

## Argumentum

The presentation of the volume is for us, the ones involved in the construction of this event, an opportunity to speak about the manifestation which has generated it and in the same time to speak about the content got through a remarkable contribution of several European personalities of Lifelong Learning.

In the Conference opening we remembered once again that we aren't the field pioneers, but the presence of the traditions ennoble the moment. The meaning given to Lifelong Learning by Spiru Haret - the founder of the Romanian modern education - the institutions created by Dimitrie Gusti, completing the interdisciplinary perspective and the one of the training team, the popular universities stated by the model of the ones from Vălenii de Munte – owned to Nicolae Iorga - or the ones from Ungureni, Botoșani, are continuous testimonies of the fact that the theme of the scientific meeting from the spring of 2002 has strong roots - which the participants themselves revealed deeper than they are - over the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century. It's enough to retain the papers present in the volume too, dedicated to the church role in the Life Long Learning, for finding the proofs of the deepening and coherence of a process stand it out by the priest Nicolae Dascălu, cultural counselor of the Metropolitan Church of Moldavia and Bucovina and by Anton Despinescu, professor at the Romano-Catholic Institute from Iassy.

The historical thread of our approach is directed on the revealing of another important moment, The Symposium from 1968, organized by professor George Văideanu, the director of the Institute of Pedagogical Sciences from București in that time. In a moment of expressed statement of the European vocation of the Romanian School, the meanings of the Life Long Learning concept has become clear - with the aim of the complete, continuous and coherent construction of the self-motivated person.

With only a year earlier, in June 2001, the first National Conference on Adult Education, whose generic name was *Educational, Cultural and Social Politics*, had developed in Timișoara. In fact, there it was shaped the manifestation whose results have been gathered in this work, which couldn't avoid the structure of the event developing - having, first of all, the messages addressed for the participants and the press announcement as well as the thematic classification of the debates.

If the messages of the Romanian President, of the Senate, of the Ministry of Research and Education, of the Metropolitan Church of Moldavia and Bucovina, of the Iassy County Public Administration, of the "Al. I. Cuza" University's Rector, of the University from Hanovra - Germany, of the New Bulgarian University from Sofia, of other representatives of the present ministries and institutions- who have revealed the event's significance - with over 140 participants, from which more than 50 have been from European countries with an uninterrupted tradition in this field-, if this chapter is opening the volume, the thematic sections occupy, certainly, an adequate space for the number of the interventions.

The training of the trainers for Adult Education is dedicated, on one hand, to some researchers of the field's papers, on the other hand, to several European programmes financed only through specific grants. The conference had benefited by the presence of one of the most representative personalities of the constructivist thought from Europe, professor Horst Siebert.

If between the volumes launched at the conference opening, there had been two works of Horst Siebert: *Constructivist Pedagogy and Self-learning and the counseling for learning*, in the communications section our guest spoke about: "Trends der Erwachsenenbildung in Europa: Der Konstruktivismus". Along to these messages there are in the volume the interventions of the professor Dietrich Eggert, the dean of the faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, who approaches a theme very much debated in the last years - the education of the persons with special needs.

As between the 23 and 24<sup>th</sup> of April, the previous days of the event from Iassy, there had been the meeting of the inter-academic network's work group made up from IIZ/DVV- Bonn, the universities from Hanovra, Sofia and Iassy- the organizers of the *European Master- Management of Adult Education*, the postgraduate programmes present at the New Bulgarian University from Sofia and "Al. I. Cuza" University from Iassy, which had been initiated by AERC had been included in the volume too. These education plans show in the same time the common interest – sustained through the interim of the scholarships awarded by IIZ/DVV to the Romanian and Bulgarian students, and the framework of the training politics for the trainers in Adult Education. It is easy to observe that in Iassy the first *Master in Adult Education* has began in 2001-2002, and since 2002 the first form of an *European Master* has functioned with the same objectives sustained by a team of common professors belonging to the four academic centres: IIZ/DVV-Bonn, Hanovra University, the New Bulgarian University- Sofia and "Al. I. Cuza" University, Iassy. Moreover, since 2002 AERC has added to its initiatives another premise in the postgraduate education training- the *Master in Conflict Mediation*- realized with the financial sustaining of an important number of scholarships by CMSC, Iassy.

These programmes record also the opening registered by our university to the training needs of the specialists from the new fields imposed by the socio-political evolution of the country in the new European framework.

In fact, the whole developing of the event has lined under the common affirmation of the all participants desire for networking, with the aim of identification the optimal strategies necessary for the construction of a European learning space. The communications of the authors from different countries who have never met each other but having similar ideas and solutions are remarkable. The lecture of the professor Horst Siebert and Ioan Neacșu's papers offers you much evidence in this sense. There is another confirmation of the reality that Romania is a country in which the same European feeling has been thought and will continue to live.

Even the preoccupation of accompanying the manifestation with an editorial element- marked by the translation of two works from the pedagogical literature of the Hanovra School- wish to be the expressing of the interest for a better knowing of the European educational space. There had been remembered the remarkable traditions of the University from Iassy, which had the professors selected, equally, from those who had made their studies and/or the doctorate in Germany or France.

The discovering of the multiple communications on the same common space of Life Long Learning sciences has been our chance, of all, to observe that the partnership asked by the European programmes has strong bases in the experience of the Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Bulgarian, English, German and Romanian colleagues. We will underline also that the meeting from Iassy has favored a better knowing of the Romanian school, in its completeness, which is owed to the participation of a large number of specialists from almost all the main universities of the country. Along them there had been

also the representatives from other ministries interested by the functioning and improving of the training system of adults. So, the debates from the workshops had been many fruitful and detailed expressing experiences, preoccupations, results in the activity of each of them and in the activity of the European teams created in the last decades. It is remarkable that we find such interferences in all the volume sections, so it is difficult for us to make a reorganization of the communications - being, initially, in a diversity of thematic workshops. The extent of the manifestation could be expressed only by the reading of the programme developed in those three days from the end of April 2002. It can be observed that in the programme had been a special training workshop dedicated to the preparing of the next Adult Education Regional Centres from the North-East region of Romania. IIZ/DVV thought too at the transformation of this event into a one with indirect and immediate efficiency. So the days of our manifestation registered different activities- being present also the ones dedicated to the training of the trainers from Adult Education field.

Anyway, it is necessary an extra emphasis on the papers dedicated to the undergraduate education, which illustrates the thinking of Life Long Learning as a coherent process at the level of educational politics as well as at the level of research and school practice.

On their turn, the centers and the training resources - although they had been only invoked - bring mostly detailed analyses of the educational factors of the society. The volume benefits from the underlining of the formative dimension and the educational functions of mass media - especially of the televisions'. The author's attitude is founded on the CNA legislation and politics - presented by professor-engineer Mariana Jurian, on the responsibility and the authority of the university professor and parliamentarian, George Pruteanu and on the results of several researches. All three perspectives sustain with strong arguments that the audio-visual press couldn't be absolved by the responsibility of the effects generated in the educational plan. To reduce the modern press only at its informative function it is equivalent with the cancellation of one of its essential dimension - the one of creating the culture of mass media. The new technologies abandoned to the exclusive consumers and to profit haven't been able to fulfill their mission much more complex then the one of amplification of the two senses: the sense of seeing and the sense of hearing, no matter how important they are for our existence.

The diversity of the approaches as well as their convergence, the multitude of accents recorded for different themes and the singularity of others have increased and grounded the elements of a pertinent and authorized scientific dialogue. The volume has only the role of gathering a small part of the contributions of the participants. We ought to thank for its appearance to all the ones who have made an additional effort for the editing and presentation, in time, but also to Ionela Bulău, Ghica Veronica, Elena Bărbieru and Emu Elena who have had the tasks of collecting the texts, of paginating and verifying them according to the limits of the available space.

We are also grateful to Spiru Haret Editorial House, to Mrs. Director Marieta Lesovici for an uninterrupted partnership in the preparing, developing and the finalizing of the last action from our manifestation - the appearance of the volume.

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