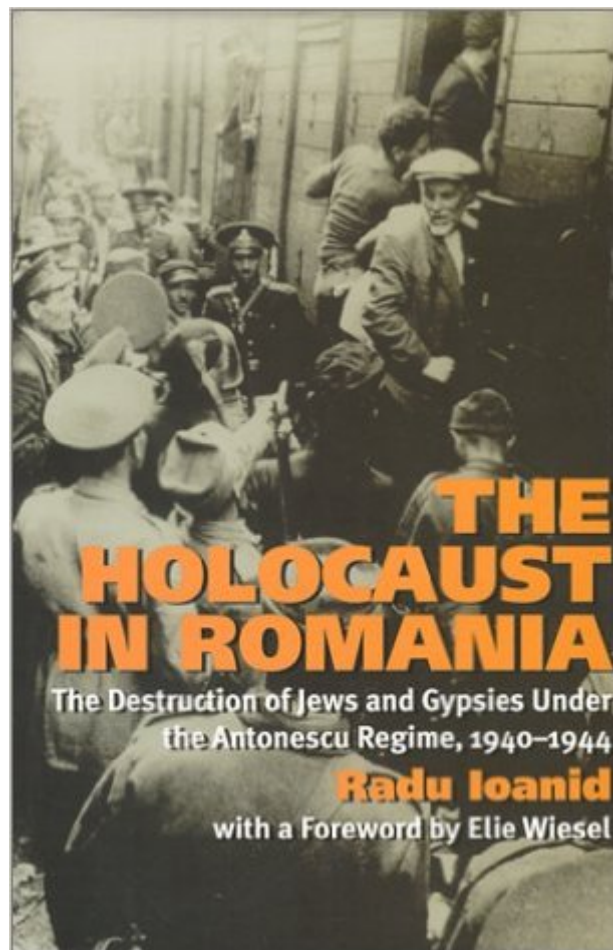


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The Holocaust In Romania: The Destruction Of Jews And Gypsies Under The Antonescu Regime, 1940-1944



Synopsis

Radu Ioanid's account of the destruction of Jews and Gypsies under the regime of Ion Antonescu, based upon privileged access to secret East European government archives, is an unprecedented analysis of heretofore purposely hidden materials. He builds an accurate perspective on Romanian policies of racism, anti-Semitism, and Jewish extermination during this extraordinary period in world history. Published in association with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. With a Foreword by Elie Wiesel. Invaluable...monumental...no comparable work in any language has documented this important history with the thoroughness, skill, and analytical sophistication this book demonstrates. â Leo Spitzer, Dartmouth College

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Area studies may be the next area of creativity and productivity in Holocaust studies. Raul Hilberg has written on the whole -- masterfully, brilliantly and enduringly. Leni Yahil, Lucy Dawidowicz, Martin Gilbert and others have also written on the whole offering differing perspectives but attempting to grasp the whole. The next generation may, of necessity, be more restricted and more restrained in their writing. More documents are available and thus more can be known of each specific area of study, of victim groups, of regions. Many younger scholars do not have the mastery of languages that was common to their elders, most especially to the Eastern European Jews who mastered several languages before they left home. Radu Ioanid is an excellent example of the promise of area studies. A Romanian native, he has written of the Holocaust in Romania. This work, originally written in French, is translated into English because of the generosity and commitment of

the Holocaust Memorial Museum and its determination to make a study of Romanian Jewry available. It has assisted in the publication of two works on Hungarian Jewry including an important condensation of Randolph Brahm masterful study of *The Politics of Genocide: The Holocaust in Hungary*. Ioanid's work has many virtues. It is detailed and precise. His mastery of the material is evident throughout. His interpretations are sound, his methods are clear. Perhaps the two most important virtues of the work are that it is virtually without competition for Ioanid has reviewed and reported on new documentation that has hitherto been virtually unavailable for anyone to see. Too little has been published in the English language regarding the fate of Romanian Jewry.

Radu Ioanid's *The Holocaust in Romania: The Destruction of Jews and Gypsies Under the Antonescu Regime, 1940-1944* (Chicago: Ivan R. Dee Publishers, 2000), has received well-deserved high praise from Elie Wiesel. Wiesel writes in the Foreword: "do not hesitate to say it: Radu Ioanid merits the recognition of all those who are interested in that history which has so lamely become known as the Holocaust. His work treats an unfortunately little-known subject: the tragic fate of the Jewish communities in Romania. Only a few historians, such as the great Raul Hilberg or Dora Litani, among others, have addressed it in their works. In fact, Radu Ioanid often leans upon them, but his work explores more fully the Evil that reigned in Transnistria, between the Bug and Dniester, the two great rivers in Ukraine. His work, based as it is on material from unpublished archives, thus constitutes a new contribution to this field" (vii). Ioanid is one of the first scholars to address the thorny subject of the Holocaust in Romania. Aside from Raul Hilberg, who covers the destruction of Jews throughout Europe including Romania, Jean Ancel (*The History of the Holocaust in Romania*, University of Nebraska Press, 2012) and Denis Deleant (*Hitler's Forgotten Ally*, Palgrave MacMillan Publishing, 2006) also subsequently covered this topic at length. Radu Ioanid, however, paved the way for research focusing on the Holocaust in Romania. His book is very important, not least of all because the Holocaust is denied or minimized by many in Romania: strangely enough, not only by the fringe political elements--Nazi or neo-Nazi sympathizers but also by many conservative and even mainstream Romanians.

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