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ABOUT THE SINUOUS FIBULAE (*GESCHWEIFTE FIBELN*) IN ROMANIA

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Keywords: Kostrzewski M and N fibulae, Almgren 2 and 18 fibulae, Romania, Late La Tène, Early Roman period

Abstract: The German name "*geschweifte Fibeln*" refers to a certain "typological family" of fibulae of the Late La Tène scheme, widespread in Central, North-Central and Eastern Europe. Sinuous fibulae became the guiding fossil of the post-Manching phase, respectively the LT D2 phase, interposed between the final occupation stage of the Manching oppidum (LT D1) and the Roman conquest of the north-alpine regions. Despite their relative rarity, the sinuous fibulae discovered in Romania are of particular importance for the periodization of the Late La Tène period at the Lower Danube and in Transylvania.

Cuvinte-cheie: fibule Kostrzewski M și N, fibule Almgren 2 și 18, România, La Tène târziu, epocă romană timpurie

Rezumat: Denumirea germană „*geschweifte Fibeln*” se referă la o anumită „familie tipologică” de fibule de schemă La Tène târziu, răspândită în Europa Centrală, Nord-Centrală și de Est. Fibulele sinuoase au devenit fosila directoare a fazei post-Manching, respectiv a fazei LT D2, interpusă între etapa finală a locuirii oppidumului de la Manching (LT D1) și cucerirea romană a regiunilor nord-alpine. În ciuda rarității lor relative, fibulele sinuoase descoperite în România au o importanță deosebită pentru periodizarea La Tène-ului târziu la Dunărea de Jos și în Transilvania.

SINUOUS FIBULAE IN CENTRAL AND NORTH-CENTRAL EUROPE

The German name *geschweifte Fibeln*¹ refers to a certain "typological family" of fibulae of the Late La Tène construction, widespread in Central, North-Central and Eastern Europe. The bow is strongly curved outwards while the foot is slightly curved inwards. Thus, the body's trajectory is sinuous². The transition from the foot to the bow may be smooth or broken and may or may not be marked by a protrusion. This family includes the Kostrzewski M and N, Almgren 2 and 18 types³. Most of the specimens were made of bronze, but there are also examples of iron or, rarely, of silver and gold. The high frequency of bronze specimens should be seen in connection with the improvement and intensification of the techniques of manufacture by casting fibulae in the Late La Tène period.

Like the chronological and cultural framing of the Nauheim fibulae, that of the sinuous fibulae was

closely related to the concerns for the periodization of the Central European Late La Tène. The first typological and chronological clarifications were formulated at the beginning of the twentieth century⁴. The particular expressiveness of sinuous fibulae for the periodization of North-Central Europe and Scandinavia (especially of the Jastorf Culture), as well as some regional-chronological differences, have been insightfully revealed by Rolf Hachmann⁵. They were perceived as forms specific to the later stage of the recent phase of the pre-Roman Iron Age in Central and Northern Germany⁶. The absence of sinuous arch fibulae from the Manching settlement and their frequency in cremation tombs in southwestern Bavaria allowed Werner Krämer to propose a bipartite periodization of the Late La Tène⁷. The sinuous fibulae became the guiding fossil of the post-Manching phase, respectively the LT D2 phase, interposed between the

⁴ Schwantes 1909, p. 156; cf. Hachmann 1960, p. 14.

⁵ Hachmann 1960, p. 81–82: „Wesentlich jünger als die Spätlatènefibeln Var. K und die Mittellatènefibeln Var. D/E, F und G/H sind die Spätlatènefibeln Var. J, die Nauheimer Fibel und deren drahtförmige Variante. Zugleich sind diese Fibeln im östlichen Mitteleuropa zweifellos älter als die verschiedenen Varianten der geschweiften Spätlatènefibeln. (...) Spätlatènefibeln der Varianten M-O bezeichnen den jüngsten Abschnitt der jüngeren vorrömischen Eisenzeit im Osten Mitteleuropas, den Abschnitt D.“

⁶ Hachmann 1960, p. 102. The late phase of the necropolis at Großromstedt was to be equated in later research with the "Großromstedt B Horizon" (Peschel 1999, p. 91–92; Peschel 2005, p. 214; cf. Völling 1995, p. 78–80; Hüssen 2001, p. 280–281; Döhlert 2009, p. 422–423); cf. Döhlert-Albani 2014, p. 239–240.

⁷ Krämer 1962. More recently, Hüssen 2001 plenarily debates the links between the LT D2 phase in Bavaria and the Großromstedt horizon in central Germany; cf. Rieckhoff 2008, p. 5.

¹ Expressions such as "*Form (...) mit leichter Schweifung*" (form with a slight sinuosity) or "*Fibeln mit (...) geschweiftem Bügel*" (sinuous body fibula) were used by Beltz 1911, p. 688–689 to describe the fibulae in figs. 56 (type L) and 61 (a specimen from Gurina) respectively. The term "*geschweifte Fibeln*" was consecrated by Krämer 1962, p. 308 by distinguishing the La Tène D2 horizon in Bavaria, explicitly referred to as "*Horizont der geschweiften Fibeln (D2)*". Košćević 1980, p. 12 translates "*fibulae with a smooth bow*"; Božić 2008, p. 49 and 96 uses a less suggestive English term: "*the arched fibula*" (Slovak: "*usločeni fibul*").

² Suggestive formulations at Hachmann 1960, p. 238 („*Spätlatènefibeln (...) mit harfenförmiger Schweifung*") or Döhlert-Albani 2014, p. 226 („*S-förmig geschweifte Fibeln*").

³ Kostrzewski 1919, p. 37–39, figs. 23–25; Almgren 1923, p. 4. On the insight, but also the limitations of Oscar Algren's vision: Völling 1998, p. 39.

final stage of the occupation of this oppidum (LT D1) and the Roman conquest of the north-alpine regions. Even if the absolute chronological landmarks were revised later, Werner Krämer's relative chronological distinction was fully validated in the subsequent research in Central Europe and other more or less neighboring regions⁸. However, as Rolf Hachmann observed and as was to be reiterated in later research (see below), some forms of the sinuous fibulae were also perpetuated in the Early Roman Period⁹. It should be noted that, according to recent research, the dissolution of the economic and power center of Manching took place in the first decades of the first century BC and is indicated especially by the end of the import of Mediterranean amphorae (ca. 80/70 BC)¹⁰. The emergence of the sinuous fibulae is subsequent to this moment. Their spread was correlated with the spread of 'Germanic' groups in Central Europe¹¹.

The classification of the sinuous fibulae has been gradually refined from the general typologies of Robert Beltz, Józef Kostrzewski and Oscar Almgren at the beginning of the twentieth century¹², to the more recent studies by Sabine Rieckhoff and Thomas Völling¹³. Despite some criticism¹⁴, the consistency of Thomas Völling's interpretations stems from his supra-regional vision. The morphology and variables of the mechanism of the various types of sinuous fibulae illustrate in an exemplary way the transition from the characteristics of the Late La Tène fibulae to those specific to the Early Roman Period. More precisely, on a morphology innovated in *barbaricum* are superimposed various innovations made in Roman workshops, such as the spring protection plate and the cord hook. These elements are decisive in the classification of the sinuous fibulae.

Except for a few specimens from the Poieniști-Lucașeuca type necropolis from Dolineani¹⁵, Kostrzewski types M and N have not been recognized and debated in

Romanian literature¹⁶. The confusion between the Late La Tène "filiform" fibulae (*spätlatènezeitlichen Drahtfibeln*) and the "military" fibulae made a long career¹⁷, but it was not observed that the body trajectory of many of them shows the sinuosity specific to the Kostrzewski M and N types¹⁸. Reporting the specimens in Romania ("the space that interests us")¹⁹ the problem of the (not only sinuous) fibulae in the cultures with cremation necropolises of the recent phase of the pre-Roman Iron Age (Jastorf, Przeworsk, Zarubincy, Poieniști-Lucașeuca) was overlooked. These trans-continental links had been pointed out earlier by Rolf Hachmann²⁰.

The situation is quite different with certain sub-types of the forms Almgren 2 and 18 – more precisely, 2a and 18a in Thomas Völling's classification²¹: these were recognized in Brad, Răcățoiu, Sighișoara and Șimleu Silvaniei by Aurel Rustoiu who renamed them "the fibulae with the 'broken bow' and included them in subtypes 22a and 22b of his classification²². However, the identification criteria were not specified, and their absence generated inconsistencies. Vasile Iarmulski and Octavian Munteanu rightly drew attention to the fact that some of the fibulae of the "Rustoiu 22 type" can be attributed to the Kostrzewski O type²³.

If in Central and Northern European research the typology of sinuous fibulae is well-known, for scholars and readers in Romania, a synthetic presentation of the criteria for their classification, chronological and cultural framing remains even now as useful as it is necessary. The number of sinuous fibulae in Romania is small. However, the specification of their morphology and chronology is able to provide certain precious clues for the appropriate framing of some representative monuments of the archaeological

⁸ Rieckhoff 2008, p. 5–9; cf. Božič 2008, p. 49, 144–148, tab. 5; Schönfelder 2021, p. 123.

⁹ Hachmann 1960, p. 109: „Die geschweifte Fibel ist die gängige Fibel der ausgehenden vorrömischen Eisenzeit; allenthalben in Mitteleuropa kommt sie jedoch auch noch in frühkaiserzeitlichen Zusammenhängen vor.“

¹⁰ Winger 2015, p. 113–114.

¹¹ Godłowski 1994, p. 480: „Das Vorkommen geschweiften Fibeln steht gebietsweise unmittelbar in Zusammenhang mit germanischer Besiedlung.“

¹² Beltz 1911, p. 688–689; Kostrzewski 1919, p. 37–39.

¹³ Rieckhoff 1995, p. 56–62; Völling 2005, p. 114–128, 137–143 (with consistent references to the Central European debates). The classification of Leifeld 2007, p. 96–106 is relevant only for the Trier region.

¹⁴ Rieckhoff 2007, p. 422–423, notes 81–82; Döhlert 2009, p. 419–420; Döhlert-Albani 2014, p. 235, note 56 and p. 239, note 80.

¹⁵ Babeș 1993, p. 96–97, types III.2 (= Kostrzewski M) and III.3 (= Kostrzewski N); cf. Iarmulski 2016, p. 484; Zirra 2017, p. 79–80. The study by Iarmulski, Munteanu 2022 highlights that in the last three decades, no new Kostrzewski M and N fibulae have been discovered in Poieniști-Lucașeuca contexts. Other sinuous fibulae in the Prut-Dniester area come from Sarmatian burials (cf. Hellström 2018, p. 62).

¹⁶ Rustoiu 1997, p. 39, note 86 compares the specimens of its type 6 to a number of Central European forms, including „*einsernen Drahtfibeln mit ... 'geschweiftem' Bügel*“ (Rieckhoff 1975, p. 14–15). Teodor, Țau 1997, p. 62 evoke the „*Geschweiftenfibeln*“ (sic!), without acknowledging their presence at Poiana.

¹⁷ Mircea Babeș (accepted by Rustoiu 1997, p. 42) emphasize Ambroz's confusion (Ambroz 1966, p. 23–25) between the "military" fibulae and the types Kostrzewski fig. 15 (= Hachmann 1960, pl. 2/22) and Almgren 15 (Babeș 1975, p. 134, note 39). The early dating of the latter, proposed on the basis of a questionable context from Cârlomanesti, had in fact been inspired by Hachmann 1960, p. 78–79: „*Was für die Spätlatenefibel Var. I gilt, dürfte auch für die in Wilanow vertretene Nauheimer Fibel, sowie für die mit dieser nahe verwandte Spätlatenefibel Kostrzewski Abb. 15 zutreffen. Alle diese Fibeln müssen etwas älter als die geschweiften Fibeln sein...*“ (cf. Döhlert-Albani 2014, 239: Kostrzewski fig. 15 fibulae appear at the end of the LT D1 phase / Jastorf B horizon). For the "military" fibulae and their dating from the reign of Claudius to the time of the Flavians: Riha 1969, p. 59–61, type 1.6 (cf. Rustoiu 1997, p. 42, type 9). Confusion persists at Teodor, Țau 1997, p. 64 or Cociș et alii 2022, p. 330–333.

¹⁸ E.g. Spănu 2023, p. 264, 251 fig. 3/4–5 (two fibulae from Snagov).

¹⁹ Rustoiu 1997, p. 39.

²⁰ Hachmann 1960, p. 120–124.

²¹ Völling 1994, p. 179–188, p. 222–226.

²² Rustoiu 1997, 56, p. 113, list 19, p. 222, fig. 66/4–8 (only some fibulae from Brad and Sighișoara are illustrated).

²³ Iarmulski, Munteanu 2022, p. 203.

rode like body with moderate sinuosity	cord over the bow	Kostrzewski M		
	cord under the bow	Kostrzewski N		
	plate protecting the spring, without hook	Almgren 18a		
	plate protecting the spring, hook	Almgren 18b		
body with extreme sinuosity and slightly broken foot	cord under the bow (no plate or hook)	bow section	●	Almgren 2aI
		bow section	▲ or ◐	Almgren 2aII
	plate, hook, slightly widened body	Almgren 2b		

Figure 1. Synthesis of the morphological criteria defining sinuous fibulae variants (after Völling 2005, p. 114–128, 137–143).

Horizons (after Völling)	Kostrzewski M-a	Kostrzewski M-b	Kostrzewski N-a	Kostrzewski N-b	Kostrzewski N-c	Almgren 18a	Almgren 18b	Almgren 2a	Almgren 2b	
I										LT D1
II	■		■	■		■	■			LT D2a
III		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	LT D2b
IV				■	■					Roman period B1a Roman period B1b
V				■	■					

Figure 2. Schematic relation of sinuous fibulae to the relative chronological horizons distinguished by Völling 2005, p. 114–128, 137–143.

culture of pre-Roman Dacia in the broader context of supra-regional periodizations.

KOSTRZEWSKI M AND N TYPES

The difference between the Kostrzewski M and N types is indicated by the position of the cord: over the bow in the case of type M and under the bow in the case of type N²⁴. The Kostrzewski M type combines two variants.

²⁴ The German term “*Armbrustkonstruktion*” (crossbow construction) indicates the placement of the cord under the bow; see: Almgren 1923, p. 3; Babeş 1975, p. 134; Völling 2005, p. 124. Only for Zirra 2017, p. 75, 79, 82, the term “crossbow” would designate the spring with a large wingspan, regardless of the position of the cord.

The specimens of the M-a variant have a low, triangular catchplate, while the specimens of the M-b variant have a higher, quadrangular catchplate. The M-a variant is dated earlier and falls in the II horizon of Thomas Völling’s periodization, synchronous with the LT D2 phase.²⁵ The M-b variant is dated later, appears at the end of horizon II (LT D2b) and continues in horizon III (equivalent to the Augustan era)²⁶.

Within the Kostrzewski N type, three separate variants have been distinguished according to the shape and section of the body (bow and foot). The body of these fibulae can be filiform (N-a variant), narrow bandiform

²⁵ Cf. Brandt 2001, p. 91; Bockius, Łuczkiwicz 2004, p. 59.

²⁶ Völling 2005, p. 121–124; cf. Leifeld 2007, p. 100.

(N-b variant) and wide faceted and bandiform (N-c variant). Type N is frequent in the LT D2 phase and in the Augustan era (horizons II–III/Völling, Jastorf C-D/Brand)²⁷ and appeared even in contexts dated after the middle of the first century AD. Thomas Völling proposes a convincing chronological framing of the variants of type N. If the filiform arc of the variant N-a is still a characteristic of the Late La Tène, the widening and faceting of the arc of the variant N-c finds its analogies in the case of some provincial types. The Kostrzewski N-a fibulae were widely distributed in *Germania Magna*, but the most important concentrations are found in northern Germany and Poland. Isolated specimens are found in Scandinavia, in the Alpine regions and in the north-Pontic area²⁸.

ALMGREN 18 TYPE

Compared to the Kostrzewski M and N types, the Almgren 18 fibulae are distinguished by a particular morphological novelty: the protection plate of the spring. This element was reproduced and amplified in the case of many types of provincial fibulae. Free-cord specimens form the sub-type Almgren 18a (with three regional variants: Altenburg, Dünsburg and Wederath)²⁹. Most researchers believe that Almgren 18a fibulae were produced in the eastern Alpine (north-Adriatic) regions³⁰. From there, the sub-type spread to central and western Germany. Sabine Rieckhoff, however, advocates the location of production sites in areas of maximum concentration of Almgren 18a fibulae in central Germany³¹. The Almgren 18a fibulae have ornamental peculiarities in common with some provincial fibulae types (e.g. openwork zigzag ribs of the catchplate). Therefore, no matter where they were produced, north or east of the Alps, the Almgren 18a fibulae reflect the influence of provincial-Roman manufactures.

The specimens of sub-type 18b, widespread in southwestern Germany, are characterized by another innovation of Mediterranean origin: the cord hook³². This element was to be fully perpetuated in the manufacture of the Roman fibulae with bilateral spring. The origin of the sub-type Almgren 18b must be sought in the Trevere or the Alpine region³³. Both sub-types (Almgren 18a and 18b) were appropriately assigned to the LT D2 phase in Central Europe. Both sub-types remained in use in the Augustan era (horizons II and III of Thomas Völling's periodization)³⁴.

ALMGREN 2 TYPE

The Almgren 2 fibulae were perceived as the later descendants of the typological "family" of sinuous fibulae and were assigned to the early imperial era (especially to phase B1a and less often to phase B1b, respectively to Völling's III and IV horizons)³⁵. The foot is broken immediately after the protrusion. The bending of the bow is extreme and dominates the aesthetic expression of the general shape, so that the sinuosity of the bow-foot transition no longer seems representative. These features can be perceived as an "evolution" from the moderate sinuosity of the earlier Kostrzewski M fibulae, to the pronounced sinuosity of the Kostrzewski N and Almgren fibulae 18³⁶. The overall appearance of the body of the Almgren 2 fibulae bears significant similarities to the early variants of the Aucissa fibulae. The late (post-La Tène) dating and the significantly different morphology led Thomas Völling to remove the Almgren 2 type from the sinuous fibulae³⁷. Other authors such Rolf Hachmann and Kazimierz Godłowski, maintain the Almgren 2 type in the category of sinuous fibulae³⁸.

As early as 1968, Paul Glüsing distinguished two variants of the Almgren 2 type³⁹. The Almgren 2a variant features a cord set under the bow (like the Kostrzewski N type) and brings together two sub-variants distinguished by Thomas Völling in 1994⁴⁰: Almgren 2a1 – with a circular section body (sub-variant acknowledged for the Kostrzewski O type) and Almgren 2a11 – with a solid bow, triangular section or in the shape of the letter D, decorated on the median axis with a row of pseudo-granulated pearls⁴¹. Examples of the Almgren 2a variant were manufactured in Noricum and Pannonia; from there they spread to central Germany (where they were probably produced locally), as well as to Bohemia and Poland⁴².

Almgren 2b variant is characterized by the presence of a hook and plate, as in the case of the Almgren 18b type. However, the trajectory of the foot and that of the bow are different (the sinuosity has been amplified) and, in general, the body of the fibulae is flat. The fibulae of the Almgren 2b variant were produced in provincial workshops (Noricum, Pannonia), but probably also in Bohemia⁴³.

SINUOUS FIBULAE IN LOCAL SETTLEMENTS

As shown above, the sinuous fibulae discovered in Romania were classified as Rustoiu 22 type. From the

²⁷ Brandt 2001, p. 62; cf. Döhlert-Albani 2014, p. 239.

²⁸ Völling 2005, p. 125, map 13.

²⁹ Völling 1998, p. 42–43; Völling 2005, p. 115–116.

³⁰ Völling 1998, p. 42, note 10 with previous literature.

³¹ Rieckhoff 1995, p. 60.

³² The distinction between the variants Almgren 18a and 18b belongs to Glüsing 1968, p. 6–7 (quoted by Völling 1998, p. 42). Cf. Feugère 1985, p. 18; Völling 2005, p. 118–119.

³³ Völling 1998, p. 43; Völling 2005, p. 120.

³⁴ Völling 2005, p. 117; cf. Rieckhoff 1995, p. 186.

³⁵ Völling 1994, p. 229; Völling 1998, p. 40–42.

³⁶ Döhlert-Albani 2014, p. 239.

³⁷ Völling 2005, p. 138.

³⁸ Hachmann 1960, p. 81–82; Godłowski 1994, p. 480.

³⁹ Glüsing 1968 quoted by Völling 1998, p. 39.

⁴⁰ Völling 1994, p. 222.

⁴¹ The ornament also appears on examples of the Titelberg variant of the Almgren 18b sub-type; Völling 2005, p. 119, fig. 32.

⁴² Völling 1998, p. 40–42; cf. Völling 1995, p. 38, map 4.

⁴³ Völling 2005, p. 140–143.

perspective of the revisions mentioned above, a number of fibulae must be typologically reclassified. For example, one of the fibulae from Brad⁴⁴ has a circular section bow and a broken foot under the protrusion, but lacks both the protective plate and hook. These features correspond to the Almgren 2a1 variant, respectively to the Kostrzewski O type. Another fibula from Brad and a specimen from Sighişoara⁴⁵ have a sinuous foot, the cord is passed under the bow, but they have neither the protective plate nor the hook. These characteristics are specific to the Kostrzewski N type. The documentary deficiencies (absence of illustrated sections), as well as the incomplete preservation of the catch-plates do not allow the certain identification of the variant (N-a, N-b or N-c). Also, to the Kostrzewski N type can be assigned certain fibulae from Răcăţu⁴⁶. Two fibulae from Brad⁴⁷ have a broken foot, a spring protection plate and hook; these characteristics correspond to the Almgren 2b variant. One may wonder if the specimen from Ocniţa, identified as a “fibula with a broken body” (*“Knickfibel mit weichem Bügelumbruch”* / Almgren 20 type / Riha 2.7 type)⁴⁸ may be reinterpreted as an example of the Almgren 2b variant, because the leg is not wide, but has a flat band appearance.

These examples highlight the modest viability of the Rustoiu 22 type, which, in fact, brings together various late forms of sinuous fibulae. The use of terminology that has become traditional in Central and Western European research (the nomenclature of Oscar Almgren or Jósef Kostrzewski) is preferable, because the different types of sinuous fibulae originate in distant regions, and the “space we are interested in” must transcend modern borders.

In the repertoire of fibulae from Poiana several specimens corresponding to some of the types of the group of sinuous fibulae can be identified. The specimens in figure 3/1–2 are typical for the Kostrzewski N-a variant⁴⁹. Most likely, these two fibulae are the product of workshops in the areas of the Jastorf or Przeworsk cultures. The same assignation could be accepted for the specimens in figures 3/3 and 5. In these cases, however, the more precarious appearance of the manufacture could also indicate a local imitation. Other fibulae with

a filiform constitution and sinuous body from Poiana⁵⁰ could be interpreted, in turn, as local imitations of the model offered by the Kostrzewski N fibulae. The path of penetration of the model offered by the sinuous fibulae was precisely the one opened more than two centuries earlier by the bearers of the Poienestî – Lucaşeuca culture. This connection between Poiana and the south-Baltic regions is all the more significant, since during the period of use of the Kostrzewski N-a fibulae, the tradition of the Poienestî – Lucaşeuca funerary ritual manifested its last reverberations⁵¹. This relationship between the center of Poiana and the world of the groups of flat cremation necropolises from the late phase of the pre-Roman Iron Age was not a novelty. Also, at Poiana was discovered a Zarubincy fibula whose classification in the early phase of the Late La Tène (LT D1) is both plausible and possible⁵².

The catch-plate of the specimen in figure 3/4 has a rectangular cutout, but also a circular perforation. Such a combination is specific to many examples of the Almgren 2a1 and 2a11 variants⁵³, but it also appears on fibulae of some synchronous types⁵⁴ or of an earlier date, such as the Kostrzewski K fibula at Kobyly in Bohemia⁵⁵. However, the bow of the specimen in figure 3/4 is circular in section: a characteristic of the Almgren 2a1 sub-variant.

The specimen in figure 3/6 has a strongly curved bow, with a section in the shape of the letter “D”, decorated with two rows of punched dots; the catch-plate has openings interspersed with zigzag ribs (now missing); the cord is bent under the bow. These characteristics correspond to the Almgren 2a11 variant. Thus determined, the Almgren 2a specimens from Poiana (fig. 3/4 and 6) can be interpreted as imports from the Norico-Pannonian region. In fact, in Poiana there are other types originating from this region, such as the Almgren 236 fibulae or the fibulae with canid protoma⁵⁶. The possibility that the Almgren 2a fibulae were imitated locally should not be excluded. In this sense, a few small specimens, worked carelessly (possible scraps?) from Poiana are suggestive⁵⁷.

The spread of the “early” sinuous fibulae (Kostrzewski N) reflects the trans-regional connections of a world still devoid of Rome’s interference⁵⁸. On the other hand, the “late” sinuous fibulae (Almgren 2a) indicate a significant reorientation of the supra-regional contacts of the Poiana center. Regardless of where they originated (the eastern Alpine region or western Germany), the Almgren 2a fibulae were manufactured in workshops located in the Roman cultural sphere.

⁴⁴ Rustoiu 1997, p. 222, fig. 66/4 (this specimen is assigned to the Kostrzewski O type by Iarmulski, Munteanu 2022, p. 203).

⁴⁵ Rustoiu 1997, p. 222, fig. 66/5–6.

⁴⁶ Căpitanu 1984, p. 78, fig. 5/1, 3, 7, 10–11.

⁴⁷ Rustoiu 1997, p. 222, fig. 66/7–8.

⁴⁸ Cociş *et alii* 2022, p. 337–338, p. 335 with pl. II/12a–b. About the same fibula, Sîrbu, Măndescu 2022, p. 220 states that it is “close to Almgren 20 and Rustoiu 22a”. In fact, Rustoiu 1997, p. 56 equates its sub-type 22a with the Almgren type 18a which, by definition (Völling 2005, p. 114–116), lacks the hook. The fibula from Ocniţa (Cociş *et alii* 2022, p. 335, pl. II/12a–b = Sîrbu, Măndescu 2022, p. 253, fig. 2/6) has a hook and a spring protection plate, but the body does not have the rod-like appearance (as in the case of Almgren 18b fibula), but is bandiform and, thus, is closer to the specimens of the Almgren 2b type (e.g. Völling 2005, p. 140–143, fig. 53). Such dilemmas will always preoccupy researchers of prehistoric and Roman fibulae.

⁴⁹ Cf. Völling 2005, p. 124, fig. 38.

⁵⁰ Teodor, Ţau 1997, p. 76–77, 87, fig. 10/1 and 13–15, fig. 11/5, 13, 16, fig. 21/11.

⁵¹ Babeş 1993, p. 142 and p. 153–154.

⁵² Munteanu *et alii* 2024, p. 231, fig. 7/22.

⁵³ Völling 1998, p. 40; Völling 2005, p. 138, fig. 51.

⁵⁴ E.g. one Idrija-type fibula from Sisak/Siscia: Tonc 2018, p. 257, fig. 4.

⁵⁵ Hachmann 1960, p. 114, fig. 37/10.

⁵⁶ Spănu 2019a; Spănu 2022.

⁵⁷ Teodor, Ţau 1997, p. 78, 91, fig. 11/2 and 14, fig. 25/6.

⁵⁸ Łuczkiwicz, Schönfelder 2008, p. 199.

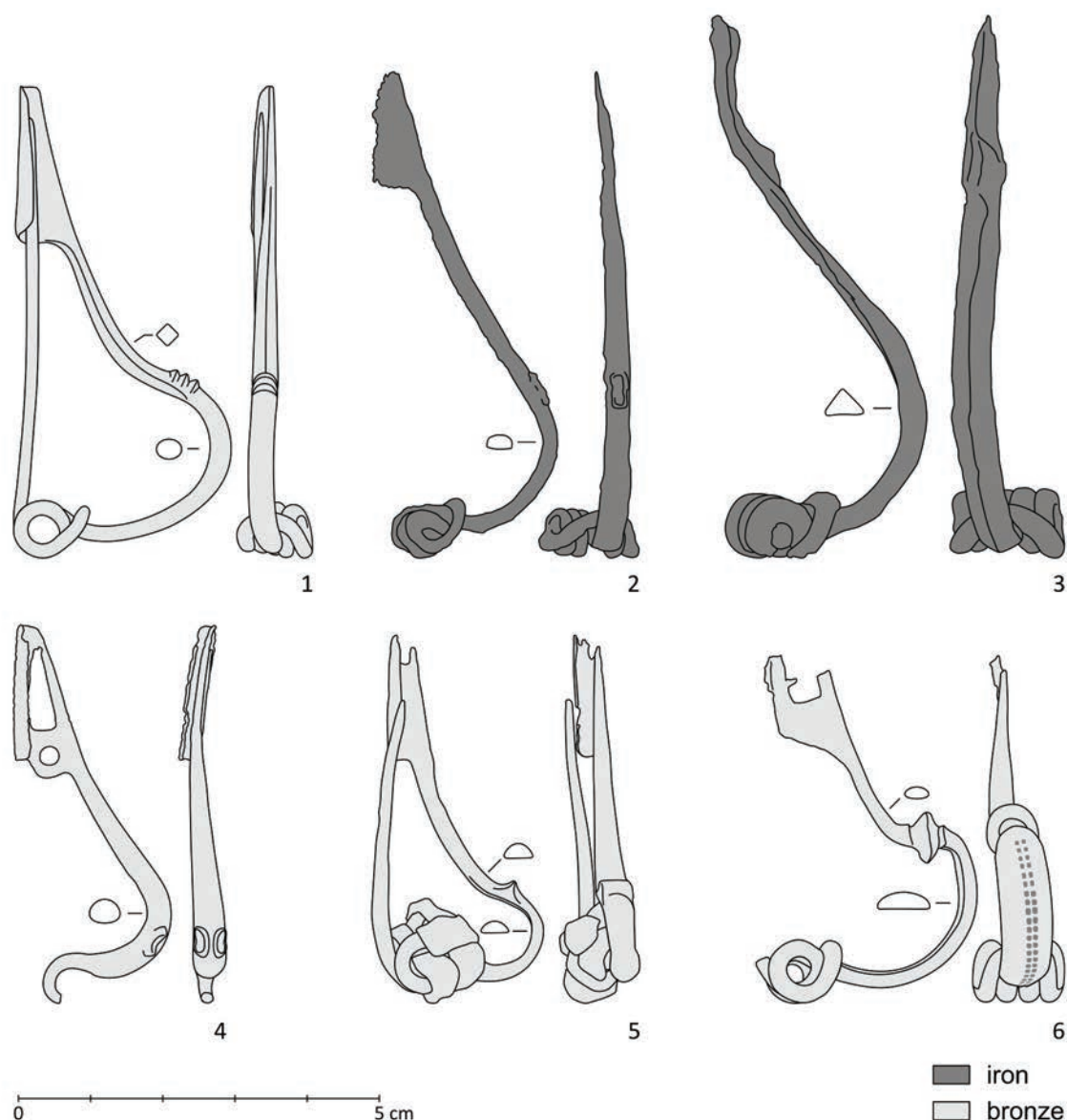


Figure 3. Sinuous fibulae from Poiana: 1–3 and 5: Kostrzewski N-a variant; 4: Almgren 2a variant; 6: Almgren 2aII variant. Drawings after original. For the technical description see Teodor, Ţau 1997, p. 99, nr. 161, fig. 15/2; p. 97, nr. 114, fig. 11/1; p. 96, nr. 60, fig. 6/2; p. 103, nr. 330, fig. 25/1; p. 104, nr. 376, fig. 22/8; p. 102, nr. 288, fig. 22/6.

In the repertoire of the fibulae from Poiana, the Almgren 18 type is not attested. One may wonder whether the absence of this type, dated in the period of transition from Late La Tène to the Early Imperial period, corresponds precisely to the moment of the restructuring of the networks of supra-regional relations of the center of Poiana. This reorientation coincides with the early acculturation process of local communities to the Mediterranean models managed by the Early Roman Empire.

The Almgren 2a specimens from Poiana can be included among the earliest types of “Roman” fibulae imported not only to the site on the Siret River, but also in pre-Roman Dacia, as are the Alesia and Jezerine fibulae⁵⁹,

or the leontomorphic fibulae (Feugère 18b1 type)⁶⁰. These fibulae, innovated and manufactured in western and central European provincial workshops, reflect the cultural and technological character of the Roman expansion. These types were imported to Poiana almost a century before the detachment of a Hispanic cohort to Piroboridava, as attested by the Hunt’s *pridianum*⁶¹. Beyond the apparently abstract character of the classifications and periodizations of the archaeological material, the study of allogeneic fibulae has a special potential for understanding particular cultural-anthropological conjunctures. Along with the

⁵⁹ Rustoiu 1995; Rustoiu 1997, p. 51 (type 17) and p. 59–60 (type 28).

⁶⁰ Spănu 2020; Cociş *et alii* 2022, p. 334–335, pl. II/9; Sirbu, Măndescu 2022, p. 217, fig. 1/6.

⁶¹ Fink 1958, p. 113–114; Syme 1959, p. 32–33.

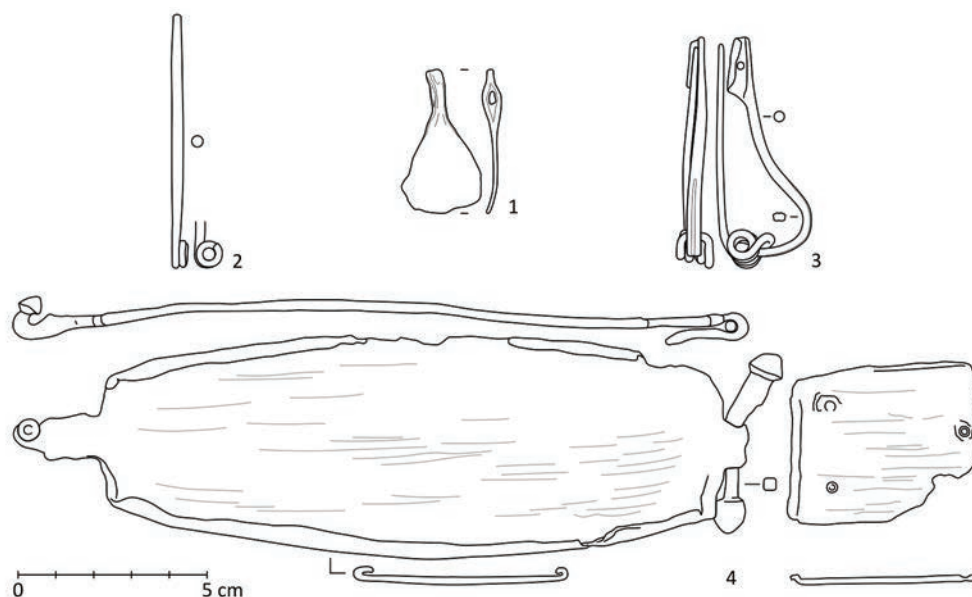


Figure 4. Rotbav ("Platou" site), grave 3 (1–2: silver; 3: silver or bronze? 4: iron and bronze); after *Sîrbu et alii* 2020, p. 329, fig. 9.

other numerous imports of ceramics, glass and coins⁶², the fibulae discovered at Poiana consistently plead for the interpretation of the settlement here as an *emporium* of the Roman trade in *barbaricum* during the early Roman period. However, this *emporium* was not built on virgin land. Complex cultural connections can be perceived even before the Augustan era. The sinuous fibulae only partially reveal the spectacular cultural connections that linked the center of Poiana to distant regions of Europe, at the crossroads of the ages.

SINUOUS FIBULAE IN LOCAL BURIALS AND HOARDS

Despite their relative rarity, the sinuous fibulae are of particular importance for the periodization of the Late La Tène period in the Lower Danube area and Transylvania. Two discoveries reveal a special importance: grave 3 from Rotbav and the hoard from Bistrita.

In the Padea – Panagyurski Kolonii inventories south of the Danube, there are no fibulae of the Late La Tène scheme so far⁶³. In fact, even north of the Danube, such associations are rare. Among the exceptions, it is worth mentioning the Kostrzewski K fibula from a burial from Bălănești⁶⁴ and the Nauheim fibula from the hut from Căciulătești / Dobrești⁶⁵. In the Central European regions, such forms are specific to the LT D1 phase, and, only

eventually, may also indicate a later date⁶⁶. A definite dating in the LT D2 phase is indicated only by a fibula from Rotbav.

Feature 3 in Rotbav ("Platou" site) is part of a small group of cremation graves that can be assigned to the Padea – Panagyurski Kolonii group. The absence of weapons or harness does not hinder this cultural assignation. Based on the inventory and in the absence of anthropological identifications, grave 3 could be interpreted as the burial of a possible female. The tomb contained a fibula of the Late La Tène construction, a Laminci-type belt-plate and an axe-shaped pendant⁶⁷. The typological chronology of the fibula, as proposed so far in the literature („soldier's fibula")⁶⁸ is erroneous. In fact, the lower cord, the perforated catch-plate, the faceted and grooved bow, wider towards the spring and round towards the catch-plate (Fig. 4) correspond to the Kostrzewski N type fibulae of north-central Europe⁶⁹. The presence of a Kostrzewski N fibula among the grave goods of the Padea – Panagyurski Kolonii group is so far unique. This discovery certifies the

⁶² The most important contributions to the classification and chronological framing of the Nauheim fibulae are due to Karina Striwe (Striwe 1996) and Steffan Demetz (Demetz 1999); cf. Božić 2008, p. 50–59.

⁶³ Sîrbu, Savu 2015, p. 101–102, p. 106–107, figs. 7–8; Sîrbu et alii 2020, p. 308, p. 328–329, figs. 7 and 9.

⁶⁴ Sîrbu et alii 2020, p. 308, p. 328–329, fig. 8/1, 4, 9/1, 4; cf. Rustoiu 1997, p. 42, type 9.

⁶⁵ Völling 1994, p. 198–207. The supra-regional connections of the Rotbav discoveries are multiple. The fibula from feature 9 (Sîrbu et alii 2020, p. 312–313, figs. 23/9, 24/4) belongs to the Vinkovci type (Dizdar 2003, p. 338, map 1; Dizdar, Potreba 2005, p. 61, map 2; Dizdar 2016, p. 37–38, fig. 8/1–3), and the chariot elements in feature 8 (Sîrbu et alii 2020, p. 310–312, fig. 22) have analogies as far south as France and Denmark (cf. Schönfelder 2002, p. 230–247; Guštin, Stanković-Pesterak 2020, p. 67, fig. 10). The cultural expressiveness of the Rotbav discoveries has not yet been sufficiently understood.

⁶² Popescu 2013, p. 26, diagramm 2; Boțan 2015, p. 142; Mitrea 2011.

⁶³ None of the Late La Tène construction fibulae listed by Miglena Stamberova (Stamberova 2023, p. 335–347) come from burials.

⁶⁴ Spănu 2018, p. 241–242, p. 251, pl. II/6.

⁶⁵ Gherghe 1999, p. 80, fig. 1/1–3.

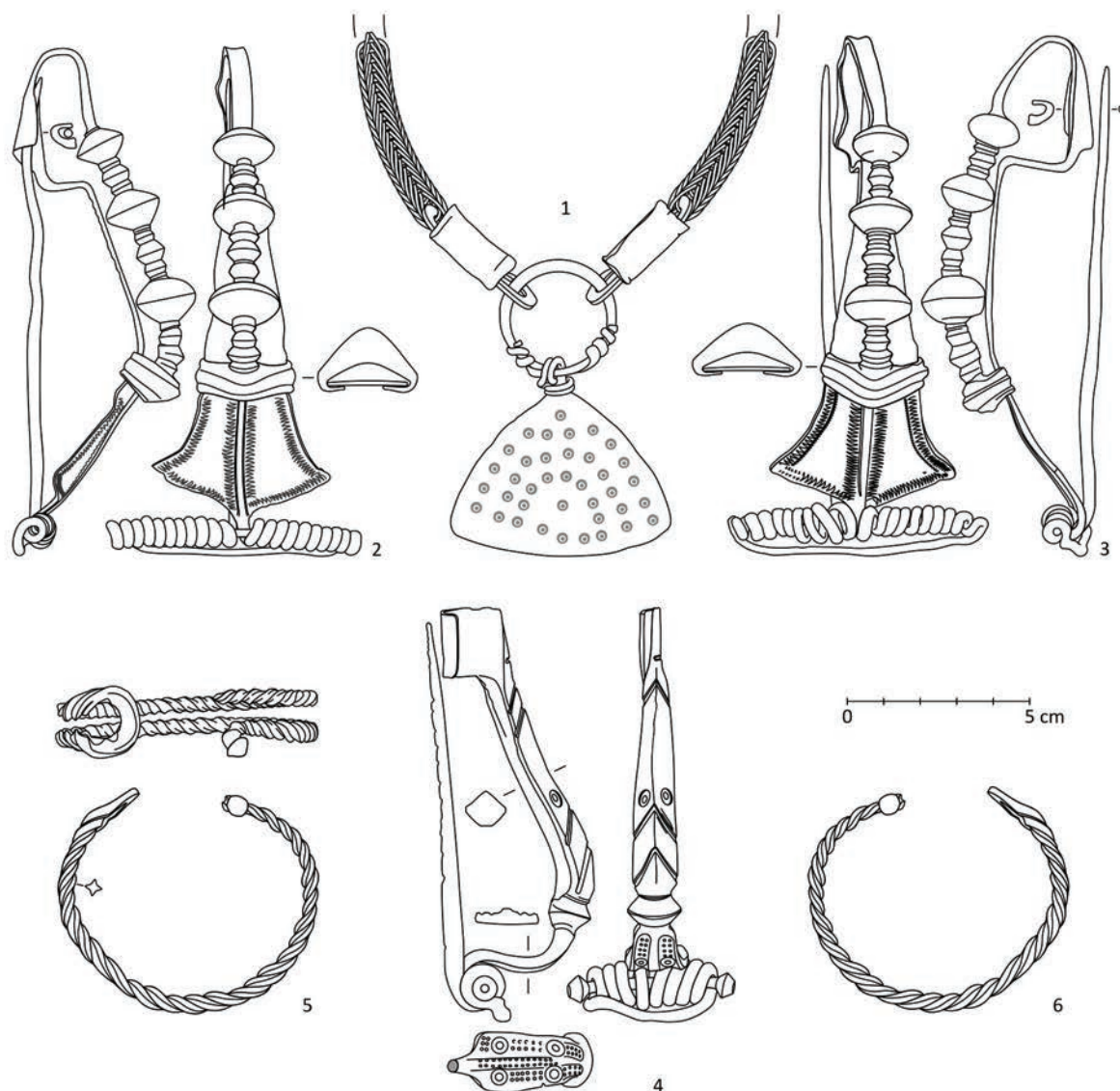


Figure 5. Bistrița, silver hoard; after original.

possibility of dating one of the latest graves of this group to the post-Manching phase of Late La Tène (LT D2).

The Bistrița silver hoard⁷⁰ brings together two knotted fibulae (Germ. *Knotenfibeln*, Rom. *fibule cu noduri*), a fibula of Late La Tène construction, a chain and two bracelets (Fig. 5). The Late La Tène fibula (Fig. 5/4) has a particular morphology, without close analogies in the local repertoire of silver jewellery. Until now, the typological classification of this fibula is artificial, if not erroneous⁷¹. It should have been noted that the variable section of the body (flattened section of the bow, rhombic section of the foot), the biconical protrusion and the upper cord are specific elements of the Kostrzewski M type fibulae⁷². Only the rectangular shape of the catch-plate is specific to the local

silver fibulae. This interpretation implies the recognition of the relative synchronicity between the Bistrița hoard and the Kostrzewski M fibulae. In other words, the knotted-fibulae were used concomitantly with the imitation of the guiding fossil of the post-Manching phase of the Late La Tène in Central Europe (LT D2).

Some useful clues can be drawn for the research of the Late La Tène period in pre-Roman Dacia. The latest Padea – Panagyurski Kolonii burials are found north of the Danube and can certainly be synchronized with the post-Manching phase of the Central European Late La Tène periodization. The decisive argument in this regard is provided by the Kostrzewski N fibula in grave 3 at Rotbav. Also, the reinterpretation of the Late La Tène fibula from Bistrița as a local imitation of the Kostrzewski M type offers an additional argument to the synchronization of the early phase of the Dacian hoards (*par excellence* the phase of the knotted-fibulae) with the LT D2 phase of the

⁷⁰ Spânu 2012, p. 216, no. 14, pls. 7–8 with literature.

⁷¹ Horedt 1973, p. 131; Rustoiu 1997, p. 40, type 7; Spânu 2012, p. 45, type 2.1.1.; Zirra 2017, p. 67–68 (type 40a).

⁷² Völling 1994, p. 193–198, fig. 22–23.

Central-European periodization⁷³. Thus, the debate on the sinuous fibulae is able to provide significant arguments for refining the local chronological system.

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ABREVIERI / ABRÉVIATIONS / ABBREVIATIONS

AAC – Acta Archaeologica Carpatica, Kraków
ACMI – Anuarul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice, București
ACMIT – Anuarul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice, Secțiunea pentru Transilvania, Cluj
ActaArchHung – Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest
ActaMM – Acta Moldaviae Meridionalis, Vaslui
ActaMN – Acta Musei Napocensis, Cluj
ActaMP – Acta Musei Porolissensis, Zalău
ActaMT – Acta Musei Tutovensis, Bârlad
AIGR – Anuarul Institutului Geologic al României, București
AJPA – American Journal of Physical Anthropology
Alt-Thüringen – Alt-Thüringen : Jahresschrift des Museums für Ur- und Frühgeschichte Thüringens
Aluta – Aluta. Revista Muzeului Național Secuiesc Sfântu Gheorghe
Anatolia Antiqua – Anatolia Antiqua. Revue internationale d'archéologie anatolienne. Institut Français d'Etudes anatoliennes d'Istanbul
Anatolica – Anatolica. The Netherlands Institute for the Near East in Leiden
AnB – Analele Banatului, Muzeul Banatului, Timișoara
AncNearEastSt – Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Leuven, Belgia
Angustia – Angustia. Arheologie, Etnografie, Sfântu Gheorghe
Anmed – Anmed. Anadolu Akdenizi Arkeoloji Haberleri, Antalya, Turcia
Antiquity – Antiquity. A Quarterly Review of Archaeology, University of York
AnUCraiova – Analele Universității din Craiova, Craiova (seria Istorie)
AO – Arhivele Olteniei
Apulum – Acta Musei Apulensis. Muzeul Național al Unirii, Alba Iulia
Archaeol Anthropol Sci – Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences
ArchBulg – Archaeologia Bulgarica, Sofia
ArchÉrt – Archaeológiai Értesítő, Budapest
ArchHung – Archaeologia Hungarica, Acta Archaeologica Musei Nationalis Hungarici, Budapest
Area – Area. Royal Geographical Society, London
Argesis – Argesis. Muzeul Județean Argeș. Pitești
ArhDIUkrajn – Arheologija i Danija Istorija Ukraini, Institut Arheologij NAN Ukrainj, Kijv
ArheologijaKiiv – Arheologija. Nacional'na akademija nauk Ukraini. Institut arheologii, Kiev
ArheologijaSSSR – Arheologija SSSR. Svod Archeologičeskih Istočnikov, Moscova
ArhMold – Arheologia Moldovei, Iași
ArhPrevMoldova – Arheologia Preventivă în Republica Moldova
BA – Biblioteca de Arheologie, București
BARIntSer – British Archaeological Reports. International Series, Oxford
BCH – Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique, Athènes-Paris
BCMI – Buletinul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice
BerRGK – Bericht der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Frankfurt am Main
BibIstroPontica-A – Biblioteca Istro-Pontica. Seria Arheologie, Tulcea
BibIMemAnt – Bibliotheca Memoriae Antiquitatis, Piatra-Neamț
BibIThrac – Bibliotheca Thracologica, București
BMC – *Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum*, Londra; II, *Vespasian to Domitian*, 1930; IV, *Antoninus Pius to Commodus*, 1968; V, *Pertinax to Elagabalus*, 1950 (H. Mattingly)
BMI – Buletinul Monumentelor Istorice
BMJT – Buletinul Muzeului Județean Teleorman, Alexandria
BOR – Biserica Ortodoxă Română
BSA – British School at Athens, Athens
BSNR – Buletinul Societății Numismatice Române, București
BSPF – Bulletin de la Société Préhistorique Française, Paris
BSSC – Buletinul Societății de Științe din Cluj
CA – Cercetări Arheologice. Muzeul Național de Istorie a României, București
Carpica – Carpica. Complexul Muzeal „Iulian Antonescu” Bacău, Bacău

- CCA – Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România, București
- CCDJ – Cultură și Civilizație la Dunărea de Jos, Călărași
- Cerclst – Cercetări Istorice, Muzeul de Istorie a Moldovei, Iași
- Cumidava – Cumidava. Culegere de studii și cercetări. Muzeul de Istorie Brașov
- Current Anthropology – Current Anthropology. University of California, Merced
- Dacia – Dacia (Nouvelle Série). Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne. Académie Roumaine. Institut d'archéologie « V. Pârvan », Bucarest
- Danubius – Danubius, Revista Muzeului de Istorie Galați
- DHA – Dialogues d'histoire ancienne, Institut des Sciences et Techniques de l'Antiquité
- DissArch – Dissertationes Archaeologicae. Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest
- Documenta Praehistorica – Documenta Praehistorica, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Department of Archaeology, Ljubljana
- EphemNap – Ephemeris Napocensis. Academia Română, Institutul de Arheologie și Istoria Artei, Cluj-Napoca
- FolArchPoznan – Folia Praehistorica Posnaniensia, Instytut Archeologii, Poznań
- Germania – Germania. Anzeiger der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Frankfurt
- Hill¹ – P.V. Hill, *The dating and the arrangement of the undated coins of Rome, A.D. 98–148*, Londra, 1970
- Hill² – P.V. Hill, *The coinage of Septimius Severus and his family of the mint of Rome, A.D. 193–217*, Londra, 1964
- HOMO – HOMO. Journal of Comparative Human Biology, Stuttgart
- Howgego – C. J. Howgego, *Greek Imperial Countermarks. Studies in the provincial coinage of the Roman empire*, Londra, 1985
- Human Evolution – Human Evolution, International Institute for Humankind Studies and University of Florence
- IJO – International Journal of Osteoarchaeology
- Istros – Istros, Muzeul Brăilei, Brăila
- JAMÉ – A nyíregyházi Józsa András Múzeum Évkönyve
- JAnat – Journal of Anatomy
- JAS – Journal of Archaeological Science
- JDAI – Jahrbuch des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Berlin
- JFS – Journal of Forensic Sciences
- JHE – Journal of Human Evolution
- JRA – Journal of Roman Archaeology
- JRGZM – Jahrbuch des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums Mainz, Mainz
- JRS – The Journal of Roman Studies
- Klio – Klio. Beiträge zur Alten Geschichte, Berlin
- KST – T. C. Kültür Bakanlığı, Eski Eserler ve Müzeler Genel Müdürlüğü, I. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı, Ankara, Mayıs 1979 [Republic of Turkey, General Directorate of Ancient Monuments and Museums, first Turkish annual meeting for the results of excavations, Ankara, May 1979] (1979–2020).
- LRBC, I – *Late Roman Bronze Coinage A.D. 394–498*, Londra, 1965; I, *The Bronze Coinage of the House of Constantine A.D. 324–346* (P.V. Hill, J.P.C. Kent)
- LRCW – Late Roman Coarse Wares, Cooking Wares and Amphorae in the Mediterranean. Archaeology and Archaeometry
- MAIASP – Materialy po Arheologii i Istorii Antičnogo i Srednevekovogo Pričernomor'ja (Материалы по Археологии и Истории Античного и Средневекового Причерноморья), Nižnevarovsk.
- Marisia – Marisia. Studii și materiale. Arheologie – Istorie – Etnografie, Târgu Mureș
- MCA – Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice, București
- MemAnt – Memoria Antiquitatis, Piatra Neamț
- MHÁS – Magyarország honfoglalás kori és kora Árpád-kori sírleletei, Miskolc–Budapest–Szeged–Szombathely
- Mousaios – Mousaios. Buletinul Științific al Muzeului Județean Buzău
- MPR – I. Barnea, Les monuments paléochrétiens de Roumanie, Sussidi allo studio delle antichità cristiane pubblicati per cura del Pontificio Istituto di archeologia Cristiana 6, Città del Vaticano, 1977
- Musaica – Musaica Archaeologica, Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave, Bratislava
- Olba – Mersin University Publications of the Research Center of Cilician Archaeology, Mersin, Turkey
- Oltenia – Oltenia. Studii și Comunicări, Craiova
- Pallas – Pallas. Revue d'Etudes Antiques, Toulouse
- PATABS – *Production and Trade of Amphorae in the Black Sea*
- PBF – Prähistorische Bronzefunde, Münster
- Peuce – Peuce. Studii și cercetări de istorie și arheologie, Institutul de Cercetări Eco-Muzeale, Tulcea
- Pontica – Pontica. Studii și materiale de istorie, arheologie și muzeografie, Muzeul de Istorie Națională și Arheologie Constanța

- PZ – Prähistorische Zeitschrift, Berlin-Mainz
- Quaternary International – Quaternary International. The Journal of the International Union for Quaternary Research
- RAASI – Revista de Arheologie, Antropologie și Studii Interdisciplinare, Institutul de Cercetări Bioarheologice și Etnoculturale, Republica Moldova
- Radiocarbon – An International Journal of Cosmogenic Isotope Research, Cambridge
- RAN – Revue archéologique de Narbonnaise, Montpellier
- RCRF – Rei Cretariae Romanae Fautorum
- Recueil – W.H. Waddington, E. Babelon, Th. Reinach, *Recueil général des monnaies grecques d'Asie Mineure*, I-IV, Paris, 1904–1912
- RevArh – Revista Arheologică, Academia de Științe a Moldovei, Chișinău
- RevMuz – Revista Muzeelor, București
- RGZM – Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseums Mainz, Mainz
- RIC – *The Roman Imperial Coinage*, Londra. II, *Vespasian to Hadrian*, 1926; III, *Antoninus Pius to Commodus*, 1930; IV.1, *Pertinax to Geta*, 1968 (H. Mattingly, E.A. Sydenham); IV.2, *Macrinus to Pupienus*, 1938; IV.3, *Gordian III – Uranius Antoninus*, 1949 (H. Mattingly, E.A. Sydenham, C.H.V. Sutherland); VII, *Constantine and Licinius A.D. 313–337*, 1966 (P.M. Bruun)
- RIC, II².1 – I.A. Carradice, T.V. Buttrey, *The Roman Imperial Coinage*, II.1, *Vespasian to Domitian*, Londra, 2007 (ediția a II-a, revizuită)
- RossArch – Rossijskaya Arheologiya. Institut arheologii Rossijskoj akademii nauk, Moskva
- RPC III – M. Amandry, A. Burnett, J. Mairat, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, III, *From Nerva to Hadrian (AD 96–138)*, Londra / Paris, 2015; versiune online https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=3
- RPC IV.1 – V. Heuchert, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, IV.1, *From Antoninus Pius to Commodus (AD 138–192): Cyrenaica to Bithynia-Pontus*, online (2005); https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=4
- RPC V.3 – A. Burnett et alii, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, V.3, *From Pertinax to Macrinus (AD 193–218): Lycia-Pamphylia to Egypt*, online (2024); https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=10
- RPC VI – D. Calomino, A. Burnett, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, VI, *From Elagabalus to Maximinus Thrax (AD 218–238)*, online (2017, 2022); https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=11
- RPC VII.2 – J. Mairat, M.S. Butcher et alii, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, VII.2, *From Gordian I to Gordian III (AD 238–244): all provinces except Asia*, Londra / Paris, 2022; versiune online https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=14
- RPC VIII – J. Mairat et alii, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, VIII, *Philip I (AD 244–249)*, online (2020); https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=15
- SA – Sovetskaja Arheologija, Akademija Nauk SSSR, Institut Arheologii, Moskva
- SAA – Studia Antiqua et Archaeologica, Iași
- SCIV(A) – Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche (și Arheologie), București
- SCN – Studii și Cercetări de Numismatică, București
- SEAT – Studien zur Eisenzeitlichen Archäologie Thrakiens, Rahden/Westphalia
- Simpozion Chișinău 2004 – *Simpozion de numismatică organizat cu ocazia comemorării Sfântului Ștefan cel Mare, Domn al Moldovei (1504–2004)*, Chișinău, 29 septembrie – 2 octombrie 2004. *Comunicări, studii și note*, București, 2007.
- ŚląskieSprawArch – Śląskie Sprawozdania Archeologiczne, Wrocław, Polonia
- SMMIM – Studii și Materiale de Muzeografie și Istorie Militară, București
- SNG-ANS, *Macedonia I – Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum. The Collection of the American Numismatic Society, Part 7, Macedonia I: Cities, Thracio-Macedonian tribes, Paeonian kings*, New York, 1987
- SNGCop 5 – *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum. The Royal Collection of Coins and Medals, Danish Royal National Museum*, Copenhaga, 1942–1969 (serie reeditată); V, *Ionia, Caria and Lydia*, West Milford, 1982
- SP – Studii de Preistorie, București
- SprawArch – Sprawozdania Archeologiczne, Warsaw
- StArchBrno – Studia Archaeologica Brunensia, Masaryk University, Brno
- Starinar – Starinar. Arheološki institut Beograd
- StComPitești – Studii și Comunicări, Seria Istorie, Muzeul Județean Argeș, Pitești
- StMatTârguMureș – Studii și Materiale, Târgu Mureș
- StratumPlus – Stratum Plus, Școala Superioară de Antropologie, Chișinău, St Petersburg, București
- Studia Hercynia – Studia Hercynia. Journal of the Institut of Classical Archaeology, Univerzita Karlova, Cehia
- Studia Praehistorica – National Archaeological Institute with Museum of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- Syria – Syria. Archéologie, art et histoire. Institut Français du Proche-Orient
- Terra Sebus – Terra Sebus. Acta Musei Sabesiensis, Anuarul Muzeului Municipal „Ioan Raica”, Sebeș
- Th-D – Thraco-Dacica, București

Transylvanian Review – Transylvanian Review. Centrul de Studii Transilvane, Cluj-Napoca

Tyrageia – Tyrageia. Anuarul Muzeului Național de Istorie a Moldovei, Chișinău

UPA – Universitätsforschungen zur Prähistorischen Archäologie, Bonn

VAH – Varia Archaeologica Hungarica V. Redigit Csanád Bálint. Publicationes Instituti Archaeologici Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest

Valachica – Valachica. Studii și cercetări de istorie și istoria culturii, Complexul Muzeal Național Curtea Domnească Târgoviște

Varia Anatolica – Varia Anatolica. L'Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes, Istanbul

Vărbănov I – I. Vărbănov, *Greek imperial coins and their values (the local coinage of the Roman Empire)*, I, Dacia, Moesia Superior, Moesia Inferior, Burgas, 2005

Vărbănov II – I. Vărbănov, *Greek imperial coins*, II, Thrace (from Abdera to Pautalia), Burgas, 2005

WorldA – World Archaeology

ZAM – Zeitschrift für Archäologie des Mittelalters, Bonn

Ziridava – Ziridava. Studia Archaeologica, Arad