



**ULBS**

Universitatea "Lucian Blaga" din Sibiu



**CONFERINȚA NAȚIONALĂ A SOCIETĂȚII  
SOCIOLOGILOR DIN ROMÂNIA și  
CONFERINȚA ANUALĂ A CERCETĂRII ÎN  
SOCIOLOGIE ȘI ASISTENȚĂ SOCIALĂ**

**European and National Identities at Crossroads:  
Reshaping Boundaries, Changing Political Cultures,  
and Re-Imagining the Future**

**BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**

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## **Principal organizers**

Mihai Stelian Rusu, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Ionela Vlase, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

## **Scientific/organizers committee**

Horațiu Rusu, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Andrei Gheorghiiță, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Ioana Narcisa Crețu, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Flavius Mihalache, Research Institute for Quality of Life (ICCV), Bucharest

Lucian Marina, 1st of December University of Alba Iulia

Bogdan Nadolu, West University of Timișoara

Claudiu Coman, Transilvania University of Brașov

Aurelian Muntean, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest

Cristina Stănuș, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Anca Bejenaru, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Amalia Pavelescu, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Adela Elena Popa, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Mihai Stelian Rusu, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Alin Croitoru, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Dorel Morândău, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Felicia Morândău, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Radu Ioan Popa, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Ionela Vlase, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Viorica Bobic, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Sorina Corman, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Ramona Marinache, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

## Introducere

Europa se află la o răscruce de drumuri. După ce a fost construit gradual în urma celui de-al doilea război mondial, proiectul european se vede confruntat cu o serie de evoluții tulburătoare. Criza economică a pus la îndoială paradigma neoliberală care stătea la temelia modelului de dezvoltare urmărit de către Uniunea Europeană. Migrația masivă din țări destrămate de războaie civile sau prinse în capcana „dezvoltării subdezvoltării”, concomitent cu seria de atacuri teroriste au declanșat o frică larg răspândită și au creat o panică morală de-a lungul întregului continent. Totodată, au divizat statele europene în privința politicilor referitoare la migrație și au redeschis dezbaterile cu privire la eșecul modelului multicultural care a inspirat cultura politică dinăuntrul UE. De asemenea, aceste evoluții sociale, economice și politice au ridicat întrebări cu privire la identitățile naționale și relațiilor lor cu identitatea trans-națională europeană. În același timp, resurgența autoritarismului și turnura către o politică populistă într-un număr de state (Polonia și Ungaria fiind cele mai relevante exemple) aruncă îndoială asupra viitorului democrației consacrate ca valoare fundamentală a culturii politice europene și prefigurează perspectiva unei „democrații liberale”. Aceste tendințe evocă autoritarismele ce au prins rădăcini în țările vecine comunității europene (Rusia și Turcia constituind ilustrări elocvente în acest sens) și sugerează traiectorii de evoluție a unor state europene anterior cu greu imaginabile. Mai recent, Brexit-ul a zguduit unitatea până acum luată ca fiind de la sine înțeleasă a Uniunii Europene, cu consecințe imprevizibile însoțite de teama unui efect de domino care ar destrăma o construcție politică cu o vechime de mai bine de o jumătate de secol. Pe acest fundal, România marchează zece ani de apartenență la comunitatea europeană. Deceniul trecut de la aderarea la UE în 2007 constituie un prilej oportun pentru a reflecta asupra transformărilor prin care a trecut societatea românească. În aceste vremuri tulburi atât pentru UE cât și pentru statele membre, invităm cercetători din întreg câmpul științelor sociale să reflecteze asupra problemelor de natură socială, politică și economică cu care se confruntă Europa în general și România în special.

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

COSIMA RUGHINIȘ, University of Bucharest

*Social Networks of Immunity and Truth. Vaccination and Homeopathy in Romania*

### **Changes in Media Communication: Cross-media Journalism**

Moderator: IOANA-NARCISA CREȚU, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

ORSOLYA GERGELY, Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania

*New Media, New Idols? Internet, Teenagers and Role Models*

The social learning theory emphasises that the model giving or guiding has always been one of the most powerful means for transmitting values, for demonstrating and accentuating the expected attitudes, habits, thinking and behaviour. Studies have shown that a role model, could motivate in positive manner a teenager's sporting habits and performance. They also found that the top athletes, those celebrities who appear frequently in the media can become role models. Has the media and media usage an impact on the process of role model choosing? How can this be identified? We wanted to find out whether the teenagers from our region have role models? If so, who their icons and role models are? Who are those persons, who have an exemplary behaviour in their eyes? To whom they would like to compare themselves when they grow up? Have the age, the gender, and residence of the pupils any influence on the choice of the role model? Have a place among the teenagers' role models the professional sportsmen? Who are those sportsmen (and sports), for which the pupils are enthusiastic about? What kind of role do the football and football players? The paper aims to present the teenagers' role model question. The analysis is based on three important surveys conducted among teenagers from Romania (Covasna, Harghita and Mureș counties). The surveys took place in Spring 2012, 2014 and 2016. About two thousand of pupils in the 7th and 11th grades were involved each time. Can we conclude that the new media brought along the new idols? The media has definitely a strong impact on the young people's, children's lives, on their world-perception - can this be identified even here, regarding the role models? What kind of new possibility, new chance or new challenge have the parents, pedagogues, teachers, local communities?

DELIA ȘTEFENEL, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*Calling into Question Identity in Diverse Cultural Encounters: Advancements from Greece and Romania*

The present paper aims to provide insights into controversy cross-cultural communication in two European cultures, known for their high degree of uncertainty avoidance and societal inequality values (Hofstede). More precisely, based on data collected from 867 individuals belonging to two separate native groups, Greeks and Romanians respectively, this study attempts to emphasize how the topos of situational identity posits itself among each examined society and if and how does it influence conversational behavior. The main findings of the study are focus on offering more understanding on why people are tempt to adopt different strategies in order to handle dispute

communication, and to what extent identity focus, individual and cultural features do matter in arguing dialogues.

SILVIA POPA, University of Bucharest

*New Media Practices: Technological Convergence and Professional Reconversion*

The focus on the present research is on the organizational structure of a TV station, functioning and relations between employees, how they are formed, how they experience the fieldwork, improvisation and unexpected technological events, the way journalists experience the multiskilling process and the characteristics that the new journalist has. I focused on the everyday routines and the way journalists are behaving in relation with the new technologies, the new demanding skills and ways of doing modern journalism. No longer than 10-15 years ago journalists were more present on the field, collecting information, finding the sources, talking with the people, now they spend most of their time at their desk, searching and writing on their PC. These changes occurred once with the digitalization media. I carried out interviews and participant observation among journalists and other TV employees and I spent time in the technical and production departments, newsroom and even on the field in order to describe the way journalism has changed. Journalists need to adapt and sometimes do the work of video editing specialists or even camera operators. The modern journalist has new abilities and skills in order to operate with the latest technology. For the people whom I've studied the profession of journalist supposes flexibility and even if they graduated from a specialized institution the theoretical background doesn't fold on the practical part which means working in television and facing the real problems. It is not surprising that there is a discrepancy between the expectations generated by the changes and improvements in the broadcasting infrastructure and the errors that occur in the daily work. I noticed that employees talk about an increase of media creativity and power in decision making in terms of daily tasks, subject choices and news generated. At the same time leads to increased productivity of newsroom, better organization and communication.

IOANA-NARCISA CRETU, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*Trends in Media Communication – Romania*

Over 1200 new publications have appeared in Romania since the fall of communism. Some of them don't exist anymore, but there always appear new ones. The Romanian newspaper market comprises about 1500 publications most of which appear on a weekly basis and 200 daily newspapers. Television is the most familiar source of information. The radio landscape has changed considerably - similar to the television - since 1990. Besides the public broadcaster offering several programs, there are over 150 private local radio stations and various other channels. Despite the diversity of the Romanian press, we cannot yet speak of a completely free press (see the last report of the Freedom House organization). The limitations of media freedom and freedom of speech are related to media ownership, but also with gaps in the national legislation. The cases of failure in investigative journalism identify factors that conduct to limitation of media freedom. This study aims to contribute to the advancement in the conceptualization of qualitative journalism also by comparing mass communication in Romania with trends in Europe such as cross-media and second screen.

## **Social Inequalities and Political Competition: Populist Temptations in New Democracies**

Moderator: AURELIAN MUNTEAN, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest

OANA ELENA NEGREA, University of Bucharest

*Objectively and Subjectively Mapping Gender within the Romanian Labour Market*

Post-crisis, Europe is reframing itself, trying to solve one of its most striking issues: growing inequalities. Reshaping and renegotiating the European arena is not an easy task, but the ubiquity of inequality gives no alternative. An interesting side of this entire process is that building a new path for Europe to prosper appears to be a fundamentally gendered matter (Walby, 2017), as gender is one of the main classifiers on which inequalities regimes are founded on (Acker, 2009). More specifically, at the level of the labour markets, the result of gender inequalities is a segregated and unequal structure of occupations, wages and numerous other aspects related to the labour domain. Still, understanding how gender works within the labour market implies using both objective and subjective data. In other words, the narrative of gender segregation constructed strictly by mapping gender inequalities within the occupation structure does not suffice. The consequences of gender inequalities on the labour market depend on perceptions as well, given that failing to perceive inequality in a certain context helps maintain and reproduce the existing (and unequal) status quo. In practical terms, the present study uses data on both occupation structure and perceptions regarding gender inequalities to present the Romanian labour market. The case of Romania, a society with a communist path-dependency, might help uncover some nuances in terms of understanding how gender is ultimately an active force within the labour market and how it can be employed in reframing Europe to be more inclusive and less unequal.

CIPRIAN GABRIEL OROS, Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

HORIA MOAŞA, Transilvania University of Braşov

*Cities for People or the Reason for Social Radicalization? The Special Case of Dakar*

In the midst of the financial crisis that has shaken the world's socio-economic order, Neil Brenner publishes in 2008, together with Peter Marcuse and Margit Mayer, "Cities for People, Not for Profit: Critical Urban Theory and the Right to the City" bringing back the critical urban theory and the intrinsic inequities generated by capitalism into the intellectual debate. Modern cities are fertile grounds to resist capitalism and the emergence of political alternatives, given that throughout their existence, urban centers have been the exclusive scene for capital accumulation and, implicitly, for increasing social differences. The issue of housing has a major impact on the welfare of the citizen, especially from a social point of view. The home is a private space necessary for personal security and isolation from the world, a space of relaxation and everyday life, one that should provide the necessary comfort for every individual. In West Africa, in particular Dakar, Senegal, due to the lack of coherent programs of control of chaotic urbanization, in the popular neighbourhoods without any kind of infrastructure, a series of profound crises emerged in the last 15-20 years have led to an

unprecedented increase in the differences between urban development levels and, implicitly, social segregation and radicalism.

ALEXANDRA IANCU, University of Bucharest

*The Decline of "Party in Government" Paradigm and the ECE Party Politics*

Researches conducted on East Central European parties have pointed out a number of features of party politics in this region: low levels of party mobilization, high party dependence on the state resources, the decline of trust in political parties and disempowered party anthills. In Romania and Bulgaria, typical patterns of party institutionalization based on volatile and electoral-dependent forms of political affiliation coupled with endemic corruption reinforced the common narratives on party colonisation of the state and the centralized nature of post-communist parties. This paper challenges these narratives, arguing that political pathologies in the ECE region should not be necessarily linked to the hegemony of a narrow stratum of political elites in public offices. In fact, it is contended that party disempowerment in this region is not limited to an inability to build linkages with the electorate or with party activists, but is primarily related to the incapacity to control decisional processes through representatives in public offices. From this perspective, recent "post-communist political history" can be perceived as the story of the failure of the "party in government model" (as defined by Katz 1986, Blondel 2002). The paper analyses, in comparative perspective, governmental recruitment patterns in Hungary, Czech Republic, Romania and Bulgaria (starting with the early 2000s until present). Based on the analysis of the ministerial elite trajectories and of their evolution, I will emphasise the ongoing trends towards outsourcing the candidate selection process, the predominance of extra-political credentials, and the frail potential oversight of the party in public office representatives.

IOAN HOSU, Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

MIHNEA-SIMION STOICA, Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

*Attitudes towards Mass media and the European Union amid Social Unrest. The Case of Romania*

In January 2017, Romanians took to the streets as the newly installed government planned to decriminalize certain corruption offenses through an emergency ordinance, the effects of which would have pardoned, amongst others, high-ranking political leaders. Interesting enough, the opposition was incapable of capitalizing on the situation, as street protesters were unwilling to accept national political answers to their demands. Social media was the main communication channel, managing to cluster together those who wanted to express their frustration with the acts of the government. Going beyond a usual anti-governmental demonstration, protesters also showed their disapproval with national media outlets, who they accused of supporting politicians by being part of a cartel of interests. The lack of trust in mass media paved the way for further reliance on social media in organizing and carrying out the protests. Based on a large N survey conducted with a group of socially active respondents, we sought to understand the patterns of media consumption of those who took to the streets, by tapping into issues such as main sources of information and trust in mass media. The study also taps into issues related to the support for European institutions, which are



perceived by the respondents as having higher degrees of trustworthiness than the media, in a context of social unrest. It is the image of a post-communist country still experiencing social and political changes a decade after joining the European Union.

AURELIAN MUNTEAN, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest

*Electoral Clientelism in Romania: Strategies and Networks of Parties and Candidates*

While clientelistic mobilization is a pervasive phenomenon in contemporary elections, one encounters a wide variation in the type of brokers deployed by politicians. This paper formulates and tests a number of hypotheses that seek to explain the variation across localities in the types of brokers mobilized by politicians. The paper examines the relationship between partisan favors and political conditions in a locality and ability of candidates to mobilize the resources of three types of brokers: employees of the local administration, ethnic brokers and partisan brokers. To test these propositions, we conducted a survey that includes a battery of list experiments measuring different clientelistic strategies in 85 Romanian rural communities after the 2014 presidential election.

## **Entrepreneurship, Migration and Occupation in the Romanian Rural Space**

Moderator: Alin Croitoru, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Flavius Mihalache, Research Institute for Quality of Life (ICCV), Bucharest

LUCIAN ȘTEFAN DUMITRESCU, Institute of Sociology, Romanian Academy, Bucharest

*The Trends of Underdevelopment in Romania's Rural Areas. A Diachronical Perspective*

E deja un loc comun în Științele sociale că mediul rural din România urmează un model de dezvoltare distinct de cel occidental. Tot un loc comun este și acela că subdezvoltarea mediului rural din România poate fi explicată în raport cu dependența de traseu și cu accent pe cauze structurale, precum fărâmițarea excesivă a suprafețelor de teren, capitalul tehnic precar, vârsta înaintată și nivelul scăzut de instrucție al populației ocupate în agricultură și nu în ultimul rând programul postdecembrist de privatizare a exploatarii suprafețelor agricole. Noutatea prezentării rezidă în expunerea diacronică a trendurilor subdezvoltării care au caracterizat și, din datele existente, vor continua să caracterizeze agricultura din România. Mai precis, prezentarea explorează aceste trenduri ale subdezvoltării pe parcursul a trei perioade distincte din istoria modernizării României: perioada interbelică, răstimpul comunist și intervalul postdecembrist. Un alt aspect adus în discuție de această prezentare, ocultat de marea majoritate a studiilor dedicate subdezvoltării din mediul rural al României, vizează o confuzie conceptuală majoră, potrivit căreia populația ocupată din sectorul primar este formată preponderent din fermieri.

ALEXANDRU IORGA, University of Bucharest; Constantin Brăiloiu Institute of Ethnography and Folklore of the Romanian Academy

*Resistance, Development, and Moral Economy in the Danube Delta*

În contextul depopulării mediului rural și al rapidelor transformări socio-economice Delta Dunării nu reprezintă o excepție , ci poate fi privită ca un turnesol al mediului rural din România: sate care dispar pe fondul migrației și îmbătrânirii populației; activități noi care implică o schimbare de atitudine și practici specifice; un slab control și o defectuoasă administrare a resurselor; o accentuare a discrepanțelor la nivel comunitar-regional etc. Astfel, voi discuta modurile în care politicile economice și sociale implementate în ultimele trei decade în Delta Dunării au generat tipuri de rezistență locală și au avut ca rezultat reactivarea unor practici arhaice, dar și consecințele acestor politici la nivel individual, local și regional.

ORSOLYA GERGELY, Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania

*Being Woman, Doing Business. Female Entrepreneurs as Innovators*

The emergence of entrepreneurs and small businesses around the world play an important role in the economical situation. As international researches show, the female entrepreneurs can also play an important role in this area. For low-income countries with development deficiencies like Romania the existence of entrepreneurs (including women entrepreneurs) can be a pivotal issue. This paper presents results of a research conducted among Hungarian women from a Transylvanian rural region, (Harghita and Covasna counties). The subjects of the research are women who are running their own micro, small or medium sized business. The empirical background is provided by interviews and a survey made among more than five hundred female entrepreneurs. According to the collected data there will be presented the socio-demographic profile of this women, and also the type of the business activity - which are somehow related to the traditional female roles' work area. By presenting the main motivating factors behind business starting we will understand better the "entrepreneurial" attitude among this population, where the entrepreneurial identity is encountered as expletive to women, mother, wife, "family responsible" identities. For people living in this rural region the setting up and running a business by a woman could be even perceived as a challenge. And nevertheless starting a business by women can be considered as a very positive economic phenomenon: a "job-creator" strategy against unemployment and low family income, an innovative labor market response to the economic changes and poor job opportunities. And it also could have key role in local development and prosperity-growth of the small local communities.

FLAVIUS MIHALACHE, Research Institute for Quality of Life (ICCV), Bucharest

*Dimensions of the Need of Social Services in Rural Areas from the Local Authorities' Perspective*

Materialul de față constituie un produs preliminar a unei cercetări, derulate în prima parte a anului 2017, centrată pe evaluarea nevoii de servicii sociale la nivel local. Demersul de cercetare a presupus colectarea de date cantitative la nivelul UAT-urilor (prin aplicarea unui chestionar și a unei fișe), centralizarea unor surse de date administrative (furnizate de către diverse instituții județene) și realizarea de interviuri cu reprezentanți ai administrației locale și ai unor furnizorilor de servicii sociale. Comunicarea se centrează pe prezentarea principalelor rezultate obținute în urma colectării datelor în județele componente ale Regiunii de Dezvoltare Nord - Vest și urmărește să descrie atât

coordonatele care permit creionarea unui portret general asupra serviciilor sociale furnizate în rural și asupra nevoii de servicii, cât și să descrie particularitățile înregistrate la nivel local.

ALIN CROITORU, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*How Entrepreneurial Are Young Romanian Academic Sociologists?*

Lucrarea explorează diferite strategii de maximizare a șanselor de a obține resurse de finanțare în competiția academică. În acest sens, au fost analizate sistematic modalitățile de construire a părților publice din aplicațiile depuse în cadrul competiției naționale pentru granturi post-doctorale, iar principalele obiective au fost identificarea, clasificarea și explicarea comportamentelor de tip antreprenorial. Baza de date reunește peste 120 de aplicațiile depuse în cadrul domeniului Științe sociale și economice așa cum au fost ele clasificate de către organizatorul competiției. În acest stadiu preliminar, metodologia studiului a fost construită astfel încât să permită analiza formării profesionale a cercetătorului în directă legătură cu domeniul de doctorat al acestuia. Primele rezultate arată un nivel scăzut al comportamentelor antreprenoriale pentru cercetătorii din domeniul sociologiei prin comparație cu cei din alte domenii incluse în aceeași linie de finanțare.

## **Aging Social Policies and Inter-Generational Solidarity**

Moderatori: HORAȚIU RUSU, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu; LUCIAN MARINA, 1st of December University of Alba Iulia

VALENTINA MARINESCU, University of Bucharest

RAMONA MARINACHE, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*Health-related Behaviour in the Digital Era in Romanian Context*

This presentation is focused on the use of web-based technologies for health information seeking and personal health information management in Romanian context. It starts from the premise that the debate about the health system offers a privileged perspective to address themes that are at the intersection of media discourse, public health policies, institutions and organizations in the field of medical and social issues. By analysing the answers obtained on two samples (one made of students – 169 respondents - and another made of their parents – 114 respondents) used in a 2015 survey the article tries to provide an answer to questions like: What sources do people consult first in search for health information? How do people select the websites from which they retrieve health information? How often do people use emails, online test results, or medical appointments? What are the differences between young generation and mature persons as regards the trust and use of the internet in health-related behaviour? The findings suggest that the Internet plays an important role in modelling a healthy behaviour for both Romanian students and their parents. According to the survey results, despite the interest in the advancement of eHealth tools and the increasing access to online health information, there is a “generation gap” on the trust on eHealth – e.g. mature people still do not consider online health information to be as reliable and they do not use eHealth tools as the young generation.

ANDREEA MOLDOVEANU, University of Bucharest

*Old Age and Ageing in Graphic Novels*

During this research I have studied three graphic novels that present aspects regarding old age and ageing. These are Alison Bechdel's "Fun Home", Paco Roca's "Wrinkles" and "Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant" by Roz Chast. The method I chose to investigate the ageing aspects is the discourse critical analysis. Since this new form of media is getting very popular as technology evolves, it can be very useful to understand the way characters are built in accordance to how we perceive them and identify with them. This idea is reinforced by Scott McCloud's (1994) observation regarding amplification through simplification in cartooning. The lack of details determines the reader to identify himself with a character, because of the fact that in our daily interactions, we observe other people's physical characteristics and we are less aware of our own. It has been observed that elders are less represented in other forms of graphic art, such as video games (Williams et al. 2009). However, graphic novels are a much sophisticated medium that uses the cross-narrative specifics, by which they invite the reader to challenge both his visual and verbal analytical skills. Allowing the medium to approach delicate issues such as ageing, graphic novels enable the authors to present sensitive situations where the message is reinforced by visual and literal content, thus building characters with sometimes uncomfortable particularities, closer to the real characteristics of elders in daily life.

SORINA CORMAN, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*The Involvement of Institutionalized Elderly in Decision-making regarding the Social Services provided within Elderly Care Homes*

Lucrarea face parte dintr-un demers de cercetare mai amplu ce măsoară gradul de satisfacție a beneficiarilor de servicii sociale din cadrul centrelor pentru persoane vârstnice din județele Sibiu și Brașov. Tema lucrării se fundamentează pe unul din standardele generale de calitate în furnizarea serviciilor sociale care este intitulat Centrarea pe persoană și prevede „Furnizorul acordă servicii sociale în funcție de nevoile beneficiarilor și are în vedere, permanent, evoluția situațiilor de risc și profilul potențialilor beneficiari, pentru elaborarea unor planuri de dezvoltare. Furnizorul implică beneficiarii atât în procesul concret de acordare a serviciilor sociale, cât și în procesul decizional, cu privire la dezvoltarea comunitară.” Pentru realizarea lucrării a fost utilizată o metodologie calitativă (ancheta pe bază de interviu), fiind intervievate 10 persoane vârstnice instituționalizate a căror capacitate de discernământ nu era alterată, conform diagnosticelor medicale. Rezultatele principale ale cercetării evidențiază dimensiuni și limite ale intervenției paternaliste în furnizarea serviciilor sociale pentru această categorie de populație. În toate descrierile oferite în cadrul interviurilor se repetă așteptări precum: „atașament”, „familie” și „prietenie”, „sănătate”, „egalitate”, „bun simț” și „înțelegere”. Din analiza datelor a reieșit, de asemenea o lipsă de complementaritate între așteptările persoanelor instituționalizate și activitățile desfășurate pentru și cu aceste persoane. Concluzia principală este că implicarea beneficiarilor în serviciile furnizate ar trebui să varieze în funcție de caracteristicile personale ale persoanelor asistate, ale familiei, grupului sau comunității din care aceștia fac parte.

LUCIAN MARINA, 1st of December University of Alba Iulia

*Gender and Re-interpreting the Life Course*

O problemă importantă în sociologia îmbătrânirii este explicarea și interpretarea diferențelor de gen în cadrul manifestărilor sociale ale procesului de îmbătrânire umană. În cadrul studiului vom analiza modul de redare a cursului de viață de către vârstnicii aparținând celor două genuri. Metoda de colectare a datelor a fost jurnalul cotidian, o metodă biografică pe care am aplicat-o pe parcursul a peste un deceniu. În cadrul jurnalului vârstnicii au răspuns la un set de întrebări legate de relecturarea cursului de viață. Dimensiunile cercetate au fost: identificarea amintirilor și sentimentelor cheie în viața persoanelor, interpretarea alegerilor marcante (căsătoria și alegerea profesiei), percepția evenimentelor societale ale perioadei de viață tinere, trăirea momentului pensionării, lecturarea religiozității, temeri actuale. Interpretarea datelor s-a realizat prin analiza narativă a textelor rezultate din cercetare. Rezultatele confirmă existența unor clivaje perceptivă și de redare a cursului de viață între femei și bărbați, în condițiile unor cazuri diferite după educație, mediu rezidențial, traseu ocupațional și vârstă.

### **General Papers (1)**

Moderator: ADELA ELENA POPA, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

MONA MIHAELA SIMU, Institute for Quality of Life (ICCV), Bucharest

*Traditionalism vs. Postmodernism in Pop Songs of the Youth in Romania: "Him" and "Her" Lifestyles and Values*

The article intends to show how nowadays Romanian pop-rock love music reflects couple themes (the values they involve: fidelity/ infidelity, love, betrayal, loss, disappointment, materialism, etc.), and to show how and if there are any differences between the male artists and the female artists in the topics of their songs, content, etc. It intends to find out if the discourse and the approached themes are different based on gender; are there new forms of cupledom presented in the songs?; are there new trends in intimacy? The article starts from the idea that culture in itself reflects the `mores` in a society, songs being one of the forms culture is manifested. These songs have large audiences figures and they are popular within the young generation, thus they convey information to the young generation in Romanian society today regarding of how they see love, couple relations, feelings. From a preliminary view, it seems romantic love still prevails in a traditional society as Romania; fidelity seem to be still high rated; the male songs are more skeptical, women-critical, reflecting disappointment, even pain; the female songs are being more romantic, though showing new approaches, of female self-assessment; as more `postmodern` issues, `materialism` seem to be rather frequently appearing. The research work is based on applying content and discourse analysis upon the texts of the today Romanian young artists love songs, and could bring interesting insights upon young couples, and values in society.

RAREȘ MIHAI MUȘAT, University of Bucharest

## *Europe and National Identity at the Crossroad*

Principiul identității este principiul fundamental al gândirii care impune ca formele logice să păstreze unul și același sens în decursul aceleiași operații. Ansamblul de date prin care se identifică o persoană. Relație de egalitate în care intervin elemente variabile, adevărată pentru orice valori ale acestor elemente. Charles Tilly[1] de fiecare dată tratează conceptul identitate la plural, folosind răspunsurile pe care indivizii, grupurile de indivizi le dau, întrebării cine suntem noi?, unde toate aceste elemente definesc o nouă orientare incontestabilă cu precădere pentru capacitatea actorilor sociali pentru a negocia cât și pentru a putea să acționeze unitar. În tot acest areal economic, social, cultural și politic, populația va trebui să învețe să aplice, să valorifice, să eficientizeze toate aceste noțiuni Europene. În cele din urmă putem concluziona că identitatea, presupune în primul rând manifestarea unei forme a istoriei negociate de către toți actorii politici, economici, sociali, care să fie transmisă folosind vector pentru diseminarea conceptelor, moment în care toate instituțiile vizate vor trebui mai repede sau mai târziu să poată să se regăsească în arealul comunității vizate. Realizarea identității europene se înfăptuie doar după ce se vor concretiza identitățile naționale, bazate pe identitatea culturală, propriile mituri, propriile amintiri, propriile simboluri, urmând cu stoicism inocularea ideii unui trecut comun, pentru a putea proiecta atât prezentul cât și viitorul comun. Stringentele probleme europene sunt de ordin administrativ și de ordin politic, precum: fenomenul migrațional din Orient spre Europa (juridic și politic), consecințele directe și indirecte ale migrației, menținerea păcii. Ideea de polis al Uniunii Europene începe să dea semne de pierdere a legitimității, identității culturale comune, moment care generează ideea de progres a Uniunii Europene cu mai multe viteze sau doar cu o singură viteză. În tot acest expozeu, observăm cum unitatea europeană, are nevoie de susținerea politică, unde cultura europeană comună este de fapt câmpul de manifestare a politicilor și permite îndeplinirea misiunii unificării europene. Un rol esențial îl reprezintă societatea civilă, care se poziționează în centrul identității politice. Napoleon viziona o Europă în care "dreptul unificat, în special ramura privind interacțiunea socială, economică, pentru și între oameni, reprezintă contribuția definitorie pentru progres, evoluția Uniunii Europene". Punctul central al dezvoltării identității europene comune este reprezentat de tradiția și înfăptuirea unui stat democratic, la nivelul fiecărui stat membru, dar și la nivel macro, respectarea cu sfințenie a drepturilor omului, democrația și regula de drept, reprezentând reguli fundamentale pentru buna funcționare și evoluție a Uniunii Europene. Consolidarea drepturilor omului, a cetățeniei și a instituțiilor supranaționale ale Europei, reprezintă cheia de boltă a construcției europene, cât și direcția viitoare a întregii Europe, cu una, două sau mai multe viteze, în procesul de menținere a păcii, politicilor și economiei comune. Pe plan european, dar și în spectrul imaginării viitorului comun european, suntem îndreptățiți să asumăm cultura, politica, pentru a pune în funcțiune motorul entității economice din Uniunea Europeană, în planul politicilor funcționale și cel al politicilor sociale, iar aceste interdependențe și rapoarte vor pune bazele dezvoltării simțului identității comune, al dezvoltării sinelui și al dezvoltării în structura socială. [1] Charles Tilly, "Political Identities in Changing Politics", in *Social Research*, vol.70, nr. 2/2003, p. 608.

LIVIA POGAN, University of Craiova

*Social Support and the Family-Work Conflict*

În lucrarea de față ne propunem să reliefăm, pe baza datelor de teren ce fac parte dintr-o cercetare empirică mai amplă, modul în care suportul social contribuie la armonizarea relației muncă-familie. Pornind de la conceptualizarea conflictului muncă-familie ca un construct bidimensional, caracterizat de influența reciprocă a celor două sfere majore de existență, munca și familia, am considerat necesară aducerea în lumină a influenței pe care suportul social o are asupra resimțirii acestui conflict. Am analizat atât suportul venit din partea familiei și a celor apropiați, cât și pe cel organizațional, fie că a fost vorba despre suport emoțional sau instrumental. Datele analizate au fost oținute în urma auto-raportării, prin intermediul unei scale de tip Likert în șapte trepte. Am utilizat chestionare proprii, ce vizează relația muncă-familie și suportul social, construite pornind de la studii anterioare de specialitate. Concluziile acestui studiu, cu peste 100 de participanți, au arătat că în cazul acestora este în mai mare măsură perceput suportul provenit din partea familiei sau a prietenilor, atât în ceea ce privește preocupările personale, cât și profesionale, comparativ cu resimțirea suportului organizațional. De asemenea, cei care se simt în mai mare măsură sprijiniți, se confruntă cu o intensitate mai redusă a conflictului muncă-familie.

VIORICA BOBIC, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*The Role of the Social Worker in Social Intervention for Vulnerable Persons*

Persoane vulnerabile, din perspectiva asistenței sociale, reprezintă acele persoane care au probleme sociale, incapacități instrumentale sau resurse insuficiente și datorită cărora au nevoie de servicii sociale. Prin furnizarea de servicii sociale către persoanele vulnerabile se urmărește asigurarea maximului de autonomie, independență și siguranță necesar pentru ca fiecare dintre aceste persoane să-și păstreze identitatea, integritatea și demnitatea sa. Calitatea furnizării serviciilor este asigurată și condiționată de componența echipei multidisciplinare, formată din asistent social, psiholog, kinetoterapeut, pedagog, medic, asistent medical și alții. În lucrarea de față ne propunem o analiză a rolului asistentului social din perspectivă terapeutică atunci când acesta are competențe complementare dobândite pe parcursul perfecționării profesionale.

RADU-IOAN POPA, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*Organizations addressing Cancer Employees' Dilemma at Work: Accommodations and Restraints (A Meta-Analytical Approach)*

Adapting at the workplace after a major health event, following the whole process of employee return, imposes a new challenge that affects both the employer and the employee. At present, the organizational sector is quite keen on identifying the proper means for workers' accommodation and labour market integration. At the same time, the scholarly research literature has shown a variety of restraints when it comes to the employer-employee discourse on the return topic which solicits future specific investigation. Cancer, surviving cancer, living with and beyond cancer at work, the return to work after cancer bring up core dimensions for research and applied science, with a deep impact on organizational level. The aim of the present paper is to structure from a meta-analytical perspective the undergone research on the cancer topic from 2007 up to present, with a direct focus on organizational level, targeting work adjustments and restraints in the nowadays organization-cancer employee-return to work dilemma. In this light of things, the present paper tries to underline

some of the major directions at organizational level on the work adjustment and restraints theme. Results show that after segmenting the selected and interest studies, the obtained differences give out some insight on the various procedures and strategies depending on the existing policy inside the structure, organizational culture and resources.

ADELA ELENA POPA, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*Unity in Diversity: Employer Experiences and Needs regarding Workers with Cancer across Nine Countries*

In this study we answered the questions what do employers 1) experience as good practice regarding workers diagnosed with cancer in different countries and 2) need in relation to this? Twenty-five semi-structured interviews were held in eight European countries and Israel with 2-3 employers (HR-manager, supervisor) from (non-)profit organisations varying regarding size and sector. Interviews were mostly recorded and transcribed verbatim. A grounded theory/thematic analysis approach including three peer reviewing sessions and individual checks across countries was used to analyse. Results showed that overall, employers experienced having a worker with cancer as a complex process. Shaped by worker, employer and country characteristics, this process included: 1) disclosure; 2) collecting information; 3) decision-making on initial actions; 4) keeping in touch; 5) decision-making on Return-To-Work; 6) dealing with the next phase. Employers expressed the following needs: 1) structured procedures; 2) collaboration with other stakeholders, particularly occupational health professionals; 3) communication skills training; 4) information on cancer and 5) financial resources. In conclusion, notwithstanding country differences - which to be explored further - these employers shared the experience that assisting workers with cancer is complex and would profit from structured procedures, collaboration, 'soft skills' (communication and leadership), information and financial support.

## **Migration and Life Course**

Moderator: IONELA VLASE, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

MONICA ȘERBAN, Research Institute for Quality of Life (ICCV), Bucharest; University of Bucharest (CESMIG)

ALIN CROITORU, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu; University of Bucharest (CESMIG)

*Does Romania Need Return Migration Policies?*

Even though during the last decades, the interest in migration policies has increased, the attention migration scholars pay to origin and destination countries has been staying seriously disproportionate. If the scientific understanding of policies associated with migration at destination has tremendously advanced, our knowledge about origin countries interventions in migration remains limited. Only very recently, one may notice a certain increase in the interest related to "origin". Our paper addresses one of the largely unexplored topic in academic literature, namely if and what kind of policies supporting return/returnees the returnees themselves find appropriate. The analysis is based on 120 interviews with Romanian returnees, aged 18 to 39, coming back to their



origin country after at least 6 months of working or studying abroad, in six different EU countries (UK, Italy, Spain, Germany, Sweden, and Ireland). Our preliminary results show the returnees' opinions vary greatly, from individuals who support interventions targeting the returnees as a distinctive group to individuals who consider any attempt to support the migrants coming back to their origin country as a waste of resources. This suggests that, even though probably return migration policies would receive support in Romania, their design and implementation carry a potential of societal tensions.

ANA MARIA PREOTEASA, Research Institute for Quality of Life (ICCV), Bucharest

*Women Migration Trajectories: The Path to Emancipation*

Andrea, a Romanian woman who has the dream to continue her tertiary education. Due to her disadvantaged family socio-economic situation, she decided to work as housekeeper in Germany in order to earn the money enabling her to enroll to university and cover the living expenses. She kept circulating for six years between Germany and Romania where she completed her graduate and postgraduate studies). Her case is not singular. Although Romanian migrant women are most often cast as caregivers and housekeepers abroad, their life situation is much more complex and the satisfaction that derive from the economic gains is often jeopardized by conflicting relations among other life dimensions (e.g. marital relationship, parental and/or filial responsibilities, downward mobility of professional career). My paper documents the construction of women's narratives about their migration trajectories by considering their stage in the life course at the moment of migration, their education, professional career at origin and destination and the role played by family members in shaping their decision-making in respect to migration and return. Family joins embeddedness in social networks to become important triggers for migration, career, and return decisions. Data were collected within the MIGLIFE project. To depict and explain the encompassed processes, the presentation builds on the analysis of several case studies and takes into consideration both the biographical facts, and the feelings and attitudes accompanying the narration of the life events.

ANCA BEJENARU, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*Childhood, Migration, and Parentality*

Lucrarea de față adoptă perspectiva cursului vieții pentru a arăta cum sunt negociate și adaptate practicile parentale ale migranților, atât sub influența copilăriei lor, cât și a contextului în care migrează. Metoda utilizată pentru colectarea datelor a fost interviul de tip povestea vieții. Cu scopul realizării acestei lucrări, au fost selectate nouă dintre cele 40 de persoane intervievate. Recurgând atât la procedura inductivă, cât și la cea deductivă pentru analiza datelor, au fost identificate o serie de mecanisme noi de formare și transformare a parentalității. Astfel, datele empirice indică diferențe importante între practicile parentale ale părinților migranților și practicile acestora din urmă. Mai precis, identificăm o tranziție de la stilul autoritar, la cel democratic sau permisiv în educarea copiilor. Deși am fost tentați să credem că aceste comportamente au fost însușite în țara de migrație, datele nu susțin o asociere directă. În majoritatea narațiunilor am identificat o asociere între schimbarea modelelor parentale învățate în copilărie și dezvoltarea unei noi reprezentări despre sine și despre alții. Aceste rezultate arată că înțelegerea aculturației necesită o analiză mai profundă a

mecanismelor psihologice care stau la bază. Explicarea aculturației strict ca rezultat al expunerii la noi patternuri de comportament nu pare a fi suficientă.

IONELA VLASE, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*Intersection of Age and Gender Identities: Patterns of Masculine Adulthood in a Sample of Men Migrants*

This paper illustrates some patterns of masculine adulthood formation in migration, and the tensions involved in the intersection of gender and age identity dimensions within a sample of men returnees who migrated in their youth. Migration context shaped male migrants' adulthood roles and transitions, as well as their performance of masculinities. Starting from recent theoretical insights in the socially constructed nature of adulthood in the contemporary world (Panagakis, 2015) and manhood (Schrock and Schwalbe, 2009), the chapter evidences the ambivalences and ambiguities men migrants experience with regard to adulthood and manhood as a result of their long-term migration. This study is based on data from an ongoing research project MIGLIFE <http://grants.ulbsibiu.ro/migliffe/> funded by CNCS/CCCDI – UEFISCDI, project number PN-III- P4-ID-ERC- 2016-0005.

## **Changes in Media Communication: Cross-media Journalism**

Moderator: BOGDAN NADOLU, West University of Timișoara

RAISA GABRIELA ZAMFIRESCU, University of Bucharest

*Criteria of Femininity in Marvel Universe: The Analysis of Jessica Jones in the Homonymic Netflix TV Series*

În ultimii zece ani, cei de la Marvel au transpus pe marele și micul ecran poveștile celor mai cunoscuți supereroi ai benzilor desenate, zeci de titluri lansate creând un întreg univers cinematografic. Chiar și în secolul XXI, primul titlu cu o protagonistă femeie a fost lansat abia în 2015, cei de la Netflix producând în colaborare cu Marvel serialul Jessica Jones. Disponibil online în 190 de țări unde serviciul de streaming online este disponibil, serialul a reușit să se claseze în topul celor mai bune producții televizate, să își creeze un palmares de distincții cu statuete și premii de renume dar și să înregistreze cele mai bune note pe site-urile de specialitate, scoruri primite atât de la telespectatori cât și de la critici. Acest material urmărește felul în care Jessica Jones, unul dintre puținele personaje feminine ale universului Marvel televizat este portretizat și transpus din benzile desenate pe micul ecran. Printr-o analiză de conținut de discurs centrată pe cronicile din mediul online, voi urmări felul în care personajul a fost perceput și evaluat de către comunitatea de critici, dar și de publicul consumator. Jessica Jones nu se încadrează în șablonul personajelor feminine cu care publicul a fost obișnuit, iar temele abuzului fizic și psihologic, a puterii și a dorinței de control, au făcut rapid ca acest proiect să fie unul adulat de public. S-a reușit ca acest personaj să fie dezbătut și evaluat doar prin prisma aptitudinilor, a comportamentului și a vulnerabilităților sale, Jessica Jones devenind un personaj în care multe femei se pot regăsi, împărțășind aceleași experiențe și traume.

ELISABETA TOMA, University of Bucharest

*Video Games and Social Change. Innovative Female Characters and the Reactions they Provoke*

In this research paper I address the change of gender and age as institutions through digital games and the new media. I analyze a variety of video games and the online reactions they stir in order to document social change through digital discourse. I use Anthony Giddens' theory of structuration to better understand social change and the ability of people, as knowledgeable agents, to reproduce and challenge social structures, as it is in the case of gender and age representations and their evolution through video games. The method used is critical discourse analysis, as it is suitable for documenting social structures and change, especially regarding gender and age as social institutions. I analyze video games, video game paratext (trailer, description, comments and reviews) and the discourse of people discussing the perceived change in gender and age representations in the games. Although gender representations in video games has become an intensively discussed topic in the academia, in journalism and in online communities, the diversity of female characters portrayed in video games is quite reduced. This research offers multiple classifications of female characters and discusses the importance of this diversity and the multitude of ways in which video games impact gender and social change, as seen in both the games' discourse and the way people engage with these changes in online discussions.

SORINA VASILE, Journalist's House, Bucharest

COSIMA RUGHINIȘ, University of Bucharest

*Herd Immunity or Herd Mentality? Framing Vaccination Controversies in the Romanian Public Discourse*

Since 2016, Romania hosts a severe measles epidemic. This ongoing crisis has fueled the growing debates on vaccines' benefits and risks, the legitimacy of compulsory vaccination and the Romanian state's institutional capacity to deliver public health. In this research we explore media accounts of this controversy, proposing a typology of frames that guide public understanding of the vaccination issue. We examine the use of various types of evidence, expertise, and storytelling in delineating concerns and attributing (in)competence and blame. Anti-vaccination movements have been a constant companion of vaccines, since the first inoculations. At the same time, public controversies and debates have evolved, reflecting ongoing public health concerns, such as the alleged autism and mercury connections, and broader social transformations. We include here, among others, an increased individual burden of managing risks through responsible, informed decisions, and an exponentially growing availability of competing theories, ideologies, facts and alt-facts. Journalists, public authorities and educators are faced with the challenge of grasping the persistent yet evolving vaccination controversies and of representing them to diverse audiences. Our research outlines several current strategies of orienting the public, supporting professionals' reflection on promoting democratic policies in public health.

MIHAI STELIAN RUSU, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*Celebs' Posthumous Reputation: An Exploration into Romanian Public Deathscape*

Cross-culturally, dead people are protected from posthumous negative evaluations by the universal “nil nisi bonum” precept that governs the ethics within the community of mourners. In this study, we set out to test the observance of this taboo against posthumous gossiping in the Romanian public deathscape. Obituaries and other posthumous articles (N=1.148) were collected that covered the deaths of sixty-three celebrities who passed away between 2013 and 2016. Materials were gathered from the digital archived of three Romanian news sources (a news agency, a “quality” newspaper, and a tabloid), published one week after the moment of death. The findings show that 22% of the articles (N=252) contain negative evaluations of the deceased, a result indicating that celebrities are not spared from critical assessments after they pass away. In terms of the gender balance of our sample, we found a major gender differential in men’s favor (87.4%). However, statistical analysis reveals that, although heavily underrepresented in the number of articles, women received significantly less negative evaluations and more positive assessments than men. In terms of professional categories, showbiz (actors, film directors, artists, and TV producers) (53.4%), politicians (16.6%) and sportspersons (16.5%) benefited from the most posthumous materials. Less present are business (4.7%), liberal professionals (4.5%), churchmen (2.2%), and intellectuals (2.1%). The paper concludes by advancing the term of “death-ertainment” by which we account for the tabloidization of death stories in the Romanian media deathscape.

BOGDAN NADOLU, West University of Timișoara

DELIA IOANA NADOLU, West University of Timișoara

*With or Without Human Memory into the Digital Life*

In today's hyper-technological society, producing, transporting and managing information has reached a barely imaginable volume just two decades ago. To what extent can we discern among the contents we are exposed to in our everyday life and above all, to what extent we can memorize these endless inflows of information without using dedicated storage media. In this paper we will follow to test the human memory capability in relation with the intensity and extent of the use of digital technology.

## **General Papers (2)**

Moderator: CLAUDIU COMAN, Transilvania University of Brașov

ALINA COMAN, Transilvania University of Brașov

*Psycho-social Condition of Woman in Commercials in Romania. Dynamics of gender stereotype contents*

The paper presents an analyze of Romanian mass-media field regarding psycho-social condition of woman. Beginning with 2004, gender stereotype contents registered a traditional setting of gender rapport. After 10 years, finally, we can talk about an interesting dynamic. We attend in 2011/2014 to

social and commercial campaigns which propose a twist at collective mentality level with regard to the place and role of the woman in our every day life.

FELICIA MORÂNDĂU, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

*Work and Family, Two Complementary Dimensions of Human Existence*

Family and work are two constants of human life. People worked and created closer groups in all societies. Probably they will do the same in the future. Today the big difference is not the aims but the means. The specialists are talking about new work and new family, and about the “time bind” (Hochschild 1997). It is important to see how social actors understand the new concepts and the new reality and how do they adapt to the new society. What is the relation between work and family? There is a conflict between them? What is the main source of satisfaction: family or work? What are the attitudes toward marriage and family? are few questions to which we try to offer an answer using a qualitative study. 25 interviews were conducted with 25-40 years old subjects, married and unmarried, working in services jobs. The results show that is necessary to talk about family and work in terms of two important realities. So, we should talk about family and work not about family or work, at the same level. They are successfully combined if people like what they do at the workplace and have a flexible work schedule. Nevertheless, the place where they feel good and calm is at home. Work brings financial security and family brings emotional security.

BOGDAN NADOLU, West University of Timișoara

DANIEL LUCHEȘ, West University of Timișoara

MELINDA DINCĂ, West University of Timișoara

*Urban Futures Scenarios for Timisoara's Metropolitan Development*

The paper presents the context of Timisoara's depopulation, which lost 15% of its population's (about 50,000 inhabitants) in the period 1990-2002. The main causes of depopulation are exposed, such as the massive migration of the German population, from the 1990s; decreasing natural growth (due to the abolition of the 1966 Decree which banned abortion and contraceptive methods); the urban sprawl to the localities around Timisoara (11 communes radial to the city); the overcrowding of some areas of the city with very high housing density and the disparities of others that have suffered the effects of post-industrialization. The next part of the paper presents public policies, social measures, programs and interventions that have been adopted and implemented to combat Timisoara's depopulation, starting with sectoral policies (economic, fiscal, administrative, increasing the capacity building of local authorities to attract European funds for sustainable urban interventions) and continuing with the adoption of integrative development strategies, such as the Timisoara Integrated Development Plan, in 2007. To analyze the sustainability of these public policies underpinned by Timisoara's metropolitan development strategy, we use the urban futures method, filtering each set of measures, interventions and public policies through the four archetypes of urban scenarios tested by this investigative method. The primary results of the analysis show that the public policies analyzed are sustainable in the scenarios of the new sustainable paradigm and public policy reform,

and that they tend to become inoperable in the current scenario, whose dynamics are primarily influenced by market forces.

CLAUDIU COMAN, Transilvania University of Braşov

CĂTĂLINA-IONELA REZEANU, Transilvania University of Braşov

*Living Space and Couple Happiness: The Management of Domestic Intimacy for a Fulfilled Life*

Din cele mai vechi timpuri, oamenii au aspirat spre o viaţă împlinită. De aceea, gânditorii din ştiinţele sociale au încercat să identifice reţete pentru atingerea acestui deziderat specific contextului cultural-istoric în care au fost formulate. Totuşi, conceptul de viaţă împlinită este dificil de măsurat, fiind adesea aproximat prin satisfacţie a vieţii, bunăstare subiectivă sau fericire şi asociat în plan microsocial cu sănătatea şi iubirea. În perioada contemporană, teoriile modernităţii târzii au adus în atenţie modul în care individualizarea reconfigurează relaţia problematică dintre fericire şi iubire, tot mai multe cercetări empirice recente studiind această temă la nivelul partenerilor care coabitează. Lucrarea de faţă aduce argumente în favoarea ideii că studiul construcţiei sociale a spaţiului domestic permite înţelegerea mai nuanţată a dimensiunii subiective a vieţii împlinite: modul în care ne proiectăm viaţa, ne gestionăm intimitatea şi încercăm să ne apropiem de fericire. Ca materiale principale de analiză, am folosit rezultatele unei cercetări psihologice longitudinale explicative pe tema dezvoltării umane, realizate în spaţiul american şi a unei cercetări sociologice transversale descriptive pe tema spaţiului de locuit în cuplu, aplicate în context românesc. Rezultatele primei cercetări au evidenţiat că cei mai puternici predictorii ai evaluării subiective a vieţii drept una împlinită sunt variabile ce măsoară dimensiuni ale gestionării intimităţii specifice vieţii de familie, prieteniei şi vieţii în comunitate. Pe de altă parte, rezultatele celei de-a doua cercetări au permis ilustrarea modurilor specifice în care construcţia socială a spaţiului de locuit reflectă tactici de gestionare a intimităţii din relaţia de cuplu. În final, am lansat câteva direcţii metodologice cu privire la cum ar putea contribui, în context românesc, studiul spaţiului de locuit în cuplu la nuanţarea cercetărilor viitoare asupra factorilor microsociali ce contribuie la satisfacţia vieţii.