

THE BRITISH ECONOMIC INTERESTS IN ROMANIA IN THE PERIOD 1944-1946

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Abstract: After 1944, London's interest in regaining its economic positions in Romania became obvious. Even if there was still no question of consistent trade, London wanted to be better informed about Romania's economic capacity, about surplus goods that could be imported and about the needs that the English industry could cover. As a result, from the very beginning, an important number of specialists in economic matters were sent to Bucharest. Their mission was clear, namely to defend British property and to gather as much real information as possible in areas that were of direct interest to London, for instance in agriculture. Obviously, the British were mainly interested in the oil field, yet this topic requires separate research. The political events of 1945 paralyzed any initiative in the economic field. Obstacles were generated not only by the general context, but also by the attitude of the Soviets, who more than often stubbornly refused entry into Romania of British citizens who came here with economic missions. In the economic life of post-war Romania there was no place for Great Britain, an aspect that the Soviet Union had been trying to reiterate since the fall of 1944.

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