

C. RĂDULESCU-MOTRU: ENERGY PERSONALISM AND THE DESTINY OF CREATIVE MAN*

Gheorghe CAZAN

In nearly 70 years of activity in the field of philosophy, Professor Constantin Rădulescu-Motru (1868-1957), a member of the Romanian Academy and its President (in 1938-1941, the founder of the Romanian Philosophical Society), included in his creation a range of problems extending from the thinking of primitive peoples to the philosophy of ancient Greece, then to Christianity and the Renaissance and from the latter to modern philosophy at whose centre he placed Kant – not without polemic and systemic intentions. C. Rădulescu-Motru's dwelling on the work of Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, Ostwald, Dewy, Bergson, Dilthey, H. S. Chamberlain, Reserving, Spengler and others, was strongly marked by the need of his challenging mind to know not *only* whence the contemporary world outlook arises and on what shores it halts, but also whither it goes and what ideas it could offer to the world painfully traversing the late 19th century and the early 20th century; as we know, it was a world which reached an acute crisis in the 30's, 40's and 50's of our times.

That is why C. Rădulescu-Motru was not a historian of philosophy in the established sense of that word: for him, very much as for Hegel, the history of philosophical thinking spelt the history of mankind as concentrated in thoughts; he investigated the history of philosophy in terms of attempts at solving the enigma of the human being, of the way in which – since the alpliant eastern peoples, to the co-eval ones – answers have been offered to questions concerning the *origin*, the *structure* and the *role* of the human personally in the universe. In Rădulescu-Motru's creation, studies in the history of philosophy turned into a text of a key problem for philosophy, for culture generally, for the empirical history of man and of his relations; the same impassioned study of the history of philosophy also offered him a *pretext* for evolving a new kind of metaphysics, which he defined as *energy personalism*.

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