

Synthesis report on The XIth. Annual Conference:

100 Years of Administration in the Romanian National Unitary State – Between Tradition and Modernity – Juridical and Interdisciplinary research of the Romanian Public Administration

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In the last hundred years Romania's history has been marked by political and social events that have significantly influenced our public administration:

- Constitution of the unitary national state and administrative unification;
- Second World War and its consequences on the territory;
- Communism and renunciation to the democratic traditions of the Romanian state;
- Revolution in 1989;
- Accession to the European Union and NATO.

All these have produced consequences, including on the legal-administrative level, basic institutions such as the administrative acts, the Civil Servants' Statute, the decentralization of the public administration, the public service, the administrative codification, and so on – knowing significant developments.

Research into the doctrine and legal-administrative practice of 1918-2018 in a scientific conference has emerged as a useful and at the same time as a duty of honour for the academic environment for those who serve the legal and administrative sciences.

The Academic Society of Administrative Sciences, a non-governmental organization officially recognised from 2008 that includes members of the academic staff from the country and abroad, civil servants, magistrates, scientific researchers, lawyers, etc., has assumed the task of organizing such an event to which the participants had the ability to communicate the views of the administration and to contribute to the discussion.

Taking in consideration the new evolutions registered in the field of social science research in Romania especially after 2007 and most important in the fields of administrative sciences and public law, the need to develop a new academic

arena for the dissemination of scientific results in these fields of study in Romania was born.

The founding members of the Society, envisioned the formation of a new scientific forum at national level, composed of representatives of the Romanian Universities, members of the academia with interests in these fields of research, members of the executive authorities, civil servants and practitioners and members of the judicial power, naming here judges at the highest ranks specialized in administrative contentious.

This conference – the 11th edition – which traditionally brings together researchers and practitioners in the field of public law and administrative sciences, has been a forum for debate and analysis of the history of public administration, as well as of the new research directions in the field.

The conference included two sections:

- A first section approached the Identity of Romanian Public Administration: Institutions; procedures; practices; doctrinal evolutions;
- A second section: The Public Administration analysed the European and global context.

Participating in the conference facilitated the setting up of a reflection group from a multidisciplinary perspective of public law and administrative sciences.

The history of the Romanian public administration has origins that can be found at the end of the 18th century, beginning in the nineteenth century, the last hundred years representing a consistent part of its modern epoch. The main institutions of public administration are closely related to the political evolution of the state and its mechanisms. The Senate of Romania, as a legislator and the various moments of this institution over time, made the subject of a documented communication at the conference.

One of the submitted contributions addressed the issue of the systematization of Romanian law by codification, with direct reference to the public administration. The solutions adopted by the law of the Administrative Code of Romania were under evaluation at the Constitutional Court of Romania, with justified fears regarding the reduced time frame of assimilation of its provisions in the event of its entry into force.

Aspects related to the status of local elected representatives and the competences of local authorities' authorities have been the subject of debates and applied analysis.

The need for coherence of the rules concerning this area of public administration has been underlined as a priority. The crisis of migration and its consequences on public services provided an opportunity to present the conclusions of a study on this phenomenon, supported by current statistical information and case studies.

Legality, as a fundamental principle of public administration, has many aspects and must characterize any form of manifestation of the administration. An institution of Romanian law of tradition is that of the administrative contentious, the debates within the conference highlighting the evolution and syncope of

the regulation of this institution to the present day. The recent amendments to the Administrative Litigation Law and their consequences, such as those on administrative contracts, have prompted heated debates and relevant proposals.

Another dimension of legality – which is more evident in the case-law of the Constitutional Court – is that of the quality of regulation and the perpetual metamorphosis of the dimension of this notion reflected in the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights. It has emerged from the debate that the identified, congruent / central quality standards of the two courts, in the light of the importance of legal certainty, such as the accessibility, clarity and predictability of laws, are based on the fact that every person must have access to the law, and such access is possible through its publication, and that every person must be able to understand the text prescribed by law, and the conduct and legal consequences generated by a legal text can meet the legitimate expectations of citizens.

Although not a formal legal right accepted in our legal system, the doctrine contributes to the outline of principles of law, allows the creative interpretation of legal norms to apply them to facts.

The increasing role that the Permanent Electoral Authority has in our society, as well as the concerns of this entity to ensure the guarantees for the exercise of the right to vote by citizens, were presented in the content of a communication that emphasized developments in the voting system expected to be achieved in the coming years.

Administration and sustainable development, environmental protection, combating and preventing pollution are fundamental concerns for any public administration, with environmental policies being a priority in the area of competence of the executive.

The conference also debated the situation of public administration in the context of globalization, underlining that it must meet the requirements of good governance that demand transparency and citizen participation in decision-making, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness. Public governance reflection of good governance is the concept of good administration, at the level of the European Union, being met as a European citizen's right to good administration, within the priority is the fair treatment and reasonable timeline to be given to any issue raised before the administration.

The topic of the conference also offered the possibility of presenting comparative research on the evolution and public policies regarding the regulation of the administration in other European states.

The Academic Journal of Law and Governance marked a new starting point in Romanian and European research dedicated to public law and administrative sciences starting from 2013. The Academic Journal of Law and Governance intends to bring forward to the European and international academic scene, the efforts conducted by Romanian researchers and their European counterparts in

investigating the developments in public law and administrative sciences with a clear focus on the European continent.

The Special Number of AJLG contains selected articles presented at the XIth. Annual Conference organised by the Academic Society of Administrative Sciences.

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