

= Ion Heliade R?dulescu =

Ion Heliade R?dulescu or Ion Heliade ( also known as Eliad or Eliade R?dulescu ; Romanian pronunciation : [ ?i.on heli?ade r?du?lesku ] ; January 6 , 1802 ? April 27 , 1872 ) was a Wallachian @-@ born Romanian academic , Romantic and Classicist poet , essayist , memoirist , short story writer , newspaper editor and politician . A prolific translator of foreign literature into Romanian , he was also the author of books on linguistics and history . For much of his life , Heliade R?dulescu was a teacher at Saint Sava College in Bucharest , which he helped reopen . He was a founding member and first president of the Romanian Academy .

Heliade R?dulescu is considered one of the foremost champions of Romanian culture from the first half of the 19th century , having first risen to prominence through his association with Gheorghe Laz?r and his support of Laz?r 's drive for discontinuing education in Greek . Over the following decades , he had a major role in shaping the modern Romanian language , but caused controversy when he advocated the massive introduction of Italian neologisms into the Romanian lexis . A Romantic nationalist landowner siding with moderate liberals , Heliade was among the leaders of the 1848 Wallachian revolution , after which he was forced to spend several years in exile . Adopting an original form of conservatism , which emphasized the role of the aristocratic boyars in Romanian history , he was rewarded for supporting the Ottoman Empire and clashed with the radical wing of the 1848 revolutionaries .

= = Biography = =

= = = Early life = = =

Heliade R?dulescu was born in Târgovi?te , the son of Ilie R?dulescu , a wealthy proprietor who served as the leader of a patrol unit during the 1810s , and Eufrosina Danielopol , who had been educated in Greek . Three of his siblings died of bubonic plague before 1829 . Throughout his early youth , Ion was the focus of his parents ' affectionate supervision : early on , Ilie R?dulescu purchased a house once owned by the scholar Gheorghe Laz?r on the outskirts of Bucharest ( near Obor ) , as a gift for his son . At the time , the R?dulescus were owners of a large garden in the Bucharest area , nearby Her?str?u , as well as of estates in the vicinity of F?g?ra? and Gârbovi .

After basic education in Greek with a tutor known as Alexe , Ion Heliade R?dulescu taught himself reading in Romanian Cyrillic ( reportedly by studying the Alexander Romance with the help of his father 's Oltenian servants ) . He subsequently became an avid reader of popular novels , especially during his 1813 sojourn in Gârbovi ( where he had been sent after other areas of the country came to be ravaged by Caragea 's plague ) . After 1813 , the teenaged R?dulescu was a pupil of the Orthodox monk Naum Râmniceanu ; in 1815 , he moved on to the Greek school at Schitu M?gureanu , in Bucharest , and , in 1818 , to the Saint Sava School , where he studied under Gheorghe Laz?r 's supervision .

Between his 1820 graduation and 1821 , when effects of the Wallachian uprising led to the School ceasing its activities , he was kept as Laz?r 's assistant teacher , tutoring in arithmetics and geometry . It was during those years that he adopted the surname Heliade ( also rendered Heliad , Eliad or Eliade ) , which , he later explained , was a Greek version of his patronymic , in turn stemming from the Romanian version of Elijah .

= = = Under Grigore Ghica = = =

In 1822 , after Gheorghe Laz?r had fallen ill , Heliade reopened Saint Sava and served as its main teacher ( initially , without any form of remuneration ) . He was later joined in this effort by other intellectuals of the day , such as Eufrosin Poteca , and , eventually , also opened an art class overseen by the Croat Carol Val?tain . This re @-@ establishment came as a result of ordinances issued by Prince Grigore IV Ghica , who had just been assigned by the Ottoman Empire to the

throne of Wallachia upon the disestablishment of Phanariote rule , encouraging the marginalization of ethnic Greeks who had assumed public office in previous decades . Thus , Prince Ghica had endorsed education in Romanian and , in one of his official firmans , defined teaching in Greek as " the foundation of evils " ( temelia r?ut??ilor ) .

During the late 1820s , Heliade became involved in cultural policies . In 1827 , he and Dinicu Golescu founded So?ietatea literar? româneasc? ( the Romanian Literary Society ) , which , through its program ( mapped out by Heliade himself ) , proposed Saint Sava 's transformation into a college , the opening of another such institution in Craiova , and the creation of schools in virtually all Wallachian localities . In addition , So?ietatea attempted to encourage the establishment of Romanian @-@ language newspapers , calling for an end to the state monopoly on printing presses . The grouping , headquartered on central Bucharest 's Podul Mogo?oaiei , benefited from Golescu 's experience abroad , and was soon joined by two future Princes , Gheorghe Bibescu and Barbu Dimitrie ?tirbei . Its character was based on Freemasonry ; around that time , Heliade is known to have become a Freemason , as did a large section of his generation .

In 1828 , Heliade published his first work , an essay on Romanian grammar , in the Transylvanian city of Hermannstadt ( which was part of the Austrian Empire at the time ) , and , on April 20 , 1829 , began printing the Bucharest @-@ based paper Curierul Românesc . This was the most successful of several attempts to create a local newspaper , something Golescu first attempted in 1828 . Publishing articles in both Romanian and French , Curierul Românesc had , starting in 1836 , its own literary supplement , under the title of Curier de Ambe Sexe ; in print until 1847 , it notably published one of Heliade 's most famous poems , Zbur?torul . Curierul Românesc was edited as a weekly , and later as a bimonthly , until 1839 , when it began to be issued three or four times a week . Its best @-@ known contributors were Heliade himself , Grigore Alexandrescu , Costache Negruzzi , Dimitrie Bolintineanu , Ioan Catina , Vasile Cârlova , and Iancu V?c?rescu .

In 1823 , Heliade met Maria Alexandrescu , with whom he fell passionately in love , and whom he later married . By 1830 , the Heliades ' two children , a son named Virgiliu and a daughter named Virgilia , died in infancy ; subsequently , their marriage entered a long period of crisis , marked by Maria 's frequent outbursts of jealousy . Ion Heliade probably had a number of extramarital affairs : a Wallachian Militia officer named Zalic , who became known during the 1840s , is thought by some , including the literary critic George C?linescu , to have been the writer 's illegitimate son . Before the death of her first child , Maria Heliade welcomed into her house Grigore Alexandrescu , himself a celebrated writer , whom Ion suspected had become her lover . Consequently , the two authors became bitter rivals : Ion Heliade referred to Alexandrescu as " that ingrate " , and , in an 1838 letter to George Bari? , downplayed his poetry and character ( believing that , in one of his fables , Alexandrescu had depicted himself as a nightingale , he commented that , in reality , he was " a piteous rook dressed in foreign feathers " ) . Despite these household conflicts , Maria Heliade gave birth to five other children , four daughters and one son ( Ion , born 1846 ) .

= = = Printer and court poet = = =

In October 1830 , together with his uncle Nicolae R?dulescu , he opened the first privately owned printing press in his country , operating on his property at Ci?meaua Mavrogheni , in Obor ( the land went by the name of Câmpul lui Eliad ? " Eliad 's Field " , and housed several other large buildings ) . Among the first works he published was a collection of poems by Alphonse de Lamartine , translated by Heliade from French , and grouped together with some of his own poems . Later , he translated a textbook on meter and Louis @-@ Benjamin Francoeur 's standard manual of Arithmetics , as well as works by Enlightenment authors ? Voltaire 's Mahomet , ou le fanatisme , and stories by Jean @-@ François Marmontel . They were followed , in 1839 , by a version of Jean @-@ Jacques Rousseau 's Julie , or the New Heloise .

Heliade began a career as a civil servant after the Postelnicie commissioned him to print the Official Bulletin , and later climbed through the official hierarchy , eventually serving as Clucer . This rise coincided with the establishment of the Regulamentul Organic regime , inaugurated , upon the end of the Russo @-@ Turkish War of 1828 ? 1829 , by an Imperial Russian administration under Pavel

Kiselyov . When Kiselyov placed an order with Heliade for the printing of official documents , including the Regulament , the writer and his family were made prosperous by the sales . Nevertheless , Heliade maintained contacts with the faction of reformist boyars : in 1833 , together with Ion Câmpineanu , Iancu V?c?rescu , Ioan Voinescu II , Constantin Aristia , ?tefan and Nicolae Golescu , as well as others , he founded the short @-@ lived So?ietatea Filarmonic? ( the Philharmonic Society ) , which advanced a cultural agenda ( and was especially active in raising funds for the National Theater of Wallachia ) . Aside from its stated cultural goals , So?ietatea Filarmonic? continued a covert political activity .

In 1834 , when Prince Alexandru II Ghica came to the throne , Heliade became one of his close collaborators , styling himself " court poet " . Several of the poems and discourses he authored during the period are written as panegyrics , and dedicated to Ghica , whom Heliade depicted as an ideal prototype of a monarch . As young reformists came into conflict with the prince , he kept his neutrality , arguing that all sides involved represented a privileged minority , and that the disturbances were equivalent to " the quarrel of wolves and the noise made by those in higher positions over the torn @-@ apart animal that is the peasant " . He was notably critical of the radical Mitic? Filipescu , whom he satirized in the poem C?derea dracilor ( " The Demons ' Fall " ) , and later defined his own position with the words " I hate tyrants . I fear anarchy " .

It was also in 1834 that Heliade began teaching at the So?ietatea Filarmonic? 's school ( alongside Aristia and the musician Ioan Andrei Wachmann ) , and published his first translations from Lord Byron ( in 1847 , he completed the translation of Byron 's Don Juan ) . The next year , he began printing Gazeta Teatrului Na?ional ( official voice of the National Theater , published until 1836 ) , and translated Molière 's Amphitryon into Romanian . In 1839 , Heliade also translated Miguel de Cervantes ' Don Quixote from a French source . The first collection of his own prose and poetry works saw print in 1836 . Interested in the development of local art , he contributed a brochure on drawing and architecture in 1837 , and , during the same year , opened the first permanent exhibit in Wallachia ( featuring copies of Western paintings , portraits , and gypsum casts of various known sculptures ) .

By the early 1840s , Heliade began expanding on his notion that modern Romanian needed to emphasize its connections with other Romance languages through neologisms from Italian , and , to this goal , he published Paralelism între limba română ?i italian? ( " Parallelism between the Romanian language and Italian " , 1840 ) and Paralelism între dialectele române ?i italiene sau forma ori gramatică a acestor două dialecte ( " Parallelism between the Romanian and Italian Dialects or the Form or Grammar of These Two Dialects " , 1841 ) . The two books were followed by a compendium , Prescurtare de gramatică limbei române @-@ italiene ( " Summary of the Grammar of the Romanian @-@ Italian Language " ) , and , in 1847 , by a comprehensive list of Romanian words that had originated in Slavic , Greek , Ottoman Turkish , Hungarian , and German ( see Romanian lexis ) . By 1846 , he was planning to begin work on a " universal library " , which was to include , among other books , the major philosophical writings of , among others , Plato , Aristotle , Roger Bacon , René Descartes , Baruch Spinoza , John Locke , Gottfried Leibniz , David Hume , Immanuel Kant , Johann Gottlieb Fichte and Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel .

= = = 1848 Revolution = = =

Before Alexandru Ghica was replaced with Gheorghe Bibescu , his relations with Heliade had soured . In contrast with his earlier call for moderation , the writer decided to side with the liberal current in its conspiratorial opposition to Bibescu . The so @-@ called " Trandafiloff affair " of early 1844 was essential in this process ? it was provoked by Bibescu 's decision to lease all Wallachian mines to a Russian engineer named Alexander Trandafiloff , a measure considered illegal by the Assembly and ultimately ending in Bibescu 's decision to dissolve his legislative . These events made Heliade publish a pamphlet titled M?ce?ul ( " The Eglantine " ) , which was heavily critical of Russian influence and reportedly sold over 30 @, @ 000 copies . It was centered on the pun alluding to Trandafiloff 's name ? trandafir cu of în coadă ( lit . " a rose ending in -of " , but also " a rose with grief for a stem " ) . Making additional covert reference to Trandafiloff as " the eglantine " , it featured

the lyrics :

In spring 1848 , when the first European revolutions had erupted , Heliade was attracted into cooperation with Fr??ia , a secret society founded by Nicolae B?lcescu , Ion Ghica , Christian Tell , and Alexandru G. Golescu , and sat on its leadership committee . He also collaborated with the reform @-@ minded French teacher Jean Alexandre Vaillant , who was ultimately expelled after his activities were brought to the attention of authorities . On April 19 , 1848 , following financial setbacks , Curierul Românesc ceased printing ( this prompted Heliade to write Cântecul ursului , " The Bear 's Song " , a piece ridiculing his political enemies ) .

Heliade progressively distanced himself from the more radical groups , especially after discussions began on the issue of land reform and the disestablishment of the boyar class . Initially , he accepted the reforms , and , after the matter was debated within Fr??ia just before rebellion broke out , he issued a resolution acknowledging this ( the document was probably inspired by Nicolae B?lcescu ) . The compromise also set other goals , including national independence , responsible government , civil rights and equality , universal taxation , a larger Assembly , five @-@ year terms of office for Princes ( and their election by the National Assembly ) , freedom of the press , and decentralization . On June 21 , 1848 , present in Islaz alongside Tell and the Orthodox priest known as Popa ?apc? , he read out these goals to a cheering crowd , in what was to be the effective start of the uprising ( see Proclamation of Islaz ) . Four days after the Islaz events , the revolution succeeded in toppling Bibescu , whom it replaced with a Provisional Government which immediately attracted Russian hostility . Presided over by Metropolitan Neofit , it included Heliade , who was also Minister of Education , as well as Tell , ?tefan Golescu , Gheorghe Magheru , and , for a short while , the Bucharest merchant Gheorghe Scurti .

Disputes regarding the shape of land reform continued , and in late July , the Government created Comisia propriet??ii ( the Commission on Property ) , representing both peasants and landlords and overseen by Alexandru Racovi?? and Ion Ionescu de la Brad . It too failed to reach a compromise over the amount of land to be allocated to peasants , and it was ultimately recalled by Heliade , who indicated that the matter was to be deliberated once a new Assembly had been voted into office . In time , the writer adopted a conservative outlook in respect to boyar tradition , developing a singular view of Romanian history from a consideration of property and rank in Wallachia . In the words of historian Nicolae Iorga : " Eliad had wanted to lead , as dictator , this movement that added liberal institutions to the old society that had been almost completely maintained in place " .

Like most other revolutionaries , Heliade favored maintaining good relations with the Ottoman Empire , Wallachia 's suzerain power , hoping that this policy could help counter Russian pressures . As Sultan Abd?lmecid I was assessing the situation , S?leyman Pa?a was dispatched to Bucharest , where he advised the revolutionaries to carry on with their diplomatic efforts , and ordered the Provisional Government to be replaced by Locotenent?a domneasc? , a triumvirate of regents comprising Heliade , Tell , and Nicolae Golescu . Nonetheless , the Ottomans were pressured by Russia into joining a clampdown on revolutionary forces , which resulted , during September , in the reestablishment of Regulamentul Organic and its system of government . Together with Tell , Heliade sought refuge at the British consulate in Bucharest , where they were hosted by Robert Gilmour Colquhoun in exchange for a deposit of Austrian florins .

= = = Exile = = =

Leaving his family behind , he was allowed to pass into the Austrian @-@ ruled Banat , before moving into self @-@ exile in France while his wife and children were sent to Ottoman lands . In 1850 ? 1851 , several of his memoirs of the revolution , written in both Romanian and French , were published in Paris , the city where he had taken residence . He shared his exile with Tell and Magheru , as well as with Nicolae Rusu Locusteanu .

It was during his time in Paris that he met with Pierre @-@ Joseph Proudhon , the anarchist philosopher who had come to advance a moderate small @-@ scale property project ( to counter both economic liberalism and socialism ) . Heliade used this opportunity to make the Romanian cause known to the staff of Proudhon 's La Voix de Peuple . Major French publications to which he

contributed included *La Presse* , *La Semaine* , and *Le Siècle* , where he also helped publicize political issues pertaining to his native land . Heliade was credited with having exercised influence over historian Élias Regnault ; Nicolae Iorga argued that Regnault 's discarded his own arguments in favor of a unified Romanian state to include Transylvania ( a concept which Heliade had come to resent ) , as well amending his earlier account of the 1848 events , after being exposed to " Eliad 's propaganda " .

While claiming to represent the entire body of Wallachian émigrés , Heliade had by then grown disappointed with the political developments , and , in his private correspondence , commented that Romanians in general were " idle " , " womanizing " , as well as having " the petty and base envies of women " , and argued that they required " supervision [ and ] leadership " . His fortune was declining , especially after pressures began for him to pay his many debts , and he often lacked the funds for basic necessities . At the time , he continuously clashed with other former revolutionaries , including B?lcescu , C. A. Rosetti , and the Golescus , who resented his ambiguous stance in respect to reforms , and especially his willingness to accept Regulamentul Organic as an instrument of power ; Heliade issued the first in a series of pamphlets condemning young radicals , contributing to factionalism inside the émigré camp . His friendship with Tell also soured , after Heliade began speculating that the revolutionary general was committing adultery with Maria .

In 1851 , Heliade reunited with his family on the island of Chios , where they stayed until 1854 . Following the evacuation of Russian troops from the Danubian Principalities during the Crimean War , Heliade was appointed by the Porte to represent the Romanian nation in Shumen , as part of Omar Pasha 's staff . Again expressing sympathy for the Ottoman cause , he was rewarded with the title of Bey . According to Iorga , Heliade 's attitudes reflected his hope of " recovering the power lost " in 1848 ; the historian also stressed that Omar never actually made use of Heliade 's services .

Later in the same year , he decided to return to Bucharest , but his stay was cut short when the Austrian authorities , who , under the leadership of Johann Coronini @-@ Cronberg , had taken over administration of the country as a neutral force , asked for him to be expelled . Returning to Paris , Heliade continued to publish works on political and cultural issues , including an analysis of the European situation after the Peace Treaty of 1856 and an 1858 essay on the Bible . In 1859 , he published his own translation of the Septuagint , under the name *Biblia sacr? ce cuprinde Noul ?i Vechiul Testament* ( " The Holy Bible , Comprising the New and Old Testament " ) .

As former revolutionaries , grouped in the *Partida Na?ional?* faction , advanced the idea of union between Wallachia and Moldavia in election for the ad hoc Divan , Heliade opted not to endorse any particular candidate , while rejecting outright the candidature of former prince Alexandru II Ghica ( in a private letter , he stated : " let them elect whomever [ of the candidates for the throne ] , for he would still have the heart of a man and some principles of a Romanian ; only don 't let that creature [ Ghica ] be elected , for he is capable of going to the dogs with this country " ) .

= = = Final years = = =

Later in 1859 , Heliade returned to Bucharest , which had become the capital of the United Principalities after the common election of Alexandru Ioan Cuza and later that of an internationally recognized Principality of Romania . It was during that period that he again added R?dulescu to his surname . Until his death , he published influential volumes on a variety of issues , while concentrating on contributions to history and literary criticism , and editing a new collection of his own poems . In 1863 , Domnitor Cuza awarded him an annual pension of 2 @,@ 000 lei .

One year after the creation of the Romanian Academy ( under the name of " Academic Society " ) , he was elected its first President ( 1867 ) , serving until his death . In 1869 , Heliade and Alexandru Papiu @-@ Ilarian successfully proposed the Italian diplomat and philologist Giovenale Vegezzi Ruscalla as honorary member of the Academy . By then , like most other 1848 Romantics , he had become the target of criticism from the younger generation of intellectuals , represented by the *la?i @-@* based literary society *Junimea* ; in 1865 , during one of its early public sessions , *Junimea* explicitly rejected works by Heliade and Iancu V?c?rescu .

During the elections of 1866 , Heliade R?dulescu won a seat in the Chamber as a deputy for the

city of Târgoviște . As Cuza had been ousted from power by a coalition of political groupings , he was the only Wallachian deputy to join Nicolae Ionescu and other disciples of Simion Bărnuțiu in opposing the appointment of Carol of Hohenzollern as Domnitor and a proclamation stressing the perpetuity of the Moldo-Wallachian union . Speaking in Parliament , he likened the adoption of foreign rule to the Phanariote period . The opposition was nevertheless weak , and the resolution was passed with a large majority .

Among Ion Heliade Rădulescu 's last printed works were a textbook on poetics ( 1868 ) and a volume on Romanian orthography . By that time , he had come to consider himself a prophet-like figure , and the redeemer of his motherland , notably blessing his friends with the words " Christ and Magdalene be with you ! " His mental health declining , he died at his Bucharest residence on Polonă Street , nr . 20 . Heliade Rădulescu 's grandiose funeral ceremony attracted a large number of his admirers ; the coffin was buried in the courtyard of the Mavrogheni Church .

= = Heliade and the Romanian language = =

= = = Early proposals = = =

Heliade 's most influential contributions are related to his interest in developing the modern Romanian language , in which he synthesized Enlightenment tenets and Romantic nationalist ideals of the 1848 generation . At a time when Romanian was being discarded by the educated in favor of French or Greek , he and his supporters argued in favor of adapting Romanian to the requirements of modernization ; he wrote : " Young people , preoccupy yourselves with the national language , speak and write in it ; prepare yourselves for its study , for its cultivation , ? and cultivating a language means to write in it about all sciences and arts , about all eras and peoples . The language alone unites , strengthens and defines a nation ; preoccupy yourselves with it first and foremost , as , through this , you shall be carrying out the most fundamental of policies , you shall be laying the foundation of nationality " .

Heliade inaugurated his series of proposals for reforming the language in 1828 , when his work on Romanian grammar called for the Cyrillic script to be reduced to 27 letters , reflecting phonetic spelling ( for this rule , Heliade cited the example of the Latin alphabet as used in Ancient Rome ) . Soon after , he began a campaign in favor of introducing Romance neologisms , which he wanted to adapt to Romanian spelling . By that time , Romanians in various regions had grown aware of the need to unify the varieties of Romanian and create a standard Romanian lexis : this notion was first supported by the Transylvanians Gheorghe Țincai and Petru Maior , whose proposal was to unite Romanians around the issue of the choice of liturgical language , both Orthodox and Greek-Catholic ( see Transylvanian School ) . Heliade , who first proposed a language regulator ( an idea which was to be employed in creating the Romanian Academy ) , expanded on this legacy , while stressing that the dialect spoken in Muntenia , which had formed the basis of religious texts published by the 16th century printer Coresi , serve as the standard language .

In addition , he advocated aesthetical guidelines in respect to the standard shape of Romanian , stressing three basic principles in selecting words : " proper wording " , which called for vernacular words of Latin origin to be prioritized ; " harmony " , which meant that words of Latin origin were to be used in their most popular form , even in cases where euphony had been altered by prolonged usage ; and " energy " , through which Heliade favored the primacy of the shortest and most expressive of synonyms used throughout Romanian-speaking areas . In parallel , Heliade frowned upon purist policies of removing widely used neologisms of foreign origin ? arguing that these were " a fatality " , he indicated that the gains of such a process would have been shadowed by the losses .

These early theories exercised a lasting influence , and , when the work of unifying Romanian was accomplished in the late 19th century , they were used as a source of inspiration : Romania 's major poet of the period , Mihai Eminescu , himself celebrated for having created the modern literary language , gave praise to Heliade for " writing just as [ the language ] is spoken " . This assessment

was shared by Ovid Densusianu , who wrote : " Thinking of how people wrote back then , in thick , drawly , sleepy phrases , Heliade thus shows himself superior to all his contemporaries , and ... we can consider him the first prose writer who brings in the note of modernity " .

= = = Italian influence = = =

A second period in Heliade 's linguistic researches , inaugurated when he adopted Étienne Condillac 's theory that a language could be developed from conventions , eventually brought about the rejection of his own earlier views . By the early 1840s , he postulated that Romanian and Italian were not distinct languages , but rather dialects of Latin , which prompted him to declare the necessity of replacing Romanian words with " superior " Italian ones . One of his stanzas , using his version of the Romanian Latin alphabet , read :

Primi au?i @-@ vor quel sutteranu resunetu

?i primi salta @-@ vor afara din grôpa

Sacri Poe?i que prea u?orâ ?êrinâi

Copere , ?i quâror pu?in d 'uman picioarele împlumb? .

Approximated into modern Romanian and English , this is :

The target of criticism and ridicule , these principles were dismissed by Eminescu as " errors " and " a priori systems of orthography " . During their existence , they competed with both August Treboniu Laurian 's adoption of strong Latin mannerisms and the inconsistent Francized system developed in Moldavia by Gheorghe Asachi , which , according to the 20th century literary critic Garabet Ibr?ileanu , constituted " the boyar language of his time " . Ibr?ileanu also noted that Asachi had come to admire Heliade 's attempts , and had praised them as an attempt to revive the language " spoken by Trajan 's men " ? in reference to Roman Dacia .

While defending the role Moldavian politicians in the 1840s had in shaping modern Romanian culture , Ibr?ileanu argued that practices such as those of Heliade and Laurian carried the risk of " suppressing the Romanian language " , and credited Alecu Russo , more than his successors at Junimea , with providing a passionate defense of spoken Romanian . He notably cited Russo 's verdict : " The modern political hatred aimed at [ Russia ] has thrown us into Italianism , into Frenchism , and into other -isms , that were not and are not Romanianism , but the political perils , in respect to the enslavement of the Romanian soul , have since passed ; true Romanianism ought to hold its head up high " . The literary critic George C?linescu also connected Heliade 's experimentation to his Russophobia , in turn reflecting his experiences as a revolutionary : " Hating Slavism and the Russians , who had striven to underline [ Slavic influences in Romanian ] , he said to himself that he was to serve his motherland by discarding all Slavic vestiges " . C?linescu notably attributed Heliade 's inconsistency to his " autodidacticism " , which , he contended , was responsible for " [ his ] casual implication in all issues , the unexpected move from common sense ideas to the most insane theories " .

Overall , Heliade 's experiments had marginal appeal , and their critics ( Eminescu included ) contrasted them with Heliade 's own tenets . Late in his life , Heliade seems to have acknowledged this , notably writing : " This language , as it is written today by people who can speak Romanian , is my work " . One of the few authors to be influenced by the theory was the Symbolist poet Alexandru Macedonski , who , during his youth , wrote several pieces in Heliade 's Italian @-@ sounding Romanian . Despite Heliade 's thesis being largely rejected , some of its practical effects on everyday language were very enduring , especially in cases where Italian words were borrowed as a means to illustrate nuances and concepts for which Romanian had no equivalent . These include afabil ( " affable " ) , adorabil ( " adorable " ) , colosal ( " colossal " ) , implacabil ( " implacable " ) , inefabil ( " ineffable " ) , inert ( " inert " ) , mistic ( " mystical " ) , pervers ( " perverse " or " pervert " ) , suav ( " suave " ) , and venerabil ( " venerable " ) .

= = Literature = =

= = = Tenets = = =

Celebrated as the founder of Wallachian Romanticism , Heliade was equally influenced by Classicism and the Age of Enlightenment . His work , written in a special cultural context ( where Classicism and Romanticism coexisted ) , took the middle path between two opposing camps : the Romantics ( Alecu Russo , Mihail Kogălniceanu and others ) and the Classicists ( Gheorghe Asachi , Grigore Alexandrescu , George Baronzi etc . ) . George Călinescu defined Heliade as " a devourer of books " , noting that his favorites , who all played a part in shaping his style and were many times the subject of his translations , included : Alphonse de Lamartine , Dante Alighieri , Ludovico Ariosto , Torquato Tasso , Voltaire , Jean -Baptiste François Marmontel , Jean -Baptiste Jacques Rousseau , and François -René de Chateaubriand .

His poetic style , influenced from early on by Lamartine , was infused with Classicism during his middle age , before he again adopted Romantic tenets . Initially making use of guidelines set by Nicolas Boileau -Despréaux in respect to poetry , he came to oppose them after reading Victor Hugo 's Romantic preface to *Cromwell* ( without ever discarding them altogether ) .

Like the Classicists , Heliade favored a literature highlighting " types " of characters , as the union of universal traits and particular characteristics , but , like the Romantics , he encouraged writers to write from a subjective viewpoint , which he believed to be indicative of their mission as " prophets , ... men who criticize , who point out their society 's plagues and who look on to a happier future , waiting for a savior " . Through the latter ideal of moral regeneration , Heliade also complimented the Romantic stress on " national specificity " , which he adopted in his later years . At the same time , he centered much of his own literary work on non -original material , either by compiling it from various translations or by translating from a single source ? having his focus on creating the basis for further development by introducing samples of untapped literary genres and styles to Romanian literature .

While several of Heliade 's contributions to literature have been considered to be of low importance , many others , above all his Romantic poem *Zburătorul* , are hailed as major accomplishments . *Zburătorul* , borrowing from Romanian mythology its main character ( the eponymous incubus -like being who visits nubile girls at night ) also serves to depict the atmosphere of a Wallachian village from that period . According to George Călinescu , the poem 's value partly relies on its depiction of lust through the girls ' eyes : " lacking the rages of Sappho and Phaedra . The puberty crisis is explained through mythology and cured through magic " .

An 1837 essay of his , centered on a debate regarding the translation of Homer 's works into Romanian , featured a series of counsels to younger writers : " This is not the time for criticism , children , it is the time for writing , so write as much and as good as you can , but without meanness ; create , do not ruin ; for the nation receives and blesses the maker and curses the destroyer . Write with a clear conscience " . Paraphrased as " Write anything , boys , as long as you go on writing ! " ( *Scrie?i , b?ie?i , orice , numai scrie?i !* ) , this quote became the topic of derision in later decades , and was hailed as an example of Heliade 's failure to distinguish between quality and quantity . The latter verdict was considered unfair by the literary historian Șerban Cioculescu and others , who argued that Ion Heliade Rădulescu 's main goal was to encourage the rapid development of local literature to a European level . Although he recognized , among other things , Heliade 's merits of having removed pretentious boyar discourse from poetry and having favored regular rhyme , Paul Zarifopol accused him and Gheorghe Asachi of " tastelessness " and " literary insecurity " . He elaborated : " Rădulescu was arguably afflicted with this sin more than Asachi , given his unfortunate ambitions of fabricating a literary language " .

Heliade 's name is closely connected with the establishment of Romanian -language theater , mirroring the activities of Asachi in Moldavia . Ever since he partook in creating *Societatea Filarmonică* and the Bucharest Theater , to the moment of his death , he was involved in virtually all major developments in local dramatic and operatic art . In August 1834 , he was one of the intellectuals who organized the first show hosted by *Societatea Filarmonică* , which featured , alongside a cavatina from Vincenzo Bellini 's *Il pirata* , Heliade 's translation of Voltaire 's *Mahomet* . In subsequent years , members of the association carried out the translation of French theater and



other foreign pieces , while encouraging Romanian @-@ language dramatists , an effort which was to become successful during and after the 1840s ( when Constantin Aristia and Costache Caragiale entered their most creative periods ) . Heliade himself advocated didacticism in drama ( defining it as " the preservation of social health " ) , and supported professionalism in acting .

= = = Historical and religious subjects = = =

Ion Heliade R?dulescu made extensive use of the Romantic nationalist focus on history , which he initially applied to his poetry . In this instance as well , the goal was to educate his public ; he wrote : " Nothing is worthy of derision as much as someone taking pride in his parents and ancestors and nothing more worthy of praise than when the ancestors ' great deeds serve as a model and an impulse for competition among descendants " . The main historical figure in his poetry is the late 16th century Wallachian Prince Michael the Brave , the first one to rally Wallachia , Moldavia and Transylvania under a single rule : celebrated in Heliade 's poem O noapte pe ruinele Târgovi?tii ( " A Night on the Ruins of Târgovi?te " ) , he was to be the main character of a lengthy epic poem , Mihaia , of which only two sections , written in very different styles , were ever completed ( in 1845 and 1859 respectively ) . Other historical poems also expanded on the ideal of a single Romanian state , while presenting the 1848 generation as a model for future Romanian politicians .

Throughout the 1860s , one of Heliade 's main interests was an investigation into the issues involving Romanian history during the origin of the Romanians and the early medieval history of the Danubian Principalities . At a time when , in Moldavia , the newly surfaced Chronicle of Huru traced a political lineage of the country to the Roman Empire through the means of a narrative which was later proven to be entirely fictional , Heliade made use of its theses to draw similar conclusions regarding Wallachia . His conservative views were thus expanded to the level of historiographic thesis : according to Heliade , boyars had been an egalitarian and permeable class , which , from as early as the times of Radu Negru , had adopted humane laws that announced and welcomed those of the French Revolution ( he notably claimed that the county @-@ based administration was a democratic one , and that it had been copied from the Israelite model as depicted in the Bible ) .

The ideal he expressed in a work of the period , Equilibru între antithesi ( " A Balance between Antitheses " ) was moderate progressivism , with the preservation of social peace . In Tudor Vianu 's view , partly based on earlier assessments by other critics , Equilibru , with its stress on making political needs coincide with social ones through the means of counterweights , evidenced strong influences from Pierre @-@ Joseph Proudhon 's thought , as well as vaguer ones from that of Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel . Nonetheless , his system parted with Hegelianism in that , instead of seeking a balance between the Geist and existence , it considered the three states of human progress ( Thesis , antithesis , synthesis ) the reflection of a mystical number favored throughout history .

In parallel , Heliade worked on a vast synthesis of his own philosophy of history , based on his interpretation of Biblical theology . His 1858 work , Biblice ( " Biblical Writings " ) , was supposed to form the first of four sections in a Christian history of the world . Referring to this project , C?linescu defined Heliade 's ideas as " interesting , no matter how naïve at times , in general Voltairian and Freemason [ in shape ] " . Biblice partly evidenced Heliade 's interests in the Talmud and Zohar @-@ like gematria ? with emphasis placed on the numbers 3 , 7 , and 10 ? , as well as ample references to the Sephirot . One of his original thoughts on the matter was a reference to " deltas " ( triangles ) of deities ? Elohim @-@ Spirit @-@ Matter and Spirit @-@ Matter @-@ the Universe . A portion of Heliade R?dulescu 's poems also draw on religious themes and discourse . According to George C?linescu , the poet had attempted to create a parallel to both The Divine Comedy and the Bible , from Genesis to Revelation , with a style influenced by Lamartine and Victor Hugo .

= = = Satire and polemics = = =

Heliade was aware of the often negative response to his work : in a poem dedicated to the memory of Friedrich Schiller , he expanded on the contrast between creation and social setting ( in reference

to mankind , it stressed "Te iart? s? faci r?ul , iar binele nici mort ? " They forgive the evil committed against them , but never the good " ) . A noted author of satire , he used it as a vehicle to criticize social customs of his day , as well as to publicize personal conflicts and resentments . As a maverick , he attacked political figures on both sides : conservatives who mimicked liberalism were the subject of his *Areopagiul bestielor* ( " The Areopagus of the Beasts " ) , while many other of his post 1848 prose and poetry pieces mocked people on the left wing of liberalism , most notably C. A. Rosetti and his supporters . During and after his exile , his conflicts with Cezar Bolliac and Ion Ghica also made the latter two the target of irony , most likely based on Heliade 's belief that they intended to downplay his contributions to the Wallachian Revolution of 1848 .

His autobiographical pieces , marked by acid comments on Greek language education , and , in this respect , similar to the writings of his friend Costache Negruzzi , also display a dose of self irony . The enduring polemic with Grigore Alexandrescu , as well as his quarrel with Bolliac , formed the basis of his pamphlet *Domnul Sarsail? autorul* ( " Mr. Old Nick , the Author " ) , an attack on what Heliade viewed as writers whose pretensions contrasted with their actual mediocrity . In other short prose works , Ion Heliade R?dulescu commented on the caricature like nature of parvenu Bucharesters ( the male prototype , *Coconul Dr?gan* , was " an ennobled hoodlum " , while the female one , *Coconi?a Dr?gana* , always wished to be the first in line for the unction ) .

In various of his articles , he showed himself a critic of social trends . During the 1830s , he reacted against misogyny , arguing in favor of women 's rights : " Who has made man create himself unfair laws and customs , in order for him to cultivate his spirit and forsake [ women ] into ignorance ... ? " . In 1859 , after the Jewish community in Gala?i fell victim to a pogrom , he spoke out against Antisemitic blood libel accusations : " Jews do not eat children in England , nor do they in France , nor do they in Germany , nor do they do so wherever humans have become humans . Where else are they accused of such an inhumane deed ? Wherever peoples are still Barbaric or semi Barbaric " .

A large portion of Heliade 's satirical works rely on mockery of speech patterns and physical traits : notable portraits resulting from this style include mimicking the manner of Transylvanian educators ( with their strict adherence to Latin etymologies ) , and his critique of the exophthalmos Rosetti ( with eyes " more bulged than those of a giant frog " ) . Without sharing Heliade 's views on literature , the younger Titu Maiorescu drew comparisons with his predecessor for launching into similar attacks , and usually in respect to the same rivals .

= = In cultural reference = =

A monument to Ion Heliade R?dulescu , sculpted by the Italian artist Ettore Ferrari , stands in front of the University building in central Bucharest . In addition to naming a lecture room after him , the Romanian Academy has instituted the Ion Heliade R?dulescu Award ? in 1880 , it was awarded to Bogdan Petriceicu Hasdeu , for his *Cuvinte den b?trâni* , and worth 5 @, @ 000 gold lei . Ten years after , the prize was the center of a scandal , involving on one side the dramatist Ion Luca Caragiale and , on the other , the cultural establishment formed around members of the National Liberal Party , including Hasdeu and Dimitrie Sturdza . The latter disapproved of Caragiale 's anti Liberal stance and his association with Junimea , as well as to his anti nationalism , dislike of didacticism , and alleged cosmopolitanism . They thus refused to grant him the prize .

A high school in his native Târgovi?te bears the name Ion Heliade R?dulescu , as does a village in the commune of Ziduri , Buz?u County . The grave of Take Ionescu , an influential political figure and one @-@ time Prime Minister of Romania who was Heliade 's descendant , is situated in Sinaia Monastery , in the immediate vicinity of a fir tree planted by Heliade and his fellow 1848 revolutionaries .

In his 1870 poem *Epigonii* ( " The Epigones " ) , Mihai Eminescu paid tribute to early Romanian @-@ language writers and their contributions to literature . An entire stanza is dedicated to Heliade :

During the early 1880s , Alexandru Macedonski and his *Literatorul* attempted to preserve Heliade 's status and his theories when these were faced with criticism from Junimea ; by 1885 , this rivalry

ended in defeat for Macedonski , and contributed to the disestablishment of *Literatorul* .

Although a Junimist for a large part of his life , Ion Luca Caragiale himself saw a precursor in Heliade , and even expressed some sympathy for his political ideals . During the 1890s , he republished a piece by Heliade in the Conservative Party 's main journal , *Epoca* . One of Caragiale 's most significant characters , the Transylvanian schoolteacher Marius Chicoș Rostogan , shares many traits with his counterparts in Heliade 's stories . Developing his own theory , he claimed that there was a clear difference between , on one hand , the generation of Heliade Rădulescu , Ion Câmpineanu , and Nicolae Bălcescu , and , on the other , the National Liberal establishment formed around Pantazi Ghica , Nicolae Misail and Mihail Pătărlăgeanu ? he identified the latter grouping with hypocrisy , demagoguery , and political corruption , while arguing that the former could have found itself best represented by the Conservatives .

Comments about Heliade and his Bucharest statue feature prominently in Macedonski 's short story *Nicu Dereanu* , whose main character , a daydreaming Bohemian , idolizes the Wallachian writer . *Sburătorul* , a modernist literary magazine of the interwar period , edited by Eugen Lovinescu , owed its name to *Zburătorul* , making use of an antiquated variant of the name ( a form favored by Heliade ) . During the same years , Camil Petrescu made reference to Heliade in his novel *Un om între oameni* , which depicts events from Nicolae Bălcescu 's lifetime .

In his *Autobiography* , the Romanian philosopher Mircea Eliade indicated that it was likely that his ancestors , whose original surname was Ieremia , had adopted the new name as a tribute to Heliade Rădulescu , whom they probably admired .