

**The Use of the „Overton Window” in Christian Missionary Work.
The Religious Phenomena Petrache Lupu – Romania Versus Fatima –
Portugal from the Perspective of Opportunity as a Principle of
the Overton Window**

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Abstract

In the interwar period in Romania, there was a moment when a religious phenomenon, namely that of Maglavit, when the shepherd Petrache Lupu spoke to God, could have a major impact on the Christian pastoral-missionary activity. The event triggered a massive pilgrimage to the place where God appeared and attracted the attention of the Romanian media, being described in great detail in the press of the time. But the phenomenon died out as a result of its superficial approach, the outbreak of the Second World War and the establishment in Romania of an atheistic system of social order, namely communism. Thus, a major opportunity was lost for Romanian Orthodoxy that could become as important from the perspective of religious faith as the religious phenomenon of Fatima, Portugal, where the Virgin Mary appeared, and which became a global phenomenon for Catholicism. An important role for the appearance of the religious phenomenon at Fatima was also played by the mass media, which presented the facts in luxurious detail, taking over and transmitting the explanations and arguments, becoming a key factor in the Christian pastoral-missionary activity.