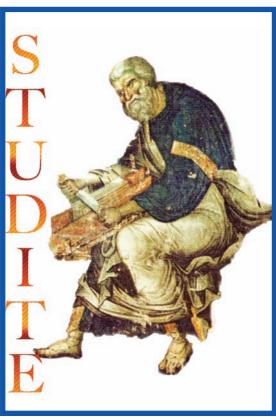


Byzantine manuscripts in the collections of the Romanian Academy Library

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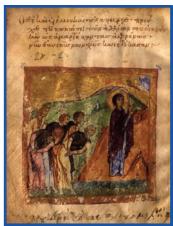


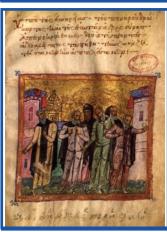


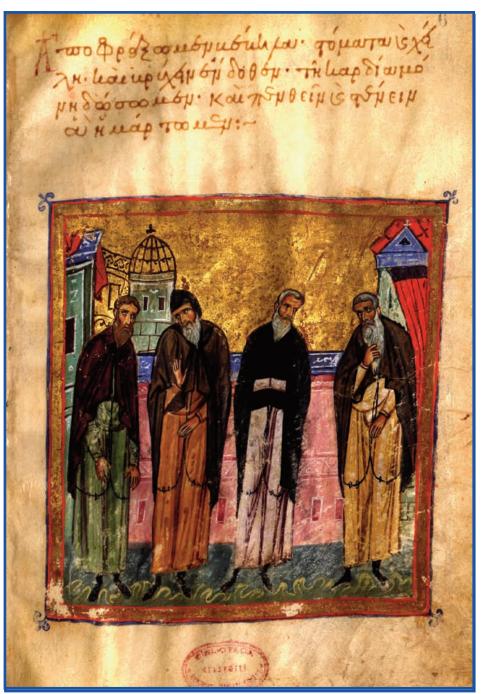
Greek manuscripts

The collection of Greek manuscripts in the Romanian Academy Library, circa 1,566 volumes, is very rich in variety, covering every aspect of Mediaeval and pre-modern preoccupations in religious, philosophical, history books, folk novels, law books, books of the patriarchs of the church, grammar books, parimias etc. The presence of Greek manuscripts in Northern Danube, in a Latin country, shows the steps of the spreading of the Byzantine culture. The great scholars from the Romanian countries in the 17-18th centuries, Serban Cantacuzino, Greceanu brothers, Nicolae Milescu or Constantin Brancovan, held in their libraries numerous Greek manuscripts and printed books. Moreover, the education in Greek from the Brancovan epoch and from the 18th century provides another explanation for the great number of Greek libraries and books present in Romania.









Penytential Canon

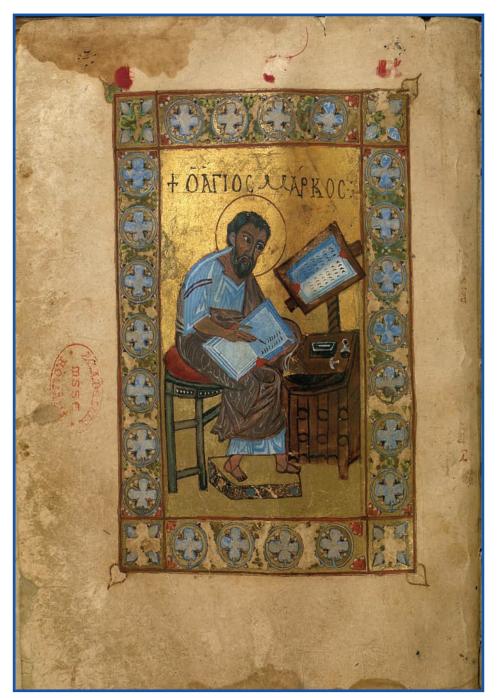
(Fragment)
12th century (second quarter)

Parchment, 10 fols., 210 x 160 mm, 4-8 lines per page. Uniform minuscule script. Text in light brown and red ink. Miniatures representing hermits handcrafted in 11 - 12 century style, gold background, bright colors. The manuscript was elaborated in a centre of monk life connected to the Imperial scriptoria. The fine portraits, the beauty of the landscapes and the variety of colours used by the artist of the 20 miniatures transform this manuscript into a real masterpiece of the Byzantine miniature art. Modern binding.

Provenance: Probably Mount Athos B. A. R., Gr. Ms. 1294

The Four Gospels 13th century

Parchment, 260 fols., 230 x 175 mm, two columns, 25 lines per page; files 3-8, 75, 118, 187 are of thick paper. Text in light brown ink, gold and cinnabar. Four full-page miniatures representing the four evangelists (f. 9v, 76v, 119v 188v) worked in gold background. Full page drawing representing a stylized cross on f. 2. Four decorated initial at the beginning of each Gospel; six arches placed above the evangelical canons (f. 4v, 5, 5v, 6, 6v, 7).At the end of each Gospel a small gold vignette. Modern binding. Provenance: Simopetra Monastery-Mount Athos; B.A.R., Gr. Ms. 1175





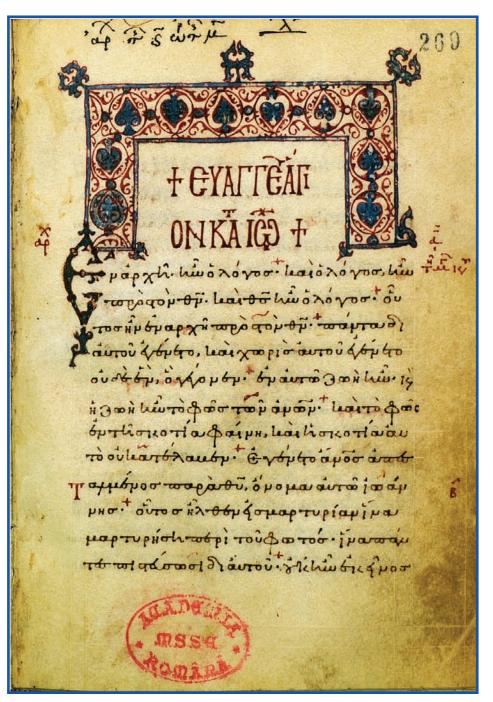












The Four Gospels 12th century (second half)

Parchment, , 330 fols., 153 x 120 mm,
19 lines per page.
Uniform minuscule script. Text in
black ink and cinnabar.

II—shaped headpieces in blue and red
ink, with multifarious motifs (bands
interlaced, hearts in cercles,
phytomorphic ornaments);
adorned initials.

Modern binding.

Provenance: B.A.R., Gr. Ms. 94

The Four Gospels 12th century

Parchment, 207 fols., 140 x 100 mm,
28 - 29 lines per page.

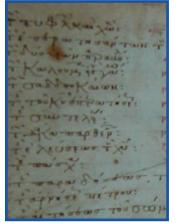
Text in brown ink, band-shaped or
rectangular headpiece, reserved in
white on a red ground, at the
beginning of each evangel,
with vegetal motifs.

Old leather binding on woodboards
with geometric ornaments; in the
middle of both covers, a cross
composed of triangles.

Provenance: the seal of the Monastery
Simopetra.

B.A.R., Gr. Ms. 665













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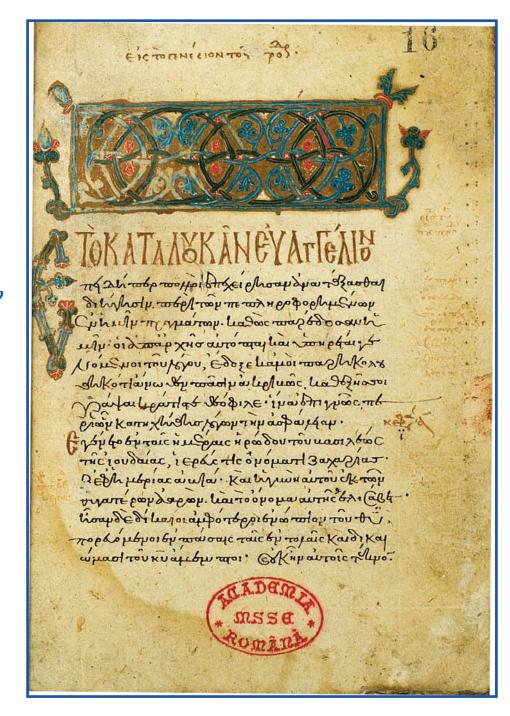


St. John Damascene - The Canons of The Holy Virgin 12th - 13th centuries

Parchment, [3], 197 fols., 310 x 210
mm, 19 - 23 lines per page.
Rounded script. Text in black and
brown ink.
Rectangular headpiece with
heart -shaped and geometric
ornaments in blue and ocre (brown);
headpiece with interlaced bands.
Old leather binding on woodboards.
Provenance: Probably, Mount Athos
B. A. R., Ms. Gr. 261

The Four Gospels 13th - 14th centuries

Bombycin and parchment, 160 fols.,
170 x 120 mm, 25 lines per page.
Text in black ink; headpieces in deep
blue and red on gold ground,
adorned initials.
Old leather binding, border with
vegetal motif and diamond
in the centre.
B. A. R., Ms. Gr. 360

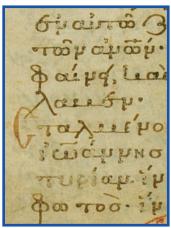
















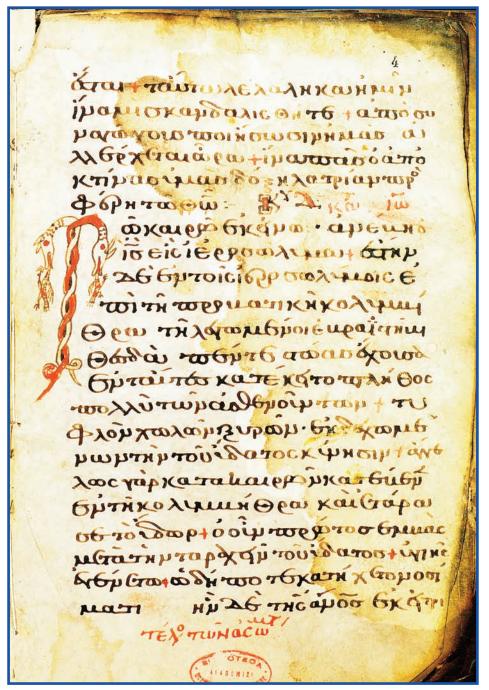
The Four Gospels (fragments) 13th century

Parchment, 23 fols., 200 x 140 mm,
24 lines per page.
Disparate leaves.
Rounded script in brown ink,
multicolor headpiece (in yellow, blue
and red) on the first leaf;
decorated initial.
Modern binding.
B. A. R., Ms. Gr. 934

The Four Gospels 13th century

Parchment, 227 fols., 190 x 130 mm,
18 - 19 lines per page.
Text in black and red ink,
rounded script.

Band-shaped headpiece with colored
(red, blue, yellow, black and white)
bands densely interlaced.
Initials of the pericopes in red ink
Adorned initials (the blessing mid-arm
motif, the zoomorphic motif - serpents
round the vertical leg etc).
B. A. R., Ms. Gr. 935



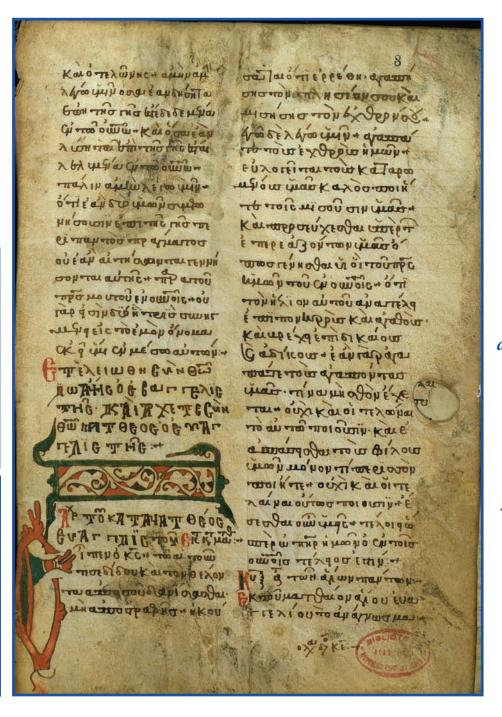
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The Four Gospels 14th century

Parchment, 86 fols., 180 x 130 mm,
28 - 30 lines per page
Text on 2 columns in black ink;
adorned initials of the pericopes in red
and green ink; various motifs
(zoomorphic, geometric, the hand
blessing, long stems with knots).
Old leather binding on woodboards
with tooled decoration on both faces
(rectangle divided by diagonals and
framed by three successive lines, embellished with palmettes and other
vegetals motifs).
B. A. R., Ms. Gr. 936

Nikephoros Blemmydes -Epitome logica and Epitome physica

13th century

Parchment, 260 x 180 mm, 182 fols.,
33 lines per page.
Text in light brown ink.
Parchment binding.
Provenance: Bibliotheca Sceensis,
B.A.R., Gr. Ms. 10

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Texts, graphic concept and layout
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Photos
Gelu Serseniuc/Marian Emandache/Gabriela Dumitrescu

