

## ABSTRACT OF THE HABILITATION THESIS

The habilitation thesis entitled “**Philosophical and Historico-Philosophical Research: inter and transdisciplinary approaches**” is a synthesis of my academic and research results achieved after being awarded the title of PhD. in philosophy, in 2001.

**Philosophy and the history of Romanian and universal philosophy** have been the main object of research, along with the **continuation of approaching specific issues of the Leibnizian thinking** throughout the period after submitting my doctoral thesis in 2001.

The research of **Romanian philosophy**, and in particular that of **Eminescu’s philosophy** and the work **Romanian Educational Models in Philosophy** (published at Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany, 2012) met with the approach of some **inter- and transdisciplinary** themes in works such as: **The Philosophical Propaedeutics, The Philosophical-Judicial Thought in Texts**. Also, my entire publishing activity as editor-in-chief of two journals: **Cogito- Multidisciplinary Research Journal** and **Euromentor- Studies about Education** emphasizes the inter- and transdisciplinary orientation of the research themes in the field of philosophy and history of modern philosophy disseminated through numerous studies and articles published both in this journal and in other national specialized journals with international recognition.

The leap from pre-university education to the academic environment in 2001 led to a concentration of my intellectual efforts for **scientific research in the field of philosophy and the history of modern philosophy** materialized by writing books, articles, journals, participations in international conferences in the country and abroad, organization of international scientific events, national and international scientific research projects. The individual research topics were closely related to the topics of courses and seminars, but they were also complementary, **having an inter- and transdisciplinary orientation**.

*The research activity was the foundation on which I built my entire academic paedetic approach.*

“**Metaphysics in G.W. Leibniz’s Work**” opened my way to the academic career, being a turning point in my professional evolution. My passion for research in philosophy which was obvious ever since my college years led to my carrying out a PhD thesis which marked the beginning of my genuine research in this area, being an authentic hermeneutics of the Leibnizian text, which was possible through its modern reading, with the means of modern logic and methodology of science. The thesis was proposed for publication, being published by Cavaliotti Publishing House in 2002, and re-published at Pro Universitaria Publishing House in 2012 under the title “**Metaphysics and Science in Leibniz's work**”.

In my doctoral thesis I conducted mainly a base research on texts and contexts (ideational and historical) of Leibniz's view on metaphysics, comprising in a moulding- interpretative unit the main

coordinates of Leibniz's ideational universe, that is the unity of metaphysics, logic, metaphysics and mathematics, metaphysics and theology, on the basis of the comprehension of the unity between them and the modern ideal of science, which was the making of a <<scientia generalis>>, thus anticipating the ideal of the Enlightenment's encyclopaedism. All these are motivated by the fact that Leibniz appears to be a theoretician of unity in multiplicity (and conversely, of the multiple in unit), of the << new system >>, in which the reform of <<prime philosophy (of metaphysics) comes as << the system of pre-established harmony>> wherein each unit (<< monad >>) exists as << miroir de l'Univers >>.

As a matter of fact, the main idea of our research was the systemic vision of the German thinker who does not separate the levels but approaches in a unitary manner – although under the umbrella of multiplicity (and specificity) -logics, mathematics, physics, the psychic and even metaphysics and morality, morality and theodicy.

My presentation of Leibniz's metaphysics was mainly based mainly on the following writings: *Discourse on Metaphysics, A New System of the Nature and the Communication of Substances, Monadology, The Principles of Nature and Grace*. At the same time, the deep and complex problems of the dissertation required the knowledge of the whole of Leibniz's works, the central objective of our endeavour being the comprehension and interpretation of his metaphysical thought starting from reference texts which belong both to the German thinker and to the most brilliant of his exegetes. The novel approach to Leibniz's metaphysics was also carried out from the perspective of the most recent interpretations presented at the International Leibniz Congresses.

The structure of the paper was conceived having in mind the fundamental landmarks of Leibniz's metaphysical thought. Thus, I emphasized the great topics which form it, namely: *The Principles, The best possible world, Metaphysics and science governed by the universal characteristic and the idea of order, Monadology and the pre-established harmony, Metaphysics and theology (the issue of theodicy), Metaphysics and ethics, Freedom and knowledge*.

For my analytical and cognitive approach, the research of the Leibnizian work cannot be reduced to the mere elaboration of the doctoral thesis. I continued to explore Leibniz's work, proceeding to further analysis and interpretation materialized in articles published in the **Sympozion Journal of the Romanian Academy**, Iași Branch, such as “**Metaphysics and Method in Leibniz's Work**” (published in No.1 / 2005), “**Knowledge and Transcendence in Leibniz's thinking**” (published in no. 2/2006); a **cornerstone**, for the research work following the elaboration of the doctoral thesis focused on the work of GW Leibniz, is the article “**G.W. Leibniz from Politics to Theodicy**” published in the Journal of Philosophy of the Romanian Academy, no. 3-4 / 2011. The desire of going deeper into the Leibnizian philosophical system led to the elaboration and publication in Cogito Journal No. 1 and 3/2012 of the following texts: *The Leibnizian Universalism and Leibniz – Philosopher of Principles*. At the **International Conference “Dimitrie Cantemir's Work - Symbol of Convergence of Civilizations**” held in “Dimitrie Cantemir” Christian University in October 2010, I submitted the paper entitled “*Dimitrie Cantemir and GW Leibniz - Encyclopaedists with European*

*Vocation*”, published in Cogito Journal, no.4 / 2010 and at the International Scientific Symposium “Dimitrie Cantemir – G.W. Leibniz and the Academy in Berlin” (11 July 2014) I presented the paper: “*The Relationship between Philosophy and Science in the Work of Cantemir and Leibniz*”, published in Cogito Journal no.3 / 2014. The idea of further exploring the thinking of the German philosopher and how it was reflected in the contemporary philosophy and science remains a steady preoccupation of my research work, because G.W. Leibniz was one of the most productive spirits of the modern world, illustrating through his universalism the type of reference personality not only for the century he lived in, but for all times.

A landmark in my professional evolution in the field of philosophical research is the **area of Romanian philosophy** which has been my concern ever since I was a student, my Bachelor’s Degree thesis being a plea for the philosophical approach of Eminescu. The research of Eminescu's work was a steady preoccupation of mine, that is why my paper for obtaining the 1st teaching degree was entitled “**Ontology and Creation in Eminescu's Philosophy**” published in 2004 at DCCU Publishing House. An original work in the Romanian philosophical literature advocating for the existence of philosophy in Eminescu’s work, both in his theoretical creation and especially in the poetic one. We started from the premise that Eminescu's poetry had better been entitled Eminescu's philosophy. Resorting to the texts of his manuscripts, I tried to argue that Eminescu made use of philosophy all over his work, trying to create a theoretical metaphysics; it is not an implicit philosophy of his poems and poetry.. Like any metaphysician, Eminescu wanted to find out a proper meaning of the absolute. We have shown that the fundamental thesis of Eminescu’s metaphysics is the absolute, the substantive invariance of the world, what remains and returns for ever in existence, the identity between possibility and reality subject to eternity. *Eminescu's metaphysics is that discovery of invariation, of what is perishable in the course of time.*

I have published numerous articles regarding the contributions of the Romanian philosophers, but the pinnacle is the book “**Romanian Educational Models in Philosophy**” published by Lambert Academic Publishing House which appeared in June 2012, an original approach in the specialized literature in Romania. This paper is a cornerstone **for my professional evolution as it combines in a sui generic way the didactic dimension with the academic research in the field of philosophy and education.** In this work I wanted to highlight some referential personalities of the history of the Romanian philosophical thinking who, through their works and activities, proved that philosophy has an indubitable educational value, making from philosophy “*the most terrestrial among flowers*”. Their message in over time refers to the philosophical education that is intended to awaken the consciousnesses, to edify us on the indubitable truth that a people cannot last in the world without an authentic philosophy, without his own axiological criteria meant to define his spiritual profile and his identity as a being.

I chose to present those outstanding personalities of Romanian philosophy who valorized their own philosophical creations in the Romanian educational system, offering youngsters and

students the measure of the value of their works, as genuine models, that imposed themselves and influenced to a great extent the development of the history of the Romanian philosophy. Researching in depth the texts of the presented Romanian philosophers' works, as well as the testimonies of their disciples, I tried to highlight, even from the title of each chapter, the specific difference of each pedagogical portrait done. I argued, based on the analysis of the philosophical opinions expressed by the disciples of the great teachers and founders of the Romanian philosophical school, the creative particularities and how each of the philosophers or thinkers I approached imposed themselves in the Romanian and universal philosophical landscape. The book comprises 12 chapters, which illustrate the involvement of the great Romanian thinkers in the philosophical education of the Romanian people, from Dimitrie Cantemir, Eminescu, Titu Maiorescu, Constantin Rădulescu-Motru, Nae Ionescu, Ion Petrovici, P.P. Negulescu, Mircea Florian to la Lucian Blaga, Mircea Eliade, Constantin Noica and Emil Cioran, the work being written both in Romanian and in English.

Combining the dimension of academic scientific research with the activity of a professor of philosophy, I carried out specialized papers with inter and transdisciplinary character, such as: **The Philosophical Propaedeutics**, a starting point and a path of an **initiation into philosophy**. I tried to present the topics so as to make the questions and problems accessible at a level that should live up to the great tradition of philosophy and generate fruitful discussion within classroom teaching. The current work includes 12 chapters, which refer to **the major themes of philosophy: the concept of philosophy, the philosophy origins, genres and styles of philosophizing, philosophical methodology, metaphysics and ontology, the human being as ontic reality, the meaning of life: happiness as a sense of human life; the philosophical problem of knowledge; Truth-fundamental goal of knowledge; the philosophical issue of values: fundamental values of humanity: freedom, justice, beauty, good; space and time, consciousness, God.**

*The Philosophical-Judicial Thought in Texts* is a chrestomathy in the field of philosophy of law which arouse from the need to provide students, those who train in legal sciences, with the opportunity to build up a cultural background appropriate for their profession, putting them in contact with the most brilliant minds in the history of mankind thinking, by selecting the reference texts of their works. I did not choose only the selection of publishing some texts, but I tried to sum up the contribution of the great thinkers in the history of humanity cultural in the field of philosophy of law, providing notes that I considered indispensable, preliminary explanations which are useful for understanding the text.

I have published five books as unique author, 50 studies and articles in specialized journals, internationally indexed, I coordinated research programs - grants nationally and internationally. I organized and coordinated international conferences and symposia, including the volumes with the proceedings of these events and their international indexation, in the field of Romanian and universal philosophy entitled: **“Dimitrie Cantemir’s work - symbol of the convergence of civilizations”** (2010), **The Encyclopaedic and Dimension of Dimitrie Cantemir’s Work** (2012), **“Dimitrie Cantemir - Educator of the Romanian People”** October 2013, **“Dimitrie Cantemir-G.W. Leibniz and the Academy of Berlin”**, July 2014. In the field of education, I have initiated, organized and

coordinated the following international scientific events: the international conference, “**Education in the Future**” (April 2013), the international Workshop “**Connecting Generations**” within the European Educational Programme Grundtvig, as project manager for Romania.

Between 1-15 September 2014, I participated in a research program with international grant value benefitting from an Erasmus scholarship at Sapienza University of Rome. The theme of the research project was: “*Eminescu's Reception in Italy within 125 years of Posterity*”. The project was carried out with the support of the Accademia di Romania in Rome, having the approval of the Romanian Academy management.

The research on Romanian philosophy will remain a main concern of my scientific work, with the project of writing an “*Encyclopaedia of the Romanian Philosophy*” in English, in partnership with the Institute of Philosophy and Psychology “C. Rădulescu Motru” within the Romanian Academy by the end of 2016.

In 2015, in close connection with setting up a Chair Eminescu, I will organize a Congress Eminescu at the Romanian Institute of Cultural and Humanities Research in Venice, in partnership with the Romanian Academy, Accademia di Romania in Rome, which will be followed by the publishing of an internationally indexed volume concerning EMINESCU’S RECEPTION IN ITALY. ON THE FOOTSTEPS OF ROSA DEL CONTE, conducted together with prof. PhD. Roberto Scagno, head of the Romance Department of the University of Padua. This action will be followed by the launch of the book: *Time and Eternity in Mihai Eminescu’s Work* November 2015. Thus, in the medium and long run, I will have in view:

Expanding the research program on the reception of Eminescu's work abroad: in France, Spain, Germany, the USA; participation in scientific research programs with Erasmus scholarship;

Carrying out the research project: **The place and role of Romanian philosophy within the universal thinking: Romanian conferences for the international popularization of the Romanian philosophy with the support of the Romanian Academy, the Romanian Cultural Institute;**

**Establishing a multidisciplinary international scientific research center based on European funds within the Program Horizon 2020, meant to attract young Romanian researchers who have studied abroad.**

Also, in terms of academic research by means of publications, the most important goal for the next period is indexing Cogito and Euromentor Journals in Thomson Reuters (A CNCS quotation, by 2015); On medium and long run, I will also pursue some other objectives, such as: publishing some specialized works in international publishing houses, participating in research programs - grants in the field of Romanian philosophy, participating in international conferences and research stages, publishing articles in professional journals in the country and abroad. I want to capitalize on the experience acquired in the field of education and academic scientific research by coordinating doctorates in philosophy and the history of Romanian and universal modern philosophy, getting the habilitation certificate in the specialization Philosophy.