

**CĂTĂLIN ZAMFIR, IANCU FILIPESCU (COORDINATOR), ROMANIAN
SOCIOLOGY: 1900-2010. A SOCIAL HISTORY, ȘCOALA ARDELEANĂ
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Elaborated by a group of authors, within the Research Institute for the Quality of Life, from Bucharest, of the Romanian Academy, the volume, coordinated by academician Cătălin Zamfir and 1st degree researcher Iancu Filipescu, represents the result of ample investigations, on the sociological activity and production from our country – published along approximately 110 years.

Besides the two already mentioned coordinators, Professor Elena Zamfir, PhD, whose contribution to the organisation and institutionalisation of social assistance in Romania is well-known, participated along with three other younger researchers: Simona Ilie, Simona Maria Stănescu and Maria Iordache.



The work distinguishes itself through its simultaneous analytical and synthetic character, through the richness and diversity of information that it includes, together with the importance of the formulated opinions – exposed along 300 pages. Essentially, the book belongs to the group of some anterior preoccupations on addressing the research of the Romanian sociology history, and it is accompanied by a CD that includes 5 annexes, referring to: personalities of sociologists from the first half of the 20th century; the list of the Romanian sociology history; the sociology magazines issued after 1990; the books and the studies published along the time, in our country.

The intention of the authors was to offer a relevant and comprehensive image on the process of evolution of the Romanian society, and, for this purpose, there was used “the method of the contextual analysis”. Its specificity resorts from “the approaching of the sociologists’ activities as social products, in determined social contexts” (p.17). The national sociological movement is examined through three categories of “sociological facts”, as the authors call them, which are:

1. *The publications* before 1900-2010, whose number reaches 25,617 titles of books and studies (among which 4,847 are books, and 20,770 are studies and articles);
2. *The institutions* that ensured the support of the sociological activities (the university education departments, in the field of sociology and social assistance, the institutes of scientific research etc.);
3. *The themes* approached by the sociological publications.

The quantitative analysis of the sociological production was permanently followed by its qualitative analysis, the mentioned book being the first work of this type that covers such a

long period from the history of the Romanian sociology. Chronologically, it is added to a series of similar previous preoccupations, valued in the books of some authors, as, for example, the next:

- Traian Herseni, *Romanian sociology. Historical attempt*, Bucharest, 1940;
- Gheorghe Teodorescu (coordinator), *A century of Romanian sociology (1897-1997)*, Fundația Axis Publishing House, Iași, 1997;
- Ștefan Costea (coordinator), *The history of the Romanian sociology*, Fundația România de Măine Publishing House, Bucharest, 1998;
- Dumitru Otovescu (coordinator), *The Romanian sociology in the 20th century (1901-2000). Thematic bibliography. Authors*, Beladi Publishing House, Craiova, 2001.

The present paper constitutes a theoretical-methodological model of contemporary research of the sociological science, in Romania, being of great interest for the scientific community of the sociologists, and for the other specialists too, who are willing to discover the historical and thematic path of a science, its inner logic.