IULIU MANIU AND THE ROMANIAN LEGIONARY MOVEMENT

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Abstract: Iuliu Maniu is regarded as the principal upholder of democracy in interwar Romania. Yet in 1937 he entered into an electoral pact with Corneliu Zelea Codreanu, the leader of the fascist Legionary movement. This article explores links between Maniu, Codreanu and other members of the Legionary movement from the mid-1930s onwards as Maniu fought against dictatorial tendencies within Romania. Maniu sought to guide the legionaries in the direction of democracy and a pro-Western foreign policy which culminated in certain legionaries joining the National Peasant Party in 1944.

Keywords: Maniu; Legionary Movement; Fascism; Romania

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