

Summary

of the Habilitation Thesis of Professor Dr. Bogdan Lucian AURESCU

The present summary presents in a synthetic manner the main results, achieved after obtaining the Ph.D. title in Law, and future plans of the scientific and academic activities of the candidate, as reflected in the Habilitation Thesis, which shows in an extended manner the evolution of the academic, scientific and professional career of the candidate, as well as the main directions of its development.

The Habilitation Thesis thus presents the most important *academic achievements* in his career, which started in 1998, when he became coordinator (external collaborator) of the Public International Law seminars in the 2nd year of studies at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bucharest, followed by obtaining the position of Assistant (Public International Law, Diplomatic and Consular Law) in 2002, then Lecturer (Public International Law, Diplomatic and Consular Law, International Organisations and International Relations, International Jurisdictions, The Law of Treaties and the Practice of Negotiations) in 2004, then Senior Lecturer (Public International Law, International Organisations and International Relations, International Jurisdictions, International Law of Minorities' Protection) in 2012, and Professor (Public International Law, International Organisations and International Relations, International Jurisdictions, International Law of Minorities' Protection) in 2015.

The Thesis also presents other academic activities (such as the initiative of establishing the Master Programme in International Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bucharest, starting in 2007 to present) and teaching activities at other academic institutions, including as visiting professor, as member of the Senate of the Romanian Diplomatic Academy (2002-2005), as president of the Romanian Diplomatic Institute (2014-2015), or as Romanian representative in the High Council of the European University Institute of Florence (2010-2016).

Then, the Thesis presents the *professional achievements*, as career diplomat in the Romanian MFA, which started in 1996, in the Legal and Treaties Department, as desk officer, followed by the appointment as adviser at the Cabinet of the Minister, deputy-director of the Legal and Treaties Department, director of the Cabinet of the Minister, director of the International Law and Treaties Department, director general for legal affairs, Under Secretary of State, Secretary of State for European Affairs, for Global Affairs, for Strategic Affairs, as Minister of Foreign Affairs (2014-2015), and as Presidential Advisor for Foreign Policy (since 2016) or as Special (Honorary) Advisor to the Slovak Presidency of the EU Council for inter-institutional and legal affairs (2016).

The Habilitation Thesis focuses on the diplomatic activities related to the implementation of International Law, which, in the candidate's view, is of great value for the proper conduct of the foreign policy of any State, and particularly important for a country like Romania, since the use of International Law instruments can maximize the efficiency of the diplomatic demarches. So,

the Thesis explains some important legal demarches coordinated by the candidate in files such as the issue of the Law on Hungarians Living in Neighboring Countries (2001-2003), of the Ukrainian “Bystroe” canal issue (2002-2004), the drafting of the Law no. 590/2003 on Treaties, the representation of Romania, as Government Agent, before the European Court of Human Rights (2003-2004), the representation of Romania, as Agent, before the International Court of Justice (2004-2009), in the case *Maritime Delimitation in the Black Sea*. (Romania was granted, by the Judgment of 3 February 2009, 79.34% of the disputed area (about 12 200 km²), that is 9700 km² of continental shelf and EEZ), the activities performed as Chief negotiator on behalf of Romania of the Romanian/US Agreement on the Deployment of the US Ballistic Missile Defense System in Romania, and of the Joint Declaration on the Strategic Partnership for the 21st Century between Romania and US, both done in Washington, on 13 September 2011 (2010-2011).

It also presents the initiatives and activities of the candidate aimed at finalizing (in 2015) the procedures for the acceptance by Romania of the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice, and at promoting the candidate’s proposal (of 2015) of establishing an International Court against Terrorism, as an International Law tool to prevent, deter and punish the crime of terrorism.

In another chapter of the Thesis, the candidate presents his *scientific and research achievements*, in his capacity as editor-in-chief of the Romanian Journal of International Law and president of the Romanian Branch of the International Law Association (since 2003), as member of the Editorial Board of the *Judicial Courier*, since 2008, of the Scientific Council of the Journal ACTA Universitatis Lucian Blaga, since 2013, of the Scientific Council of the Constitutional Law Review, since 2015.

It also presents the activities of the candidate as substitute member (independent legal expert) of the Venice Commission, since 2002, in this capacity being rapporteur for 28 studies and opinions of this prestigious body. The candidate also became member of the well-known International Law Commission of the UN for a 5 years mandate (2017-2022).

The same chapter shows the details of the activity coordinated by the candidate as Director of the research project “Identification of specific national remedies for the unduly length of judicial proceedings in Romania” / The Programme “Ideas – Projects of Exploratory Research” (project code 769/2009), the “National Plan II for Research, Development and Innovation 2007-2013” (2009-2011), but also of other research activities, like: drafting, as associated expert, of the Recommendations of the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities on National Minorities in Interethnic Relations (the Bolzano Recommendations) (2008); the research contract for drafting a chapter of the volume „The Responsibility to Protect Minorities: Is the Kin State a Problem or a Solution?” (2008-2009) with UN University (Tokyo); the activity as associated researcher in the Programme Institutions of Research and Tertiary Education in Central and South East Europe – Developments, Structures and Perspectives for their Integration into the

European Higher Education and Research Area, University of Graz, Austria (2006); co-author of the Romanian Juridical Encyclopedia (since 2008, project of the Romanian Academy) etc.

The same chapter also presents the publications of the candidate: 15 volumes (3 – author; 6 – editor, 6 – co-author), 26 chapters in volumes, 17 studies in volumes of international conferences and of more than 140 articles, studies, comments and book reviews published in Romanian or foreign journals.

The *second Part of the Thesis* presents the intentions for the future development of the academic, professional and scientific career of the candidate.

On the *academic* facet, the obtaining of the habilitation certificate will certainly add an important dimension, the work with the PhD candidates representing an opportunity to further develop the Romanian School of International Law. At the same time, based on the achievements presented above, and on the continuity of the activities already unfolded, the Thesis indicates some future measures aimed at increasing the attractiveness of International Law for students, as well as their better connection with the practical aspects of International Law implementation. Increasing the cohesion of the Romanian School of International Law and a complementary approach between the academic and research activities are also imagined.

Measures envisaged: enlarged interaction with the students, more case-studies analyses, study visits, thematic debates and conferences, including with international participation, moot negotiations and trials, promoting the organization of regular conferences of the Romanian professors teaching International Law, further promoting the quality of the Master Programme in International Law of the Faculty of Law of the University of Bucharest.

On the *scientific* facet, the Thesis mentions the continuation of the activity of drafting and publishing of new volumes and papers on International Law, such as the finalization of a Treatise on General Theory of International Law (already under way), of new editions of the existing manuals authored by the candidate, of new manuals, of coordinating the drafting of a Dictionary of International Law, to continue the activity as editor-in-chief of the Romanian Journal of International Law and as member of the various boards of journals where he already belongs to. At the same time, the Thesis mentions the intention of the candidate to take part in new research projects.

Also, the Thesis states the objective of the candidate to continue to develop the activities organized in the framework of the Romanian Branch of ILA, and within the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe and the International Law Commission of the UN.

Professor Dr. Bogdan AURESCU