



**ROMANIAN ACADEMY
DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF ADVANCES STUDIES OF THE
ROMANIAN ACADEMY**

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND LEGAL
SCIENCES
SOCIOLOGY FIELD**

Habilitation thesis abstract

Recent development of welfare state in Romania

Fundamental field: Economic, social and legal sciences

Field of habilitation: Sociology

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Thesis elaborated for obtaining the habilitation title for coordinating doctoral thesis in
Sociology

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Since March 2000 I am working as scientific researcher in the Research Institute for Quality of Life, Romanian Academy. My research activity has contributed to analyse of the comparative social policy, the analyse of the impact on the welfare state of Romanian's accession to the European Union, the social post-communist transformations, and social situation of various vulnerable groups. Other scientific contributions were made to the study of Romanian sociological publications, social economy area and urban sociology.

Regarding the welfare state studies, my research was focus on comparative analysis of welfare states, clasification of welfare states, institutional building and specific regulations in the social area, provision of social benefits (minimum income guaranteeds, family benefits), and unemployment benefits.

With respect to the situation of vulnerable groups, my scientific research was focus on identification of vulnerable groups within Romanian social policy related programs, Roma population, people with dissabilities, beneficiaries of minimum income guaranteed, young people living the institutionalised social protection system, migrants, families, convicted and elderly people, especially dependent ones.

Another area of scientific interest was represented by the Romanian sociological publications after 1900. Starting with 2006, under the coordination of Acad. Cătălin Zamfir I was involved in identification of scientific publications written by Romanian sociologists. Scientific outputs supported the identification of sociological books and studies for the period 1900-2015. Based on these, phases of the development of sociology in Romania were envisaged. Another major contribution of this project to the coagulation of the Romanian sociological community is represented by the identification of dynamics of publication for 1900-2015. Data bases for 1900-2015 books and studies are publically available for the ones interested on <https://bibliotecadesociologie.ro/publicistica-romaneasca/>. Besides, a Virtual Sociological Library was made publically available at the address <https://bibliotecadesociologie.ro/> In the future, I intend to continue to contribute to the update of sociological publications data bases.

Another area of research interest was represented by the social economy. I coordinated several national and international indersciplinary research teams. Approached research subjects were: definition of the social economy domain, identification of social economy structures in Romania, (inter)national regulations in the field, specific institution building, insertion on the labour market of the vulnerable groups.

In 2020, I was member of two research teams focus on the study of the social impact of COVID-19. Personally I was interested on the social policy measures adopted in dealing with

pandemic period as well as identification of vulnerable groups more exposed to social exclusion.

In the future, my research will be focus on analyse of the Romanian welfare system, especially the clasification of post-communist welfare states and identification of main characteristics of the East-European post-communist regime. In terms of the social assistance system, I intend to update my 2015 EU comparative research on social benefits. Research outputs will support my analyse of the young generations' decision in having children and its demographic impact.

Habilitation thesis is structured in four parts. The first part analysis the dynamic of the academic carear. The second part is focus on the main development direction and it presents main scientific outputs after obtaining the PhD in sociology title in 2012. The third part prospects future research plans. The fourth part envisaged the capacity to coordinate research teams. Refferences used are included at the end of the habilitation thesis.