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Topic: HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Romanian Historical Personalities

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ALEXANDRU IOAN CUZA

- Colonel in the Moldavian army, in 1859 Alexandru Ioan Cuza was elected Prince of Moldavia, then Prince of Wallachia, becoming the first ruler of the United Principalities and since 1862, the first ruler of the **ROMANIA as a STATE**.
- Has led a sustained political and diplomatic activity at external level
- He initiated a series of reforms in education, justice, agriculture, fiscal reform, has developed a new Constitution
- Although his reign lasted only for seven years, he was the first person to set the foundation of modern Romanian society and of state structures.



KING FERDINAND



- Ferdinand I (24 August 1865 – 20 July 1927), was the second king of Romania, from 1914 to 1927, after his uncle's reign, King Carol I. Although, he was a member of Germany's ruling Hohenzollern Imperial family
- He ruled Romania during the First World War, choosing to fight the Central Powers, which led to his exclusion from the Hohenzollern Royal House of by the Emperor Wilhelm II of Germany.

■ At the end of the war, King Ferdinand had the main role in the process of founding the Romanian unitary national state, uniting Bessarabia, Bukovina and Transylvania with the Old Kingdom of Romania.

On the 15th of October 1922, at Alba Iulia, Ferdinand crowned himself as a King of Great Romania. He remained in history, nicknamed "THE UNIFIER".



■ ON THE 1ST OF DECEMBER 2018, ALL THE ROMANIANS CELEBRATED 100 YEARS FROM THE GREAT UNION, MADE BY KING FERDINAND OF ROMANIA.

QUEEN MARIA

- King Ferdinand's wife, Queen Marie, is another remarkable personality of our history, due to her role in the Romanian political life
- Descendent from 2 great houses of Europe (her mother, duchess of Russia, daughter of Alexander the Second and her father, Duke of Great Britain's Royal House), Marie, princess of Wales, became queen at 17 years old, through her marriage with King Ferdinand of Romania, she understood from the beginning the responsibility of the rulers and assumed it with all her heart
- As a queen, she became very popular, both in Romania and abroad
- From the beginning, she was actively involved in internal and external political life being welcomed and respected in the chancelleries of the most powerful states in the world



A GREAT PERSONALITY



- She got involved directly, with the king in the First World War, being present of front, in the middle of the solders to defend the Romanian land
- Queen Marie, more that anyone else, fought for taking back Transylvania, Bessarabia and Bukovina to Romania at the end of the First World War.
- By the unshaken force of her will, this British princess redefined herself as a real Romanian.

A GREAT PERSONALITY

Queen Maria loved the country that adopted her and the people she led,

- she loved our culture and traditions and she brought an important and recognized contribution, internally and externally, to achieve the national objectives of Romania, at the end of the First World War
- By her direct involvement in international politics, sustaining the interests of Romania at the end of the First World War, the queen was recognized founder of the Great Romania and one of the greatest personalities of our national history

