

Preface

The tenth issue of Pro Edu. The International Journal of Education Sciences (January 2024) brings together a total of seven scientific articles on a diverse, complex and contemporary issue. Thus, topics such as: exploring the limits of social media, the participation of military priests from the county of Dâmbovița in the First World War, time as a resource for education, gender studies, ancient iconography, ecclesiastical organization in the Roman province of Scythia and the philosophy of education in the sculptures of Constantin Brâncuși are covered. The volume concludes with a review of the work *The importance of ludic activities in correcting-developing the mentally deficient student language and personality* by Ionuț Vlădescu.

The first article in this volume is a theoretical study, entitled *EXPLORING BOUNDARIES OF SOCIAL MEDIA: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, HATE SPEECH, AND THE PURSUIT OF A SAFER DIGITAL SPHERE* and belongs to the authors Riadh MATMAT and Mouad LAHMER from University Center of Illizi, Algeria. Through this study, the authors draw attention to the need for balanced approaches, that uphold the principles of freedom of expression and mitigate the harms associated with hate speech, while contributing to a safer and more inclusive digital sphere. The second study, *PARTICIPATION OF MILITARY PRIESTS IN DAMBOVITA COUNTY ON THE FRONT IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR* belongs to Florin Vârlan, Ph.D. Candidate at University of Craiova, Romania. Through this study the author wants to highlight the role of military priests during the First World War, to bring them out of the shadows of forgetfulness, emphasizing their spirit of sacrifice, their heroism and their love of country. The next study, *CHRONO - PEDAGOGY. TIME AS A RESOURCE OF EDUCATION* belong to Ionuț VLĂDESCU, from Danubius University, Galați, Romania. In the context of this article, the author makes a broad and consistent analysis of the importance of the temporal dimension in life, society and especially in the educational environment.

Another study, *CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON GENDER STUDIES. AN ANALYSIS OF THE ROMANIAN ACADEMIC CONTEXT*, by Bogdan-Georgian Tudor, Ph.D. Student at “1 Decembrie 1918” University of Alba Iulia, Romania, approaches the issue of the evolution of gender studies in the Romanian academic system, highlighting the influence of the European Union in promoting gender equality and the integration of gender studies in the educational system. In the context of the study entitled *OLD-TIME ICONOGRAPHERS – APPRENTICESHIP, CONSECRATION, AND PERSONALITY*, Andrei PETRACHE, Ph.D. Student at “1 Decembrie 1918” University of Alba Iulia, Romania, aims to highlight a number of relevant data on the apprenticeship, personality and consecration of the old church painters while emphasizing the inseparable link between the icon and its painter. By comparison, the author believes that the professional training of contemporary iconographers needs more spirit and that “state of grace” typical for iconographers of the past.

EMILIAN POPESCU’S CONTRIBUTION TO THE ECCLESIASTICAL ORGANIZATION IN THE ROMAN PROVINCE OF SCYTHIA BETWEEN THE 4TH AND 7TH CENTURIES AD is a study developed by Ionuț HOLUBEANU, Assoc. Professor Phd at "Ovidius" University of Constanța, Romania. At the end of the volume we present a short review of the work entitled *The Importance of ludic activities in correcting-developing the mentally deficient student language and personality (Importanța activităților ludice în corectarea-dezvoltarea limbajului și personalității elevului deficient mintal)*, written by the author Ionuț VLĂDESCU and published by the Presa Universitară Clujeană Publishing House in 2020.

The volume contains a series of methods and tools useful for all those who interact with pupils with learning difficulties/mental disabilities.

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Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Ana Maria Aurelia PETRESCU,
Teacher Training Department, Valahia University – Targoviste, ROMANIA