

Habilitation Thesis

Candidate: Professor Ștefan PURICI, PhD

Romania, Romanians and the Neighbouring States (XIX-XX Centuries)

Abstract

The habilitation thesis for doctoral coordinator highlights the candidate's potential and his teaching and research performances subsequent to his doctorate in History.

The habilitation thesis is structured in three parts: I - scientific and professional achievements; II - main development directions of the academic, scientific and professional career; III - bibliographical references.

The first part of the thesis summarizes, with reference to specific and verifiable scientific and professional achievements in the field of history, the main results of the author's scientific, teaching and professional work. Main research directions are identified and the fundamental objectives, pursued after obtaining the PhD in History, are highlighted. Main research directions include investigations on the history of Bukovina and Bessarabia, the contemporary history of international relations, the specific analysis of historiographical approaches. During the last two decades, my research targeted important objectives regarding:

- analysis of the demographic situation in Bukovina and Bessarabia under Habsburg, respectively Tsarist administrations, and its impact on the authorities' policy and social life in the province;

- investigation on matters related to the genesis, affirmation and evolution of the national movement of the Romanians in Bukovina in relation to the identity manifestations of the other ethnic groups in the smallest country of the Habsburg crown;

- study of the phenomenon of integration of Bukovina into Greater Romania and evolution of interethnic relations;
- expose the context and implications of Soviet occupation of the northern part of Bukovina (1940-1941, 1944-1950);
- review of the Romanian communities in the Chernivtsi Region after 1990 and the policy of the Ukrainian authorities towards the Romanian ethnic group in Ukraine;
- set up and development of trans border cooperation at the north-eastern border of the country;
- Romania's accession to Euro-Atlantic structures;
- the evolution of Romanian-Ukrainian relations in the twentieth century;
- presentation approaches of Bukovina's past in Ukrainian historiography;
- concepts and approaches in contemporary Romanian historiography.

The habilitation thesis highlights the achievements in relation to the stage reached in the analysis of those issues in Romanian and foreign historiography. Recognition of my professional skills materialized, among others, by appointment as scientific reviewer at 29 PhD Assessment Committees at the doctoral schools of the "Stefan cel Mare" University of Suceava, "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iasi and "Babes-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca. I have also been appointed as member of tenure committees for positions of lecturers and professors at the "Stefan cel Mare" University of Suceava, "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati, "Vasile Alecsandri" University of Bacau, and „Valahia „University of Targoviste,” Ovidius University of Constanta.

The second part of the habilitation thesis briefly presents the main development directions of the academic, scientific and professional career, highlighting the medium and long-term plans. In matters of scientific research, I will resume the directions I already contributed to in historiography, such as: Bucovina history, contemporary history of the Romanians, history of international relations etc. I will continue to study subjects still little studied in Romanian historiography, such as the political, economic, social and cultural evolution of historical Bukovina between the two world wars; matters related to the development of Romanian communities and the state policies regarding minorities after the end of the

Second World War; contemporary Romanian-Ukrainian political relations; integration and disintegration phenomena in the third millennium etc.

Obtaining the quality of doctoral coordinator will allow me to transmit my knowledge, skills and research methods to future PhD students, guiding them in their scientific investigations, with integrity, to produce original and topical studies for the Romanian historiography.

The third part contains documents in support of the information provided in the thesis and includes references that reflect the scientific activity of the candidate and a list of Romanian and foreign citations of the candidate's scientific achievements.