

# Romania

## The Project

Name	<b>Coins from Roman Sites and Collections of Roman Coins in Romania</b>
Address	Romanian Academy, Institute of Archaeology and Art History Str. C. Daicoviciu 2, RO-400320 Cluj-Napoca, Romania Tel. +40-745-592-037; Fax: 0040-264-594470
Responsible	Cristian Gazdac (cgazdac2000@yahoo.co.uk)
Supporting institution	Romanian Academy
Start	Intended 2003; started 2004
Planned duration (ending)	10 years (2014)
Organisation / structure	Financial support from a grant offered by the Romanian Ministry of Culture and Education (3 years only)
Infrastructure	Library: about 20 volumes and 340 off-prints IT: Two computers (one is a 486DX generation and one is a Pentium II; donations by Prof. Günther Dembski and Mag. Franz Humer) Photography: One digital camera Olympus C-5050 (sponsored by the Royal Numismatic Society)
Budget 2004	1,600 Euro
Posts 2004	Publication of volume I: Colonia Ulpia Traiana Sarmizegetusa (7 persons)
Projects	Simultaneously working on different museum collections and sites towards the publication of the next volumes of corpora of coin finds: II. Prolisum – The Roman town and fort III. Napoca- the Roman town; museum collection IV. Apulum – the Roman towns; the legionary fort; museum collection V. The Roman forts: Bologa, Romita, Romanasi VI. The Roman forts: Buciumi, Ilisua, Gherla VII. Drobeta – the Roman town and auxiliary fort; museum collection VIII. Museum collection from Zalau IX. The Roman forts Gilau and Caseiu X. Museum collection from Tg. Mures XI. Potaissa – the Roman town and legionary fort XII. Tibiscum – the Roman town and auxiliary fort XIII. Sucidava – the Roman town XIV. The rural settlements: Cristesti, Micasasa, Micia, Orlea XV. Villae rusticate XVI. The Roman forts on the river Olt XVII. The Roman forts from East Dacia XVIII. Bucharest – museums' collections
Volunteers	a) Dr. Cristian Gazdac (Romanian Academy Cluj) b) Prof. Nicolae Gudea (University of Cluj) c) Prof. Ioan Piso (University of Cluj) d) Prof. Radu Ardevan (University of Cluj) e) Prof. Alexandru Diaconescu (University of Cluj) f) Lecturer Mihai Munteanu (University of Cluj) g) MA Agnes Alföldy-Gazdac (University of Cluj) h) MA Mariana Paslaru (University of Cluj) - Dr. Sorin Cocis (Romanian Academy Cluj) i) Dr. Viorica Suci (Museum of Alba Iulia) j) Dr. Alexandru Matei (Museum of Zalau) k) Dr. Dan Tamba (Museum of Zalau) l) Dr. Corneliu Gaiu (Museum of Bistrita) m) Dr. Livia Calian (Museum of Cluj)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Dr. Nicoleta Demian (Museum of Timisoara)</li> <li>b) Dr. Oltea Dudau (Museum of Sibiu)</li> <li>c) Dr. Gica Baestean (Museum of Sarmizegetusa)</li> <li>d) Dr. Adriana Pescaru (Museum of Deva)</li> <li>e) Dr. Olimpia Palamariu (Museum of Deva)</li> <li>f) Dr. Virginia Radean (Museum of Deva)</li> <li>g) Dr. Viorel Petac (Coin Room Bucharest)</li> <li>h) Dr. Oberlander-Tarnoveanu (Museum of Bucharest)</li> <li>i) Dr. Ioan Stanga (Museum of Drobeta)</li> </ul>
History / development	<p>2002 Established guidelines</p> <p>2002-03 Studied and organized the coin finds from the Roman town <i>colonia Ulpia Traiana Sarmizegetusa</i></p> <p>2003 Official presentation of the whole project at the centennial anniversary of the Romanian Numismatic Society (Bucharest, 23.10.2003); the submission of a grant application to the Ministry of Culture and Education. The grant will run for 3 years (2004-06) and covers 60% of the expenses.</p> <p>2004 (fall/ winter) Publication of the volume I of the series of coin-finds corpus: <i>colonia Ulpia Traiana Sarmizegetusa</i></p> <p>2004-14 Following the first volume and using the normal updates to continue the publication of the other Roman sites or collection of Roman coins from Romania.</p>
Specific interests	<p>Due to the historical situation of Dacia (more or less present-day Romania) – one of the latest Roman provinces to be conquered and one of the earliest to be abandoned by the Roman administration and army – a series publishing a corpus of Roman coin-finds from the sites from this province will be something of a huge interest for historians, economists and numismatists.</p> <p>An exhaustive analysis, through the publication of numismatic monographs, will allow the understanding of the historical evolution of an entire society structured on urban, rural and militarised zones; regions of monetary and natural economies.</p> <p>A huge database will be created that will have an everlasting utility for all those interested in this field of research.</p> <p>The method of inter-regional analysis, a new line of investigation – successfully applied abroad – is a <i>sine qua non</i> condition for this project.</p> <p>The research is focused on the analysis and publication of the coin-finds organized by the type of site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Roman towns</li> <li>b) Roman forts</li> <li>c) Rural settlements</li> <li>d) Villae rusticae</li> </ul> <p>Plus the Roman coin collections in the museums of Romania</p>

## Data

### What is taken into consideration?

Geographical	Romania with its geo-historical regions: Transylvania, Banat, Oltenia (The Little Wallachia).
Chronological	Antiquity.
Type of objects	Coins and other numismatic objects.
Type of finds	Hoards / units and single finds
Recorded information	<p>Units / complex: ca 120 sites and collections; over 50,000 Roman coins.</p> <p>Summaries/<i>registrae</i>: using the old inventory numbers or providing new numbers if necessary.</p> <p>Individual objects: ca 35,000 individual records (very flexible criteria).</p> <p>Publications on coin finds integrated.</p>

### **Type of recorded information**

Units / complex	Based on original documentations (in museums and archaeological institutions) and on publications. Criteria: Findspot (the archaeological context, if any) Quantity (originally and what is left) Photos (drawings in the case of old recorded coin-finds) Bibliography / unpublished Repository
Individual objects	Based on objects, on original documentations and on publications. Criteria: Findspot; (the archaeological context, if any) Metal; denomination; diameter; weight; axis Issuer; mint; dating Description (obverse/ reverse)/ piece Remarks (something special about the item e.g. plated, cast, clipped, counterfeit) Reference Inventory no. Photos (drawings in the case of old recorded coin-finds) Bibliography / unpublished Repository

### **Type of recording**

Word processing	Word
Database	Access, Coin Organizer, Excel, Adobe and Corel programs.

### **Consultation and availability of the data**

Online	A large database in an IT version exists: online access planned in the future.
CD-ROM	Available from Cristian Gazdac on request.
In print	Vol. I.
On demand	Database, tables, text files, in print.

### **Services offered by the project**

Identification of coin finds	Analysing of coin finds from the Roman sites in Romania together with the archaeologists. The evaluation of Roman coin collections and registering the Roman coins in the main museums of Romania. The study and publication of old and recently found Roman hoards from Dacia. Updating the information on coin finds (single finds and hoards) published a few decades ago. Analysing coin finds within their archaeological contexts. Hoards as evidence to analyse and interpret the Roman economy, monetary policy, historical events/ personal losses.
Publications	Special series: Numismatic monographs of Roman sites and Roman coin collections from Romania. Preliminary studies in specialised periodicals.
Further	Recording and processing data; digital photo archives

## Co-operation

National with other coin finds projects: Personal contacts.

International with other coin finds projects: Royal Numismatic Society; Hungarian Numismatic Society discussions on the corpus of Roman coin finds; Personal contacts.

National with related sciences: Departments of Ancient History and Archaeology of the universities from Cluj-Napoca, Timisoara, Alba Iulia, Bucharest; national, county and local museums.

International with related sciences: Museum Carnuntinum (Austria), Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien, Münzkabinett (Austria), Ashmolean Museum, Oxford (United Kingdom), British Museum, London (United Kingdom).

## Perspectives / Planning 2005-2010

Own project:

- Gathering the numismatic material from the sites and museums
- Organizing the database
- Series of conferences on different issues (scientific and marketing approaches for financial support)
- Publication of results – preliminary studies and final *corpora*

On a larger scale and in co-operation with related sciences:

- The study of monetary situation on the area from Middle and Lower Danube in Roman period in order to notify overall and particular aspects.

Cluj-Napoca, 17.6.2004

Cristian Gazdac

## Publications

### Periodicals:

*Studii si cercetari de numismatica* (Studies and researches on numismatics) (SCN), Bucharest  
*Buletinul Societatii Numismatice Romane* (Bulletin of the Romanian Numismatic Society) (BSNR), Bucharest

*Cercetari de Numismatica* (Researches on Numismatics) (CN), Bucharest

### Monographs:

SUCIU, V., *Tezaure monetare din Dacia romana si postromana* [Coin hoards from Dacia in the Roman and post-Roman periods], Cluj-Napoca 2000.

VERTAN, A., *Circulatia monetara in Dobrogea romana (sec I-III)* [Monetary circulation in Roman Dobrudja (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD)], Cluj-Napoca 2002.

GAZDAC, C., *Monetary Circulation in Dacia and the Provinces from the Lower Danube from Trajan to Constantine I (AD 106-337)*, Cluj-Napoca 2002.

### Articles:

In periodicals focused on Ancient History and Archaeology (see Numismatic Literature).

This aspect is extremely difficult. During the former communist regime there were no specialised publications on coin finds. Most of the literature focuses on different aspects of coinage.

Nonetheless, summarised lists of coin finds can be found in:

'Descoperiri monetare antice și bizantine în România', *Buletinul Societatii Romane de Numismatica*, 67-69, 1973-1975.

'Descoperiri recente și mai vechi de monede antice și bizantine (în Republica Populară Română)', *Studii si Cercetari de Istorie Veche (SCIV)*, 14, 4, 1963; 15, 4, 1964; 16, 3, 1965; SCIV 18, 1, 1967; 19, 1, 1968; 21, 2, 1970; 23, 1, 1972.

A French version of all these poor lists can be found in all issues of *Dacia: recherches et découvertes archéologiques en Roumanie*, Bucharest Romania:

'Découvertes monétaires en Roumanie', *Dacia* N.S. 6, 1962; 7, 1963; 13, 1969; 15, 1971; 19, 1975; 21, 1977; 22, 1978; 24, 1980; 25, 1981; 32, 1988; 33, 1989; 34, 1990; 35, 1991; 36, 1992; 37, 1993; 38-39, 1994-1995.

Not to be ignored for lack of modesty, but I will recommend my book for its catalogue of coin finds from the Roman sites and hoards from Dacia (also because it is in English).

Also see the book by SUCIU, V., *Tezaure monetare din Dacia romana si postromana* [Coin hoards from Dacia in the Roman and post-Roman periods], Cluj-Napoca 2000, with a French abstract and a good catalogue of hoards.

For Republican hoards from Romania see now MOISIL, D. – DEPEYROT, G., *Les trésors de deniers antérieurs à Trajan en Roumanie*, Wetteren 2003.

PREDA, C., *Monedele geto-dacilor*, Bucuresti 1973.

PREDA, C. – NUBAR, H., *Histria III. Descoperirile monetare 1914-1970*, Bucuresti 1973.

PREDA, C., « Circulatia monedelor romane postaureliene în Dacia », *SCIV*26/4, 1975, p. 441-486.

CHITESCU, M., *Numismatic Aspects of the History of the Dacian State (BAR IntSer 112)*, Oxford 1981.

GUDEA, N., « Monedele din castrul roman de la Mehadia », *SCIV*26/1, 1975, p. 147-152.

MIHĂILESCU-BĂRLIBA, V., « Geld und Heer in einer kaiserlichen römischen Grenzprovinz. Der Fall von Dacia Porolissensis », in : *Proceedings of the XVII<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Roman Frontier Studies*, Zalău 1999, S. 808-811.

POENARU-BORDEA, Gh. – OCHEȘEANU, R. – NICOLAE, E., « Axiopolis aux III<sup>e</sup>-VII<sup>e</sup> siècles de notre ère à la lumière des découvertes monétaires », *SCN*9, 1989, p. 53-73.