



Anexa nr.1

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ALTERNATIVE HISTORIES AS CONNECTION BRIDGES.

***ELITE, FREEMASONRY, EUGENICS AND TECHNOLOGY
IN TRANSYLVANIA (1848-1989) –
AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE***

ABSTRACT



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Through this Thesis, I highlighted the interdisciplinary nature of the research that I carried out during the period between the public presentation of my Doctoral Thesis on *Church, State and Freemasonry in Banat and Hungary* during the second half of the 19th century, respectively the inauguration of the *Center for the History of Eugenics and Racism* (CIER), in partnership with my colleagues from Oxford Brookes University, respectively the Cantemir Institute of Oxford University of Great Britain.

Over time, I followed the "red thread" of the History of Freemasonry in the Banat, Transylvania and Central Europe from the 19th and 20th centuries, and based on the original archive documents I sought to trace who were, in reality, the prominent personalities who joined the European Masonic Order, respectively what were the various high-impact projects that the members of this initiatory and elitist Order carried out, over time, in the profane space.

The need to understand the meaning, the depths, but especially the great impact that these far-reaching projects had in the community, in different periods, led me to diversify my readings and researches, to go, thus, towards the horizon of other scientific fields.

I managed, thus, to build bridges to scientific disciplines such as: Cinematography, Medicine, Eugenics, Nuclear Energy, etc. Thanks to these approaches, I was able to better understand the essence of the work of some leaders in the field of Arts and Sciences who lived in the previous centuries and who, in the privacy of Freemasonry Lodges, despite the diversity of vocations existing there, managed to respect values common and to support each other on various levels. And for these reasons, externally, such Freemasonry elites were able to contribute decisively, through the force of ideas and projects promoted, to the complicated process of modernizing society.

Therefore, thanks to various research concerns, I also managed to demonstrate that history as a discipline has the vocation of connecting bridges, and the History of Freemasonry, which many consider an alternative history, is, in fact, a complementary history to the History of the Romanians and not only. In addition, it offers broad research perspectives, but also "channels of connection" with other scientific disciplines.

Going through, over time, such "channels of connections", I was able to get closer to other sciences, I learned alternative work methodologies. Finally, I understood that the historical realities



Anexa nr.3

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that we decide to analyze at a given moment must, necessarily, be underlined from angles that are often totally different from what we are often know. In this way, we acquire a broader perspective of analysis, an interdisciplinary one, as is practiced in the most important historiographical schools of Europe and not only.

Following such a kind of connections research, after 17 years since the public presentation of my Doctoral Thesis, I am able say that the Alternative Histories, thanks to which we can connect to other sciences, help us a lot to build lasting bridges of connection with other scientific fields. If we step above them, we have the great chance to see that historical research is more interesting, "fresher" and more exciting, and, sure, the perspectives that open up to us are also appropriate and important as well.