

# THE INFLUENCE OF THE ENGLISH CULTURE UPON THE WORK CULTURE IN THE THREE ROMANIAN PROVINCES IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

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**Abstract:** *The 19<sup>th</sup> century was determined by great historical changes in the south-east Europe. The French Revolution had its impact upon Romanian politics and stimulated the new intellectuals to draw reform projects, to make their demands known and debated on international level. The Romanians travelled abroad more and more and these contacts brought about economic, social and cultural changes and also gave birth to new intellectual elite that would fight in the European spirit for the formation of the Romanian nation. Thus the Romanians fought in the 1848 Revolution, they united the two principalities, Moldavia and Wallachia under the name of Romania, gained their Independence and started organizing their institutions according to European models.*

*The strong connections between France and the Romanians are only too well known, less is known about the influence England had upon them during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This influence manifested itself at political, economic, social, cultural, educational level. Romanian politicians, writers, diplomats, students started traveling to England in order to study their way of living, working, organizing the institutions and brought back new knowledge to enlighten those at home. They wrote their impressions in letters and articles and published them in newspapers, wrote short stories, travel journals in which they described what they saw with the aim to change life at home. This study presents the image of the English worker and way of working as seen by Ioan Codru-Dragusanu, Victor Ardeleanul, Gheorghe Barit, Vasile Alecsandri, Tereza Stratilescu and its influence upon the Romanians.*

**Keywords:** *work, culture, influence, model, 19<sup>th</sup> century*