

Abstract of the Habilitation thesis

The Administrative Act. A Theoretical and Practical Approach
An interdisciplinary perspective

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This habilitation thesis presents the main results of scientific, professional and academic activity previously acquired, as well as future directions for the evolution and development of a scientific, academic and professional career.

I have been a member of the teaching staff of “Dimitrie Cantemir” University of Tîrgu Mureş since 2006, having been employed by the Faculty of Law. I received the title of Associate Professor based on Decree no. 5896/20.12.2010 issued by the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports, tenured for Administrative Law I and II and Administrative Science. I also hold courses in European Union Law within the bachelor level study programme of Law, as well as in Judicial Procedures in the Institutional System of the European Union within the master level study programme. I have adapted my teaching methods taking into account the stimulation of my students’ abilities for critical thinking, problem solving, team work, as well as for integration in a legal profession – including that of public servant – after graduation; for instance, during applicative activities we carried out *case studies, simulated trials, workshops* with speakers who held leadership positions in the local and territorial public administration, and we also took part in *meetings of the deliberative public authorities* in administrative-territorial units.

My scientific research endeavours are mainly channelled towards two main fields: *administrative law* and *administrative sciences*, which has facilitated the approach of the public administration activity in all its complexity, this being a fundamental requirement for theoreticians and practitioners of administrative law and public administration if a correct and complete understanding of the administrative phenomenon is to be achieved.

A first qualitative leap in my scientific activity was the completion of my doctoral studies in administrative sciences at the National School of Political and Administrative

Studies and obtaining the scientific title of Doctor of Administrative Sciences in the year 2009. In the Doctoral School of Administrative Sciences, belonging to SNSPA Bucharest, I received training in two main fields of scientific research into public administration: *advanced administrative law* (where I benefitted from the expertise of Prof. Dr. Emil Bălan) and *public management* (where I benefitted from the expertise of Prof. Dr. Lucia Matei). My doctoral thesis, entitled *Principles of Good Governance. European Evolutions and Comparative Studies*, supervised by Prof. Dr. Ani Matei and created as the first monographic research work on this topic written in Romania, was awarded *magna cum laude* and was published in 2009 by Universul Juridic publishing house of Bucharest. Also in 2009, this monograph received a special award given by Mures County Prefect's Institution for contributions to promoting good governance. The book is indexed in the *Worldcat* international database, recognised in the fields of legal sciences.

In 2012 I was given the opportunity to be studying towards a second doctoral title, i.e. a doctorate of law at the University of Bucharest's Faculty of Law, under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Verginia Vedinaş. The research topic I approached this time was *The Administrative Act Assimilated into the Administrative Contentious*. The topic was chosen given my previous experience and research in the field of administrative acts, especially administrative contracts (public procurement contracts). The contributions contained by this research were published in extenso by C.H. Beck publishing house in the monograph entitled *The Contentious of Assimilated Administrative Acts*. In 2017, the work was nominated to the Anibal Teodorescu scientific prize, an award given by the Romanian Jurists' Society for best public law book. It has also been reviewed in two prestigious journals: *Revista de Drept Public* (the review written by Prof. Dr. Anton Trăilescu) and *Revista Transilvană de Ştiinţe Administrative* (the review written by Assist. Prof. dr. Daniel Buda). A sign of recognition of this monograph's scientific value is its indexation in the *Worldcat* international database, recognised in the field of legal sciences.

I believe that the foundation of scientific research endeavours takes into account my professional experience of over 13 years in territorial and local public administration, as I have held public executive and leadership positions with responsibilities mainly in the legal and administrative contentious field, but also in public administration in general. At the same time, I have been a member of Mureş Bar since 2011, having received a *Diploma of Merit* in 2017, for devoted activity and extraordinary results in the institutional development of the legal profession in Romania. Since 2012, I have been a commercial arbitrator in the Court of

Internal and International Arbitration attached to Mureş County Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

In order to combine Romanian experiences with the experience of other states in my field of research preoccupations, in 2009 I became a member of the American Society for Public Administration (section *Public Law & Administration*), a reputed associative structure in the field of public administration in the USA. The society was founded in 1939 and it issues the *Public Administration Review*, an ISI Thomson indexed publication. Since 2007, I have been included in the NISPAcee Database of Institutions and Persons (the database of The Network of Institutes and Schools of Public Administration in Central and Eastern Europe), and starting with 2006, I have been a member of the Paul NEgulescu Institute of Administrative Sciences, at present also being a member of the institute's leadership college. I am also a member of the Academic Society of Administrative Sciences and of the Institute of Administrative Sciences of the Republic of Moldova. Not least, I am the president and founding member of the Society for Research and Development in Public Administration.

The results of my research activity were disseminated by participating and presenting papers in several international conferences International Conference on Public Administration "Building Bridges to the Future: Leadership and Collaboration in Public Administration" (2008, Minnesota, USA), NISPAcee Annual Conference "State and Administration in a Changing World" (2009, Budva, Montenegro), International Conference on Public Administration "The State of Public Administration: Issues, Challenges and Solutions" (2009, Chengdu, China), World Conference on Educational Sciences (2010, 2011- Istanbul, Turkey), International Multidisciplinary Scientific Conference on Social Sciences & Arts SGEM, Section Law (2015, 2018-Bulgaria). The papers presented were published in scientific volumes recognised at the highest scientific level (ISI Thomson Web of Knowledge, ISI Web of Science, SCOPUS ProQuest, EBSCOHost etc.).

My scientific recognition is proven by being evaluator for *American Review for Public Administration*, ISI indexed (2018 Impact Factor: 2.602).

I am a member of the editorial office of *Revista de Drept Public*, as well as a member of the editorial office of *L'Europe Unie*, both journals indexed in recognised international databases in the field of legal sciences. Researching administrative law and administrative sciences gave me the required knowledge in order to get involved in a vast, interdisciplinary project, which necessarily requires detailed expertise in the field of administrative law, namely public procurement. Thus, I am the president of the organisation committee, moderator and speaker of a periodic conference which takes place in Sovata (the eighth

edition took place in 2018) and which approaches topics related to the scientific research and practice of public procurement. The results of the contributions to this conference have taken the form of three scientific volumes edited and coordinated by myself and published by Universul Juridic and C.H. Beck publishing houses. The importance of this event is emphasised by the scientific and professional contributions brought to the conferences throughout the eight editions, both by the studies presented and by the involvement – as members, moderators or speakers – of important representatives of administrative law and administrative sciences in Romania and abroad.

Recognition of my scientific and professional expertise in the field of public procurement law materialised through my membership in the Technical Work Group for the analyse/study of the normative framework in the field of public procurement and for the proposal of legislative solutions, as appropriate, to ensure that the National Agency for Public Procurement generates, promotes and implements policies in the field of public procurement, assigned by ANAP Presidential Decree no. 2305/16.09.2019.

Alongside academic and professional development, I involved myself in research projects which challenged the knowledge and skills acquired as a theoretician and practitioner of administrative law and public administration in general, including team work abilities – for instance, being a team member in two projects financed by the European Union through the National Authority for Scientific Research and Innovation.

My entire scientific work approaches topics specific to administrative law and public administration, in general (typical administrative acts, administrative contracts, administrative contentious, public procurement, good governance, public services, transparency in public administration, etc) and aims to put to good use my experience as a researcher and practitioner of administrative law in the general context of administrative sciences, in an interdisciplinary and integrative manner, in accordance with the current dynamic of public administration.

The habilitation thesis details my scientific, academic and professional contributions, thus representing a crowning of my achievement as a researcher, teacher and practitioner; it synthesises perspectives on all abovementioned levels, the way I have designed them and the way I wish to achieve them in my evolution as a researcher, teacher and professional of administrative law.