and the Romanian Union

On the way of his journey towards Istanbul, Alexandru Ioan Cuza, bey of Wallachia and Moldavia, reached Galați along with his entourage, and was received there by an Ottoman delegation. The Sublime Port had certainly made necessary preparations for the visit of Cuza. Above all, preparations had been made for the ceremonies to be performed on Cuza’s arrival in Istanbul. According to the ceremonial program, Cuza would be met by a boat; he would be assigned an aide; he would be put up at the Mirgün Palace; an official from the palace along with the Minister of Foreign Affairs would pay a welcoming visit to Cuza; and the grand vizier’s office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would arrange a banquet in his honor. It was decided that Cuza would appear before the Sultan the day following his arrival in Istanbul. After the palace visit, Cuza would be taken to the Sublime Port; he would there be met with a military ceremony and visit the deputies; and as a last activity of the ceremonial program, he would be given another banquet.

After the ceremonial program was decided upon, what remained to be done was to assign an escort and a boat for Cuza’s arrival in Istanbul. First, it was decided that the steamboat “Beirut” would be sent to meet Cuza and his entourage in Galați. However, due to the few number of beds in “Beirut”, a second alternative – the steamboat “Khaireddin” – was proposed. But later, as a result of the correspondence with the Wallachian kapi kethudasi [army chamberlain], it was decided that Cuza and some of his entourage would be hosted in the Beirut steamboat, and other passengers would be transported by mail steamer. After Istanbul was informed that Cuza and his entourage drew near Galați, Kamil Bey, master of ceremonies in the Foreign Ministry, and his team were ordered to set out by the steamboat Beirut on 26 September 1980.

Having been received at the Port of Galați and brought to Istanbul with his 84-men entourage, Cuza Bey was put up at the Mirgün Palace; and Ali Effendi, one of the clerks of Imperial Treasury, escorted him. Following his arrival in Istanbul, Prince Cuza was taken to the palace on 09 October 1860 and visited the Ottoman Sultan Abdulmedjid. Sultan gave Prince Cuza a Medjidi Order and a golden-hafted sword as a gift. Following his visit to Sultan, Prince Cuza attended a banquet arranged in his honor at the residence of Grand Vizier Ali Pasha. On October 10th, Cuza made interviews at the residences of Naval Commander-in-Chief (Captain Pasha) and Minister of War. On October 12th, he attended the ceremony organized in his honor at the British Embassy. Having been invited to the Imperial Theater at Dolmabahçe Palace on October 13th, Prince Cuza attended the ceremonies organized at the French and Russian Embassies, respectively on October 15th and 16th. He visited the Sultan one more time on October 16th for an official good-bye and left Istanbul the following morning.

During this visit, Prince Cuza and his entourage of 35 men were presented the Medjidi Order of various grades. It was decided that the expenses of Prince Cuza during this visit would be covered by the Treasury. The expenses of the bey of Wallachia and Moldavia during his Istanbul visit were registered in a book: 279,030 kurush were spent in total.

Concerning Cuza’s visit to Istanbul and the Sultan, the renowned Romanian historian Nicolae Iorga emphasizes the high ranks of the authorities. According to Nicolae Iorga, although Prince Cuza regarded and treated the Turks in his country as foreigners, and he rejected to visit the Ottoman grand vizier traveling along the borders, he was met just like an independent prince in Istanbul.

The first important development in the aftermath of Cuza’s Istanbul visit was about the assemblies. In the diplomatic note he sent to the Ottoman State and other great states on May 01, 1861, the Romanian prince underlined...
the difficulty of working with two different assemblies and demanded the execution of a single assembly system. This request of Cuza was approved by the Sublime Port after nearly 7 months. In accordance with the official report of the Meclisi Vükelâ [Council of Ministers] issued on December 02, 1861, the assemblies of Wallachia and Moldavia were united temporarily. On the same date, the central commission in Focşani was decided to be dissolved during Cuza’s term of office as a voivode. On December 23, 1861, Prince Cuza issued a decree and officially declared that the unity was ensured and Romanian nation was established. Following the decision on the merger of the assemblies, a joint assembly was opened and started its activities on February 05, 1862 in Bucharest. Barbu Catargiu was assigned as the head of the first government established. Thenceforth, the term “United Principalities” was replaced with the term “Romania” in the domestic correspondence. Bucharest was declared as the capital of this union.

**Conclusion**

As a result of 1853-1856 Crimean War and the subsequent developments, the Wallachian and Moldavian beylicates made important progress on the way to unification, despite their dependency and tax liability towards the Ottoman State. After the contentious elections in 1857, Wallachia and Moldavia were united on paper with the agreement signed on August 19, 1858. However, this unification was formalized during the term of Alexandru Ioan Cuza, the first voivode of the united principalities. Elected as the voivode of Moldavia in 1859 and then of Wallachia, Colonel Cuza had his new status approved first by the Ottoman State in 1859. His visit to Istanbul in 1860 made an important contribution to the accomplishment of this unification process. Received and treated in a high-level manner by the state authorities, Cuza continued an old tradition adopted by the voivodes for a long time and showed his loyalty to the Ottoman State through his Istanbul visit, and he managed to achieve the unification of Romania by the decision of the Sublime Port the following year.

The opening of the joint assembly on February 05, 1862 in accordance with the decision of the Ottoman State on the unification of Wallachian and Moldavian assemblies in the late 1861 became the official foundation date of Romanian unity. For Romania, which gradually loosened its ties with the Ottoman State and accomplished the unification in the end, the full independence would only be possible during the 1877-1878 Ottoman-Russian War.

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B. **Journals**

- Cerîde-i Havâdis: No 1009; 1011.
- Takvim-i Vekâyi (T.V.): No 493; 506; 507; 552; 597; 600.

C. **Resources Studied**

- BAYKAL, Bekir Şitki; “Makamat-ı Müba-
APPENDIX 1. Election of Alexander Ioan Cuza as the Voivode of Moldavia (İ.HR.164/8778)

APPENDIX 2. Assigning the steamboat Beirut for Cuza, the Voivode of Moldavia and Wallachia (İ.HR.179/9848)

APPENDIX 3. Awarding the Voivode of Moldavia and Wallachia Alexander Ioan Cuza the Medjidi Order (A.)DVN.MHM. 31/34)


APPENDICES

NOTE

1 The Catholic-Orthodox conflict starting upon a ceremony in Beytüllahim in 1847 caused France and Russia to pressurize the Ottoman State after a short while. The Russian envoy Menshikov, who came to Istanbul in 1853 upon the rivalry between Russia and France concerning the protection of the Christians living within the boundaries of the Ottoman State, made some demands from the Sublime Porte; however, he left the country in May when these demands could not be fulfilled. Bekir Sıtkı Baykal, “Makamat-ı Mübareke Meselesi ve Babıâli” , Belleten, C.XXIII, Issue 90, p. 244-258. İsmail Hami Danişmend, İzahlı Osmanlı Tarihi Kronolojisi, Vol. 4, p. 142-143.

2 BOA. [Prime Ministry Ottoman Archives] İ. DH. 274/17189.

3 Osmanlı Belgelerinde Kırım Savaşı (1853-1856), p. 115-118. (HR.MKT.61/59_2)


5 Takvim-i Vekâyi (T.V.), No 493, The first day of Shawwal 1270/ 4 October, 1853, p. 1.


9 Danişmend, op.cit., Vol. 4, p. 164.

10 Fuat Andıç – Süphan Andıç, Kırım Savaşı, p. 66.


15 BOA. İ. HR. 134/ 6913; BOA. İ. HR. 135/ 6951; BOA. İ. HR. 135/ 6954; A. AMD. 72/ 94; 74/ 87.


17 BOA. İ. HR. 139/ 7288-1.


20 Karal, op.cit. Vol. II, p. 56. C.C. Giurescu states that those agreeing for unification of Wallachia and Moldavia were taken into custody by the office of Moldavian kaimakam before the elections, they were fired, most of the unification supporters were not recorded in electoral rolls and prevented from going to the polls and thus the results of the election were manipulated. C.C. Giurescu et al., Yüzyıllık Bağımsızlık, p. 158. Concerning the claims of fraudulence in Moldavian elections, Cevdet Pasha stated that Vogorides, the Moldavian kaimakam, lost some part of the document that was privately sent to him, other part was stolen, and Vogorides could not comprehend the significance of some documents, some state secrets were found out by foreign states, and therefore, France and Russia objected to the elections. Cevdet Paşa, Tezâkir, Vol. 13-20, p. 25. Iorga writes that kaimakam Vogorides influenced election results through threats, detention, administrative pressure and fake election rolls. Accor-
ding to the figures given by Yorga, 5 of 48 monastery abbots, only 29 of 3263 priests and only 28 of a few thousand land-owners were able to cast their vote. Iorga, ibid., Vol. 5, p. 416.


22 Karal, ibid., Vol. II, p. 58. At the second elections held in Moldavia, where there were controversies, 66 of the 72 council members were elected from the unionists. Iorga, ibid., Vol. 5, p. 419.

23 Giurescu et al., op.cit., p. 159. Türkgeldi states that the mentioned motion was adopted by 181 to 2 in Moldavian Council, and adopted unanimously in the Wallachian Council. Türkgeldi, op.cit., Vol. I, p. 192.

24 BOA. İ. HR. 151/80004.

25 BOA. İ. HR. 152/8035.

26 Iorga, op.cit., Vol. 5, p. 421.


28 In order to convey the mentioned firman, a delegation presided by Kâmil Bey, Master of Ceremonies in the Foreign Ministry, was sent to Bucharest, and another delegation presided by Afif Bey, Divân-ı Hümâyûn [Imperial Council] beylikci [Secretary of the Council of State], to Iaşi. BOA. İ. HR. 161/8588; 161/8598; 161/8610; 164/8786; 165/8848; 168/903; HR. MKT. 261/74; 262/61; 262/83; 274/63; 279/70; 291/75.


30 BOA. İ. HR. 164/8778.


33 BOA. İ. HR. 164/8809; A.)AMD. 90/62.

34 Iorga, op.cit., Vol. 5, p. 423.


36 Upon this decision, Colonel Sâmih Bey and Colonel Tâhir Bey were charged with going to Iaşi and Bucharest and were given a travel allowance of 15.000 kurush each. BOA. HR.MKT. 305/74. BOA. HR. KT.306/48.

37 BOA. HR. MKT. 311/6.

38 BOA. İ. HR. 179/9857.

39 BOA. İ. HR. 178/9805.

40 BOA. HR.MKT. 348/24.

41 In the related documents, assigning a steamboat to Prince Cuza was told in detail. Accordingly, as more than 40 officers and boyars were coming along with Cuza, the 9-bed Beirut steamboat was supposed to be inadequate. Thus, a larger steamboat was demanded from the office of Captain Pasha. However, as it was not possible for a larger boat to sail in the Black Sea, it was decided to send the Khaireddin steamboat together with the Beirut. BOA. İ. HR. 178/9830.

42 BOA. HR.MKT. 349/84.

43 BOA. İ. HR. 179/9848. For the news appearing on the journals on this issue, see: T.V., No: 597, 28 Rabi’al-Awal, 1277 / 14 October 1860, p. 1.

44 BOA. İ. HR. 183/10195.

45 BOA. İ. HR. 179/9867. Ceride-i Havâdis, No: 1009, 3 Rabi’Ath’ani 1277 / 19 October 1860, p.1. Iorga states that Sultan Abdulmedjid made a few steps to meet Cuza coming before him. Iorga, op.cit., Vol. 5, p. 244.

46 Ceride-i Havâdis, No: 1009, 3 Rabi’Ath’ani 1277/19 October 1860, p. 1.

47 BOA. A.) DVN. MHM. 31/34; HR.MKT. 352/76; Ceride-i Havâdis, No: 1011, 15 Rabi’Ath’ani 1277/31 October 1860, p. 1; T.V., No. 600, 14 Jamada al-Oulah 1277/28 November 1860, pp.1-2. As understood from the news covered by Ceride-i Havadis and Takvim-i Yakayi, of 35 men accompanying Prince Cuza in Istanbul, 8 were decorated with the Medjidi Order of 2nd grade, 4 were of 3rd grade, 11 were of 4th grade and 12 were of 5th grade.

48 BOA.HR.MKT. 375/10; A.) MKT.NZD. 324 /52.

49 BOA.İ.HR. 184/10234.

50 Iorga, op.cit., Vol. 5, p. 423.

51 Nurda Şafak, Bir Tanzimat Diplomatı Kostaki Musurus Paşa, p. 118.

52 BOA.İ.HR. 333/21409. The life of central commission functioning in Focşani was quite short. Decided to be established on 19 August 1858, the commission started its activities on 22 May 1859 and was dissolved on 02 December 1861. Giurescu (Ed.), op.cit., p. 194.


54 Constantin Giurescu (Ed.), Chronological History of Romania, p. 196.

55 Giurescu et al., op.cit., p. 169. Tuncer states that with the activation of the joint assembly the unity of Romania was declared, and there remained no official ties but the taxes between the Ottoman State and Romania. Hüner Tuncer, Doğu Sorunu ve Büyük Güçler (1853-1878), p. 81.

56 Giurescu (Ed.), op.cit., p. 197.