

UAI



Facultatea de
Științe Umaniste și Sociale

***SCIENTIFIC SESSION OF PhD CANDIDATES IN
THE FIELD OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL
SCIENCES***

November 8th – 9th, 2023

***RED ROOM
M BUILDING***

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

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Day 1 - 08.11.2023

Participants` arrival

10.00 – 10.30 – Opening Ceremony (Red Room)

Welcome speech of:

Ramona LILE, PhD, Rector of “Aurel Vlaicu” University of Arad

Prof. Florentina MUNTEANU, PhD, Head of the Doctoral School

Assoc. Prof. Alina PĂDUREAN, PhD, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

PANEL 1 THEOLOGY

MODERATORS: Prof. Marcel MĂCELARU, PhD

Prof. Corneliu SIMUȚ, PhD

Lect. Daniel OPREAN, PhD

Room 215A

10.30-10.45 - *Karl Barth's Crisis Theology: A Historical and Theological Exploration of 20th-Century Trends and Directions*, PhD Candidate Corneliu Ben Buzguța, "Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad.

Abstract: This article delves into the dynamic landscape of theological thought during the early 20th century, beginning with the spiritual crisis of the era and the subsequent responses that shaped the theological discourse of the time. It traces the evolution of theological perspectives, moving from the emergence of liberal theology, the rise of conservative and fundamentalist theological reactions to it, and finally, to the advent of crisis theology or dialectical theology. The article explores the distinct characteristics of these theological paradigms, their underlying ideological currents, and their significant representatives. It endeavors to point out the ongoing tension between fundamentalist and modernist theological positions, drawing comparisons to the more conciliatory approach of evangelical theology. The theological landscape of the early 20th century bore witness to significant intellectual and spiritual turmoil. The prevailing spiritual crisis prompted a multifaceted response, leading to the formation of distinct theological paradigms. Liberal theology emerged as a progressive approach, seeking to harmonize Christian faith with modern intellectual currents. Conservative and fundamentalist theologies, on the other hand, took a more conservative stance, resisting what they perceived as compromising theological ideas with secular ones. The clash between fundamentalist and modernist theological perspectives loomed large, reflecting the broader cultural divide of the time. It was within this contentious milieu that crisis theology, often referred to as dialectical theology, made its appearance. This theological paradigm offered a different path, marked by a commitment to scholarly rigor and a desire to transcend rigid dogmatism. Crisis theology, exemplified by the renowned Karl Barth, emphasized a nuanced and moderate engagement with theological questions. The emergence of crisis theology is examined within the broader socio-cultural context of the early 20th century. The article delineates its defining features and pivotal figures. Notably, crisis theology is portrayed as a balanced and moderate response, emphasizing a genuine commitment to the scholarly study and promotion of theology rather than the espousal of rigid Christian ideologies. Karl Barth, as a leading figure of crisis theology, articulated a theological approach that prioritized the pursuit of knowledge and understanding without sacrificing the core tenets of Christian faith. His work challenged the prevailing theological dogmas and paved the way for a more balanced and moderate theological discourse. Crisis theology was characterized by its willingness to engage with contemporary philosophical and theological currents while retaining a deep commitment to the Christian tradition. This article underscores the enduring significance of the theological developments of the early 20th century and the lessons they offer. It posits that the theological approach exemplified by crisis theology, marked by balance and moderation, not only provides valuable insights into the study of theology but also reflects the character of a Christian life rooted in humility, love, and a genuine pursuit of understanding Christ. In an era marked by polarization and ideological rigidity, the legacy of crisis theology serves as a reminder of the enduring relevance of a conciliatory and moderate approach to theological discourse. In conclusion, this article asserts that history provides valuable lessons and insights into theological evolution. It contends that the most prudent theological approach is one of balance and moderation. Such an approach not only fosters humility in the pursuit of knowing Christ but also embodies the core Christian virtues of goodness, moderation, balance, conciliation, and love..

Keywords: Karl Barth, crisis theology, liberal theology.

10.45-11.00 - O analiză exegetică asupra rugăciunii domnești din Matei 6:9-13, PhD Candidate Ros Benjamin Liviu, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad

Abstract: In this article in the first chapter I will analyze the theological notions of prayer in general and in the second part of this article I will present an exegetical research of prayer, an analysis illustrating the four dimensions of the analysis: existential, experiential, ontological and deontological-missiological of prayer reign from the biblical passage from Matthew 6:9-13 and in the final part I will come with some conclusions. I chose this theme discovering the need for prayer in personal, family and community life, seeing also the desire of the disciples who

turned to the Lord with the desire to be taught to pray from the passage in Luke 11:1 "Lord, teach us to pray as John also taught his disciples." Prayer is a common familiar practice, often found in everyday life. It is the way in which man, facing the specific limitations of an existence defined by time and space, tries to access a reality that transcends these limitations - a reality that is supposed to be superior to the dimension in which he lives, therefore a reality that can influence the current existence. We will approach the Lord's Prayer with the goal of establishing an exegetical precedent to serve as a model for the analysis of other prayers. The most perfect model of prayer is the Lord's prayer which is the most important of all prayers, different from the others in its power, in its meaning and its complexity because we do not just repeat the words of the Lord, but we pray with the very words of the Savior, which gives us a guarantee that when we pray in His Name we will be obeyed according to John 16:23.

Keywords: theological, prayer, Lord, biblical, life.

11.00-11.15 – Rolul educației creștine în contextul adicției digitale, PhD Candidate, Benjamin R. LUPȘA, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad

Abstract: The accelerated progress of digital technologies in recent years has brought with it advantages and disadvantages, benefits and risks. Excessive and uncontrolled use of technology can lead to digital addiction, which has been considered a medical crisis in certain Asian countries, and has the potential to spread in highly technological countries as well. Digital addiction has become a growing concern as more and more people consume and are consumed by electronic screens and devices. Whether we are talking about Internet addiction, social media addiction, or video game addiction, we cannot say that these addictions are related to the challenge of the worrying problem with negative consequences. In this context, Christian education becomes crucial both for prevention and as an intervention model. This article will explore the issue of digital addiction and how Christian education can act as a means of preventing and treating it. The importance of equipping workers to understand how the problem of addiction can be addressed from a Christian perspective is emphasized. Effective Christian education is not limited only to the informative dimension, but it leads to spiritual formation and transformation towards the likeness of Jesus Christ.

Keywords: Digital addiction, Christian Education, prevention, Internet addiction, digital technology.

11.15-11.30 – *Human dignity in the Sermon on the Mount*, PhD Candidate Paul Cristian Ionașcu, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad

Abstract: The Sermon on the Mount is one of the most fascinating, but also one of the most uncomfortable messages of the Lord Jesus. In it are presented many concepts, both theological and social. Jesus presents how His disciples should live in consideration of their fellow men. Some denigrate human dignity by the attitude they have towards their fellows, and others respect it. The purpose of this work is to show that the Lord Jesus revealed in the Sermon on the Mount what should be the right attitude towards human dignity and how some people denigrate human dignity.

Keywords: Sermon on the Mount, human dignity, Old Testament, Matthew, Jesus

11.30-11.45 - *Viziunea lui Charles Haddon Spurgeon privind justificarea conflictelor dintre națiuni și soluții pentru rezolvarea lor*, PhD Candidate Iosif Anca, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad

Abstract: In this paper, I will examine how the great 19th century preacher, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, sees the justifications for war and some of his proposed methods of conflict resolution. In the first part, starting from the way in which the justification of conflicts has been generally seen by Christianity, I will deal with the view of C. H. Spurgeon's view of the justifications for initiating conflict. In the second part of the paper, I will focus on how C. H. Spurgeon's approach to war as a result of failure to maintain peace and good harmony. Within this part, I will also focus on how C. H. Spurgeon's abhorrence of the dire consequences and unintended implications of armed conflict. In the last part, I will mention solutions proposed by C. H. Spurgeon to resolve conflicts that have already arisen.

Keywords: Charles Haddon Spurgeon, war, peace, conflict, solutions.

11.45-12.00 - „*WE ARE NO LONGER UNDER THE LAW*”-AN EXEGETICAL AND THEOLOGICAL EXPLORATION OF GALATIANS 3:15-4:7, PhD Candidate Bebe CIAUȘU, University of Bucharest

Abstract: What was the role of the law since the work of salvation by Jesus Christ was accomplished? This subject of controversy between Paul and the Judaizers of Galatia gave the apostle the opportunity to develop the subject in the biblical text Galatians 3:15-4:7. In this article we explore the meaning of Paul's statement "we are no longer under the law" in the context of Paul's entire Epistle to the Galatians, tracing the transition from the Law of Moses to the Law of Christ. We note, then, that in the Old Testament, law had different meanings, such as Pentateuch, Law of Moses, legalism, or even ceremonial, civil or moral law. Using arguments he also makes in the Epistle to the Romans, Paul argues that the law was temporary in nature, its purpose being to reveal the reality and seriousness of sin and the guilt it produced, to be a tutor/guide to watch over the believer until the Messiah came. Although some scholars have argued for the continuity of the law in biblical texts such as Matthew 5:17-19, Romans 7 or 1 Timothy 1:8, an analysis of the term νόμος in the light of the Epistle to the Galatians, the whole corpus of Pauline writings and the whole of Scripture reveals that these arguments are not strong enough to argue for the validity of the Mosaic Law for the Church-era believer. On the contrary, there is good reason to accept that with the coming of the Messiah and the accomplishment of His work of salvation, the Law of Moses came to an end and was replaced by the Law of Christ. Texts such as Romans 6:14-15, Romans 10:4, 2 Corinthians 3:3, 6-18, Galatians 3 or Philippians 3:7-9 are convincing evidence that the law was temporary in nature, designed to uncover sin and point to Christ.

Keywords: law, freedom, grace, galatians, mosaic law, commandments, legalism

12.00-12.15 - The sacred word- the paradigm of the Law, affirmed in the Torah and the Koran, PhD Candidate Ciprian Chiorean, "1 Decembrie 1918" University of Alba Iulia

Abstract: The sacred is a universal foundation for all religions, but holiness is the defining characteristic that distinguishes the transcendent divine from the immanent created, and the experience of the sacredness is specific to monotheistic religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. For the human being, limited in the time and space, the manifestation of the Infinite can be incompletely understood due to its character subject to perfection, therefore the Divine manifests itself to the human through the discovery of the teaching and the Law. The concept of the Torah has several interpretations, but the most obvious is that of the World of God, of guidance for the Jewish people, being essential for Jewish thought, because it is the quintessence of Judaism, symbol and linguistic variety, which generates extensive discussions and which must be interpreted as a foundation, as way, the most perfect way, of revealing the transcendent God towards the immanent created man. In contrast to other monotheistic religions, Islam considers the sacredness of the word to be manifested in the form of the Koran, which is not only the sacred Word but also the perfect paradigm of the Truth, Allah. Through both the Torah and the Koran, Jewish and Muslim believers are asked to fulfil the sacred Word in their lives to perfection etches thought kindness and humility.

Keywords: the sacred word, divinity, Law, Torah, Koran, Judaism and Muslim.

12.15-12.30 - Sinergia dintre Drepturile Omului și Protecția Mediului: O Abordare Crucială pentru Viitorul Nostru, Ph.D. Claudia Matei (Varga), Aurel Vlaicu University, Romania

Abstract: The concept of sustainable development is presented as a solution capable of meeting the needs of development and conservation of the environment while protecting it for present and future generations. The right to a healthy environment can be part of existing international law, implemented through human rights instruments. The procedural aspect of the right to a healthy environment encompasses the right to information, the right to participation and the right to effective remedies. Participation in the decision-making process and the availability and effectiveness of remedies are essential features of the right to a healthy environment. Expressed in the field of human rights law, these principles convey the notion that citizens have a right to participate.

Keywords: environmental rights, right to a healthy environment, right to information, right to participation.

12.30-12.45 – *Educating Children According to the Teachings of Saint Porphyrios the Kafsokalyvite*, Ph.D. Gabriel Victor Băclea, „1 Decembrie 1918” University, Alba Iulia, Romania

Abstract: Saint Porphyrios the Kafsokalyvite, known throughout the Orthodox Christian world for his profound understanding of human nature and spiritual life, provided insightful advice on educating children. He believed that the foundation of wholesome education is love. Parents should love their children unconditionally, infusing in them trust and respect, and become for them a model of virtue, truth, and sanctity. For Saint Porphyrios, daily sanctity and prayer are fundamental. Children should be raised in an atmosphere of freedom and responsibility, avoiding authoritarian or coercive methods. Parents should pray abundantly for their children and show them how to live in constant connection with God. At the same time, sincere communication is essential, avoiding excessive

criticism, which can do more harm than good. Thus, the balance between spiritual and worldly education is essential, allowing the child to develop harmoniously in all aspects of life. At the core of Saint Porphyrios' pedagogical teachings is found parental love, which should mirror God's love for humanity. Children brought up in such an environment learn Christian values not by force but through the example of their parents.

Keywords: theology, child education, love, prayer, harmony, balance.

12.45-13.00 – *Rolul teologiei creației în concepția despre lume și viață a omului religios din perspectiva gândirii lui Ellen White*, PhD Candidate Florin Matei, Aurel Vlaicu University, Romania

Abstract: Ellen White's reflections on the role of creation theology is decisive in a man's conception of the world and life. It provides the foundation on which man builds his vision of past, present and future. The purpose of this article is to highlight the significance of a creation theology for man's conception of the world and life. Thus, I will describe the challenges of the time in which Ellen White explained the philosophy of creation, and then I will list these meanings and the effect they have in changing the way we interpret and relate to life by integrating them into everyday life.

Keywords: creation, Ellen White, love, worldview and life, creation theology

13.00-13.15 – *Aspecte din teologia publică văzute în lucrarea Domnului Isus*, PhD Candidate Roș Benjamin, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Romania

Abstract: In this article I will approach from the perspective of public theology the Lord Jesus as a "public theologian", as a social prophet with a specific mission, which can be understood as a "public theologian". I will write Jesus as the model of perfect love for public theology. The saving acts of Jesus Christ and all Christianity in its entirety, are also understood through the understanding of love and lived in love. The center of gravity in Christianity, and which, moreover, highlights a lot from other religions, it is love, for which God created the world. In the second part of the article I will present the Lord Jesus as: Jesus - a model for practicing public theology. The beatitudes taught by Jesus on the mountain (Mat. 5, 3-12) describe Himself, evoke His infinitely penetrating and loving relationship with each person. We can note that Jesus Christ is the core of Christianity because He is true God and true Man who came as close as possible to us to be able to know.

Keywords: Lord Jesus, God, perspective, love, theology, public, relationship, religions, social.

13.15-13.30 – *The concept of Sunday school from D. L. Moody's perspective*, PhD Candidate Prială Vasile, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Romania

Abstract: The concept of Sunday school refers to the biblical education of children and the significance of each age group. Today's Sunday school is a program intended for children from the church, but also for other children who often come with their peers. The Sunday school program can take place outside the church walls, such as in parks, stadiums, multipurpose halls, etc. This concept appears in the 18th century, in the city of Gloucester, England. In a short time, it is spread not only in England, but throughout the world. Not even a century later, we see that in the United States of America, this concept is developed, to the point where in one village they even had a Sunday school library where children could borrow books to read. During this period, D. L. Moody, as a child was enrolled with his brothers in Sunday school, and deeply moved by what was happening there, he continued to be involved, initially as an assistant, and later as a Sunday school teacher. Through what Moody did both in Sunday school and in the evangelization of adults, a million people turned to God. The concept of Sunday school from D.L. Moody's perspective was one of great importance and impact. He saw it as a vital tool for nurturing spiritual growth and education in young individuals. Moody himself experienced the transformative power of Sunday school as a child, and it left a lasting impression on him. He not only valued Sunday school as a place for children to learn about faith but also recognized its potential to influence the broader community. Moody believed in actively participating in Sunday school, initially as a helper and later as a teacher, demonstrating his dedication to this educational approach. Through his involvement in Sunday school and his wider evangelistic efforts, Moody saw countless individuals, both young and old, turn to God. This underlined for him the significance of Sunday school as a means to reach and inspire people with the message of faith and spirituality. Overall, D. L. Moody viewed Sunday school as a powerful instrument for spreading the teachings of Christianity and fostering spiritual development in individuals of all ages.

Keywords: Sunday school, community, education, God.

13.30-13.45 - *Following Christ in being good stewards of our planet*, PhD Candidate Kovačević David, Croatia

Abstract: The paper titled "Following Christ in being good stewards of our planet" explores the intersection of Christian faith and environmental stewardship. It delves into the theological and ethical aspects of caring for the Earth as an essential aspect of living out the teachings of Christ. This paper discusses how Christians can take on the responsibility of being caretakers of the environment, emphasizing the importance of sustainability, conservation, and responsible resource management in line with their faith. It provides insights into how individuals and communities can integrate eco-conscious practices into their Christian beliefs, reflecting a commitment to safeguarding the planet for future generations.

Keywords: Christ, ecosystem, beliefs, faith, environment.

13.45-14.00- *The influence of public theology in the Romanian context*, PhD Candidate Alin Boloca, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Romania

Abstract: In Romanian culture, in the vast majority of cases, if you approach a dialogue about the value and purpose of theology in society and higher education, you immediately run into a false preconception imprinted in the mentality of Romanians because these are considered to be concepts and areas of study that are divided and have nothing in common with each other. Usually, the scepticism of our compatriots tries to reduce or even marginalise the dialogue of faith to a tolerant, non-offensive relativism, preferring that these discussions be conducted and developed within the strict church framework or the framework and limits of the academic environment. This state of conflict generates for students a new opportunity and, at the same time a new area of study, this being the intersection between universities, churches, and society, which gives rise to a new dialogue about differences and identity, which explores the tensions generated against theology, through the essential critical dialogue and self-reflexive understanding of identity.

Keywords: the purpose of theology, theological identity, vocation, art, public theology

14.00-14.30 – LUNCH BREAK

14.30-14.45 - *Covergence of Five "As" in the Family of a Child with Special Needs*, PhD Candidate Măcelaru Ligia, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Romania

Abstract: The article "Convergence of Five 'As' in the Family of a Child with Special Needs" is a guide aimed at parents of children with special needs. It proposes a necessary and phased path to facilitate the development of a child with special needs. Starting from the premise that every parent or family in which a child with special needs is born begins the journey from ground zero, the initial shock point, the process of the child with special needs becoming a unique individual is closely related to how these successive stages are navigated, processed, and overcome. The proposed model is repeatable at each stage of development, even if at a different level. In this case, two children with the same diagnosis progress differently or stagnate depending on the continuous alignment of the five "As." The five "As" that form the basis of the development of a child with special needs, the five processes, are: Acceptance, Assumption, Access, Anticipation, and Abilitation.

Keywords: Disability, counselling, acceptance, embracing, special needs child

14.45-15.00 - *Towards a theology of Marginality from the perspective of the migrant in the Bible*, PhD Candidate Ciurea Viorel Cătălin, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Romania.

Abstract: One of the challenges our world is facing into this day and age are those living at the very edges of our society. Within the present paper we will try to understand the meaning of the migrant and the marginalised from a sociologic and theological perspective. Also we will try to explore what the Bible have to say about marginalized and the migrant from the narratives of the Bible.

Keywords: Bible, migrant, marginalized, perspective.

15.00-15.15 - *A comparative study concerning the Christianity and Islam regarding the diversity of conceptions of life and the recognition of a universal ethic*, PhD Candidate Lăcătuș Dinu, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Romania

Abstract: Is Creation part and manifestation of divine ethics? Can it be defined as divine ethics? Is human ethics based on the categorical imperative or on divine identity? Does the divinity command a good thing because it is good? Or does something become good because the divinity commands it? Which is the relationship between ethics, identity and freedom? which is the relationship between ethics and revelation also? To what extent does divine revelation and immanence not affect the freedom of the human beings? Is the natural law sufficient in its fulfillment to satisfy the demands of divinity? But could penultimate things be accepted by divinity? Is deontology inspired by theology or by philosophy (humanology)? Is there any uncharted territory of ethics? Is there some land intentionally left in darkness by the divinity, whom the human beings have to discover, as the *conditio sine qua non* of ethics? What relation of determination can there be between order, beauty, art? These are just some of the questions that consume the human being in its quest to adopt a way of life that transcends. However the challenge become even more sensible against the background of a diversity of religions and conceptions of life which, in turn, give rise to other questions. It is possible for an universal ethics to address a multitude of religions in such a way that to result in harmony of human beings and, at the same time, in excellence offered to divinity? Is ethics so sufficient to create transcendental values in the other, through a human immanence and a human praxis? Is there the consciousness of the other contained in personal identity or is this only a mandate of ethics? Does ethics assume the failures, the consequences of exploring the unknown land of other religions and the unknown being of the other, in such a manner that the explorers should not be harmed in their identity? In this article I will approach the islamic religion and the muslim people as a target group, from the objective perspective of the Christianity, and I will argue the working hypothesis: first of all ethics is, then ethics is based on identity, and the praxis is not conditioned by favourable factors, on the contrary, the excellence rises from vicissitudes, from unfavourable conditions. I chose this target group, Islam, because it produces opposition and refusal in Christian's attitude, that leads to exclusion. As a result of a comparative study, I will argue that an approach to the other is a divine mandate, it is part of ethics, and it is that unknown land which have to be explored and that can be passed through in the way of excellency. I will refer also to greek philosophy and asian religions, because the islamic attitude was to assimilate everything in its expansion.

Keywords: metaethics, ethics'identity, universal ethics, a-systemic ethics, anti-systemic ethics.

15.15-15.30 - *Roots of the protestant christianity in Korea*, PhD Candidate Piskó Jenő, University of Debrecen, Hungary

Abstract: Protestant Christianity arrived in Korea in 1884, a century after the foundation of the Catholic Church in Korea. In 1884, So Sang-Yun, a herbalist, founded the first protestant church with his fellows, in today's North Korea. The first two missionaries arrived at 1885 Easter's Sunday – Horace G. Underwood presbyterian and Henry G. Appenzeller methodist pastors, to today's Incheon. According to the tradition, as they knew the significance of this moment, they stepped from the ship to the ground at the same time. For most Koreans, the protestant missionary work meant the western modernization – medical care and helping the unprivileged. There were three main phases in the life of the early protestant Christianity in Korea. The first one is the „Great Awakening”, which began in 1903 and peaked in 1907, during the two-week-long yearly men's Bibel conference meeting in Phenjan. Hundreds confessed their sins and turned to God throughout the whole country. The second one is a growing phase after the awakening, during the Japanese occupation until the Independence movement in 1919. The third phase is from the 1919 Korean independence movement. Even thou none of the missionaries took part actively, numerous members of the movement were protestants, therefore protestant christianity came to close ties with the movement.

Keywords: Protestant Christianity, Korea, independance, God, awakening.

15.30-15.45 - *Disciples of all Nations: A Case Study on the Role and Impact of Education as a Missionary Activity*, PhD Candidate Iosif Riviș-Tipei, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Romania.

Abstract: The paper titled "Disciples of all Nations': A Case Study on the Role and Impact of Education as a Missionary Activity" presents a comprehensive case study examining the pivotal role of education in the context of missionary work. Focusing on the broader theme of the Great Commission to "make disciples of all nations," this paper delves into the historical and contemporary significance of educational initiatives as a means of spreading religious faith and values. Through a specific case study, it explores how education has been employed

as a tool for evangelism, cultural integration, and social transformation. The paper also evaluates the impact and outcomes of educational missionary efforts, shedding light on the challenges and successes in fulfilling the mission of creating disciples from diverse nations. This research provides valuable insights into the complex dynamics at the intersection of education and missionary work, offering a nuanced understanding of the strategies, implications, and results of this vital aspect of global Christian outreach.

Keywords: education, missionary activity, social transformation, disciples, strategies.

15.45-16.00 - *The Role of the Holy Spirit in the Life of the Church*, PhD Candidate Cătană Viorel-Dariu, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Romania

Abstract: The New Testament Church came into existence with the Descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Since then there is a very close connection between the life of the Church and the Holy Spirit. Where the Church is present, the Holy Spirit manifests itself and pours out his grace on the community of believers, therefore we cannot speak of the Church without referring as well at the grace of God or the Holy Spirit. The church must be filled with the Holy Spirit and be led in all truth by the same Holy Spirit. The Church unity is achieved through the work of the Holy Spirit, thereby the gifts and charisms are those that contribute to the effective building and edification of communities of believers. The person who experiences the saving grace of the Holy Spirit and intercedes persistently for a complete filling can reach a deep understanding of the work of the Holy Spirit which is also manifested through His gifts. Therefore, the Church, which represents the body of Christ, is built up and empowered to live a life of holiness in a world that is increasingly ignorant of God.

Keywords: Holy Spirit, Church, gifts, charisms, unity, holiness

16.00 – FINAL REMARKS

Day 2, 09.11.2023, Red Room, 1st floor

PANEL 2 PHILOLOGY

MODERATORS:

Prof. Carmen NEAMȚU, PhD

Prof. Ciprian VĂLCAN, PhD

Assoc.Prof. Adela DRĂUCEAN, PhD

10.00 – Book presentation

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10.30 – Conference „De la Nostalgia la Melancolia: continuități și variații în opera lui Mircea Cărtărescu” held by Alba Diz Villanueva, Complutense University of Madrid

11.00 – Conference „TEXISTENȚĂ” held by Prof. habil. Simona Constantinovici, PhD, University of the West, Timișoara, Romania

11.30 – Conference „(Im)perfecțiunea viitorului distopic: literatura științifico-fantastică și critica politică în Africa de Sud”, held by Assoc.prof.habil Luiza Caraivan, PhD, Tibiscus University, Timișoara, Romania

12.00 – Conference „Finding the Essence of ‘Self’ in Self-Exile: Exploring Affect, Embodiment and Spatial Orientation. An Analytical Approach with a Case Study of Emil Cioran”, held by Raluca Balan, University of Lisbon, Portugal.

12.30-13.00 – COFFEE BREAK & LUNCH

13.00-13.15 – Christianity represented in South African Literature, Ph.D. Bogdan Andrei, University of the West, Timisoara, Romania

Abstract: This article delves into the intricate relationship between Christianity and South African literature, exploring how this complex interplay has shaped both the nation's literary landscape and its broader cultural identity. South Africa's history is marked by a blend of indigenous beliefs, colonialism, apartheid, and post-apartheid transformation, and this article seeks to examine how these historical dynamics are reflected in its literature through the lens of Christianity. The first section explores key South African literary works and authors who have grappled with Christianity as a central theme. The article discusses the works of acclaimed writers such as Alan Paton, Nadine Gordimer, and J.M. Coetzee, analyzing how they have used Christian symbolism, ethics, and motifs to address issues of justice, reconciliation, and the human condition in the South African context. Additionally, the article examines post-apartheid literature and how it has continued to engage with Christianity, now as a tool for healing, forgiveness, and nation-building. This section explores contemporary writers like Zakes Mda who use Christian themes to navigate the complexities of South Africa's ongoing social transformation. The

concluding section reflects on the broader implications of Christianity's presence in South African literature. It argues that, beyond its role in storytelling, literature has been a site of critical engagement with Christianity's moral imperatives, ethical dilemmas, and its capacity to inspire social change. In summary, this article provides a comprehensive exploration of how Christianity has been represented and interrogated within the rich tapestry of South African literature. By tracing the historical trajectory and examining key literary works, it sheds light on the profound influence of Christianity on the nation's literary tradition and its enduring relevance in contemporary South African society.

Keywords: Christianity, South Africa, post-apartheid, religion, belief

13.15-13.30 – *Missiological elements in English Literature*, Ph.D. Bogdan Andrei, University of the West, Timisoara, Romania

Abstract: This article explores the profound influence of Christian missiological themes on English literature throughout history. It delves into the intricate interplay between faith, culture, and storytelling, highlighting how Christian missions have not only shaped the religious landscape but have also left an indelible mark on the literary world. Drawing from a rich tapestry of English literary works, this examination traverses eras, from the allegorical narratives of the Medieval period to the nuanced explorations of faith in the modern world. The article begins by unraveling the allegorical motifs in works such as John Bunyan's "The Pilgrim's Progress" and Geoffrey Chaucer's "The Canterbury Tales," demonstrating how these tales served as vehicles for conveying Christian teachings and missions to a broader audience. Moving forward, it investigates the profound influence of missionaries and colonial encounters on English literature during the Renaissance and the Age of Exploration, with a focus on figures like John Donne and John Milton. Furthermore, the article delves into the Victorian era, analyzing the portrayal of missionary endeavors in literature, with particular attention to novels like Charlotte Brontë's "Jane Eyre" and Joseph Conrad's "Heart of Darkness." It explores the ethical and theological questions raised by these works, reflecting the complex relationship between Christianity and imperialism. The modern era witnesses a shift in the portrayal of Christian missions in literature, often critiquing traditional missionary narratives. This article examines the works of authors like Graham Greene and Chinua Achebe, who engage with themes of cultural clash, post-colonialism, and the moral dilemmas faced by missionaries. Ultimately, "Missiological Elements in English Literature" provides a comprehensive analysis of how Christian missions have been woven into the literary fabric of the English language. It sheds light on the evolving representations of faith, spirituality, and cultural encounters in literature, offering readers a deeper understanding of the enduring impact of Christian missiology on the world of letters.

Keywords: Christianity, missiology, literature, religion, narratives.

13.30-13.45 - *Cioran or the aesthetic nirvana of the world*, PhD Candidate Efrén Eduardo SÁNCHEZ MARTÍNEZ, Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas, México.

Abstract: This paper corresponds to a period of transition in Cioran's life. On the one hand, the abandonment of his native country, to settle in France, that is, his last two works still written in Romanian, *El ocaso del pensamiento* and *Breviario de los vencidos* (1940-1944). On the other hand, to his first three works in which he definitively adopted French as the language of expression, that is, *Breviario de podredumbre*, *Silogismos de la amargura* and *La tentación de existir* (1946-1956). It is a period of skepticism and lyricism. The lyrical temperament of youth remains here, but now sick with a devastating disbelief. The Romanian will fill with explosives all the comfortable foundations that support existence and will also vehemently deny any redemptive possibility other than music understood as a mystical experience. It is a paradoxical musical, mystical and poetic skepticism in the face of all the ideologies with which man has safeguarded himself and also, a certain regret for having seen in that Romanian extreme right ideological movement, The Iron Guard, a possibility that would allow him to transfigure the destiny of his people.

Keywords: music, mysticism, style, exile, Skepticism, Cioran.

13.45-14.00 – *Visul în proza lui Mircea Cărtărescu*, PhD Candidate Liliana Andreea SLUSARIUC (ONEA), "Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad, Romania

Abstract: Cărtărescu's writings possess an unmistakable oneiric quality that cannot be ignored. His prose is often dreamlike, filled with vivid images that feel both familiar and otherworldly. In his writings, dreams are not merely a product of the subconscious but rather an extension of reality itself. His characters frequently move between the

world of dreams and the physical world, blurring the boundary between the two and creating a sense of disorientation that is both unsettling and captivating. His dreamlike landscapes are often fragmented, disjointed, and defy rational interpretation. This creates a sense of disorientation that is both disturbing and engaging, making the reader feel as if they too are lost in a dream. Cărtărescu's prose is characterized by vibrant imagery and a profound appreciation for the power of dreams. He skillfully weaves elements of fantasy and reality to transport readers to a world beyond their own. Through his work, we are reminded that a dream is not merely a fleeting creation of the imagination but a force that can shape our lives and the world around us.

Keywords: oneiric, subconscious, revelation, mystical, omnipresence

14.00-14.15 - *The methodological aspect of teaching English through children's literature in the Romanian Middle School textbooks*, PhD Candidate Fercea Daniela-Florina, University of the West, Timisoara, Romania

Abstract: Our purpose in this study is to highlight the practical features, aspects and procedures followed throughout the research, providing a conceptual background in terms of selected theoretical data about the role of using children's literature with children and adolescents in teaching English as a foreign language classes, emphasizing the effects of using children's literature as far as language development is concerned. Furthermore, by introducing the statistical methods used in the study, the readers will have in mind a strong image of the structural mechanism behind teaching practice when it comes to literary texts. The English textbooks used by teachers and learners in Romanian Middle Schools may or may not include children's literature on a large scale, but determining the extent to which these materials actually provide useful resources for teaching and learning is a real challenge, and hopefully this paper will come with an appropriate answer, in terms of methodology.

Keywords: methodology, methods, children's literature; English textbooks; Romanian Middle Schools.

14.15-14.30 - *Studiul literaturii în școli – facilitarea involuntară a declinului literaturii de către școli*, PhD Candidate Tănase Mihai Patryk, University of Bucharest

Abstract: My goal is to argue that there is an unjustified tendency to close the school literary canon, not based on statistical analyzes or a reality that we can feel or read about, but rather on an ideology. In order to change certain school norms that continue to fuel this repulsion towards literature among young people, these dysfunctions that unfortunately start from school, must be signaled by several voices from the literary field. The doctoral thesis *Literary reading in high school – between school norms and private reading*, can be used as an icebreaker in this research approach. My paper aims, among other things, to continue the research done by Dima and analyze to which extent do the European trends of teaching literature can be applied in Romania. The interest decrease among youngsters when it comes to reading has become an international problem over the recent years. Many countries had started programmes or project that aim to promote reading among students. Despite the fact that the teacher has the necessary freedom to select engaging and relevant texts and authors that follow the school requirements, Dima points out that teachers have a tendency to preserve traditionalism, disregarding the flexibility of the curriculum and focusing almost exclusively on canonical authors, as other countries are introducing new titles. For example, in Australia and the USA, books that were written after the year 2000 had been canonized. These books had had a great success with young people since they were first published. Thus, these countries canonized books such as *11/22/63* by Stephen King, *Harry Potter* by J.K Rowling, *Persepolis* by Marijaane Starpi or *The Diary of Anne Frank*. This principle of relaxation is shared among many other countries, as well. A very useful tool in this research is the website, which can be used by literature teachers or people that are involved in teaching literature to adolescents between ages 12 and 18 in secondary education in Europe.

Keywords: literary canon, reading crises, improvement measures, the youth's lack of interest for reading, literature teaching dysfunctions.

14.30-14.45 – *Communication and language in multinational companies*, PhD Candidate Marta Felfoldi, "Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad, Romania

Abstract: In a broad sense, terminology includes all the words or expressions specific to a specialist field. The current research orientation is to study the act of communication through its social implications, and the use of terminology is also an object of study in sociolinguistics. Since vocabulary is a social construct, it must automatically reflect the way of life, thinking and everyday realities of those who use it. In the above context, the most significant influence on the Romanian language is English. An interesting field of study is the production management terminology, which is full of unadapted Anglicisms. The aim of this paper is to demonstrate how

great is the impact of the English language on the Romanian vocabulary, taken into consideration the language used in multinational companies. The first case study presented is the analysis of a dictionary project consisting of 320 terms from the field of production management. Another case study consists in the assessment of questionnaires filled in by Romanian and foreign employees of a multinational company, in the Arad- Curtici Free Zone. The 30 responses received were centralized and the conclusions on interlingual contacts, dominant languages and the study of language behavior in a corporate context are presented at the end of the paper.

Keywords: terminology, anglicism, vocabulary, language policy, multilingualism

14.45-15.00 – *Elemente de folclor magic în proza lui Mircea Eliade*, PhD Candidate Petre Roxana, University of Bucharest, Romania.

Abstract: Our proposal aims at an interdisciplinary analysis of folklore motifs in Mircea Eliade's fiction. We also mention that the work will consider the integration of some Eliadean prose in the broad context of related fields such as hermeneutics, literary theory and folklore, perspectives that we have considered up to this point in our doctoral research that will be completed with the work *O hermeneutics of the Center* and extensions in the prose of Mircea Eliade, scientific co-coronator, Mr. Doctor Mihai Zamfir. A convinced opponent of the so-called current in literature, Mircea Eliade condemns the lack of imagination of writers who use folklore motifs, but omits what is more important: "the fantastic presence". In his opinion, "literature, oral or written, is the daughter of mythology and has inherited something from its functions: to narrate events, to narrate something significant that happened in the world". Mircea Eliade's fiction aims to capture this "fantastic presence". All the novels, short stories and theater plays of the history of religions are included in the fantastic literature and in all of them one can find, more or less visibly, an element of the Romanian traditional culture or of the Romanian mythology. Titles such as *Isabel and Apele Diavolului* - Mircea Eliade's debut novel, in which the motif of the Devil and the drowning can be found -, the novella *Nineteen Roses* - in which the motif of the Jackals' dance can be found and the presence of the character "Mute", an indispensable member of the gang -, the novel *Domnișoara Christina* – which explores the motif of the undead, the action taking place during the Peasants' Revolt of 1907 –, the novel *The Snake* – in which the motif of enchantment can be observed, as well as the remark of the central character, Andronicus, who confesses the feeling that he belongs within the walls of the monastery, around which the action takes place - the micro-novel *Pe Strada Mântuleasa* - which abounds in symbols and in which we find the enchantment of the hawthorn, as well as the reason for the underground dwelling, similar to that of Zalmoxis, who retreats into it for a period of three years - and, last but not least, Mircea Eliade's masterpiece, as the author calls it, *Noaptea de Sânziene* - in which we find the philosopher's permanent obsession with the summer solstice, a novel that has had countless interpretations, both from the point of view of literary criticism, as well as that of Eliade's exegetes, who tried to decipher the symbols and assign them a correspondent in his political beliefs.

Keywords: Mircea Eliade, history of reception, critical meta-discourse, comparativism, folklore .

15.15-15.30 – *Empathetic Listening: How ethnographic research tools help navigate complex ethical issues in cross-cultural research projects*, PhD Candidates Thomas L. Sears, University of Bucharest

Abstract: Numerous ethical dilemmas and concerns exist when conducting social research. Adding the complexities of cross-cultural interactions can expound those dilemmas significantly. The use of ethnographic research tools contains the potential to reveal some of the hidden complexities of these ethical issues and lead to a better understanding of how to handle them properly. The ethnographic philosophy of empathetic listening provides a uniquely capable tactic in overcoming the danger of emotional distance and complacency. This ethnographic tool stipulates the needed posture of the researcher to uncover other potential hidden ethical issues that may be overlooked through traditional anthropological philosophies. With a baseline knowledge of cross-cultural communication, empathetic listening, especially when employed within a larger set of ethnographic tools, positions the researcher to take advantage of the etic perspective while remaining open and true to the emic goal of allowing the research to speak for itself and even to allow this open posture to adjust the original purpose or motive of the research.

Keywords: ethnography, ethics, ethnical issues, empathetic listening, theology, cross-cultural research, anthropology, Christ in context.

13.30-15.45 – *Premisele înnoirii lingvistice la Gheorghe Șincai și la Petru Maior*, PhD Candidate Cristina-Ancuța Câmpean-Coșa, University of the West, Timisoara, Romania.

Abstract: The present research focuses on the transition from the old Romanian literary language to the modern Romanian literary language, highlighting the essential roles of Gheorghe Șincai and Petru Maior in this process. These scholars, also known as two of the most important representatives of the Transylvanian School, were aware of the shortcomings of the Romanian language that impeded its development and decided to find solutions. They noticed that the Turkish, Slavonic or Greek vocabulary did not contribute to the progress of the Romanian language or its alignment with other European languages and cultures, so they observed the need for a linguistic renewal and standardization. They exposed their linguistic attitudes and ideologies in most of their linguistic works, but also in theological, didactic and historical ones. The analysis of the texts belonging to Gheorghe Șincai and Petru Maior highlights their proposals for linguistic renewal during the early 19th century.

Keywords: language development, literary language, Transylvania, diachrony, Transylvanian School

15.45-16.00 – *Literature and Authenticity. Authenticism Metamorphoses and Influences in Romanian Interwar Literature*, PhD Candidate Carina Josan, University of the West, Timisoara, Romania.

Abstract: Romanian interwar literature was characterized by the emergence of a specific aesthetic and ideological consciousness, shortly called authenticism, and whose manifestation implied, among others, the consolidation of a writing form meant to describe an instance of truth about oneself and the world, also considered to have a reformatory force. Romanian authenticism implied, thus, the integration and reconfiguration of some significant literary and aesthetic directions which circulated at the beginning of the 20th century in the European space, they also representing the ethos of the period. In the present paper we will approach the most representative cultural and literary directions which shaped the discourse of figures such as Mircea Eliade, Anton Holban, Max Blecher, Mihail Sebastian, H. Bonciu and others. Moreover, the manner in which they entered the cultural Romanian field also implied the consolidation and propagation of another form of writing, namely, the diarist or autobiographical writing. Thus, the purpose of this paper is that of demarcating the literary and cultural directions which can be traced in the writings of the aforementioned writers with the ultimate goal of contouring a broader perspective upon the ethos of the period in the Romanian space.

Keywords: authenticity, identity, subjectivity, generation, aestheticism

16.00-16.15 - *Fictions of memory Grădina de sticlă (The Glass Garden) by Tatiana Țibuleac*, PhD Candidate Andrei Andra, University of the West, Timișoara, Romania.

Abstract: This paper aims to explore the construction of cultural memory in the literature of the Bessarabian space, starting from Tatiana Țibuleac's novel *The Glass Garden*. The question of cultural memory, as seen in the seminal work by Jan and Aleida Assman and later by Astrid Erll, has been intensively studied in recent decades, especially in former communist spaces, where revolutions have installed a brutal split with the past. As has been demonstrated, literature/written text is the most resilient and versatile vehicle of a culture's memory. By portraying how the past is "remembered", written texts also contribute to the construction of an individual's/group's identity. Marked by the difficult path of history, ideologically controlled by an oppressive regime and constrained for decades, the Romanian literature in the Republic of Moldova has survived, but it bears the marks of the tragic condition caused by its marginalisation and isolation on the one hand, and its hybridisation with Soviet elements on the other. After the 1990s, the appeal to memory is more and more present in literature, so the dynamics of memory run through the prose of the Bessarabian space like a red thread. Such a "fictional environment of memory" is also represented in the novel *The Glass Garden*, which x-rays the Soviet era of the 80's and 90's in Chișinău. The collective destiny of an ex-Soviet space is transposed by x-raying the individual destiny of Lastocika, whose individual memory brings to the surface a complicated map of traumas. In this way, personal history intertwines with collective history, providing a hideous picture of the world.

Keywords: Cultural memory, ex-Soviet literature, trauma, hybridization, collective identity.

16.15-16.30 - *Alda Merini, story of a desperate solitude. Between pain and beauty: from psychopathology to aesthetics - the choice of madness and the salvation of the word*, PhD Candidate Artion Alin-Armando, "Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad, Romania.

Abstract: In literary writing, the topos plays an essential role presenting a thoroughly painted reality captured by the lens of subjectivity. In conceiving it, the Italian writer Alda Merini uses a multitude of elements which revolve around an existential-confessional nucleus that assails the space of the main character, her cultural and identity paradigms unavoidably disjuncting under the weight of otherness. Alda Merini, an Italian poet whose artistry

transcended the boundaries of conventional biographism. Through and even despite her experience of mental illness, confinement in a psychiatric hospital and the resulting stigma, she managed to construct her own identity. Alda Merini's journey, marked by periods in the madhouse, serves not as a mere backdrop, but as an integral part of her artistic evolution. The years of the madhouse, for the poetess of the Navigli, are years of grief, pain and silence. Years of violence, terror, loss, which anyone who has been forced to wait in a room for their turn before being subjected to an electroshock or who, waking up tied to their bed, has no way to express their anger or powerlessness, knows well. In mental asylums everyone suffers. From those who decide the quantity of medication and from those who administer it, from those who force the patient to eat, or even from those who remain silent when approached to light a cigarette. Perhaps it is precisely from such suffering and silence that, for Alda Merini, the euphoria of writing arose: the joy of finally being able to say „I”, without restraint or judgement. Alda Merini's work, a testament to her unyielding spirit, challenges societal perceptions of femininity, boldly asserting the power of a woman's voice, even amidst suffering. Through her words, she unearths the transformative potential of illness, weaving a tapestry that celebrates both the fragility and resilience of the human spirit. It's important to note that Alda Merini's writing style is highly distinctive, and she cannot be neatly confined to any one literary current. Her work is marked by its emotional intensity, raw honesty, and a deep exploration of the human condition.

Keywords: madness, identity, existentialism, confession, women's condition.

16.30-16.45 – *Frica- sentiment recuperat în literatura postcomunistă cu aplicare pe două proze „Ploile amare” de Alexandru Vlad și „Matei Brunul” de Lucian Dan Teodorovici*, PhD Candidate Șerban Victoria- Silvia, University of Bucharest, Romania.

Abstract: În obsedantul deceniu și în toată perioada comunistă frica a fost o stare care a dominat trăirile individuale și de grup. Romanele postcomuniste recuperează sentimente și stări trăite înainte de '89 încercând să surprindă nuanțat, dar convergent, ideea că frica devine o forță mobilizatoare, în esență, și doar în aparență este distrugătoare pentru că cei puternici, oamenii-emblemă reușesc să transforme frica în motivație pentru reorganizarea socială, pentru o recuperare a propriului sine și a conștiinței de grup, o recuperare demonstrativă și mobilizatoare pentru cei din jur. Astfel, în romanul *Ploile amare* al cărui autor a trăit în mod direct obsedantul deceniu și toată perioada comunistă, frica este prezentată din două perspective: a celui care încearcă să-și ascundă această stare, supunându-se regimului comunist pentru a câștiga aprecierea conducerii pentru ca apoi să spere la o promovare tradusă în viața privată printr-un trai favorizat și confortul posibil în epocă, sau căutând o breșă în sistem care să i permită să își găsească libertatea spirituală, o libertate în interior, pentru că cea socială, exterioară, nu este posibilă. În *Matei Brunul* frica este ignorată până când sistemul îl obligă să se confrunte cu realitatea închisorilor: o traumă de grup. Personajul principal se dovedește a fi, în esență, un om puternic, deosebit de rezistent la opresiunile din închisori, mai degrabă mimând frica pentru a se salva. Eroul se sustrage din această stare prin pasiunea pentru teatrul de marionete, un simbol ales de autor pentru sistemul dictatorial. Prin relația protagonistului cu reprezentanții societății comuniste romanul oferă cititorului două interpretări: una în care eroul este marionetă în mâna conducerii și cealaltă în care el este marionetistul.

Keywords: literatură postcomunistă, frica, recuperarea trecutului, traumă, comunism.

16.45-17.00 – *The Swedish Choral composing mastery highlighted by Hugo Alfvén in Aftonen*, PhD Candidate Băilă Bianca-Teodora, University of Oradea, Romania

Abstract: Besides being one of the most emblematic Swedish composers of his generation, Hugo Alfvén (1872-1960) also proved to be a great painter and a gifted violinist. He had a prolific activity as a composer, crafting works that embody the prominent genres of the late-Romantic period. By successfully touring Europe and the United States of America together with the choirs he was leading, Alfvén acquired international acclaim. Subsequently, he became an important creator and promoter of compositions that displayed the great Swedish folkloric culture. The subject of the current research is *Aftonen* (Night), an a cappella choral composition that was published in the year of 1942. Its text, which contains a stunning descriptive poem written by Carl Herman Säterberg, was remarkably set to music by the composer who created accessible melodic lines with simple rhythmic formulae and idyllic harmonies. *Aftonen* represents an evocation of traditional Swedish folk music. More specifically, it brilliantly highlights a pastoral theme through the multitude of triplets and the imitation technique that are present in the refrain and through the coloured chords that generate affecting sonorities.

Keywords: Hugo Alfvén, Swedish classical music, national composer, choral mastery, nordic national school, folk inspiration, Romanticism, programatism.

17.00-17.15 - *Ecouri transfrontaliere ale liricii Ilenei Mălăncioiu*, PhD Candidate Ilie (căs. Negură) Elena-Luiza, Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași

Abstract: After the Revolution from December 1989, the number of translations of Ileana Mălăncioiu’s poetry knows an exponential growth, rising interest by a fair symbolic recovery of the Romanian poetry that had pass through the horrors of communist dictatorship. At the same time, the authenticity of the poetical formula that surpasses the historical context will become a marker of a unique sensibility, placed in the lineage of the tragic condition of the human destiny. In the last three decades, her work crossed the Romanian borders, through translations in English, French, Catalan, Italian, Arabic, German or Swedish. Each rendition represents a complex experience, understood by its cultural dimension and also by its poetical one. This research aims to present some of the most representative volumes, analyzing not only the linguistic correspondence, but the specific elements of the act of communication, the selection of texts or the identity of the translators and the context of their publication.

Keywords: poetry; translation; resistance; trauma; authenticity.

17.15-17.30 - *The pictorial interior of the visual imaginary in the prose of Mircea Cărtărescu and Julio Cortázar*, PhD Candidate Ioana Spătaru-Iacob, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad

Abstract: The present paper aims to observe how the visual images from the prose of Mircea Cărtărescu and Julio Cortázar are assembled to build sceneries in which the colors, dimensions, lines and details evoke famous Renaissance or surrealist paintings, in the case of Cărtărescu, and expressionist or cubist paintings at Julio Cortázar. In the novel *Blinding*, for example, hypnotic settings are built, stagings of Monsù Desiderio's ghostly paintings, with walls, columns, infinitely telescopic interiors, immersed in the twilight light. At the same time, Cărtărescu's labyrinthine landscapes have the mechanisms of a surrealist drawing, with thousands of drawers, and lateral or vertical, dreamlike openings. In contrast, Julio Cortázar's labyrinth is composed logically, horizontally, minimalistically, while the visual overload is absent. In the novel *Hopscotch*, primary colors predominate - red, yellow, blue, green, spots of black and white - and the references to abstract, cubist painting of Klee, Vieira da Silva, Miró, Mondrian. On the other hand, the color palette in *Blinding* opens up generously, congealing its shades sometimes in material touches, sometimes in transparent, pastel, ineffable surfaces, creating paintings that remind us of Surrealism. The secondary colors, born from the combinations – varnish, turquoise, orange, pink, brown, reddish, cyclamen, mahogany, saffron, frieze, magenta – enrich the generous decoration soaked in primary colors. The colors have different intensities and textures, sparkles, temperature, placing the receiver in the funnel of a phantasmal experience that opens it to trance. We will demonstrate that paintings, pictorial canvases, a kind of cultural quotations open up within the visual imaginary of the two prose writers. They place the reader in disturbing spaces, with inexplicably familiar contours, thus engaging him on an inner journey, in his/her own memory.

Keywords: Cărtărescu, Cortazar, visual imaginary, images, art.

17.30 – FINAL REMARKS