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**Book Review. Interdisciplinary Approaches in
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Book Review. Interdisciplinary Approaches in Social Sciences

Editor: Daniela Șoitu, Cristina Gavriliuță, Antonio Maturo, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University Printing House, Iași, 2013

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Abstract:

Qualitative theories and quantitative models (p.9) represent the subject of discussion of this book, which brings together interdisciplinary perspectives and studies of numerous specialists in fields such as sociology, philosophy, mathematics, political science and communication, medicine, provides the knowledge required to develop strategies and programs implemented at international, national, sectoral and local levels.

Keywords: *review, interdisciplinary, social, sciences, approach*

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Introduction

The volume *Interdisciplinary Approaches in Social Sciences* published by the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University Printing house and edited by distinguished professors Daniela Șoitu, Cristina Gavriluță and Antonio Maturo, enrolls as a pioneering work, interdisciplinary within socio-human sciences, emphasizing the Italian-Romanian scientific collaboration. The work has an original structure, summarizing in a coherent and unified approach, the diversity and "the complexity of social phenomena and possible scientific methods of analysis and interpretation" (p.9), enriching Romanian literature in sociology and not only.

The content is organized into two sections. The first section focuses on:

- Sociological theories and empirical data collection methods - qualitative and quantitative (p. 13). Vincenzo Corsi purposes the initiation of readers who have not previously had the opportunity to work with these methods, namely deepening them by those who already have training and experience in sociology or psychology. Are highlighted specific and common elements of these methods, and proper techniques for their application.
- Medical sociological research by using the complexity paradigm. The author, Cristina Gavriluță, interprets the results of research on organ donation and transplantation, as "a model of interdisciplinary decision grid" (p. 19), trying to identify the "valuation formula of results. "The author states that the experience to build a research methodology " made us face some constraints arising from the harmonization of the ethical, epistemological and methodological requirements of the approach " (Gavriluță, 2012, pp. 44-57).
- Highlights of exogenous vulnerability of clients in accessing health and social services. In the current socio-medical policies, current response actions fall on the one hand, on the social security system, and secondly in the social assistance (Șoitu, Rebeleanu, Oprea, 2013, p.22). The article entitled *Client Vulnerability in Social and Healthcare Services* shows that most of times, the insured " does not know what risks are covered and in

what terms " (p. 30), and" have reported a visible mistrust in the success of the reform "(p.31)

- Aspects of community development in a former mining community in Suceava. Starting from the idea that the community development is done both by developing regions and by local action groups (Medeleanu, 2013, p. 14), the author uses the bottom-up paradigm. Action research that Camelia Medeleanu suggests proves to be "a useful tool of constant learning and change" (p.49).
- Responsibility in community intervention. The article written by Nina Mihaela Mihalache is a convincing plea for the contribution that could bring social responsibility into Community actions due to "difficulties in implementing projects of community facilitation" (p. 60), considering that most of the times, the poverty and its length is proportional to individual aspirations (Mihalache, 2010, p. 18). Therefore, for the implementation of optimum social policies, a typical Romanian phenomena research is needed, as well as the direct action on the areas concerned (Mihalache, 2011, p. 81).

Also in the first section of the volume *Interdisciplinary Approaches in Social Sciences*, we will discover studies and analysis about: vulnerability of mono-parent families and real social services support counselling for mothers in difficulty (Tăgârță, p. 82), comparative analysis of the most effective practices applied to offenders in Romania and Spain (Arhire, p. 93), socio-professional integration of young Romanian infected with HIV / AIDS in Iasi (Caltea, p. 105) and prospects to facilitate the integration of children with special needs in society (Scorța, p. 115). Addiction dimensions of social phenomena research methodology can be found in this volume (Rădoi, p. 72), the author addressing different perspectives - the individual, group and community, concluding that in most cases, substance use can lead to addiction and thereafter to dependence (Rădoi, 2013).

The second section of the volume *Interdisciplinary Approaches in Social Sciences* brings together a range of contributions aimed at the socio-political issues such as the rationality of decision models involved in public policy (Țicu, pp. 169-178), political participation in Romania during post-communist (Asiminei, pp. 179-193), civil society, institutional transparency and democratic consolidation (Greco, pp. 194-

210), but also aspects of legitimacy in the context of fragile democracies (Bejan, pp. 211-219). Statistics show both the visible iceberg of political participation, increased electoral absenteeism and also the less visible part, disappointment, distrust and disinterest in politics citizens, politicians and even political system. Moreover, Asiminei shows in another study that "in a context where public perception according to which the lawmakers do not really represent the community that has given the mandate" reforms are imperative "to strengthen the ties between lawmakers and communities that they represent" (Asiminei, 2013, p. 182). In this respect, Grecu show that "the first step in building democratic order [should] lie in potentiation of a cultural and civic model [...]. Culture and education have become major imperatives of any governmental act" (Grecu, 2012, p. 194). All these are challenges for the reader and an inspired expression of the authors exposures that leaves no area uncovered from the ones interfering with politics.

A feature of the studies in this section consists of statistical and mathematical approaches to social phenomena (p.10). Philosophical aspects governing nuanced crowds theory are detailed (Eugeni, Tofan, p. 220), the concepts of differential calculus with a single graphical approach (Casolaro, Paladino, p.229) and highlighting strategies for teaching mathematics in primary schools with a large foreign children and Roma percentage (Rocili, Maturo, p.243). Noteworthy are also the concerns about the wisdom, prudence, charity from the Cicero's perspective (Adămuț, p. 153) and aspects of function dogma ("opinion") that is "other than the one that appears to be at the first look" (Adămuț, p.136).

Conclusion:

This comprehensive overview of the latest guidelines in the areas of sociology, philosophy, mathematics, political science and communication, medicine, with the aim to stimulate interest in a reflection on current issues and the role of sociology in its analysis is a very useful tool for all those concerned with knowledge of social life.

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