

THE MONASTIC ISSUE IN MODERN ROMANIA. BETWEEN THE LIBERAL
INDIFFERENTISM AND THE COMMUNIST DENIAL

Problema monahismului în România modernă.
Între indiferentismul liberal și negarea comunistă

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Abstract

This paper aims at revealing several major aspects of the debates regarding monasticism in Romania, in the period starting with the mid-19th century and until the issue of the Decree no. 410/1959 by the Communist government. At stake was the opposition of modernism to monasticism, which allegedly promoted an attitude contrary to the active, revolutionary and progressive spirit of the modern world. On account of these allegations, it was suggested that monasticism should have been refuted, either through intellectual propaganda or through administrative measures. The clergy reacted against this accusation, trying to prove that monasticism and its values didn't go against the modern world.