

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910484102403321
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Titolo	Intellectuals and Fascism in Interwar Romania : The Criterion Association // by Cristina A. Bejan
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2019
ISBN	3-030-20165-1
Edizione	[1st ed. 2019.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (346 pages)
Collana	Modernity, Memory and Identity in South-East Europe, , 2523-7985
Disciplina	320.533092 949.802
Soggetti	Russia—History Europe, Eastern—History Civilization—History Intellectual life—History Europe—History—1492- World War, 1939-1945 Russian, Soviet, and East European History Cultural History Intellectual Studies History of Modern Europe History of World War II and the Holocaust
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction -- 2. Nae Ionescu, the Young Generation, 'The Spiritual Itinerary' and Education Abroad, 1927–32 -- 3. The Criterion Association of Arts, Literature and Philosophy: Beginnings and Birth in Bucharest, 1932 -- 4. The Criterion Association's Activity of 1932: 'Idols' Symposia, Politics, Culture -- 5. Criterion Activity of 1933–35: Politics, Exhibitions, Symposia, Music and the Publication -- 6. The Dissolution of the Criterion Association, 1934–35: The Credina Scandal, Male Friendship, Sexuality and Freedom of the Press -- 7. Rhinocerization: Political Activity and Allegiances of the Young Generation, 1935–41 -- 8. The Fate of the Young Generation and the

Legacy of Criterion.

Sommario/riassunto

In 1930s Bucharest, some of the country's most brilliant young intellectuals converged to form the Criterion Association. Bound by friendship and the dream of a new, modern Romania, their members included historian Mircea Eliade, critic Petru Comarnescu, Jewish playwright Mihail Sebastian and a host of other philosophers and artists. Together, they built a vibrant cultural scene that flourished for a few short years, before fascism and scandal splintered their ranks. Cristina Bejan asks how the far-right Iron Guard came to eclipse the appeal of liberalism for so many of Romania's intellectual elite, drawing on diaries, memoirs and other writings to examine the collision of culture and extremism in the interwar years. The first English-language study of Criterion and the most thorough to date in any language, this book grapples with the complexities of Romanian intellectual life in the moments before collapse.
