

Abstract

My career as a medievalist began in 2002, when, after obtaining a government scholarship to study at Paris, granted by the The Ministry of Education of Romania, I was admitted to a master's degree program at Paris University I-Pantheon Sorbonne. After my master's graduation, I was accepted at the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes with a proposal to prepare a D.E.A. on a theme regarding medieval aesthetics. With the D.E.A. degree in hand, I was eligible to participate in a national competition in France, through which I obtained a doctoral scholarship for four years (three years of Allocation de Recherches and one year of ATER). This scholarship provided an opportunity to enrich my profile, because I discovered medieval paleography, codicology and the tradition of *Sentences* commentaries. During 2004-2008 I worked on my PhD, having as the primary topic the *Sentences* commentary of Pierre d'Ailly, an influential author from the end of the fourteenth century. My doctoral thesis was composed of two volumes, combining from a methodological perspective both philology (transcription of manuscripts, description of manuscripts, establishment of *stemma codicum*, establishing the text, identifying the sources) and philosophy (given that the specific subject of my PhD pertained to the theory of knowledge, I analyzed medieval theories of different levels of evident knowledge, the causes of error in logical reasoning, and the problem of assent, of faith, and of illusion). From my dissertaton work, in 2013 I published the first volume of my critical edition of Pierre d'Ailly's text in the prestigious *Corpus Christianorum* collection of Brepols.

Already from the time I was working on my PhD I began to collaborate with Olga Weijers, a member of The Academy of Sciences of Holland and corresponding Fellow of the Academie Française, and I became an affiliated researcher in the Latin Section of the *Institut de Recherche et d'Histoire des textes* (IRHT) in Paris. During 2006-2010, I participated as editor in the publication of three volumes of in Brepols' series *Repertoire des maîtres de la Faculté des arts*. Afterwards I took collaborated on three volumes of the BAMAT series, having the privilege of working with Jean-Pierre Rotchild. Amongst my collaborations with the IRHT I should also mention my role in the *Carnotensia* project, in which I contributed by identifying and classifying manuscripts of the Bibliothèque Municipale of Chartres (France), which suffered severe damages by fire in 1944.

In the years following my PhD defense I have investigated the theological epistemology developed in prologues to commentaries on the *Sentences*, pursued the identification of new authors and new texts that were previously misattributed, analyzed the transfer of knowledge from different academic environments, and examined the emergence of a philosophical vocabulary pertaining to authors from the fourteenth century, the relationship between theology

and metaphysics and the phenomenon of plagiarism in theological works.

As a consequence of my participation in different research projects of international scope, I have gained a diverse experience, becoming familiar at the same time with a variety of instruments that were of great assistance for my research on the subject of *Sentences* commentaries from the second half of the fourteenth century. This *corpus* of texts, much neglected, had become my main research object since 2004, and it represented the starting point for my THESIS project proposal, which I submitted in an international competition for an ERC-Starting Grant that took place in 2011. After overcoming the stiff competition and earning an interview in Brussels, in 2012 I won a large grant (1.5 million euros), which permitted me to assemble an international research team, to organize a series of international colloquia and summer schools, and to inaugurate the *Studia Sententiarum* collection at Brepols, exclusively dedicated to editing and studying this specific *corpus* of texts. The first volume from this collection, published in 2015 – showing the formation of an academic tradition at the University of Vienna and analyzing both the intellectual practices at the university and doctrinal trends that characterized the first years of this medieval academic institution's activity – won the FIF award of the Babeş-Bolyai University from Cluj-Napoca. After the publication of this volume, I was invited to give a series of lectures at Minneapolis (2015), Vienna (2016), and Edinburgh (2016).

In parallel with the research described above, I had the opportunity to teach a course in medieval methodology at the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes in Paris in 2007, and also a course on medieval metaphysics in 2010 at Paris IV-Sorbonne, where I was invited by Professor Ruedi Imbach.

Therefore, a considerable part of my work as a researcher has been conducted in France, and beginning in 2013 I initiated a collaboration with Babeş-Bolyai University from Cluj-Napoca, where I am currently affiliated as a researcher through the IDEI-research project that I won in 2012. This collaboration has allowed me to form a team of ten students that I work with and to organize various workshops to which I invite specialists from abroad. I want the team members to develop their careers having a beneficial contact with Western scholars. In this regard, I continuously encourage them to attend international conferences, supporting them with letters of recommendation, or to publish articles and to submit their applications for different stages of research or grants (Wolfenbüttel, Amsterdam, Budapest, Vienna, Boston).

In conclusion, my habilitation thesis illustrates my academic development, starting from the years of training through the experience gained and results published, while stressing the moments and individuals that have marked my academic evolution. I should note that over the eight years since my doctoral thesis I have published exclusively abroad around 2000 pages (seven books and 21 articles), I have participated in international symposia and I was invited to various universities to present papers in Europe and North America (University of Wisconsin, Boston College, University of Minnesota). I organized three international conferences and two

summer schools, which allowed me to open a fertile dialogue between researchers from different areas of the world and to represent Romania in a consistent and successful way in terms of global scientific research.