

Imperium Unicum and a Bilingual Culture

Fr. Senior Lecturer PhD MARIN COJOC,
University of Craiova,
marin.cojoc@yahoo.com

Abstract

In terms of culture, the education and its spread in the Roman Empire to the emergence of New Rome, Constantinople in 330, it has a new topography, divided into two regions, the West (*pars occidentis*) where they spoke Latin and eastern (*pars orientis*) where it spoke mostly Greek.

In the early Byzantine period, when also the kings were Latino, while the senate and the entire structure of the state was organized after the model of Old Rome, arrogating the same *jus italicum*, a number of dignitaries of *pars occidentis* came to Constantinople and they felt more comfortable speaking Latin than Greek.

Emperor Constantine the Great wrote to the dignitaries, to the bishops or to his mother in Latin although he could speak Greek fluently, prefers to read the dissertations on faith that Eusebius of Caesarea sent them into a Latin translation and at the opening of the first Ecumenical Council in 325 he addressed to the bishops and priests in the same language.

Elementary Latin was widespread in the 4th century in the east and in the territories under the protection of *Pars orientis*, of the First Europe with Proconsular Asia, and Pontus Bithinia. Alongside these and other eastern territories like Egypt, Syria, the Holy Land and other eastern regions they have felt the influence of Latin and classical Roman culture. Learning Latin in these eastern environments required only a certain social status. Only the noble senatorial classes could afford this luxury and sometimes the older of the senators attended these courses classics.