

Session of the Academy of Romanian Scientists “Science, religion and society”, Monastery “Acoperământul Maicii Domnului” Dorna Arini, Suceava County, 23 to 24 September 2011

The Session of the Academy of Romanian Scientists entitled “Science, religion and society”, was held at the Monastery of “Acoperământul Maicii Domnului” in the village of Dorna Arini, Suceava County, on 23-24 September 2011, and it was a scientific event of excellence, designed to highlight the link between science, philosophy and theology in the context of contemporary confrontation of ideas, marked by interference, mutual interdisciplinary loans and the dialogue between the scientific reasons and religious beliefs. Scientific communications presented on this occasion have proved a high theoretical level of scientific performance, anchored in current debates concerning the start, progress and end of the current state of the universe, both in philosophical, theological and scientific terms. The horizon of speculative theoretical approaches was completed by the consistent contributions of the researchers in related empirical sciences, such as history, archeology, ergonomics and management of religious institutions.

The Scientific Organizing Committee of the Autumn Session of the Academy of Romanian Scientists was composed by Vasile Căndea (President of the Academy of Romanian Scientists), Ion Basgan (Vice-President of the Academy of Romanian Scientists), Dan Schiopu (Vice President Academy of Romanian Scientists), Doru Sabin Delion (Scientific Secretary of the Academy of Romanian Scientists), Angela Botez (President, Department of Philosophy, Psychology, Theology and Journalism of the Academy of Romanian Scientists), His Eminence Theodosius, archbishop of Tomis and Dean of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology Ovidius University, Constanta, Michael Căruțașu (Head of Secretariat for the Scientific Departments of the Academy of Romanian Scientists).

This scientific session was opened by the plenary session communications, such as: General (r) Univ. Dr. Vasile Căndea, President of the Academy of Romanian Scientists (*Science and Spirituality*), Reverend Theodosius (*The Soul, the Expression of Eternity in a Finite World*), Academician Alexandru Surdu (*Religion, Science and Religiology*), Academician Ioan Scurtu (*Religion and Society in the Socialist-Totalitarian Regime in Romania*), Professor Angela Felicia Botez, PhD Full Member of the Academy of Romanian Scientists, President of the Department of Philosophy, Psychology, Theology and Journalism of the Academy of Romanian Scientists (*Romanian Philosophers About the Science-Religion Relationship*).

Further on, the session unfolded in three sections: the first section, “Philosophy and Theology”, had His Eminence Theodosius, Archbishop of Tomis

and Dean of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology Ovidius University, Constanta, as moderator the second section, “Religion, Science, Society”, was moderated by Academician Ioan Scurtu, and the third section, “Romanian Philosophers About the Relation Between Science and Religion”, was moderated by Professor Angela Felicia Botez, Ph.D, Full Member of the Academy of Romanian Scientists, President of the Department of Philosophy, Psychology, Theology and Journalism of the Academy of Romanian Scientists.

In the first section, “Philosophy and Theology”, a series of interesting communications were presented by the following participants: Ovidiu Popescu (*A Historical Perspective of Convergence and Divergence Between Science and Religion*), Nicolae Constantinescu (*Science without Conscience is the Ruin of the Soul*) Dumitru Grigore and Marius Băcescu (*Knowledge and Spirituality – Patterns of Thought*), Claudiu Baciu (*Religious Act and Scientific Theoretical Thinking*), Marius Dobre (*Religious Discourse Reset on Modern Logic*), Mihai D. Vasile (*Theology and Philosophical Analysis*), Cezar Jean Roșu (*Science and Orthodox Theology*), Nicolae M. Constantinescu (*Science without Conscience Is the Ruin of the Soul*), Virgil Răzeșu and Costache Andone (*Hatred and Envy, Burdens of the Soul*), Ghiorghe Mustață and Mariana Mustață (*Sacred and Profane: Decalogue and Anti-decalogue in Post-December Romania*); Virgil Răzeșu and Costache Andone (*Sins or Sin?*), Ion Solcanu (*Painting Wooden Churches in Maramures Between Sacred and Profane – 18th Century – Beginning of the 21st Century*), Gallia Butnaru (*The Role of Religion and Science in Shaping Human Being*), George Pufu and Elena Camelia Pufu (*Spirit and Matter in the Light of Christian Teaching*), Ion Chiuță, George Chiliment and Ana Maria Ștefănoiu (*Science and Faith*), Iulian Rusu (Presentation of the Publication “European Journal of Science and Theology”).

In the second section, “Religion, Science, Society” among the original communications presented we mention: Vasile Cândea and Alexandru T. Bogdan (*BIOS Update in Three-Compartment Relationship Science, Religion and Society: From Bioethics to Biotech and Bio in the 21st Century*), Viorica Ungureanu (*The Role of Spiritual Ecology in Reconciling Science and Religion*), Mihaela Muraru-Mândrea (*Religious Freedom and Equal Opportunities*), Razvan Andrei Ionescu (*Theology, Science and Society: Investigating Possible Directions*), Ion V. Popescu (*The Evolution of the Universe at the Boundary between Science and Faith*), Ioan Iețcu (*Moral and Spiritual Ecology Beyond Borders. Romania and Moldova in Strasbourg*), Valeriu Cimpoca (*Human and Communications Links with the Universe*), Paul Sterian (*Science, Religion and Teleportation*).

In section three, “Romanian Philosophers About the Relation Between Science and Religion”, have contributed the following speakers: George Ionașcu (*Illustrious Forerunners of Science, Religion and Society*), Victor Botez (*Mircea Eliade about Sacred and Profane*), Nicolae Georgescu (*Theological Meanings in*

the Youth Poems of Mihai Eminescu), Anișoara Henrieta Serban (“Prayer in the Wind” – *Considerations about Religion at Emil Cioran*), Mihai Popa (*Science and Religion at Cantemir*), Doina Rizea Georgescu (*The Recessive Science-Religion at Mircea Florian*); Serban Nicolau (*Religion and Science in "Eonul dogmatic"*), Gabriela Petrescu (*Neurotheology – The Ultimate Hermeneutics of the Religious Experience*); Ion Filipciuc (*Poet Vasile Posteuca's PhD – in 1962 – on the Religion at Rilke*), Adrian AluiGheorghe (*Freedom of Faith – Father Iustin Pârvu and the Morals of a Life Gained*).

Within the three sections of the Session some valuable communications were presented by the members of the Institute of Philosophy and Psychology “C. Rădulescu-Motru” of the Romanian Academy.

During the session were organized exhibitions of posters, books and magazines in the halls of the three conference rooms and two concerts of classical and opera music. The scientific session enjoyed the great interest of the audience and the most representative papers are to be published in “Revista de Filosofie” and the “Annals of the Academy of Romanian Scientists”.

Gabriela Petrescu

(translation by Henrieta Anisoara Serban)

