

Editorial - *The month of March 2013 in Romania, and the imperative of the “fight” to correlated unfolding of understanding and action of the evolution in society and nature*

The month of March 2013 in Romania was full of hope as to what concerns the significance of a new partnership in finding solutions concerning a correlated unfolding of understanding and action of the evolution in society and nature, while responsibly assuming the control of risks generated by the actual evolution in the new complexity of the world of uncertainties. Friday, March 22, 2013, in *Bucharest, the Capital of Romania*, took place the works of the inspired and inspiring Forum celebrating “*World Water Day*” (22 March) and “*World Meteorological Day*” (23 March), organized by the “*Group of Ecological Initiative and Sustainable Development* – GIEDD in collaboration with the Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences „Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești” (ASAS), “Romanian Waters” National Administration and the National Meteorological Administration. GIEDD was represented by the distinguished Members of the Executive Board: *the former President of Romania, His Excellency Mr. Ion Iliescu, President of GIEDD*, Dr. Eng. Cristiana Sîrbu – Executive President of GIEDD, and HRH Prince Michael of Laufenburg.

The lively debate on this special occasion (<http://www.distribution-magazine.eu/an-inspired-and-inspiring-forum-to-celebrate-world-water-day-22-march-and-world-meteorological-day-23-march/>) allowed the clarification of questions and concerns. As a confirmation of the solidarity and confidence needed to tackle complex problems – that *President Ion ILIESCU* made reference to also in the end of the Forum works, while drawing valuable conclusions – allows us to emphasize two other significant contributions in the qualitative manner of carrying out the Forum:

- the special contribution brought by *the multiple World and Olympic champion, Mr. Ivan Patzaichin*, President of “Ivan Patzaichin - Mila 23” Association, *a great friend of the water, a real model of devotion in encouraging young people to love nature, to appreciate water, the most precious natural resource, to love sport and performance* (<http://www.rowmania.ro/>); Mr. Ivan Patzaichin (born in the village “Mila 23” in the Tulcea county) aims at achieving and promoting sustainable development projects of local and regional interest, promoting the cultural profile of his native area, and encouraging healthy living, in a sustainable environment, encouraging ecotourism in rowboat;

- the inspirational cultural message of *the sculptor Doru Dragusin*: “*water passes, the stones remain... polished; ...each type of material has its valences and must be respected... I love this very hard work so much that I sometimes wonder why so soon is dark outside...*”. Mr. Doru Dragusin (<http://www.dorudragusin.com/>), born in the village “Nicolae Titulescu” in the Olt county, confirmed both, the words of *Nicolae Titulescu* (by understanding that each of us has its mission and the success comes from the unity, the feeling of confidence being an essential condition for any productive work, and that the ideal is in itself a becoming reality, because the honest people always proceed in the same direction under the command of the conscience), and the words of *Constantin Brancusi* (by acting accordingly, proving the understanding that in

order to express something essentially we need to see the essence of things and to go from here towards the right direction).

It is also worth to highlight the cultural moment represented by the *Vernissage Sculpture Doru Dragusin* (on “Diplomacy through Art” dedicated to the year “Constantin Brancusi”) *on the occasion of this inspired and inspiring Forum*, Mr. Doru Dragusin being the well-known author of the bronze statue of “Nicolae Titulescu” (former Romanian diplomat and statesman, twice President of the Assembly of the League of Nations in 1930 and 1931) unveiled in April 2002 at the Palais des Nations, Geneva (on the occasion of marking the 120th Anniversary of Nicolae Titulescu); within the context of the discussions during the *Vernissage*, Mr. Doru Dragusin rediscovered the temporal coincidence with my intervention (as President of the Romanian Competition Council: <http://www.crd-aida.ro/our-team/theodor-purcarea/>) in the same month, April 2002, in Geneva at the level of World Trade Organization (this intervention was presented in position 1 of the Final Report of the Working Group for Trade and Competition Policy - document also presented in a “Diplomatic and Protocol Customs” Book introduced by the “Diplomatic Gazette”, Brussels, No. 45/December 2004).

There is no doubt that water is key to development, becoming an increasingly important strategic issue, not only a public health and environmental issue. There is a real need to consider both, the dynamic links between water, energy, and farming, and to build resilience against climate change, including by improving the ability to project future climate through adequate monitoring and research. Taking into account the importance of appropriate dosage between science and policy in order to align the activities on key priorities, policy responses should include adaptation to climate change and adequately addressing issues such as water-related disasters, health and the role of ecosystems.

At the beginning of the same month, on March 7, 2013, the *Romanian-American University* hosted two other significant events:

- *The works of the General Assembly of the Association of Faculties of Economics in Romania* (AFER). AFER is aiming at economic development and improvement of Higher Education reform in Romania in the European spirit, being a powerful forum for discussion of specific problems, identifying best practices in academic education and research dedicated to promoting national and international benchmarks for economics education in Romania (<http://www.ssmar.ase.ro/news.asp>). The rigorous agenda of the March 2013 General Assembly of AFER expressed both the objectives assumed with responsibility and determination in addressing the quality and consistency of the values and expectations specific to the academic model serving economic needs and aspirations of Higher Education in Romania at the confluence of globalization and integration.
- The national Conference of the *Romanian Scientific Society of Management* (SSMAR), “SSMAR Experiment – COMOR Project”, “*Exploratory Research: The Managerial Behavior in Romanian Organizations*” (exploratory research project aimed at identifying the managerial behavior in Romanian organizations both, at counties and development regions and at national level), whose findings and recommendations outlined the need to complete the experiment within the time limit, obtaining results confirming the value of the predictive method (<http://holisticmarketingmanagement.ro/ordinary-working-session-of-the-senate-of-the-romanian-scientific-society-of-management-ssmar-march-7-2013-the-senate-hall-of-the-romanian-american-university/>). The ordinary working session of the Senate of SSMAR

following the Conference confirmed the increased proactive attitude of SSMAR members, being a true expression of an increasingly recognized organizational dynamics (culture, politics, reputation) both at national and international level, the interventions on this occasion revealing consensus on long-term planning and aligning activities to key priorities, and on developing best internal practices and processes.

On March 18, 2013 (see “*Diploma of Special Merit*” awarded to Professor Benjamin Cotigaru in “Health Value for Sustainable Development, a Real Challenge”, <http://crd-aida.ro/RePEc/rdc/v3i4/3.pdf>), I had the joy of meeting my mentor again, *the distinguished Professor Benjamin Cotigaru* (“The Second International Congress SANABUNA...Professor Benjamin COTIGARU, Honorary Member of the Romanian Distribution Committee” ; <http://www.sanabuna.ro/the-second-international-congress-health-nutrition-fitness-and-wellbeing-for-central-southeast-europe-sanabuna-2012-took-place-on-the-19th-21st-october-at-the-art-museum/>). *The venerable Professor Benjamin Cotigaru* (born in Bucharest on November 27, 1921), stays concerned about our significant common project: “*Creating a socio-cultural space that can receive development issues - a Romanian cultural renewal action*”, *improving our existence from one generation to another*. This noble “project work” should start from the truth, the beautiful, the good, the justice and the freedom. Society needs to be restored into a new phase of spirit of the formation process, and the only institution that can do this is the *School*. Even if today we possess knowledge, we do not have the knowledge of methodologically using it to create this socio-cultural space. The evolution must be understood correlatively, not distinctly. It requires a project that should work simultaneously, globally and locally. Is not about a transition but a change in human behavior optics within the context of human-nature interaction, finding out the coherence behind the apparent disorder of valuable concepts, drawing the necessary lessons from valuable concepts. *The venerable Professor Benjamin Cotigaru* is even viewing the anniversary event of 100 years since the founding of the Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest as a starting point to this project, taking into account both:

- the Symposium “*The Economy of Ideas and Sustainable development*”, Romanian Parliament House, May 16, 2000, organized by the Romanian Distribution Committee together with the “International Foundation Health – Environment – Sustainable development ” and in partnership with “*Ion Ratiu*” Romanian Parliamentarians Club (on the basis of the study “*Sustainable development : principles and action*”, Benjamin Cotigaru, Theodor Purcarea, coordinators, Millenium Publishing House, May 2000, interdisciplinary research representing a turning point in developing a national strategy for sustainable development (<http://www.crd-aida.ro/originsvocation/dezvoltare-durabila/>) ;
- the Symposium “*Institutional-spiritual reconstruction of enterprises, requirement for sustainable development in the knowledge society*”, May 24, 2006, Calarasi County Hall, organized by the Romanian Distribution Committee (RDC) in collaboration with the *Bucharest University of Economic Studies* (ASE) and UGIR 1903 (on the basis of the volume which appeared in April 2006 at ASE Publishing House and in which, at page 488, reference is made to „RESPAD Trophy” offered by RDC, among other things emphasizing the correlation between real success and the vision of the training team (<http://www.crd-aida.ro/originsvocation/comitetul-roman-al-distributiei-trofeul-respad-2006/>)).

The end of March 2013 reconfirmed the fact that *time is the father of truth*, graciously contributing to the chain of events within the context of celebrating the centennial of the Bucharest University of Economic Studies (ASE), whose graduate I also am. On March 22, 2013 the National Bank of Romania stated that beginning with March 25, 2013, it will issue a numismatic issue dedicated to the centennial anniversary of the Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies (the present-day Bucharest University of Economic Studies).

On March 27, 2013, in the Bucharest University of Economic Studies Hall began “ASE 100” Conferences cycle with a presentation delivered by the Academician *Mugur Constantin Isarescu*, the Governor of the National Bank of Romania (graduate of ASE and Professor at ASE, the theme being: “Degrees of freedom in the calibration of monetary policy”), in the presence of the Romanian Minister of National Education, Professor *Remus Pricopie* (see Professor *Remus Pricopie* in Brussels, at the headquarters of Diplomatic Club of Belgium, “Château Sainte-Anne”, <http://www.crd-aida.ro/2013/02/leon-f-wegnez-doctor-honoris-causa-prestigious-snsa-bucharest-romania/>), and other distinguished guests and an impressive auditorium.

Theodor Valentin Purcărea

Editor - in - Chief