

# Italian Homeland and the Balkan Migration of the Vlachs. Historic-geographical information from the ancient sources

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## *Abstract*

*The analysis of the geographical and ethno-historical data about the Vlachs contained in the Story in Brief about the Moldavian Lords from the Beginning of the Moldavian Land and other medieval sources allows to reconstruct the main milestones of the historic-geographical development of the early period of the ethnogenetic process of the Moldavians and Romanians. The events described at the beginning are localized in the northeastern part of modern Italy – the regions of Venetia and Furlania (modern Italian Friuli): in fact these regions are connected to the brothers Roman and Vlachata, leaders of the tribes who migrated to flee the persecution of the Christians. Additional direct and indirect data from other written documents, as well as linguistic and toponymical evidence, confirm the validity of the historic-geographical arguments. The article provides a detailed analysis and reconstruction of the geographical and ethno-historical information of the source, which reveals in detail some of the migration stories of the Vlach tribes. Stages of resettlement of the Vlachs in the Balkan-Carpathian region in the VI-XIV centuries are presented on a special map developed by the authors.*

**Keywords:** Vlachs; migration; historic-geographical research; chronicles; maps.