

Editorial: *Facing a paradigm shift, by choosing to fight against displacing human values, against the order out of the truth*

Pledging for analyzing crises as a process of incubation that starts long before the triggering event, Christophe Roux-Dufort argued during a significant year (Is Crisis Management - Only - a Management of Exceptions? Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management, Volume 15, Number 2, June 2007) that “*if crisis management still limits itself to the analysis of exceptional situations, it might never go beyond the sphere of exception management and will for a long time remain an isolated discipline with little room for innovation and progress.*” Trying to make enough room for innovation and progress, we asked ourselves what there is to do within the too long value crisis, knowing that there are values in direct conflict, and conflicts that are constantly managed in individuals.

What do we really want in our life? What do we really want to do with our lives? Because everything we do in our life represents a choice. Because knowing what we really want in our life helps us better organize our lives. Maybe what we really want is just a few feet away. We have to ask ourselves, because maybe the first step to considering the alternatives is to recognize our deeply seated systemic reasons, reducing together the discontinuity between our past and future. But are we really informed, smart, interested, engaged, and consulted?

As our decisions are based on value systems (we make choices based on what we think is best), Andrew Welch (<http://thevaluecrisis.com/>) argued that we need both a fundamental recognition of non-numeric values at the individual level (number-based value systems being limitless, linear, and consistent across time, space, and culture), and a return to having human values effectively represented at the group level (innate human value systems being bounded, relative, and inconsistent).

It is said that education means first of all to give the educated a proper sense of values, the quality of life in our modern society in full fight against the present value crisis being dependent on the rational acknowledgement of universal human values, in the interaction between the result of the education of creating and reception of values (culture, and its challenging adjusting with public and politics), one side and the result of the practical organization of transforming the cultural values (civilization). Within this framework, Universities are also best placed to support character formation, and to develop these universal human values, while awakening the social consciousness beyond the confusion between the real values of life, and the material values elevated to the status of absolute values, reconciling individuality and solidarity, re-emerging community and re-imagining its future.

But facing this significant challenge means making decisions based on informed judgments within this pressing priority, considering the systems’ and managements’ inability to deal with and the need for education to further improve our techniques and understanding of how to take

much more active responsibility with respect to properly manage in addressing the complexity and in creating a communications climate that drives motivation through openness.

On March 20, in “Ion Heliade Radulescu” Auditorium of the Romanian Academy Library, the book “The Public Space. Management and communication” written by Professor Vasile Stanescu, Honorary Member of the Romanian Academy, was released. This new piece of work - completing a well-known work - appeared in February 2012 at “Universul Juridic” Publishing House, portrayed a triad: a documented and comprehensive continuing endeavor to revive the community spirit to transform public space into a fertile ground for responsible investment in a predictable future, reconfirming a state of perpetual vibration relative to the true purpose of public space, proposing to re-imagine the responsible teamwork crossing the often invisible boundaries that define public space; a re-manifestation of the strong emotional attachment to our land and people, reconfirming the importance of the cultural compliance dimension of sharing by our people of the value systems and - within this context - the attitudes of consensus on common expectations and possible conflicts in the use and understanding of public space as normal and acceptable.

This new book of Professor Vasile Stanescu, Honorary Member of the Romanian Academy, was launched within the context in which young people (and not only) remain the subject of a true “cerebral bombing” thanks to the creation of the illusion of ephemeral success that some Web pages would be public spaces, without understand the actually true exchange by giving up the attention and personal data privacy, the freedom of expression and even intellectual property rights. It has appeared reconfirming the idea that a truly public space should be an independent and cultural counterweight of the profit-oriented private sector. We might dare to view this new piece of work as being an open and accessible public service contributing to overcoming a real difficulty today, namely that, as they say, in many cases, the “normal” has become “abnormal” and the “abnormal” has become “normal”, while “acceptable” has become “unacceptable” and “unacceptable” has become “acceptable”.

We could also say that this new book of Professor Vasile Stănescu, Honorary Member of the Romanian Academy, constitutes a vivid proof that the soul of a true community pillar is the expression of the power that comes from within, challenging beliefs (in the Professor’s characteristic note of warmth and wisdom) - and urging to education and culture, education meaning first of all respect of the past, of the present and of the future of the community assaulted by the uproar of the aggressive mediocrity’s nothingness which proliferates due to the order out of the true.

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