

QUEEN MARIA IN WARSAW: FRAGMENTS FROM THE POLISH JOURNAL (JUNE 1923)

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Abstract: The shaping of the defensive Romanian-Polish alliance in March 1921 has made clear enough the geopolitics of the space neighboring Soviet Russia, while both states jointly obliged to mutual support in case of an unprovoked attack from the part of the Red Army. The collaboration between Warsaw and Bucharest was offering stability both to regional policies and to diplomatic strategies of the Western Great Powers, considering that the end of the First World War had eliminated almost all the previous bases of mutual trust and commitment. Besides the interior policy failures they were accused of in the Allied capitals, Romania and Poland were committed to a positive role of regional powers warranting the complex process resulting from the text of peace treaties from 1919- 1920, becoming indispensable dialogue partners both of the victors (France, Great Britain), and for the defeated (Germany, Hungary, Bulgaria, Soviet Russia).

Under these circumstances the two diplomacies have seen as necessary to act at all levels of representation, in order to institutionalize the image of an indestructible and very efficient alliance on one hand, and to ensure that the entire range of leading elites would address each other sufficiently colloquial when discussing issues which often were outside the area of internal or bilateral evolutions, on the other hand. The idea of top visits which has appeared in the fall of 1922 was an innovation in the general frame of the strategic partnership between Romania and Poland and the image impact of these travels was a major one, both in Warsaw and Bucharest environment and in regional, European ones. It is about a regional constant coordinate in case we accept an interpretation with the same clues, of the Romanian-Polish actions from the beginning of the 21st century, still found at the European institutional margin in similar “geopolitical times”: in this part of the world there is a tradition of warranties which must be reinforced by capabilities, by logistics, as the decision-makers in Warsaw have stated.

With no doubt, besides the grandeur and worldly nature of the show offered by one of the most popular European Royal family of the time - Ferdinand and Maria of Romania – the visit in Poland had very few actual objectives and the political discussions between Prime Ministers Ion I.C. Brătianu and Wincenty Witos were focused on a detailed analysis of the course of the alliance and on its future perspectives, rather than on stressing out some

special issues of the relations between the two states, or on the problematics of the entire region.

Keywords: Queen Maria of Romania, Romanian- Polish alliance, Warsaw, USSR, cordon sanitaire
