

OLD MILITARY TERMINOLOGY AT THE TIME OF THE ROMANIAN PRINCIPALITIES IN ONOMASTICS¹

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Abstract

In the Romanian Principalities, there were many military units, institutions, military ranks and flags, both in the Middle Ages and in the modern era, some of them of Turkish, Phanariot or Polish, Russian inspiration, and very few of German inspiration, faithfully following the influence of these foreign powers.

Our study aims to present the military terms of these units, flags, institutions, military ranks and functions that influenced Romanian onomastics. The military terms selected in our study correspond to the geopolitical situation of the Romanian Principalities over time, each power in the region leaving a mark in the military organization. Some units, ranks, military structures in the Romanian Principalities are very old, they are a Daco-Roman heritage.

Key words: *military terms, feudalism, Modern Age, onomastics, Romanian Principalities*

Résumé

Dans les Pays Roumains (la Valachie, la Moldavie et la Transylvanie) ont existé de nombreuses unités militaires, institutions et de nombreux degrés et drapeaux, au Moyen Age aussi bien que dans la période moderne. Certains ont eu une inspiration turque, phanariote, certains d'autres une inspiration polonaise, d'autres une inspiration russe, très peu une inspiration allemande, en suivant fidèlement l'influence de ces puissances étrangères en termes de pouvoir politique dans les Pays Roumains et ensuite dans les Principautés Unies.

Notre étude s'occupe des termes militaires de ces unités, drapeaux, institutions, degrés et fonctions militaires qui ont laissé une influence dans l'onomastique roumaine, surtout qu'on pourra observer que les termes du domaines militaire choisi correspondent à la situation géopolitique des Pays Roumains à travers le temps, chacun de ces pouvoirs en laissant des influences dans l'organisation militaire. En outre, certaines unités, structures et certains degrés militaires des Pays Roumains sont très anciens, héritage daco-roumain, qui ont laissé, à leur tour, des traces dans l'onomastique roumaine.

Mots-clés: *termes militaires, Féodalisme, Epoque moderne, onomastique, Pays Roumains*

1. Introduction

Military terminology has not been studied in depth (for this reason we do not have a bibliography for the former military terminology), although it is important to observe the evolution of the Romanian language historically, socially and politically.

¹ This article is financially supported as a member of the target group in the project “*The teaching staff in public secondary and higher education – a promoter of lifelong leaning*” Contract POSDRU/174/1.3/S/149155

Our study tries to demonstrate the importance of military terms for Romanian onomastics. The economy of the study has forced us to make a selection, in alphabetical order, so as to point out the most important military terms that denote public institutions, units, ranks, services, military flags of the three Romanian Principalities in the Middle Ages and the Modern Age. We have analyzed the terms referring not only to the army in the Romanian Principalities, but also to the police, information or guard. Likewise, where the onomastic creations were numerous, we mentioned them every time, whether they were anthroponyms, or toponyms.

2. Military terms of Turkish origin

agă < Tk. *aga*, the term denoting a high official in Wallachia, a commander of *dorobanți*. He was the second military commander after the *spătar*, a military commander of the highest rank in Wallachia, a sort of general. With the 18th century, according to *Dicționarului instituțiilor feudale românești*², *aga* became the chief of police, also mentioned as *Vel-agă*³.

*alem-dar*⁴/ *alemdar* < Tk. *alem*, a term which designated the rank or function of standard bearer in the Turkish army.

arbănaș < Bg. *arbanaș*, a military term denoting the *arnăuți* (see below) of Albanian origin, as part of the troops of *lefegii*, as they were called, troops guarding the princes, especially during the Phanariot period. There have been preserved certain toponyms deriving from this military troop, such as the locality of *Arbănași*, an old oil exploitation in the village of Beceni, Buzău county.

arnăut < Tk. *arnaud*, a military term frequently used in the military history of the Romanian Principalities (Wallachia and Moldavia), which denoted a foreign mercenary, usually from the Balkans, from the suite of the prince or boyars. Later, in the modern period, they had the role of police. This police unit determined in the Romanian society such names as: *Arnăutu*⁵, with the derivative *Arnăuțoiu*.

*başbog*⁶ < Tk. *başbug*, a military term which denoted in Turkish a high rank commander, a great leader, tantamount to a general or army leader.

beşliu < Tk. *beşli*, an appellative designating a mercenary of Turkish or Tatar origin in the army of the Prince of Wallachia or Moldavia. This military name also gave rise to toponyms in the region of Wallachia, such as the name of the village of *Beşlii* in the commune of Mânzălești, Buzău county, the anthroponym *Beşliu*; a derivative *Beşleagă*, *baş-beşleagă*, from the Turkish *baş* which implied hierarchical superiority, translated as *great, the greatest* (the commander of *beşlii*⁷).

buluc < Tk. *bölük*, the name of a standard of a military unit in Moldavia, after the name of this military unit commander. In Turkish, the term referred to a military unit or draft of troops⁸.

² Constantinescu, Alexandru, Constantiniu, Florin, Georgescu, Valentin, Al., Lăzărescu, Dan, Amedeu, Sachelarie, Ovid, Stoicescu, Nicolae, Strihan, Petre, Şotropa, Valeriu, Voinea, Tudor, *Instituții feudale din Țările Române. Dicționar*, București, Editura Academiei Republicii Socialiste România, 1988.

³ Apud Iustina Burci, *Dicționar de meserii și funcții vechi*, Craiova, Editura Universitaria, 2009, p. 7.

⁴ Apud Dragoș Şesan, *Glosar de cuvinte rare și uitate*, București, Editura Universității din București, 2012, p. 84.

⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 110.

⁶ Apud Dragoș Şesan, *op. cit.*, p. 84.

⁷ Apud Iustina Burci, *op. cit.*, p. 15, p. 17.

⁸ Apud Dragoș Şesan, *op. cit.*, p. 84.

- bulucbaşa* < Tk. *bölük başi*, an appellative for the one commanding a *buluc* in Moldavia. The resonance of this military commander's name is Turkish.
- capugiu* < Tk. *kapuku*, lit. *kapiki*, a term referring to a sort of soldier watching the palace, with the role of guardian of the ruler's palace in the Romanian Principalities.
- carvasara*, a term of Turkish etymology, similar to *caravan serai*. But it denoted a militarized institution in the Romanian Principalities, supervising the customs, a kind of customs police, therefore likely to be included in the category of military units in the Middle Ages and the Modern Age in the Romanian Principalities.
- cerhaci*⁹ < Tk. *cerhaci*, a military term denoting a light vanguard unit.
- chihaie*, cf. DEX *chehaie* < Tk. *kehaya*, a term for a military rank, the appellative of a commander of a small military army in the Romanian Principalities. It is institutionally taken over from the Ottoman Empire.
- culchehaiesi*¹⁰ < Tk. *kulkehayasi*, a military term occurring in Moldavian documents, designating the administrators of the corps of janissaries.
- daglii*¹¹ < Tk. *dagli*, an appellative for the Turkish military troops specialized in fighting in the mountains (in contemporary language, they might be called mountain troops/corps).
- iuzbaşă*¹² < Tk. *iuzbasy*, designating the title of a Turkish officer of lesser rank, commanding 100 soldiers. In the Romanian Principalities, he was the commander of 100 people guarding the ruler's palace¹³.
- lefegiu* < from Tk. *ulüfeci*, a term designating any mercenary in the troops of the Romanian Principalities.
- lipcan* < Tk. *lipkan*, a military term referring to Tatar soldiers, mercenaries in particular, in the troops of the Romanian Principalities. The name comes from Lithuania. The term is mentioned for the first time in Moldavia¹⁴.
- levent* < Tk. *levent*, a military name with two meanings in Moldavia: either a soldier joining the army as a volunteer, or a cavalryman. The Turkish significance was that of soldier in the navy¹⁵.
- martalog* < Tk. *martaloz*, a term with two meanings: an appellative of certain mercenaries, and also a military unit of the armed guards during the reign of Constantin Brâncoveanu in Wallachia. This military specialization has Turkish origin, especially because in Turkish it comes from Greek, meaning a navigator of Christian origin, as well as a frontier guard¹⁶. DEX defines this term as "Christian soldier, a sailor in the Danube navy"¹⁷.
- miriliva*¹⁸ < Tk. *liva*, coming from *emir i livă*, a military term denoting the military

⁹ Apud Dragoş Şesan, *op. cit.*, p. 85.

¹⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 86.

¹¹ *Ibidem*, p. 86.

¹² Apud Dragoş Vlad Topală, *Elemente lexicale în opera lui Nicolae Bălcescu*, p. 65.

¹³ Apud, Iustina Burci, *op. cit.*, p.76.

¹⁴ *Ibidem*, p. 83.

¹⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 82.

¹⁶ Dumitru Carabaş, *Turkish Elements in the Anthroponymy of the Aromanians of Romania* in "Studii şi cercetări de Onomastică şi Lexicologie, (SCOL)," Anul VII, Nr. 1-2/2014, Craiova, Editura Sitech, 2014, p. 55.

¹⁷ See also Dragoş Vlad Topală, *op.cit.*, p. 66.

¹⁸ Apud Dragoş Şesan, *op. cit.*, p. 88.

commander of an Ottoman sanjak. The term *emir* has Arabian origin, since in this language it denoted the military king.

nefer < Tk. *nefer*, a name for an Ottoman mercenary who served in the troops of the Phanariot rulers in Moldavia and Wallachia. These mercenaries were part of the troops of *arnăuți* or *potera*¹⁹. The term also made reference to a troop in the Ottoman army. The *neferi* are mentioned in the lyrics of Eminescu: *Fug neferii cât ce pot...* 'The Turkish soldiers run away as fast as possible'.

odobașă (*odobaș*), a term denoting a military commander of lesser rank in the Romanian Principalities. He could be the commander of *seimeni*, *arnăuți* or *lipcani*²⁰. The name *odobaș* is inspired by the Ottoman army, after the particle *baș*.

ogeac, Tk. DEX *hogeac* < Tk. *ocak*, the name of a military troop consisting of *arnăuți* or other types of military.

richiabie, a term denoting a troop with the military duty of guarding the Ottoman Empire, more precisely of taking care of the sultan's horse. This troop consisted of four officers of high rank.

sangeac < Tk. *sancak*, a term denoting an administrative unit of the Ottoman Empire, as well as the flag of a Turkish military unit.

saragele, cf. DEX *saragea* < Tk. *sarica*, a term designating a Turkish cavalry corps, as well as in the Romanian Principalities.

seimen < Tk. *segmen*, a name for the mercenaries originating from the south of the Danube (Croats, Slovenians etc.), enrolled in the Transylvanian army²¹.

serdar < Tk. *serdar*, a term designating in the Romanian Principalities a high official, as well as the commander of an army.

*tabur*²² < Tk. *tabur*, a term designating a battalion counting about 800 soldiers.

topciu < Tk. *topçu* / *topçi*²³, a term denoting a Turkish artilleryman.

*umer*²⁴ < Tk. *umera*, a term found in Moldavia, referring to a Turkish officer who was in charge with customs.

zabet < Tk. *zabit*, a name for a dignity within the Turkish army and administration, also borrowed in the Romanian Principalities and denoting either the royal guards supervising the market towns, or the boyars' administrators in towns. The *zabet* had a twofold role, military and administrative.

zaherea < Tk. *zahire*, a name for a real military and economic institution within the Ottoman Empire. The term denoted the full supply service of an Ottoman army, also the economic monopoly area of the Ottoman Empire.

zapciu < Tk. *zaptiye*, a term designating a sort of fiscal agent, a tax-collector who made use of military force, with administrative and judicial powers as well (a sort of economic policeman).

3. Military terms of Slavic origin (Old Slavic, Serbo-Croatian, Bulgarian, Polish, Russian, Ukrainian)

cnez < Russ. *kneaz*, a term of Slavic origin, this appellative designated a politico-military leader especially in the early Middle Ages. According to P. P.

¹⁹ Apud, Iustina Burci, *op. cit.*, p. 101.

²⁰ *Ibidem*, p. 103.

²¹ See also Dragoș Vlad Topală, *op. cit.*, p. 67.

²² Apud Dragoș Șesan, *op. cit.*, p. 90.

²³ Apud Dragoș Vlad Topală, *op. cit.*, p. 68.

²⁴ Apud Dragoș Șesan, *op. cit.*, p. 90.

Panaitescu, the origin of this appellative would not be the Slavic *kneaz*, but the Latin *cuneus* = nail, actually denoting the arrangement of soldiers in formation. The authors of the cited *Dicționar de instituții* do not mention this hypothesis. Anyway, this function was extremely important, since it was both political and military, as initially the term *boyar* which, according to P. P. Panaitescu, came from Bulgarian, *boilas*, via the Tatars (Mongolians), denoting a military commander with political power.

dejurstva, cf. DEX *dejurstvă* < Russ. *dezurstvo*, an appellative for the army's office, a sort of General Staff of the army in Wallachia, especially at the time of the Organic Regulation, therefore about 1833-1834. Originally, this office was a sort of headquarters of police affairs, later in charge with all armed forces²⁵.

gloate, cf. DEX *gloată* < Slav. *glota*, a term designating military subunits commonly consisting of villagers, as part of the permanent army of the Romanian Principalities, Moldavia and Wallachia, later the United Principalities²⁶.

*glotnic*²⁷ < Slav. *glotnic*, a military term denoting an infantryman in the Romanian Principalities and not only.

hatman < Pol. *hetman*, a term denoting the title/function of military commander of the capital of Moldavia, the equivalent of *spătar* in Wallachia. The best known *hatman* ('hetman') was that of Suceava. At the time of the Organic Regulation, this rank was equivalent to that of *gheneral inspector* 'inspector general'²⁸.

joimir < Pol. *zoimierz*, an appellative denoting a Polish mercenary in Moldavia.

nacealnic < Russ. *nacealnik*, a term denoting the rank of the police office commander²⁹ or of *Dejurstva*. This rank existed at the time of the Organic Regulation in the Romanian Principalities.

pandur < Serbo-Croatian *pandur* and Hung. *pandur*, a term used for the first time in Wallachia, referring to *haiduci* (outlaws). In time, they became a genuine military force with the role of police, being organized in counties with the main purpose of watching wrongdoers. They became famous through their involvement, together with Tudor Vladimirescu, in the 1821 Revolution. This term generated a lot of anthroponyms in Romanian, the most frequent being *Panduru*³⁰.

parucici, cf. DEX *porucic* < Russ. *porucik*, a term making reference to the rank of officers at the time of the Organic Regulation in Wallachia (nowadays, the equivalent of lieutenants)³¹.

panțâr (*panțir*), cf. DEX *panțir* < Serbo-Croatian *pancir* and Pol. *pancerz*, a name used in Moldavia for a corps of mercenaries consisting of locals, where the troop was formed. They had the role of frontier guards, as well as of military messengers³².

²⁵ Cf. Ion Giurcă, Maria Georgescu, *Statul Major general român. 1859-1950. Organizare și atribuții funcționale*, București, Editura Militară, 2012, p. 31-33.

²⁶ Cf. Ion Giurcă, Maria Georgescu, *op. cit.*, p. 51.

²⁷ Apud Dragoș Șesan, *op. cit.*, p. 87.

²⁸ Cf. Ion Giurcă, Maria Georgescu, *op. cit.*, p. 67.

²⁹ Cf. Ion Giurcă, Maria Georgescu, *op. cit.*, p. 31-33.

³⁰ Apud Elena Camelia Zăbavă, *Structuri derivaționale în antroponimia din Oltenia*, Craiova, Editura Universitaria, 2010, p. 110.

³¹ Cf. Ion Giurcă, Maria Georgescu, *op. cit.*, p. 30.

³² Apud, Iustina Burci, *op. cit.*, p. 108.

- pâlc* < Slav. *plŭkŭ*, a term denoting a military unit formed for the purpose of fighting in both Romanian Principalities, Wallachia and Moldavia.
- polcovnic* < Russ. *polkovnik*, an appellative denoting a higher military rank in the army of the modern Romanian Principalities, nowadays the equivalent of colonel³³.
- polcuri*, a term with Slavic etymology referring to large military troops, a sort of regiments in Wallachia during the period of the Organic Regulation³⁴.
- poteră* < Serbo-Croatian *potera*, a term denoting a troop having the role of apprehending wrongdoers, a police institution of Ottoman inspiration. The term has been preserved in the anthroponym *Poteraș/Poterașu*.
- praporici*, cf. DEX *praporġic* < Russ. *proporșcik*, a military term for the rank of officer in the army of the Romanian Principalities at the time of the Organic Regulation (nowadays, the equivalent of sub-lieutenant³⁵).
- pușcar/pușcaș* < *pușcă* (from Russ. *puška*) + *-aș*, a military term used in the Romanian Principalities to designate the one who used a gun, after the armies of the two Romanian Principalities had been endowed with fire arms. Nicolae Bălcescu, in *Magazin istoric pentru Dacia*, speaks a lot about fire arms and the shock caused by this new military technology. Today, there are many surnames *Pușcaș*.
- șătrar* < from Bg., Serbo-Croatian *satra* and Hung. *Sator*, an appellative used for certain military men with the role of guarding the prince in the Romanian Principalities, since they watched the tent of the ruler in wartime. The anthroponym *Șătraru* comes from this military corps³⁶.
- vătaf* < Uk. *vataha*, Pol. *wataha*, Bg. *vatah*, a term referring to a very important position in both Moldavia and Wallachia; it denoted a sort of minister with various powers: economic, administrative and military. He commanded the local armies, also ensuring the police of the region. Even today, there are many anthroponyms *Vătafu*.
- vel vornic de poliție* < Slav. *dvoriniku*, a name for a high military official in Wallachia, who had financial and military (police) powers in Bucharest, especially during the 19th century. Many names were inherited from this high official: *Vornicu*, *Vonicescu*, *Vorniceanu* etc.
- viteaz* < Slav. *vitenzi*, a name for a very old military category present in the Romanian Principalities. He served in the cavalry, the equivalent of the heavily armoured knight, enjoying military, but also economic and social autonomy. The best known anthroponym, actually an appellation, is that of *Mihai Viteazul* ‘Michael the Brave’, the ruler who first united all the Romanian Principalities.
- voinic* < Serbo-Croatian *vojnġic*, a term of Slavic origin (*voina*=war), used for a warrior, military man, soldier.

4. Military terms of Latin and Romance origin

- adunarea norordului* (*adunare* <Lat. *adunare* and *norod* <from Slav. *narodu*), a syntagm designating the revolutionary army of 1821, led by Tudor Vladimirescu, which had at its core the nucleus of *panduri*.

³³ Cf. Ion Giurcă, Maria Georgescu, *op. cit.*, p. 30.

³⁴ *Ibidem*.

³⁵ *Ibidem*.

³⁶ *Ibidem*.

armaș (*armă* < Lat. *arma* + *-aș*), a term denoting the function of judicial police in the Romanian Principalities; the *armaș* enforced the sentences to death, having the role of chief of penitentiaries (the present day equivalent). This office in the military field left many traces in Romanian onomastics: *Armașu*, with the derivatives *Armășeanu*, *Armășoiu*, *Armășescu*, *Armășelu*³⁷.

călăraș (*călăre* < Lat. *caballaris* + *-aș*), a term denoting the category of mounted troops in Wallachia, selected from among free peasants. This type of troops made a career in the Romanian army, they were mentioned, too, in the modern army of Romania, heroically fighting in the War of Independence³⁸. It is a name that provided the toponym of a Romanian county, *Călărași*, but also other toponyms and anthroponyms *Călărașu*, *Călărășiu* etc.

cordunaș, cf. DEX *cordonaș* (*cordon*+*aș*), a Moldavian appellative denoting a frontier guard, watching the border line between Moldavia and Bucovina, after this Romanian province had been torn apart by Austria-Hungary from the body of Moldavia.

fustaș, cf. DEX *fuștaș* (*fuște* < Lat. *fustis* + *-aș*), the name was given to a weapon in the armies of Wallachia and Moldavia with a strong Latin tradition (*fustis*, *-is* s.m. “club, cudgel”)³⁹. In the case of *fustași* in the Romanian Principalities, their weapon was the spear. This unit of *fustași* was actually a unit of lancers. In old Romanian there was a term, *fuște*, with the Latin meaning of cudgel⁴⁰.

primipil, an appellative designating a military rank that certain cavalry Seklers had in Transylvania, a sort of sergeant. This military rank is also found in the Romanian army within the legions (in the infantry troops), where *primus pilus* was the most important centurion, but an infantryman par excellence, the name of *pilum*, *-i* n. “spear”⁴¹.

vânător, cf. DEX *vânător* < Lat. *venatorem*, the name of a military man in a quite small corps, established in Moldavia in the 18th century, which can also be found in Wallachia. This type of military was present on flags, with a distinct uniform, subsidized by the ruler, especially in Wallachia. He acted like a policeman or guardian of the prince. This term provided many anthroponyms and toponyms in Romanian, such as: *Vânători* (locality in the county of Neamț) or *Vânătoru* as a surname.

5. Military terms of Hungarian origin

cătană < Hung. *katona*, the equivalent term for an infantry man in the military troops of Wallachia. This arm inspired numerous anthroponyms *Catană*, *Cătană*, *Cătăneanu*, *Cătănescu*, *Cătănoiu*⁴² or toponyms from the historical region of Wallachia.

dorobaș < Hung. *daraband* or Tk. *der-ban*⁴³ was actually a rank and a military troop

³⁷ Apud Elena Camelia Zăbavă, *op. cit.*, p. 110, p. 118.

³⁸ Cf. Ion Giurcă, Maria Georgescu, *op. cit.*, p.67.

³⁹ Apud Gh. Guțu, *Dicționar Latin-Român*, Ediție revăzută și completată, București, Editura Științifică, 1993, p. 187.

⁴⁰ Apud Cristian Mihail, *Limbajul militar (daco-) roman. Influența sa asupra limbii și istoriei poporului român*, București, Editura Militară, 2012, p. 89.

⁴¹ Apud Gh. Guțu, *op. cit.*, p. 307.

⁴² Elena Camelia Zăbavă, *op. cit.*, p. 110, p. 111.

⁴³ Apud Dragoș Vlad Topală, *op. cit.*, p. 64.

in Wallachia, constituting the infantry of the army, but they were paid. They had a great role in the War of Independence. There arose many toponyms from this military rank, such as the name of a district in Bucharest *Dorobanți*, street names *Calea Dorobanților*, and also numerous anthroponyms such as *Dorobanțu*, *Dorobanțiu*, etc.

hotnog < Hung. *hadnogy*, a term used for a leader of a military troop consisting of 100 soldiers in both Romanian Principalities. In Hungarian, the term was translated as sub-lieutenant. The same appellative also denoted the flag of this troop.

pârcălab < from Hung. *porkolab*, an appellative designating the military commander of a city in both Moldavia and Wallachia. This military rank was very prolific. In Romanian onomastics we find such names as *Pîrcalbu*, as well as the derivatives *Pîrcălăbeanu*, *Pîrcălăbescu*, *Pîrcălăboiu*⁴⁴.

pârcălăbie, the name of the dignity of military commander in the Romanian Principalities (Moldavia and Wallachia).

răzeș < Hung. *reszeș*, a term designating the category of free peasants in Moldavia, and also an important part of the army of the Moldavian prince. They had become land owners mainly after wars. This term with military values left marks in Romanian onomastics, such as the name *Răzeșu*.

talpoș, cf. DEX *tâlpaș* < Hung. *talpos*, a name for a Croatian mercenary in Wallachia; this type of mercenary could be found in the troops guarding the prince.

țimiraș, cf. DEX *țimir* < Hung. *cimer*, a military term used in both Romanian Principalities, designating the functionaries having the role to ensure message delivery and to guide foreign messengers. They were a sort of policemen taking care of the safety of messages and foreign messengers.

6. Terms of Greek (Modern Greek) origin

dragoman < Mod. Gr. *dragomanos*, a term denoting a real intelligence institution, the title of the diplomats of the Romanian Principalities in the Ottoman Empire that acted like real military spies, not only as ambassadors. We might currently find an equivalent in the syntagm military attaché, as well as intelligence officer. Nowadays, there are also anthroponyms of this type, e.g. *Dragomanu*.

spătar < Mod. Gr. *spatharios*, a name for one of the most important military dignitaries in Wallachia. In 1834 it was tantamount to the rank of *gheneral inspector* 'inspector general'.⁴⁵ The name comes from the medieval *spatha* 'sword', since he took care of the prince's sword, but he was also the commander of the entire army. Some dignitaries who held this office are mentioned in historical sources. For instance, *Nicolae Milescu Spătarul*, thus becoming a nickname. This military function and professional rank gave many anthroponyms such as *Spătaru*, derived as *Spătărescu*⁴⁶, and also toponyms, such as the locality of *Spătaru* in the county of Buzău.

7. Terms of German origin

*ritmaistru*⁴⁷ < Germ. *Rittmeister*, a term denoting a cavalry captain especially in Transylvania.

⁴⁴ Apud Elena Camelia Zăbavă, *op. cit.*, p. 110, p. 111.

⁴⁵ Cf. Ion Giurcă, Maria Georgescu, *op. cit.*, p. 67.

⁴⁶ Apud Elena Camelia Zăbavă, *op. cit.*, p. 110, p. 118.

⁴⁷ Apud Dragoș Șesan, *op. cit.*, p. 89.

ștab, *ștabofițer*, cf. DEX *ștab* < Germ. *Stab* and Russ. *ștab*, a term used for the corresponding rank of the General Staff commander of the army, in the Romanian Principalities from 1834 to 1859 (*ștabul domnesc*, *ștabofițer*). Likewise, the term denoted the institution of the General Staff of the army that was named during the same period: *Ștabul Major al Oștirii*⁴⁸.

8. Terms of unclear origin

drăgan, a term used to name a mounted mercenary in both Moldavia and Wallachia. The sounds suggest a Serbian appellative, *dragan*. This military name provided a lot of anthroponyms *Drăgan*, *Drăganu*, as well as toponyms such as *Drăgănești* or derivatives such as *Drăgănescu*.

hânsar, an appellative denoting a special troop of cavalymen in Moldavia, organized after the system of hussars, probably of Polish origin, the cavalry being a branch where the Poles brought a lot of innovations, since they were known as horse breeders for military needs.

pixidar, a term used in the documents of Transylvania, denoting a Sekler soldier who served in the infantry troops.

plăieș, a term used for a soldier in the Romanian Principalities, who had the role of frontier guard, watching the villages near the border.

rohmiștru, a term designating a military function of foreign origin, probably German, preparing higher officers for the rank of *hatman* ‘hetman’.

Vartă, a term designating both a guard unit, providing security, and a prison in the Romanian Principalities.

9. Conclusions

The military terminology we have selected in this study contains 84 terms and their derivatives of which 34 are of Turkish origin, 22 of Slavic origin, 7 of Latin and French origin, 8 of Hungarian origin, 2 of German origin, 2 come from Modern Greek and 6 have unclear etymology, which demonstrates the influence that militarized institutions had in Romanian, an influence in particular visible in onomastics. So, of the selected terms, 28,56% are Turkish, 18,48% are Slavic, 5,88% Latin and Romance terms, 6,72 % Hungarian terms, 1,68 % German terms, 1,68 % terms from Modern Greek and 5,04 % terms of unclear origin. The list of defined terms contains many terms of Turkish, Slavic, Hungarian origin, while few come from German, Modern Greek and Latin. This proves the linguistic consequences due to the historico-political context of the three Romanian Principalities, Moldavia, Wallachia and Transylvania, later Transylvania and the United Principalities. We have thus noticed a greater influence of Slavic (Russian and Polish, as well as from the south of the Danube) and Turkish elements in Moldavia and Wallachia. In Transylvania the predominant elements are German, Hungarian and Latin. The preservation in onomastics of military terms from the Romanian Principalities proves once again the military tradition and effectiveness of the Romanian military institutions in the Middle Ages and at the time of the United Principalities, the Romanian military institutions successfully adapting the foreign military model to the conditions of the Romanian Principalities.

⁴⁸ Cf. Ion Giurcă, Maria Georgescu, *op. cit.*, p. 33.

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