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The Land Reforms in the Little Entente States after the First World War –
The Anti-Hungarian Aspects of these Reforms

After the First World War land reforms were implemented in the Little Entente states. These reforms were meant to transform the economic-social structure of the country, but they were also methods of nation-building. The governments of Little Entente states put the stress on the economic-social aspects of the land reform, but for Budapest this was just an anti-Hungarian measure. The national historiography continued this narrative.

The land reforms were important elements in the relations of Hungary to the Little Entente states, they were important elements of its foreign policy. Because the implementation of the land reforms was the home affair of each state, for the Hungarian government was very difficult to do anything at bilateral diplomatical level. The sole forum was the League of Nations. Budapest had to stress that the implementation of the reforms trespasses upon the rights of Hungarian minority, while Bucharest, Prague and Belgrade emphasized the economic-social necessity of the reforms.

The aim of my presentation is the solution of this deep antagonism. This study is, of course, not able to do the complete solution, but hopefully it represents a little step in this direction. I would like to present the reforms in the Little Entente states with the comparative method, and with my Roumanian research I would like to discuss the Transilvanian situation in the interwar period.