



ACADEMIA ROMÂNĂ
SCOSAAR

HABILITATION THESIS SUMMARY*

TITLE: EDUCATION AND THE PREVENTION OF DELINQUENCY.
SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

Habilitation field: *Sociology*

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*în cazul în care teza va fi redactată într-o limbă străină, textul în limba română va fi adaptat

The Habilitation Thesis entitled Education and the Prevention of Delinquency: Sociological Perspectives is structured on 4 chapters, as it follows:

- I. Professional and Academic Background and Career Development
- II. Main Research Directions
- III. Future Plans for Professional, Scientific, and Academic Development
- IV. Capacity to Supervise and Facilitate Learning in Scientific Research

The **first chapter** presents, in a concise manner, the author's completed studies, professional activities carried out within the central public administration, as well as academic activities, highlighting the stages of career development.

Chapter II provides a comprehensive presentation of the main directions of scientific research conducted throughout the author's 23 years of professional and academic activity, identifying two major research directions, which determined the structure of the chapter into two subchapters.

Thus, in the first subchapter, *Sociology of Delinquency: Anomie, Deviance, Delinquency, Crime*, the relevant aspects of the research conducted on this topic are presented. These aspects were highlighted, synthesized, and correlated with the specialized literature in the field and with the doctoral thesis entitled *Deviance and Crime in a Society in Transition*. Following the awarding of the doctoral scientific title, the work became a book published in 2011 by Lumen Publishing House, structured as follows: *I. The conceptual system, definitions, and interconceptual relationships; II. Theories and paradigms regarding deviance, delinquency, and crime; III. Deviance and crime in contemporary society; IV. Specific manifestations of deviant behaviors and crime; V. Comprehensive understanding of the delinquent person in preparation for social reintegration; VI. Assistance systems in preparing the social reintegration of the delinquent person. Intervention programs*. Within this work, both the conceptual delimitations of deviance/delinquency/crime developed by renowned sociologists such as Durkheim, E. and Merton, R., were highlighted, and the relevant theories and paradigms for understanding the phenomenon of deviance (anomie theory, subculture theory, social control theory) were presented. Based on the research conducted, the following conclusions were reached:

- The frequency and severity of offenses are directly proportional to the level of dysfunctions in the social environment from which the individual originates.
- Career offenders generally have a low level of schooling/training/education.
- The deviant/delinquent personality must be approached and understood from an integrated perspective (psychological, sociological, legal, and social assistance).

- Consequently, the only path to social success is positive socialization, namely the knowledge, internalization, and respect of the norms governing the organization and functioning of micro- and macro-social groups, which implies cultivating harmonious relationships with the social environment and responsibly assuming social roles.

- For individuals who have already exceeded the limits of legal norms, appropriate assistance systems for their reintegration are proposed, such as: specialized intervention by the National Probation Directorate, community-based socio-professional reintegration programs, social skills development programs, legal information programs, programs for identifying individual problems and needs, and behavioral therapy and aggression control programs.

Within the same conceptual framework, the work *Socialization and Anomic Behaviors in the School Environment*, published by Pro Universitaria Publishing House, highlights the necessity of specialized and comprehensive approaches to the fragile personalities of adolescents, who are exposed to a multitude of social stimuli and to the risk of contamination or rapid learning of socially and legally undesirable behaviors.

Thus, the work-representing both an analysis of a social phenomenon and an advocacy for strengthening an educational culture centered on understanding, prevention, and shared responsibility, aimed at generating reflection and valuable contributions to the development of educational policies and specialized interventions adapted to social challenges and the psycho-individual characteristics of adolescents-is structured into four chapters: *I. Adolescence and the socialization process; II. Juvenile delinquency – theoretical framework of analysis; III. The impact of school socialization on juvenile delinquency; IV. The role of the school in juvenile delinquency prevention.*

In the second subchapter, *Approaches in the Field of the Sociology of Education*, a total of seven articles published in journals relevant to the field of Social Sciences, with impact factor, as well as a significant number of articles published in journals and conference proceedings indexed in international databases, are presented. Within these publications, I described the results of the research conducted and/or addressed concepts and terms specific to the Sociology of Education, highlighting the importance of the school-family-community partnership, the role of interculturality/multiculturality, the importance of counseling in the process of socio-professional integration, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on counseling activities, the phenomenon of private tutoring as a parental investment strategy, the importance of education in the process of individual socialization, the impact of institutional merger processes on academic activities, the improvement of the process of evaluating teaching staff by students in

order to ensure and enhance the quality of the educational process, the effects of excessive use of social media among students, as well as ethics and appreciative intervention.

In the third chapter of the thesis, both the themes and topics of interest for future scientific research are presented, such as the employability of students/doctoral students/postdoctoral researchers on the labor market, the dynamics of university study programs in relation to labor market requirements, trends in the evolution of career choices among young people in Romania, the history and development trends of teacher training in the Romanian compulsory education system, as well as a series of institutional objectives envisaged for the coming years of professional and academic activity.

In the fourth chapter of the thesis, the activities carried out in the capacity of editor of a publication indexed in international databases, scientific coordinator of student and master's student papers presented at scientific conferences or prepared for the completion of university studies, and director of the national research grant ARUT 2023 in the field of Sociology, entitled *Development of the Institutional Capacity of UNSTPB through the Improvement of the Teaching Staff Evaluation Process*, within which extensive research projects were designed and implemented, the results of which were presented in scientific articles published in high-impact journals relevant to the field, are presented as activities that confirm and demonstrate my capacity to coordinate research teams and facilitate learning in the field of scientific research.

The thesis concludes with the presentation of the **bibliographic references** used in its elaboration.