

Besides, universal history itself places statistics among the sciences enjoying the privilege of being one of the oldest that imposed in the society. In this context, it should be stressed that statistical surveys have a long lasting tradition on Romania's territory, and are to be found in chroniclers notes, afterwards followed up by the undertakings of statistics institutionalisation during the first decades of the XIXth century. These undertakings became consistent due to several approaches of organisational nature, but also, inter alia, of those of methodological nature, inspired by the modern concepts regulating the state in many European countries in full economic and social development.

The creation of the national Romanian state has opened, at that time, a new perspective in Romanian nation history. The reforms initiated and accomplished during the short but prodigious reign of Alexandru Ioan Cuza, as a stringent necessity for the modernisation of the young Romanian state, implicitly envisaged statistics formalisation. This was realised by setting up the Central Statistical Office of Romanian Principality, with its headquarters in Bucharest and, in a short lag of time, of Moldavian Department of Statistics, with its headquarters in Iași.

As a preamble to the signing of the Decree establishing the Central Statistical Office of Romanian Principality by the ruler Alexandru Ioan Cuza, it is worth mentioning the role, the perseverance, the boldness and the vision of great personalities and scientists, such as Dionisie Pop Marroian and Ion Ionescu de la Brad, well known personalities of Romanian economics and statistics, on whom official statistics setting up in our country is closely related.

The merits of the two well known scientists are undoubtedly related not only to their decisive contribution in setting up the first statistical bodies, but also to the way they have outlined and substantiated the scientific support and the cognitive and functional value of statistics for the successful accomplishment of state functions. They have clear-sightedly and deeply understood the well known truth that economic and social reforms required by the Principalities after the Unification imposed the operation and the functioning of an efficient tool allowing for the knowledge of economic and social reality, namely statistics.

"We really believe that statistics is, for those having it, a valuable national asset. Statistics is the only certain basis on which, a cautious Government, should substantiate the reasoning of its reforms" has stated Dionisie Pop Marțian.

Consistently with his own confidence and conception, Dionisie Pop Marțian assiduously continued his activity of settling on solid grounds Romanian statistics, devoting himself with high generosity, despite certain frustrations and financial means lacks, to the building up of an institution well recognised at social level, properly organised and implemented in the economic and social life,