

## ȘTEFAN ODOBLEJA - THE MAIN ROMANIAN FORERUNNER OF THE CYBERNETICS

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**Rezumat.** *Lucrarea introduce cititorul în procesul apariției ciberneticii ca știință și enunța sintetic aportul a trei precursori români ai ciberneticii: Spiru Haret, Daniel Danielopolu și Paul Postelnicu. De asemenea, în lucrare, se prezintă sintetic viața și lucrările cibernetice ale lui Ștefan Odobleja, conceptul cibernetic al lui Odobleja și cel al lui Norbert Wiener fiind prezentate comparativ. Autorul evidențiază faptul că Ștefan Odobleja nu numai că este precursor al ciberneticii, dar are prioritate mondială a ideii unei cibernetici generalizate, considerând primul fenomenul buclei închise, deci cu conexiune inversă, ca o lege universală. Norbert Wiener, prin școala sa, a redefinit ceea ce, în alte condiții, descoperise Ștefan Odobleja, punând bazele ciberneticii ca știință printr-o temeinică analiză matematică a teoriei conexiunii inverse și a proceselor automate. Lucrarea se încheie cu întrebarea autorului: nu ar fi mai bine dacă, în loc de cazul Odobleja-Wiener, am discuta despre teoria cibernetică Odobleja-Wiener?*

**Abstract.** *The paper introduces the reader to the emergence of cybernetics as a science and tells the stories of the three Romanian forerunners of cybernetics: Spiru Haret, Daniel Danielopolu and Paul Postelnicu. Also here, the life and selected works of Ștefan Odobleja are presented, Odobleja's and Wiener's cybernetic conceptions being compared. The author pointed out that Ștefan Odobleja's biggest merit is the one of having discovered the general character of the feedback and of having tried to emphasize it in the most diverse range of processes and phenomena. Norbert Wiener regained what, in other conditions Ștefan Odobleja has discovered, and managed to build cybernetics as a science through a complete mathematical analysis of the feedback theory and automated processes. The paper concludes with the author selfquestion: Would not be better that instead of the Odobleja-Wiener case people would talk about the Odobleja-Wiener cybernetic theory?*

**Keywords:** feedback, cybernetic

### 1. Introduction

The rise of a new scientific theory, a significant discovery or a pioneer invention is a process which results from a single person or from more that have created, each person working independent or all together in a team work. The process of generating the new is given by a sequence of stages which may sometimes last tens of years. Often, the filiations of the creative process can be followed, and the chain of the successive influences which led to the rise of a new scientific or technical concept can be established. Within the assessment of the phenomenon represented by the generation of a new science, a series of conjectural elements

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