

rule are carefully examined. On the other side new problems, generated by archaeological discoveries, are introduced in the discussion, as it is the case of newly discovered gold Dacian bracelets (pp. 40-42).

In the second chapter, *Dacica*, the author deals with contacts between Dacians and Romans, their expansion in the Balkans and finally the two wars between them. The author begins with the presentation of the stages of the roman expansion in the Balcan Peninsula, the organization of the *limes* along the Danube and of the provinces nearby Dacia, integrating it in the general history of the Roman Empire. As one would expect, conflict between Decebal and Trajan is widely examined, from its causes to the the development of the two wars of *Expediitio Dacica*, during the years 101-102 and 105-106 A.D. Even so, C. C. Petolescu dedicates several pages to present the Dacian society in this period. Likewise, he presents sensitive issues regarding the origin of Decebal, his ascension to the throne, etc., enumerating all the divergent opinions known in historiography (pp. 97, 98-111). Author pays particular attention to the assumptions released in the literature by Vasile Lica. It is not the first time when C. C. Petolescu demonstrates that some of the above-mentioned historian assumptions about Decebal cannot be sustained (pp. 98-99, especially notes 123, 124).

Chapter three, *Romana*, is dedicated to the Roman period, from the organization of the province until withdrawal of the Roman domination. Is the largest of the whole work. It begins by presenting the administrative organization of the Roman Dacia. It is undoubtedly one of the main considered aspects, especially because, for a long period of time, it was thought that, immediately after the wars there was a single administrative unit - the province of Dacia (pp. 161-167). Numerous epigraphic discoveries have changed considerably the issue, solved some unknowns, and how can we suspect, have raised new problems. Some of them can be analyzed following the dislocation of military units on the territory of the province of Dacia. Each legion which was stationed in Dacia has a brief overview, auxiliary units are very briefly presented, to these data being added information on the defensive and communication system of roman Dacia (pp.188-221). The author pays a special attention to the Dacian soldiers mentioned in inscriptions, as well as roman military units composed of Dacians.

Petolescu exposes in detail and quoting *in extenso* from the literary sources, the issue of the abandonment of Dacia. The thesis of leaving the province by the end of the reign of Gallienus, an idea accepted by several modern historians, is a formal agreement and concordance with the ancient sources. Based on it, we are able to explain the persistence in this area of a part from the Roman population after the official abandonment of the province.

The forth chapter, *Dacoromania*, deals with the history of the area in the late Roman time, focusing on its evolution, „between Empire and the barbarian world”, a geographic area on which, starting with the ninth century, one can speak about Romanian people and Romanian language.

The work *Dacia. Un mileniu de istorie (Dacia. A millennium of history)* is a tight, compact book that covers the main aspects on the history of Dacia.

The author's writing is eloquent and understandable. He uses translations of the original texts and sometimes the original texts to illustrate his contentions, thereby providing a balanced and well-documented work. With a large and updated bibliography and in most of the cases, extremely detailed notes the author exposes not only his own theories but also other assumptions or interpretations circulating in the scientific literature. This is why this work represents in the same time a synthesis and an excellent working instrument.

Adriana Panaite

Florian-Matei Popescu, THE ROMAN ARMY IN MOESIA INFERIOR, Conphys Publishing House, Bucharest, 2010, 325 pp., 7.Tables.

As the author himself confesses, *The Roman Army in Moesia Inferior* is the adapted version of his doctoral thesis with the same title, which he defended with the Faculty of History within University of Bucharest on July 6, 2009. It is for the first time that we have a synthetic work on military organization for this Roman frontier province, as Moesia Inferior was, which go further than the former studies driven by nationalism. Until now the only works available for scholars regarding this topic were obsolete, due to new epigraphic and archaeological discoveries and moreover they were only partial approaches. The first attempt to highlight the defence system on the Lower Danube was a book entitled *Die Legionen den Provinz Moesia von Augustus bis auf Diokletian* (Klio, Beiheft VI, Leipzig, 1906) published by the Bulgarian scholar Bogdan Filow, which presented chronologically all the information available on the legions stationed in the province, followed one year later by H. van de Weerd's study regarding the three legions of Moesia Inferior (van de Weerd, 1907). Despite these efforts, the most important contribution on this topic remained still nowadays Ritterling's article on legions in RE (Ritterling 1925), supplemented about one century later by A. Passerini's new study (Passerini 1949), updated by the proceedings of the congress organized at Lyon in 1998 (Le Bohec 2000). Nevertheless, one can not ignore the Romanian contribution on the troops of Moesia Inferior. First of all, Andrei Aricescu's, *Armata in Dobrogea romană* (Bucharest 1977), unfortunately a book which suffered from national-communist ideology of the time and therefore focusing only on one part of the province. Furthermore, we may mention the more recent contributions, like the one of A. Suceveanu in his work on Roman Dobroudja as a general view (Suceveanu 1990) or even more specialised work, like the book on the Roman military presence on the West Pontic coast (Ionescu, Papuc 2005). Regarding the auxiliary troops, until the publishing of this book, we were able to rely