

THREE BUZOIANS PRESIDENTS OF THE ROMANIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENTISTS, IN THE 90 YEARS OF ITS EXISTENCE

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Abstract. *The Academy of Scientists of Romania/A.O.Ș.R. celebrated 90 years of existence on March 27, 2025. Over time, numerous personalities from Buzău have been members of this prestigious Romanian scientific institution, but here we briefly highlight the Buzău individuals who were leaders of this academy: Constantin Angelescu, Traian Săvulescu, and Adrian Alexandru Badea.*

Keywords: *Academy of Scientists of Romania/A.O.Ș.R., 90 years, Buzău personalities, members, leaders, Constantin Angelescu, Traian Săvulescu, and Adrian Alexandru Badea.*

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The Academy of Scientists of Romania/A.O.Ș.R. celebrated 90 years of existence on March 27, 2025, at the Central University Library "Carol I" in Bucharest, during a Festive General Assembly "A.O.S.R. 90", in the presence of a select audience, consisting of members of the academic body, scientists and cultural figures, and representatives of public life. Since during the interwar period, scientific research in Romania was increasing, and the national institutional academic world was associating with the European one, which had long had a diversified academic institutional environment, there was a felt need for diversification and the emergence of new academic scientific forums. Thus, in Bucharest were founded: ● in March-April 1935:

- The Romanian Academy of Sciences (called in 1956, after a few years of inactivity, the Association of Scientists, and since 1996 the Romanian Academy of Scientists / R.A.S.); - The Academy of Medical Sciences / A.M.S. – suspended in 1948, reestablished by Decree of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania in 1969);

● In May 1941: - The Romanian Academy of Agriculture, successor of the National Society of Agriculture, and predecessor of the Academy of Agricultural

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and Forestry Sciences “Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești” / A.A.F.S., also founded by Decree of the State Council (in October 1969);

● And in October 1997: The Romanian Academy of Technical Sciences / R.A.T.S. With the Romanian Academy at the head, these institutions today form the scientific and institutional foundation of the country.

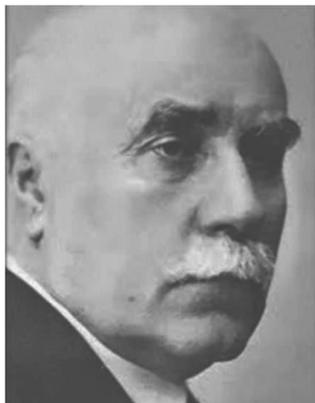
Thus, the Romanian Academy of Sciences, today A.O.Ș.R., was founded in March 1935, at the initiative of Prof. Dr. Constantin Angelescu, a prominent figure in medical sciences and Romanian politics, who brought together around the project leading personalities from science and culture. Thus, on March 3, 1935, a number of 26 scientists² gathered at the University of Bucharest, and on March 11, 1935, a new meeting took place, during which its founding Act was signed by:

1. Univ. Prof. Dr. Constantin Angelescu, 13 C.A. Rosetti Street, Bucharest;
2. Prof. Dr. Dragomir Hurmuzescu, 16 V. Emanuel Street, Bucharest;
3. Prof. Dr. Nicolae Coculescu, 5 Cuțitul de Argint Street, Bucharest;
4. Prof. Dr. Dimitrie Călugăreanu, 8 B. P. Hajdeu Street, Bucharest;
5. Prof. Dr. Ștefan Minovici, 87 Splaiul Independenței, Bucharest;
6. Prof. Dr. Andrei Popovici Bâznoșanu, 3 A. Simu Street, Bucharest;
7. Prof. Dr. Anton Davidoglu, 92 Buzești Street, Bucharest;
8. Prof. Dr. Constantin Kirițescu, 41 Stupinei Street, Bucharest;
9. General Adjutant Nicolae Condeescu, 42 Cobălcescu Street, Bucharest;
10. Prof. Dr. Ion Borcea, Buzdugan Street No.1 Iași;
11. Prof. Dr. Negoită Dănilă, Moșilor Avenue No. 132 Bucharest;
12. Prof. Dr. Alexandru Borza, Regala Street No. 28 Cluj;
13. Prof. Dr. Ion Popescu Voitești, Elisabeta Street No. 12 Cluj;
14. Gen. Prof. I. V. Bădulescu, Maior Ene Street No. 12 Bucharest;
15. Prof. Dr. Nicolae T. Deleanu, Barbu Delavrancea Alley No.42 Bucharest;
16. Prof. Dr. Constantin Stănescu, N. Ionescu Street No. 10 Bucharest;
17. Prof. Dr. Eugen Bădărău, R. Poincaré Street No. 14 Bucharest;
18. Dr. Costin Stoicescu, Dr. Burghele Street No. 16 Bucharest;
19. Prof. Dr. Eng. Marin Drăcea, Dacia Boulevard No. 16 Bucharest;
20. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eugen Angelescu, Dr. Lister Street No. 1 Bucharest;
21. Prof. Dr. C. Mihăilescu, Dr. Radovici Street No. 12 Cotroceni;
22. Prof. Dr. Simion Ștefan Radian, Fonteriei Street No. 11 Bucharest;
23. Prof. Dr. Constantin Popescu, I. G. Duca Street No. 86 Bucharest;
24. Eng. Ion Miculescu, Paris Street No. 56 Bucharest;
25. Dr. Ilie C. Purcaru, Șerban Vodă Street No. 62

² Central Historical National Archives / C.N.H.A., Ilfov Tribunal collection, Section I, file 2. 100/1935.

26. Prof. Dr. Christian Musceleanu, 49 Cazarmei Street, Bucharest.³

Over time, numerous personalities from Buzău have been members of this prestigious Romanian scientific institution; here, however, we briefly draw attention to the Buzău natives who have led it: Constantin Angelescu, Traian Săvulescu, and Adrian Alexandru Badea.



Constantin Angelescu⁴, a physician and politician, born in Craiova on June 10/22, 1869, became a Buzău native by adoption after marrying Virginia Monteoru, the daughter of the wealthy Grigore C. Monteoru⁵. He is among the prominent figures of cultural and political life during the interwar period, a worthy successor in the field of education to the work of Spiru Haret, his father-in-law's brother-in-law. After completing primary and secondary studies in Craiova, he attended the Faculty of Medicine in Paris, specializing in Surgery (1897), while simultaneously contributing to prestigious specialized journals in France.

As a young doctor, he was first employed at Brâncovenesc Hospital and then at "Filantropia" in Bucharest, becoming a full professor at the Surgical Clinic of the Faculty of Medicine in Bucharest on February 15, 1903. With a liberal political orientation, he joined the National Liberal Party (P.N.L.) in 1901, and in the following years he was elected deputy or senator, and later, a senator by right in the Parliament of Romania. His electoral stronghold was the Peasant College III in Buzău County. He was appointed Minister of Public Works and Communications (January 4, 1914 - December 11, 1916), while also, at the request of Ion I. C. Brătianu, secretly organizing the Army Medical Service. He was then appointed plenipotentiary minister in Washington (October 1, 1917 - March 25, 1918), becoming our first ambassador to the United States of America (U.S.A.) in which he acted in support of the unification of Romania. He then went to Paris where he worked in favor of national interests, as vice president of the National Council for the Unity of Romanians (September 20 - October 3, 1918). He was included in the Romanian delegation that participated in the work of the Paris Peace Conference (1919 - 1920).

³ Scurtu Ioan, Lungu Corneliu Mihail, *History of the Academy of Sciences of Romania (1935 – 1948)*, Volume 1, / Vol. 1, Publishing House of the Academy of Scientists of Romania, Bucharest, 2013, pp. 25 – 26.

⁴ Nicolescu Valeriu, Avram Valeriu, Nicoară Marius-Adrian, *1000 People from Buzău for Romania*, vol./ vol. 1, letters A – L, Alpha MDN Publishing, 2023, passim, pp. 47 – 49.

⁵ Nicolae Peneș, Dr. Constantin Angelescu. *The Story of a Life*, Bucharest 1998; Lucian Predescu, *The "Cugetarea" Encyclopedia*, Bucharest, 1940, p. 34.

As Minister at the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Public Instruction⁶, he was mainly concerned with the reorganization of Romanian education and the construction of dedicated school buildings. Among the approximately 14,000 buildings erected on his initiative and with his support, during the period 1922 - 1938, are the buildings in Buzău: - The Girls' High School "Dr. Constantin Angelescu" (1925 - 1931, now the "Mihai Eminescu" National College); - The Girls' Normal School (1925 - 1937), today the headquarters of the County Museum (which also houses the "George Ciprian" Theatre and the Center for Culture and Art).

He ordered the unification of education under the conditions of a united Romania, based on a unified legislation, created school committees, took measures to reorganize primary education (1924) and secondary education (1928) by reintroducing, according to new principles, the baccalaureate (1925), and legislated private, confessional, and minority education (1923). To encourage the construction of school buildings, he established the "Reward for Work in School Construction" order, supported efforts to organize school dormitories, and ordered the granting of scholarships for outstanding students in secondary education.

A person of distinguished culture, Dr. Constantin Angelescu was a member or leader of prestigious cultural and scientific institutions: member of the Superior Health Council, president of the Management Committee of the Romanian Athenaeum (1923 - 1947), corresponding member of the International Society of Surgery in Paris (1927), member of the International Society of Surgery in Brussels (1929), of the International Society of Urology in Paris (1930), corresponding member of the Academy of Medicine in Paris (1930), associate member of the Academy of Surgery in Paris (1932), honorary member of the Romanian Academy (1934), Doctor Honoris Causa of the Faculty of Medicine in Warsaw, president of the Society for the Education of the Romanian People (1936 - 1938), president of the Academy of Sciences of Romania (1941 - 1948), president of the "Cultural League" (1941 - 1947),

He was decorated with the Order of the 'Star of Romania' in the rank of Knight, the Order of the 'Crown of Romania' in the rank of Grand Officer, the 'Cultural Merit' order, the 'Legion of Honour Cross' in the rank of Grand Officer, etc. In 1990, he was reinstated as an honorary member of the Romanian Academy.

⁶ Minister at the Ministry of Religions and Public Instruction (December 12, 1918 - September 12, 1919); Ministry of Instruction (January 9, 1922 - March 27, 1926) and ad-interim at the Ministry of Communications (January 19-24, 1922); Ministry of Instruction (June 22, 1927 - November 3, 1928); Ministry of Instruction, Religions and Arts (November 14, 1933 - January 3, 1934) and Prime Minister (December 29, 1933 - January 3, 1934); Ministry of Instruction, Religions and Arts (January 5 - October 1, 1934); Ministry of Instruction (October 2, 1934 - August 29, 1936; November 15, 1936); Ministry of National Education (August 29, 1936 - November 14, 1937; November 17 - December 28, 1937), Minister Secretary of State (February 10 - March 30, 1938) and Crown Counselor (March 30, 1938-1940)

Dr. Constantin Angelescu was a passionate bibliophile and a devoted art collector. His collection of paintings included works by Nicolae Grigorescu, Ion Andreescu, Verona, Luchian, and other great masters of the brush. Unfortunately, these heritage valuables were lost during the withdrawal of 1916 or were scattered through museums and private collections. After the assassination of Prime Minister Ion G. Duca, he served as interim prime minister for four days, then being forced to give way to Gheorghe Tătărescu. Eventually, he agreed to become Minister of National Education in the cabinets led by Tătărescu. In 1940, he opposed accepting the Soviet ultimatum regarding Bessarabia and, together with Dinu Brătianu, resisted the acceptance of the Vienna Dictate.

He was, for 24 years, the president of the Romanian Athenaeum (1923-1947), and between 1941 - 1947 he was the president of the Cultural League. On May 24, 1934, he was elected an honorary member of the Romanian Academy.

Constantin Angelescu passed away on September 14, 1948, at the French hospital "Vincent de Paul" in Bucharest and is buried in the tomb of some friends (the Slama family) at Bellu Cemetery in Bucharest.

He was posthumously declared an Honorary Citizen of the Municipality of Buzău.

Traian I. Săvulescu⁷ was a scientist, botanist, and the founder of the Romanian school of mycology and phytopathology (January 20, 1889, Râmnicu Sărat⁸ - March 29, 1963, Bucharest). He completed his primary and gymnasium studies in his hometown ("Vasile Boerescu" Gymnasium - 1903), after which he enrolled at the "Costache Negruzzi" Boarding High School in Iași. After a short interruption due to medical reasons, he returned as a student to "Alexandru Hâjdeu" High School in Buzău, graduating in 1907. He then attended the Faculty of Sciences, Natural Sciences section, at the University of Bucharest, as well as the Faculty of Medicine. In 1912, he obtained a degree in Natural Sciences, and in 1916, the title of Doctor in Biological Sciences, with a thesis titled Studies on the species of *Campanula* from the Heterophyllae section growing in Romania.



He then served as senior lecturer at the Department of Morphology and Plant Systematics (1918), full professor at the Department of Systematic Botany and Plant

⁷ Nicolescu Valeriu, Avram Valeriu, Nicoară Marius-Adrian, 1000 People from Buzău for Romania, vol. 2, letters M – Z, Alpha MDN Publishing, 2023, passim, pp. 327–328.

⁸ National Archives Service Buzau., Râmnicu Sărat City Hall records, birth certificate no. 19/January 21, 1889; Romanian personalities in natural sciences and technology... pp. 361-362; Encyclopedia of Great Personalities..., pp. 240-244; Dr. Dorina N. Rusu, *Op. Cit.*, pp. 327-328; Wikipedia.

Pathology (1920) at the Agricultural Research Institute of Romania. He was Secretary General of the Romanian Academy (1939 - 1948), a position in which he also oversaw the publication of the “Bulletin of the Scientific Section” and “Memoirs of the Scientific Section”. He was head of the Department of Plant Pathology within the Faculty of Science at the University of Bucharest (1948). For his outstanding merits as a teacher and researcher, in 1932 he was admitted as a corresponding member, and from 1936, as a member of the Romanian Academy, of which he served as president from 1948 to 1959. Additionally, he was Minister at the Ministry of Agriculture and Domains (1946 - 1948) and Vice President of the Council of Ministers, and a member of the science academies of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics/U.S.S.R., Bulgaria, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia.

He conducted research on the flora of various regions of Romania, oversaw the editing of the work *Flora of the Romanian People's Republic* (work completed in 1966), and was the editor for the first five volumes (1952 - 1957). He developed a network of warning stations across the country to combat grapevine downy mildew, and within the Agronomic Research Institute he created a laboratory for the study of insecticidal and fungicidal substances and proposed the establishment of the Entomology Office, which later became the Plant Protection Service.

The author of over 400 specialized works, he also published the biographies of several scientists, and through his scientific prestige, he founded a true school of botany and phytopathology, making a significant contribution to the foundation of modern agronomy. At the museum in Râmnicu Sărat, a valuable collection of personal items (microscope, glasses, coat, various identification cards), Romanian and foreign orders and medals (Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Bulgaria), manuscripts, photographs, and publications are preserved, forming the subject of an interesting memorial exhibition, donated by his wife, Alice Săvulescu (1905–1970), who was also a botanist.

He was posthumously declared an Honorary Citizen of the Municipality of Buzău.



Alexandru Adrian Badea⁹, president of the Academy of Scientists of Romania between 2016 - 2024, and honorary president of the same since 2024, university professor, engineer doctor, Doctor Honoris Causa of the „Valahia” University of Târgoviște and „Andrei Șaguna” University of Constanța, is originally from Buzău. His father, Nicolae Badea from the commune of Pleșcoi, the son of a poor peasant, managed through intelligence and diligence

⁹ Nicolescu Valeriu, Avram Valeriu, Nicoară Marius-Adrian, 1000 People from Buzău for Romania, vol./ vol. 1, letters A – L, Alpha MDN Publishing, 2023, passim, pp. 73 – 74.

to pursue higher education in economics, obtaining a doctorate in economics from the University of Frankfurt am Main in Germany and becoming head of department at the National Bank of Romania. His mother, Elena Badea, born Bodeanu, was the daughter of one of the most well-known merchants in Buzău, Alexandru Bodeanu, who owned an estate and a manor in the commune of Merei and was one of those who contributed to the construction of the Merchants' Church in Buzău.

Born on February 7, 1946. He attended the Mihai Viteazul High School in Bucharest from 1st to 11th grade, graduating in 1963, and then the Polytechnic University of Bucharest, Faculty of Energy Engineering, graduating in 1968. He spent his childhood and vacations at his grandparents' house on 10 Clemenței Street in Buzău. Adrian Badea obtained a PhD in Engineering in 1973 at the Moscow Power Engineering Institute. Starting in 1992, over a period of 10 years, he took research stays in France at the Grenoble Nuclear Research Center; École des Mines, Paris; INSTN and ADEME France, in the fields of nuclear energy, heat transfer, environmental management, and renewable energy sources.

Professor and head of the Department of Electric Power Plants and Industrial Energy at the Faculty of Energy within the Politehnica University of Bucharest, from 1990 to 2000, he served as dean of the Faculty of Energy from 2000 to 2006, and since 2006 he has been vice-rector of the Politehnica University of Bucharest for six years. He is a doctoral supervisor, having guided and coordinated over 50 PhD students, 11 of whom were in joint programs with major universities in France and Italy. In recognition of the experience gained in his scientific activity, he was appointed as an Expert of the European Union in both the Energy field and Climate Change.

Since 2003, he has been the President of the International Conference on Energy – Environment for 10 editions. He is the president of the Society for Renewable, Inexhaustible, and New Energies SPERIN; a member of the Romanian Energy Institute; a member of the Romanian National Committee for the World Energy Council. He was vice president of the National Council CNADTCU and of the National Council for Scientific Research.

Research activity has been reflected in 23 books/monographs and 11 university courses; - 83 papers published in journals (57) or in conference proceedings (26), indexed by ISI (10 articles in red-zone journals, 6 in yellow-zone journals, and 3 in grey-zone journals); (ISI citations: 705, h-index 14); - over 250 papers published in BDI-indexed journals; - 131 papers indexed in SCOPUS (1183 citations, h-index 19); - 233 papers indexed in Google Scholar (1995 citations, h-index 23; h10 index 48); - ResearchGate: 187 papers; 1418 citations; 29,500 readers; score 28.88 (higher than 87.5% of RG members); h-index 20.

He was declared an Honorary Citizen of the Municipality of Buzău in 2024.

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