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THE CELTS FROM *MOESIA INFERIOR*

Abstract: A new study on the population in Roman Dobrudja, or the province of *Moesia Inferior*, may seem redundant at first, taking into account the large number of articles and books devoted to this topic. Nevertheless, these works were mainly focused on identifying the civil and military population, on different demographic realities and only incidentally on the ethnical origin of the individuals and on the changes (in terms of toponymy, hydronymy and anthroponomy) that occurred after their settlement in the area. During the great Celtic migration through Europe, they also reached the area of the future Roman province of *Moesia Inferior*. The linguistic analysis on its toponymy revealed several settlements with uncertain ethnical origin of their names, as well as localities with a certain Celtic name. From an anthroponomical perspective, epigraphic sources mention several individuals who, although definitely Romanised, preserved in their names a *cognomen* that displays their ethnic origin, in certain cases Celtic. After the organisation of the Roman province of *Moesia*, auxiliary troops, recruited from the Celtic-German provinces, were deployed in Dobrudja. These have been identified either by their names, mentioned in the military diplomas found in the province, or by the soldiers attested in different epigraphic sources.

Keywords: *Celts, Toponymy, Latin Anthroponomy, Auxiliary troops, Moesia Inferior.*

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According to Greek and Latin authors, the Celts were a tall, lymphatic, white-skinned and fair-haired people¹. They frightened the Italians with their appearance of giant, though magnificent animals. As ancient author insisted on their fair hair and milk-white skin, modern scientists consider that all groups that reached Italy and Greece belonged to the tall and fair dolichocephalous type from Northern Europe. Starting with the researches of Pierre Paul Broca, the Celts were linked to the brown brachycephalic type from Western Europe and the alpine regions. Other anthropologists identified the Celts with the tall brachycephalic and mesaticephalic

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¹ Diodor, V, 28; Titus Livius, V, 48; Pliny the Elder, IV, 31.

individuals from Northern and North–Western Europe, often designated as the Borreby type, different from other European brachycephalic types by face length, increased upper arches, horizontal projection of the pentagonal shape of the cranium and body height².

Irrespective of their anthropological origins, the Celts proved to be, during their long journey throughout Europe, a dominant race, in front of which most people knelt, without even being defeated. The beginnings of the Celtic expansion from the Gaelic area to Central and South–Eastern Europe are linked to an archaeological clue: the transition from *Hallstatt* to *La Tène*, around 550 B. C.³. There are multiple diffusion paths of the Celts, as many as the theories concerning them. Titus Livius mentioned a political plan which settled the details of the expedition. *Celticum* was a confederation ruled by *Ambigatus*, king of the Bituriges. He sent two colonies led by *Sigovesus* and *Bellovesus*, powerful enough to crush any resistance⁴.

The Celtic expeditions to the Italian Peninsula, to the Middle Danubian areas, and thereafter towards Greece and Thrace dramatically changed the historical realities of those regions for a significant time, as it is proven by the fact that the Roman Republic recorded most dictators during this period, and the Panathenaic Games of 278 were suspended in Greece⁵.

The Celtic mobilisation towards the Balkan Peninsula occurred simultaneously with other major campaigns towards the Italian Peninsula and the Middle Danubian area. One of the groups, belonging to the army of *Brennus*, who operated in the area of Macedonia, retired on the slopes of Mountain *Haemus*, under the leadership of a commander called *Comantorios*⁶. He conquered the neighbouring Thracian tribes and established a Celtic kingdom, which lasted until 193 B. C. The capital was in *Tyle* or *Tylis*⁷. The people expanded south of *Haemus* to the basin of Adrianople and up north, to the Danube. The invaders of the Balkans, who had found no room in the over-populated lands of Hellada, covered with cities, settled themselves to new territories in the northern part of the Peninsula, among less stable peoples from an area not completely occupied, in the wider plains of Morava, Maritza and the Danube. They founded there various cities with Celtic names, outposts of the state of the Scordisci or of the Celtic kingdom of Thrace⁸.

According to the linguist Alexander Falileyev, a clear evidence of the Celtic presence in the future Roman province of *Moesia Inferior* is represented by the Celtic toponymy attested in this area. There are two places with certain Celtic names: *Noviodunum* (Νοῦιοδονοῦν [Ptolemy² 3.10.2], *Novioduni* [TP VIII-4t], *Novioduno* [It. Ant. 226.1]), the present day town of Isaccea, and *Aliobrix* (Ἀλιοβριξ [Ptolemy 3.10.5]), located at Orlovca–Cartal (Ukraine).

² W. Z. Ripley, *The Races of Europe. A Sociological Study* (New York, 1899), p. 212.

³ H. Hubert, *Celții și civilizația celtică* (Bucharest, 1983), p. 278.

⁴ Titus Livius, V, 34.

⁵ Diodor, XXII, 10.

⁶ H. Hubert, *Celții și civilizația celtică*, p. 283.

⁷ B. W. Cunliffe, *The Ancient Celts* (Oxford, 1997), p. 132.

⁸ D. Berciu, *Lumea celților* (Bucharest, 1970), p. 71.

There is much uncertainty regarding other settlements with a possible Celtic name. Researches tend to consider *vicus Vergobrittanus*, near Cius (Gîrliciu), mentioned in only one inscription, as having a Celtic origin⁹. According to Falileyev, the name does not resemble any Celtic element, being most probably derived from the name of the founder of this place¹⁰.

The ancient settlement of *Arubium* (*Arubio* [TP VIII, 4; Not. Dig. or. 39.7], *Arrubio* [It. Ant. 225.4]), the present day town of Măcin, was compared for a long time with the name of the Celtic tribe *Αρουβιοι*. The recent studies of G. R. Isaac¹¹, as well as Ptolemy's mentioning the Celtic tribe of Βριτολαγαι confirm the previous assumptions.

Another settlement in *Moesia Inferior* with an uncertain toponymy is *Durostorum* (*Durostero* [TP VIII 2t; Not. Dig. 41.5]). Vasile Pârvan hesitated between assigning it to the Thracians or to the Celts¹², whereas Alfred Holder related *Durostorum* to the *Arrubium–Noviodunum–Aliobrix* line, of certain Celtic origin¹³.

Besides the above mentioned toponyms, the name of the lake *Κελτροσ λιμνη*, attested only in Lycophron's *Alexandra*, placed by Mascialino near the Serpents Island (the ancient *Leuke*)¹⁴, deserves a special attention. But it has nothing to do with the Celtic hydronymy, being most likely a Greek description of the lake. This comparison can only be linked with a tribe of Celtic origin, possibly the *Britolagai* mentioned by Ptolemy¹⁵ or the *Kabaroι* of Pausanias¹⁶.

The river *Gabranus*, attested by an inscription dated 25 October 100 A. D.¹⁷ and by the *Tabula Imperii Romani*¹⁸, is placed by Pârvan¹⁹ in the neighbourhood of

⁹ ISM V, 115: / **vici Vero/[b]rittiani** C(aius) Iulius / Vale(n)s veter(anus) leg(ionis) V M[a]/ced(onicae) mag(ister) vici / v(otum) s(olvit) l(ibens) m(erito); M. Bărbulescu, *Viața rurală în Dobrogea romană (sec. I–III p. Chr.)* (Constanța, 2001), p. 99; Fl. Matei–Popescu, Al. Falileyev, “Notă asupra ISM V 115”, *Tyragetia*, n. s., I [XVI], 1 (2007), p. 323–326.

¹⁰ Fl. Matei–Popescu, Al. Falileyev, “Notă asupra ISM V 115”, p. 324.

¹¹ G. R. Isaac, *Places-names in Ptolemy's Geography. An Electronic Data Base with Etymological Analysis of the Celtic Name-Elements* (Aberystwyth, 2004).

¹² V. Pârvan, “Municipium Aurelium Durostorum”, *Rivista di filologia e d'istruzione classica*, n. s., II (1924), fascicle III, p. 2 (offprint).

¹³ A. Holder, *Alt-keltischer Sprachschatz* (Leipzig, 1894–1916), p. 434.

¹⁴ L. Mascialino (ed.), *Lycophronis Alexandra* (Leipzig, 1964), p. 10.

¹⁵ Ptolemy, III, 10, 7.

¹⁶ Pausanias, I, 35, 5.

¹⁷ ISM I, 68: // *Fines Histrianorum hos esse con[stituit] 3 Pe]/ucem lac(cum) Halmyridem a do[minio] 3 / Argamentium inde iugo summo [3 ad c]/[o]nfluentes rivorum Picusculi et Ga[brani] inde ab im]/[o] Gabrano ad capu<t=D> eiusdem inde [3 iuxta rivum] / Sanpaeum inde ad rivum Turgicu[lum] 3 / a rivo Calabaeo milia passuum circi[ter] DXVI // “GR” // Exemplum [decreti] / Ma<n=R>i Laberi Maximi leg(ati) Aug(usti) pr(o) pr(aetore) / [I]mp(eratore) Caesar<e=I> Traiano Aug(usto) German[ico] III Iulio Fron[tino] III co(n)s(ulibus) VIII Ka(lendas) Novembres [descriptum] / et recognitum factum ex comm(entariis) M[ani] Laberi / Maximi leg(ati) Aug(usti) pr(o) pr(aetore) permette[n]te 3 / Fabio Pompeiano quae iam era(nt) scri[pta] / Charagonio Philo<p=R>valaestro con[ductor]i publici por]t[or]i ripae Thraciae postulante ut [portorium] sibi Hal]/myridis et Peuci daretur secund[um] formam quam accepit / [habe]bit ius exigendi portor[i] a finibus ca]/[nab]arum Dimensium usque [ad mare].*

¹⁸ *Tabula Imperii Romani. Romula–Durostorum–Tomis*, 1969, L35.

¹⁹ V. Pârvan, *Histria VII. Inscriptii găsite în 1916, 1921 și 1922* (Bucharest, 1923), p. 583.

Histria, whereas P. Nicorescu, on the basis of another inscription²⁰, links the river to the modern settlement of Slava Rusă. This hydronym was linguistically attributed to several languages: Iranian, Thracian, Celtic and Daco–Moesian²¹. The arguments brought by I. Duridanov seem reasonable enough, the word deriving from the Celtic roots *gabro-*, *gabor-*²².

Another proof of the Celtic presence in *Moesia Inferior* is given by anthroponyms, some of definite Celtic origin, others still uncertain. Roxana Curcă identified for the area between the rivers *Oescus* and *Iatrus*²³ two anthroponyms of certain Celtic extraction: *Birbilo*²⁴ and *Cotria/Cortia*²⁵, whereas the names *Baradus*²⁶, *[Pl?]aculia*²⁷ and *Surus*²⁸ have multiple linguistic nominations, being considered as Illyrian, Thracian, Latin or Celtic.

For the rest of the province, Milena Minkova identified other anthroponyms of clear Celtic origin, such as *Bascos*²⁹, *Bella*³⁰ (probably also Latin), *Bellicus*³¹ (probably also Latin), *Bilus*³², *Bonitus*³³, *Bonusus*³⁴ (probably also Latin or Thracian), *Busturio*³⁵, *Caca(m)*³⁶, *Cittus*³⁷, *Goutus*³⁸, *Luceus*³⁹, *Maceius*⁴⁰,

²⁰ *ISM I*, 69.

²¹ L. Franga, “Gabranus. Concordanțe onomastice paleo-balcanice”, *Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche și Arheologie*, 37, 4 (1986), p. 309.

²² I. Duridanov, “Keltische Sprachspuren in Thrakien und Mösien”, *Zeitschrift für celtische Philologie*, 49-50, 1 (1997), p. 130-142.

²³ R. Curcă, “L’anthroponymie non-romaine dans les inscriptions latines de la Mésie Inférieure (entre les rivières Oescus et Iatrus)”, *Classica et Christiana*, 1 (2006), p. 73-80.

²⁴ *ILBR*, 329: [C(aius) V]alerius / C(ai) filius Claudia / **Birbilo** Cele(ia) / mil(es) leg(ionis) I Ital(icae) / [(centuria) Cassi Bassi / vixit an(nos) XXXVI / mil(itavit) an(nos) XVI / frater imp(ensa sua) / posuit; Milena Minkova, *The Personal Names of the Latin Inscriptions in Bulgaria* (Frankfurt, 2000), p. 125-126.

²⁵ *ILBR*, 438. II: Arrius Frontinus / Primattia / Marius Flavius / Numis(ius) Rufus / Ael(ius) Victor / Aur(elius) Philinus / Aur(elius) Priscus / Arrius Rustic(us) Berilo Auluzeni / Mucap(or) Menis / Sabinus Alexandri / Aur(elius) Varianus / Aur(elius) Sulu Gemelli / Cast[us] Sabini / Val(erius) [3]cbusta / Maximin(us) Flavi / Mysiacus Bassi / Vale(n)s Herotis / Valerius Martial[i]s / Titianus Citti / Valerius Alexand(er) / Valerius **Cotria**; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 142.

²⁶ *ILBR*, 421; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 122.

²⁷ *ILBR*, 48: L(ucius) Septimus / C(ai) filius mi(les) leg(ionis) V / [M]ac(edonicae) vix(it) a(nnos) XL / [mi]litav(it) a(nnos) XXI / h(ic) s(itus) e(st) / **[Pl]aculia** (?) l(iberta) / [et c]o(n)iu(x) f(aciendum) c(uravit); M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 230.

²⁸ *ILBR*, 377: Lucius Aurelius **Su/rus** bul(euta) civitatis (e)ius / L(ucium) Aur(elium) Surum vet(eranum) ex / signif(ero) patrem et [C]l(audiam) / Gaillam matrem et / Domitiam Valentiam / coniugem secum ita / haec memoriae consilio suo usus / de suo dignatus est; D. Detschew, *Die Thrakischen Sprachreste 2* (Wien, 1976), p. 471; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 260.

²⁹ *ILBR*, 305; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 123.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 124.

³¹ *ILBR*, 442; I. Kajanto, *The Latin Cognomina* (Helsinki, 1965), p. 203; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 124.

³² A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, p. 381; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 125.

³³ A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, p. 381; *Onomasticon*, 310; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 127.

³⁴ *ILBR*, 438.33; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 128.

³⁵ D. Detschew, *Die Thrakischen Sprachreste 2*, p. 477; *Onomasticon*, 329f; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 128.

³⁶ A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, p. 667; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 129.

*Macenio*⁴¹, *Massa*⁴², *Nausas*⁴³ (probably also Greek), *Orcus*⁴⁴, *Ovilaris*⁴⁵, *Picta*⁴⁶, *Saturio*⁴⁷, *Tauriscus*⁴⁸, *Vellicus*⁴⁹ and *Vinus*⁵⁰.

Another series of anthroponyms which Minkova identified have uncertain origins or multiple linguistic origins: *Coxcoris*⁵¹ (Iranian, Scythian or Celtic), *Damanaeus*⁵² (possible Celtic), *Gerrius*⁵³ (Thracian, Celtic or Sarmatian), *Margus*⁵⁴ (possible Celtic), *Melitta*⁵⁵ (Greek or Celtic), *Sirus*⁵⁶ (possible Celtic), *Sotane*⁵⁷ (Greek or Celtic) and *Subris*⁵⁸ (Latin or Celtic).

Other evidences that can demonstrate the Celtic presence in the Roman province of *Moesia Inferior* are the auxiliary troops recruited in the Celtic provinces and sent to the Lower Danube.

Ala I Gallorum Aetorigiana is attested in *Moesia Inferior* in 92 A. D., in a diploma found at *Cataloi*⁵⁹, as *ala Gallorum Aetorigiana*. Thereafter, it appears in a fragmentary military diploma from 116 A. D.⁶⁰. It disappears from epigraphic sources until 127 A. D., when it is mentioned again among the provincial troops⁶¹, and a diploma dated 17 July 122 A. D. confirms that for a short time this unit served among the auxiliary troops of *Dacia Inferior*⁶². Its presence in Dacia allows us to

³⁷ *ILBR*, 438, II, 24; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 138.

³⁸ *ILBR*, 307; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 178.

³⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 195.

⁴⁰ *ILBR*, 442; I. Kajanto, *The Latin Cognomina*, p. 327; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 198.

⁴¹ *ILBR*, 309; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 198.

⁴² *ILBR*, 122; A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, p. 454; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 206.

⁴³ *ILBR*, 438, 17; A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, p. 693; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 219.

⁴⁴ A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, p. 869; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 223.

⁴⁵ *ILBR*, 268; A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, II, p. 893; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 223.

⁴⁶ A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, p. 999; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 229.

⁴⁷ A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, II, p. 1379; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 247.

⁴⁸ *ILBR*, 310; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 261.

⁴⁹ A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, III, p. 153; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 273.

⁵⁰ A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, III, p. 356; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 278.

⁵¹ A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, I, p. 1154; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 142.

⁵² *AE*, 1972, p. 411; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 146.

⁵³ *ILBR*, 351; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 176.

⁵⁴ *ILBR*, 438, 47; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 205.

⁵⁵ G. Alföldy, *Römische Heeresgeschichte: Beiträge 1962–1985* (Amsterdam and Boston, 1987), no. 245; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 210.

⁵⁶ A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, II, p. 1583; A. Mócsy, *Pannonia and Upper Moesia. A history of the middle Danube provinces of the Roman Empire* (London and Boston 1974), p. 268; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 255.

⁵⁷ A. Holder, *Alteltischer Sprachschatz*, II, 1620; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 256.

⁵⁸ A. Mócsy, *Pannonia and Upper Moesia*, p. 275; M. Minkova, *The Personal Names*, p. 258.

⁵⁹ June 14, 92, C. C. Petolescu, A. T. Popescu, "Ein neues Militärdiplom für die Provinz Moesia inferior", *Zeitschrift für Papyriologie und Epigraphik*, 148 (2004), p. 269-276.

⁶⁰ W. Eck, D. MacDonald, A. Pangerl, "Neue Diplome, für Auxiliärtruppen in den dakischen Provinzen", *Acta Musei Napocensis*, 38, 1 (2001), p. 46.

⁶¹ *AE* 1997, 1780.

⁶² B. Pferdehirt, *Römische Militärdiplome und Entlassungsurkunden in der Sammlung des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums* (henceforth *RGZM*) (Mainz, 2004), no. 20.

presume its participation at Emperor Trajan's Dacian expeditions, and therefore that it was garrisoned somewhere in the North–Danubian territory of *Moesia Inferior*⁶³.

Ala I Claudia Gallorum Capitoniana is attested in *Moesia Inferior* in 92 A.D., in the military diploma from Cataloi⁶⁴, then in a military diploma from 97 A.D.⁶⁵. Afterwards, it is mentioned in the province of *Galatia et Cappadocia*, in a diploma dated 101 A. D.⁶⁶. It is difficult to state under what circumstances this transfer took place, although it should be noted that the auxiliary troops from *Moesia Inferior* were, throughout the second century, a basin of recruitment for the Roman provinces in Asia Minor. Following the attack from the winter of 101–102 A. D., the unit was brought back to *Moesia Inferior*, in order to participate to its defence. The presence of this unit in *Cappadocia* in 101 A. D., at the beginning of the first Dacian expedition, demonstrates undoubtedly Trajan's intention not to involve the army of *Moesia Inferior* in the initial phase of the first Dacian campaigns⁶⁷.

Ala Gallorum Flaviana is firstly attested in the Cataloi military diploma of 92 A. D. as part of the auxiliary troops from *Moesia Inferior*⁶⁸. It is mentioned in Nerva's constitution of 97⁶⁹ and then appears successively in provincial diplomas in 99, 105 and 118–119 A. D.⁷⁰. It is not clear why it was transferred to *Moesia Superior*, where it is confirmed in a diploma found at *Carnuntum*, dated September 9, 132/133 A. D.⁷¹, and then in the diplomas of 145/154, 150/157, 151, 157, 159–160 and 161 A. D.⁷².

Ala I Gallorum et Pannoniorum is mentioned in the diplomas of *Moesia Inferior* in 121⁷³, 125, 127 and 134 A. D.⁷⁴. It is attested, with the same name, in 145, 146 and 157⁷⁵.

*Cohors II Gallorum*⁷⁶ was also present in *Moesia Inferior* according to the *Cataloi* military diploma of 92 A. D.⁷⁷. Later, it appears in the *Oltina* diploma, given to a soldier of this cohort⁷⁸, and in the diplomas of 105 and 112 A. D.⁷⁹. It

⁶³ Fl. Matei–Popescu, O. Țentea, *Participarea trupelor auxiliare din Moesia Superior și Moesia Inferior la cucerirea Daciei*, in *Dacia Augusti Provincia. Crearea provinciei. Actele simpozionului desfășurat în 13–14 octombrie 2006 la Muzeul Național de Istorie a României* (Bucharest, 2006), p. 82.

⁶⁴ C. C. Petolescu, A. T. Popescu, "Ein neues Militärdiplom", p. 269-276.

⁶⁵ *AE* 1997, 1774.

⁶⁶ *RGZM*, no. 18.

⁶⁷ Fl. Matei–Popescu, "Participarea trupelor auxiliare din Moesia Inferior la războaiele dacice", *Argesis. Studii și comunicări – Seria Istorie (Pitești)*, 13 (2004), p. 123-129.

⁶⁸ June 14, 92, C. C. Petolescu, A. T. Popescu, "Ein neues Militärdiplom", p. 269-276.

⁶⁹ *AE* 1997, 1774.

⁷⁰ *CIL* XVI 44; *CIL* XVI 50; *AE* 2002, 1729.

⁷¹ M. Roxan, *Roman Military Diplomas* (henceforth *RMD*) (London, 1954–2003), IV, 247.

⁷² *RGZM*, no. 31; *RGZM*, no. 37; *CIL* XVI 111; *RMD* I, 55.

⁷³ P. Weiss, "Militärdiplome für Moesia (Moesia, Moesia superior, Moesia inferior)", *Chiron*, 38 (2008), p. 296-300, no. 10.

⁷⁴ *AE* 1997, 1772; *AE* 1997, 1780; *CIL* XVI, 78.

⁷⁵ *RMD* V, 399; *AE* 1999, 1359.

⁷⁶ *CIL* III, 14211.

⁷⁷ C. C. Petolescu, A. T. Popescu, "Ein neues Militärdiplom", p. 269-276.

⁷⁸ August 14, 99 (*CIL* XVI, 44).

⁷⁹ May 13, 105 (*CIL* XVI, 50); 112/114 (*CIL* XVI, 58).

undoubtedly participated to the Dacian wars and remained in the newly conquered territory⁸⁰.

*Cohors III Gallorum*⁸¹ is documented on Moesian territory by the *Taliata* diploma of 75 A. D.⁸². It then appears in *Moesia Inferior* in 92, 99, 105 and 114 A.D.⁸³. It was involved in the Dacian wars and most probably remained in the newly conquered province⁸⁴. After its territorial re-organisation, during the reign of Hadrian, the cohort was attested in *Dacia Inferior* by several military diplomas⁸⁵.

*Cohors IV Gallorum*⁸⁶ was attested in *Moesia Inferior* in 62–71 A. D. at *Oescus*⁸⁷. In 114 A. D., the cohort was already deployed in the province of *Thrace*, along with another cohort which had been part of the troops in *Moesia Inferior* – *cohors II Bracaraugustanorum*⁸⁸.

*Cohors VII Gallorum equitata*⁸⁹ is attested in *Moesia* by the military diploma discovered at *Taliata*, dated 75 A. D.⁹⁰. After the division of the province, it remained on its Eastern part, and it appears in the military diploma discovered at *Cataloi* and given to a soldier who served in this cohort⁹¹. It also appears in the military diplomas of 99, 109 and 114 A. D.⁹².

The context in which the Celts arrived in *Moesia Inferior* can be related to the great migration from the beginning of the *La Tène* period, which can thus explain the presence of Celtic toponymy and hydronymy in the province. When referring to individuals as subjects of Celtic anthroponomy, most of those mentioned in the text were soldiers and veterans, who arrived in the province of *Moesia* with the troops in which they served. But there were also civilians, people who came to this Roman province for economic reasons and found there a favourable place for selling their products or carrying out various economic activities.

⁸⁰ L. Rossi, *Trajan's Column and the Dacian Wars* (London, 1971), p. 94.

⁸¹ V. Christescu, *Istoria militară a Daciei romane* (Bucharest, 1937), p. 187.

⁸² *RMD* I, 2.

⁸³ C. C. Petolescu, A. T. Popescu, "Ein neues Militärdiplom", p. 269-276; *CIL* XVI, 45; May 13, 105 (*CIL* XVI, 50) and 112/114 (*CIL* XVI, 58).

⁸⁴ L. Rossi, *Trajan's Column and the Dacian Wars*, p. 94.

⁸⁵ According to the military diplomas of 129 (*CIL* XVI, 75), 130 (*AE* 1997, 1764), 140 (*IDR* I, 13) and 146 (*RMD* IV, 269).

⁸⁶ A. Aricescu, *Armata în Dobrogea romană* (Bucharest, 1977), p. 68.

⁸⁷ *CIL* III, 14417.

⁸⁸ *AE* 1997, 1334.

⁸⁹ A. Aricescu, *Armata în Dobrogea romană*, p. 69.

⁹⁰ *RMD* I, 2.

⁹¹ C. C. Petolescu, A. T. Popescu, "Ein neues Militärdiplom", p. 269-276.

⁹² August 14, 99 (*CIL* XVI, 45); 112-114 (*CIL* XVI, 58); *AE* 1999, 1361.