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Summary

The habilitation thesis entitled **Literary and confessional imaginary of trauma. Pluridisciplinary Approaches** presents my professional path, my main scientific achievements after obtaining the degree of Doctor of Philology (in 2006), as well as my projects for the development of my teaching and research career. My main field of expertise is philology, with a focus on post-war and contemporary Romanian literature, and both forms of activity that I pursue (scientific and teaching), although focusing primarily on Romanian literary studies, are under the sign of a lively and constant interest in sign approaches / multidisciplinary vector.

This thesis is structured in several well-defined sections, articulated around the subsequent dimensions of my academic/teaching development, my research activity and the directions of career development.

The first section, **Short career path. The university teaching activity**, gives an account of my professional evolution, since 2003 – the year of my employment as a preparator, and respectively assistant professor, at the Department of Romanian Literature "G. Ibrăileanu" until today. Between 2003 and 2009 I had the opportunity to give seminars on Romanian Literature (*Early and Pre-Modern Literature, Romanian Literature. Interwar prose, Romanian Literature. Inter-war poetry*, and finally, *Post-war Romanian Literature*) for most literary periods, designed and carried out for the philological training of students of the Faculty of Letters, the Faculty of Orthodox Theology and the Faculty of Roman-Catholic Theology, enrolled in the primary or secondary specialization in *Romanian Language and Literature*. After becoming a university lecturer at the same department in 2009, but particularly after 2013, when I was promoted to the position of associate professor, also through a competitive examination, my teaching career has fully crystallized, also due to the scientific works published in the meantime, which have embodied concerns of not only a multidisciplinary nature, closely related to the contents taught on a didactic level.

At present, I am the head of several compulsory courses in Romanian Literature at Bachelor level (*Postwar Romanian Literature*, taught in the third year of the Faculty of Letters, specializing in Romanian Language and Literature A or B) and at Master level (*Literary and Artistic Avant-gardes* and *Literature*,

Fantastic, Otherness), held within the *Romanian Literature and Literary Hermeneutics* programme). As well as *Literature Written by Women after 1990*, the optional course taught in the third year of the Faculty of Letters, specializing in Romanian Language and Literature as a primary or secondary specialization, the latter two have an inherent inter- and multidisciplinary dimension.

The optional courses of *Didactics of Romanian Literature*, respectively *Didactics of Romanian Language and Literature*, held in the second and third year of the Faculty of Letters (specializing in Romanian Language and Literature A or B), harmoniously combine the didactic and scientific domains specific to these disciplines, which relate to both the philological and the psycho-pedagogical fields. In this context, it is also eloquent that, since 2013, I have been an associate professor at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, where I teach two compulsory courses for students in the *Primary and Pre-school Teachers* programme: *Romanian Literature* and *Children's Literature*.

In addition to the syllabus and fundamental objectives of the courses I have taught over the years at the undergraduate and master's level, the section also covers the related teaching responsibilities, which are particularly important in the multi-purpose training of our students: coordination of hundreds of undergraduate and dissertation papers; coordination of workshops, student circles or reading clubs and debates on various issues of criticism and literary history or didactics of Romanian literature; coordination of dozens of student teams that have participated, in the last decade, in various symposia, colloquia and national communication sessions, organized by colleagues from the philological faculties of Arad, Brasov, Craiova, Ploiesti, Iasi or Bucharest. Also notable is the organization of the *National Symposium Psychologies, Dwellings, Architectures in the Romanian Prose of Yesterday and Today*, which I initiated in 2020, and in which dozens of student teams have participated so far, coordinated by colleagues from several universities in the country: University of Bucharest, "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, "Ștefan cel Mare" University of Suceava, "1 Decembrie 1918" University from Alba-Iulia, "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urbanism of Bucharest, "Gh. Asachi" University of Iasi.

The second section, *Research activity. Scientific and Relevant Achievements*, presents in a concentrated form the most important research I have carried out in the field of Romanian literary history and criticism, as well as in the didactics of Romanian language and literature. The researches dedicated mainly to *the poetics of the fantastic text, the poetic imaginary or the literary and confessional imaginary of trauma*, combined with inter- and multidisciplinary working tools, have materialized so far in dozens of articles and studies published in journals with scientific visibility (ISI, ERIH+, EBSCO, etc.), in several dictionary articles dedicated to books of poetry and fantastic prose included in several volumes of the second edition of the monumental collective *General Dictionary of Romanian Literature* (published by the Romanian Academy), in dozens of prefaces or introductory studies, as well as in several books by the author, awarded with various national or international prizes: *Hieroglificele poezilor (The Hieroglyphs of*

Poets), Timpul Publishing House, Iași, 2008 ("Mălin Tacu" Prize for Debut at the International Salon of Romanian Books, Iași, October 2009 and the Prize for Debut awarded by "Convorbiri literare" magazine); *Basarab Nicolescu. Eseu Monografic* (*Basarab Nicolescu. Monographic Essay*), Timpul Publishing House, Iași, 2008 ("Al. Condeescu" Prize for Literary Criticism of the Association of Literary Publications and Publishers of Romania); *Fantastic și alteritate* (*Fantastic and Otherness*), Junimea Publishing House, Iași, 2013 (volume awarded with Special Mention at the International Book Fair, 22nd Edition, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova); *Dicționarul critic al poeziei ieșene contemporane. Autori. Cărți. Teme* (*Critical Dictionary of Contemporary Poetry from Iasi. Authors. Books. Teme*), Poezia Cultural Foundation Publishing House, Iași, 2011 (Prize for literary criticism awarded by the Writers' Union of Romania, Iași branch, December 2012); *Corpuri, exiluri, terapii* (*Body, Exiles, Therapies*), Cartea Românească Educational Publishing House, Iași, 2020 (Prize for interdisciplinary critical studies awarded by the Cultural Magazine "Ateneu", Bacău, 2020).

To these publications are added several dozen chapters included in collective scientific volumes, published by prestigious publishers in the country and abroad. I mention, here, only: *Cântecul funerare pentru Europa în poezia douămiistă* (*Funeral Songs for Europe in 2000 Poetry*), in *Distortions in Romanian linguistic, literary and ethno-folkloric communication and the European context*, edited by Luminița Botoșăneanu, Elena Dănilă, Cecilia Holban and Ofelia Ichim, Alfa Publishing House, Iași, 2009; *Despre maladie, exil și alte alterități în două confesiuni atipice: „Portretul lui M” de Matei Călinescu și „Călătorie. Exil” de Gheorghe Mocuța* (*About illness, exile and other alterities in two atypical confessions: "Portrait of M" by Matei Călinescu and "Travel. Exile" by Gheorghe Mocuța*), in *Romanian Culture and Identity. Current Trends and Their Reflection in the Diaspora. International Symposium: Iași, 22-24 September 2010*, coord. Ofelia Ichim, edited by Luminița Botoșăneanu, Daniela Butnaru, Marius-Radu Clim, Ofelia Ichim, Florin-Teodor Olariu, Elena Tamba, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University Publishing House, Iași, 2013; *Lia Magdu. Un autoportret "în amurg"* (*Lia Magdu. A Self-portrait "in twilight"*), in the volume *Društveno-humanističkiogledi* (*Socio-humanist essays*) in **honorem Lia Magdu**, responsible editor Laura Spariosu, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad, Sajnos, 2013; *Iașiul din "Golia". Avataruri și semnificații* (*Iași from "Golia". Avatars and meanings*), in *Iașii Teodorenilor și lumea mare. Păstorel și/sau Ionel*, coord. Constantin Dram, Tritonic Publishing House, Bucharest, 2014; *Domnișoara Christina. Corpul gotic și boala ca metaforă* (*Domnișoara Christina. The Gothic body and the disease as metaphor*), in *Language, Culture and Change. Vol. X: Cultural Heritage in a Global Perspective*, Luminița Andrei Cocârță, Sorina Chipper, Ana Sanduloviciu, Anca-Irina Cecal (coordinators), University "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" of Iași Publishing House, 2019; *Vera Călin, în căutarea codurilor „care să nu îmi fractureze identitatea”* (*Vera Călin, in search of codes "that do not fracture my identity"*), in *International Colloquium of Language Sciences Eugeniu Coșeriu, 15th edition*,

Linguistic Change and Linguistic Change, CISL series vol. XV, coord. Sanda-Maria Ardeleanu, Halyna-Zahaiska, Cristiniia Paladian, Albumița-Muguraș Constantinescu, Dorel Fînaru, Chernivtsi, Chernivtsi National University, Ukraine, 2020; „*Lizoanca*” și *imaginarul traumei* ("*Lizoanca*" and the *imaginary of trauma*), in *Doina Ruști. Lumi, istorii, "combinații simbolice"/ Doina Ruști. Worlds, Histories, „Symbolic combinations”*, Vasiliana '98 Publishing House, Iași, 2022; *Povestea unei lupte fără sorți de izbândă. Confesiunea de criză a Soranei Gurian* (*The Story of a Hopeless Struggle. The crisis confession of Sorana Gurian*), in the volume *Past and present challenges in the evolution of Romanian language, literature and culture*, Ofelia Ichim (coordinator), Alina-Mihaela Bursuc, Marius-Radu Clim, Ofelia Ichim, Maricica Munteanu, Veronica Olariu, Ana-Maria Prisacaru, Ioana Repciuc (editors), West University Publishing House, Timișoara, 2022; *Bațu-Ichim, Florica; Călin, Vera; Diaconu, Alina; Golopenția, Sanda; Gurian, Sorana; Melinescu, Gabriela*, in the volume *Un dicționar al exilului feminin românesc. Autoare emblematice, volume reprezentative* (*A Dictionary of the Female Romanian Exile*), Eikon Publishing House, Bucharest, 2024; *Memorialistica de boală. Cancerul și infernul cotidian* (*Memoir Writings. Cancer and the Quotidian Inferno*); *Patologii ale excesului. Dependență și traumă în proza postcomunistă* (*Excess Pathologies. Addiction and Trauma in Post-communist Romanian Prose*), in *Infernul cotidian. Imaginarul bolii în Literatura română* (*The Quotidian Inferno. The Illness Imaginary in Romanian Literature*), Eikon Publishing House, Bucharest, 2025).

At the same time, in recent years I have coordinated several collective volumes published by prestigious publishing houses: *Valorile educației – educația valorilor, din Antichitate până azi: abordări teoretice, soluții practice* (*The Values of Education – The Education of Values, from Antiquity to today: theoretical approaches, practical solutions* "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași Publishing House, 2016 (together with Claudia Tărnăuceanu); *Valorile educației, din Antichitate până în prezent* (*The Values of Education – The Education of Values, from Antiquity to today*), "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași Publishing House, 2017 (together with Claudia Tărnăuceanu); *Dan Mănuță 80. In memoriam*, Tracus Arte Publishing House, Bucharest, 2018 (together with Ofelia Ichim); *Psihologii, locuri, arhitecturi în proza românească de ieri și de azi* (*Psychologies, Dwellings, Architectures in the Romanian Prose of Yesterday and Today*), "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași Publishing House, 2021 (together with Ana-Cristina Tudora and Dorin Nastas); *Surse și valori ale educației. Perspective pluridisciplinare* (*Sources and values of education. Multidisciplinary Perspectives*), "Alexandru Ioan Cuza University" of Iași, 2021 (with Claudia Tărnăuceanu); *Doina Ruști. Lumi, istorii, "combinații simbolice"* (*Doina Ruști. Worlds, Histories, „Symbolic combinations”*), Vasiliana '98 Publishing House, Iași, 2022; *Psihologii, locuri, arhitecturi în proza românească... Alte descinderi* (*Psychologies, Dwellings, Architectures in the Romanian... Other Descendings*), "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași Publishing House, 2023; *Un dicționar al exilului feminin românesc. Autoare emblematice, volume*

reprezentative (A Dictionary of the Female Romanian Exile), Eikon Publishing House, Bucharest, 2024; **Infernul cotidian. Imaginarul bolii în literatura română (The Quotidian Inferno. The Illness Imaginary in Romanian Literature)**, Eikon Publishing House, Bucharest, 2025.

Since 2007, I have been part of several research grants or POSDRU projects at national level, of which I mention only *Computerized evaluation, from the perspective of criticism and literary history, of Romanian literature between 1900-2007, in order to update the General Dictionary of Romanian Literature (D.G.L.R.)*, approved and financed by the Romanian Academy (project coordinator: scientific researcher I Dr. Ofelia Ichim).

Over the years, my scientific and publishing activity has been rewarded with the following awards: Award for literary criticism awarded by the Writers' Union of Romania, Iași branch, December 2012; National Prize for Literary Criticism, awarded by the Romanian Writers' Union and the Romanian Armenian Union, 2021; Prize for Literary Criticism, awarded by the Romanian Writers' Union, Iași branch, November 2022 etc. To these are added also several awards for art criticism (in Romania and the Republic of Moldova), and the Bologna Professor Distinction, for teaching activity, from the National Alliance of Student Organizations in Romania (2014).

The third section of the thesis, ***Proposals for professional career development and evolution***, is articulated around the research axes to which I will also give priority in my future professional, scientific and teaching career. They are closely linked both to my teaching activity and implicitly to the coordination of collective projects in which young researchers could participate, and to my constant interest in inter- and multidisciplinary collaboration with specialists from other philological departments, other faculties and even universities in the country and abroad. In addition to the realization of a large project, called ***Critical Dictionary of Contemporary Poetry. Authors, books, relevant themes*** (in which I see an inevitable continuation of the research completed, so far, with ***Hieroglificele poezilor (The Hieroglyphs of Poets)***), the ***Critical Dictionary of Contemporary Poetry from Iasi. Authors, books, themes***, with the series of articles that I wrote for the 2nd edition of the ***General Dictionary of Romanian Literature***, but also with the numerous studies on the poetic imaginary published in academic or cultural journals), I propose several well-defined projects: ***The Literary and Confessional Imaginary of Trauma. Narratives of Torn Identity in Current Prose; Corporality and Femininity. New Confessional Poetics in Post-Communist Romania; Women Writers from the Romanian Exile and Diaspora. Re-dimensions of the Works; From Fantasy to Dystopian. Alternative Poetics of the Fantastic in Romanian Literature.***

Starting from some lines of argumentation followed so far in some studies or papers presented on the occasion of symposia and national or international conferences, this section shows the particularities of my interpretative approaches in the framework of the research on literary theory and criticism undertaken recently. At the same time, it delimits and illustrates the current literary field configured by a series of

poetics of the torn identity, which in my view deserve to be (re)analysed, through a critical grid enriched by tools specific to other academic disciplines of certain topicality: *identity studies*, body sociology, *trauma studies*, *cancer studies*, couple or family psychotherapy, *childhood studies* and so on.

The scientific and didactic impact of these projects - which come either as a continuation of the lexicographic research completed in 2013 with the first edition of the *Critical Dictionary...*, but also of the articles written for the second edition of the monumental *General Dictionary of Romanian Literature*, edited by the Romanian Academy, or as an extension of previous research, devoted to the literary and confessional imaginary of the body, trauma and the social and cultural context – derives from their scientific relevance, accentuated by their multidisciplinary stakes. As up to this point in my academic career, I intend that these approaches will take the form of volumes, studies and other scientific works published in recognised national and international academic journals, as well as communications and lectures given at national and international conferences, symposia and sessions, both at home and abroad. Potential beneficiaries include students enrolled in various departments of philological or psychological faculties, doctoral candidates, researchers in the field of literary and cultural studies, as well as teachers who teach various humanist disciplines, from *Romanian literature* to *narrative therapies*, *cognitive or experiential psychotherapies*, *Medical Humanities*. Abroad, I propose to disseminate the results of these projects not only through conferences or academic communications and studies published in indexed journals, but also through Erasmus+ teaching mobilities.

The habilitation thesis encloses a bibliographical list, organized in two subsections: the literary and confessional works annotated, and the critical landmarks that I have cited and implicitly valorised in this thesis.