



## **Contributions to the study of the two Vrancea (Romania) earthquakes in the 19th century: new sources**

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During centuries, the Romanian territory has been shaken by strong earthquakes, most of them being centered within Vrancea Zone, which is situated at the bending area of the South-Eastern Carpathians. The large earthquakes occurred on November 26, 1829 and January 23, 1838 caused numerous victims, as well as very heavy damage or collapse of the constructions. These earthquakes are the two of the strongest seismic events occurred in this area during the 19th century, besides the one that happened on 26 October 1802 and thus of importance for understanding the seismicity of the Vrancea Zone. The severity (in intensity and extension of the damage) of these events had caused many historians, priests, local authorities and not only, to be interested in the record and the study of their effects. Recently, there have been discovered new sources that contain information referring to the above mentioned earthquakes. In this purpose a detailed investigation of the new documentary sources has been performed, in repositories storing the documents of the administrative departments regarding the provinces of the Romanian territory. In the surviving archival series, we found the reports about the effects observed in some counties affected by these seismic events. The newly collected records allowed the authors to increase the number of macroseismic intensity data points, including new observations in the damaged areas. The information have been then evaluated in terms of Medvedev-Sponheuer-Kárník (MSK-64) macroseismic scale.