

ROMANIA AFTER '89

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ABSTRACT:

1989 WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT IN THE HISTORY OF EUROPE SINCE THE SECOND WORLD WAR TO THE PRESENT. THE COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE REGAINED THEIR FREEDOM AFTER YEARS OF TOTALITARIANISM. POLAND, HUNGARY, EAST GERMANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, BULGARIA AND ROMANIA WERE FINALLY FREE TO DECIDE ON THEIR FUTURE. COUNTRY'S INDEPENDENCE FROM THE FORMER SOVIET BLOC WAS A CATALYST FOR DEVELOPMENT AND EUROPEAN RELATIONS IN THE YEARS THAT FOLLOWED, THE SOVIET UNION TRAINED.³

KEY WORDS: ROMANIA, URSS, COMMUNISM, 1989,

The sudden and unplanned collapse of Soviet totalitarian communism nations put in a difficult situation: citizens must bring to power through free and fair elections, leaders able to accomplish democracy and capitalism. At 23 years after, it is obvious difference between countries led by leaders who have the will and political science to lead the country towards the rule of law and economic prosperity, and those who have not had anything like this⁴.

The case of Romania in the world is not singular. In the 60s of the twentieth century when the phenomenon of Rust Belt decline in industrial production report, the totalitarian Communist regime established in 1965 and led by Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej and Ceausescu continued (March 1965 - December 1989) laid the foundation of

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³ Marcau Flavius-Cristian, *Revolutia Romana din Decembrie 1989*, (Targu-Jiu: Academica Brancusi, 2011),

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⁴ Adrian Gorun, *Dezvoltare Socială și Globalizare*, (Targu-Jiu: Academica Brâncuși, 2012), 105

industrialization. Most of the investment was concentrated in heavy industry manufacturing "with its pivot, mechanical engineering," making it a huge waste of resources for the development of the mining industry, steel, energy, chemical, building materials, food, etc. Efforts were of proportion with industrial and transport infrastructure development, trade support for the development of energy complexes, but also for agricultural mechanization and irrigation system realization. External loans burdensome quickly led to a new starvation of the population, the increasing number of shortages and deprivation. Constraints of all kinds have increased the degree of dissatisfaction and the spirit of revolt. In a favorable international situation, created especially by contributing U.S., the Vatican and the top leadership of the USSR, the regime collapsed in December 22, 1989⁵.

THE IMPLOSION OF THE SOCIALIST BLOC

Collapse as the birth of communism as a form of political organization of society were political scientists view, historians and the public events that marked the history particularly of the twentieth century. The artisan one of the most significant revolutions of his time was Mikhail S. Gorbachiov. He destroyed the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, which was organized specifically to seize power and maintain it and actually control every aspect of Soviet life. Following his, Gorbachiov left the debris of an empire that had been assembled with great effort over the centuries. The causes of the collapse of communism can not be reduced to a single factor. For such a process to occur historical dimensions, I had a lot of reasons to interact and create a set of circumstances that made the change to be urgent and unavoidable.⁶

It is necessary to understand the meanings of the concept of "socialism". It has long been used in three different contexts, namely:

- Socialism was seen as an economic model related to collectivism and planning mechanism as an alternative to capitalism.
- Socialism was seen as an instrument of the labor movement as a form of "labourism" which represent the interests of the working class and provided a political program for the conquest of political and economic power.

⁵ Gorun, *Dezvoltare Socială și Globalizare*, 79

⁶ Denis Fabian, *Prăbușirea comunismului în Europa de Est*, Cahul 2010, p. 4, se poate accesa de la [http://www.usch.md/Documents/Note%20de%20curs/Catedra%20de%20Istorie%20si%20Stiinte%20Sociale/ESECUL%20COMUNISMULUI_doc.pdf](http://www.usch.md/Documents/Note%20de%20curs/Catedra%20de%20Istorie%20si%20 Stiinte%20Sociale/ESECUL%20COMUNISMULUI_doc.pdf), accessed at 22.05.2013

- As a political belief or ideology that provides a set of values and principles: community, cooperation, equality, meeting the needs, common property.⁷

The collapse of communism in Romania, disintegration of the socialist system - in fact, the scope of Soviet hegemony in Eastern Europe - and the Soviet Union opened the way to the Romanian nation toward democracy and market economy, namely political and economic structures considered as the most suitable basically to secure the freedom and prosperity of the people. In the Hegelian sense, Francis Fukuyama spoke of "end of history", ie reaching a human society that may arise at least today, as final.⁸

Market economy itself generates democracy, "day by day, hour by hour and the rate of mass"⁹. Democracy may be early, faltering, can even be simulated: the formal establishment of laws and mechanisms multiparty system, even the rule of law and legislation which they represent, and basically it don't guarantees correct operation.¹⁰

The events of 1989 in Eastern Europe seem to do justice to the socialist or social democratic vision of two fundamental reasons. Suppressing the Communist Party leadership and demanding free elections, these movements reintroduced the notion of multiparty politics and democracy that political parties have always defended. [...] These movements are equally approaching the social-democratic practice, with many illusions, however, and no doubt with many delays as far as economic as communist systems will not only be long and painful: re-market economy will bring completely different working conditions and often harsh and, at least in a first phase, a possible limitation of social protection, there finally every chance that she produce a dramatic increase unemployment in the middle of 1990, already amount to several hundred thousand people in Poland and GDR. Installation of the market economy in the Soviet Union will certainly be an even more painful, fact that the Soviet government is fully aware of, which explains his hesitation and postponements to engage openly in this way.¹¹

Anul 1989 a adus schimbări majore în ceea ce privește studiul asupra regimului comunist în România. Spre deosebire de alte țări componente ale blocului sovietic, în

⁷ Fabian, *Prăbușirea comunismului în Europa de Est*

⁸ Florin Constantiniu, *O istorie sinceră a poporului român*, (București: Univers encyclopedic Gold, 2010), 534

⁹ Citându-l pe Vladimir Ilici Lenin-10 aprilie 1870- 21 ianuarie 1924. La 8 noiembrie 1917 Lenin a fost ales Președinte al Consiliului Comisarilor Poporului de către Congresul Sovietului Rus. În fața amenințării invaziei germane, Lenin a fost de părere că Rusia trebuie să semneze imediat un tratat de pace.

¹⁰ Catherine Durandin si Zoe Petre, *România post 1989*, (Iași: Institutul European, 2010), 140

¹¹ Michel Dreyfus, *Europa socialiștilor*, (Iași.: Intitutul European, 2000), 310

România informația de dinainte de 1989 este lacunară și, de cele mai multe ori, răstălmăcită. Există, după 1989, mărturii ale actorilor de prim-plan ai politicii, publicate în memorii, însă subiectivismul inerent face dificilă reconstituirea istoriei.

After the 1989 revolution, the political condition of the culture has changed radically, but it still faces economic obstacles. In 1997, the "Forum of Culture status" have expressed different views on cultural developments in post-communist period. A point of view was that "there isn't a crisis of culture" in terms of creativity, but we are dealing with a crisis management culture. But culture can not be addressed only in the administrative, accounting, but also in terms of trends inner and spiritual guidance, the answers she gives to current challenges. The culture should be regarded as a fundamental element of national identity, especially in light of European integration, globalization.¹²

THE FALL OF COMMUNISM IN ROMANIA

In Romania, communism was removed, unlike other countries of the former USSR, in a rather violent fight. There have been demonstrations were the culmination killing Ceausescu, Elena and Nicolae Ceausescu. Economic and development policy of Ceausescu (including grandiose construction projects and austerity regime designed to allow Romania to pay the entire foreign debt in 1989, Ceausescu able to pay the debt of about \$ 11 billion before the time limit that even the Romanian dictator expected it) was considered responsible for the extensive poverty in the country, in parallel with the increase in poverty, the secret police (Securitate) was ubiquitous, making Romania a police state.

Apart from that, Ceausescu was not a man read. In December, 1989, in the "Scânteia" appears on the front page of Ceausescu's speech transcribed all grammatical and pronunciation mistakes that he made in oral expression. It was a signal to all corners of the country, because the newspaper had a national spread. That number of newspaper and then disappeared from the public libraries.¹³

In the '90s, Romania had the image of a State in a difficult and somewhat interminable transition to democracy and market economy. As a result, it appears that in the first quarter of 1990, one of the battles between the government and the opposition has

¹² Miala Gligor, *Considerații asupra identității culturale în România înainte și după 1989*, Humanistica, 2010, p. 197, se poate accesa la <http://www.humanistica.ro/anuare/2010/Continut/art13Gligor.pdf>, accessed at 22.05.2013

¹³ Denis Fabian, *Prăbușirea comunismului în Europa de Est*, Cahul 2010, p. 54, se poate accesa de la [http://www.usch.md/Documents/Note%20de%20curs/Catedra%20de%20Istorie%20si%20Stiinte%20Sociale/ESECUL%20COMUNISMULUI_doc.pdf](http://www.usch.md/Documents/Note%20de%20curs/Catedra%20de%20Istorie%20si%20 Stiinte%20Sociale/ESECUL%20COMUNISMULUI_doc.pdf), accessed at 22.05.2013

the objective of providing unique and television still strictly controlled by NSF.¹⁴ The events that followed the Revolution of '89 were extremely important for the Romanian Television, since this institution was an actor in that time, a very important actor of the events that occurred in the early years of the Revolution.

CONCLUSIONS

Between Romania before 1989 and the following is a line of discontinuity. Paradox relatively active behavior is that the state post-communist Romania came after a long period of communist dictatorship marked by political isolation of both the West and to the East. A strategic culture marked by folding over its national territory on the doctrine of "war of all the people", the values nationalist and often xenophobic and the distrust with involvement in activities with other countries. Or, quite suddenly, in a few years, Romania abandon the isolationist attitude and refractory and direct their efforts towards NATO and the EU. Therefore the subject is "intervention", the decision to intervene and its delivery.¹⁵

¹⁴ Petre, *România post 1989*, 136

¹⁵ Șerban Filip Cioculescu, „*Implicarea României (postcomuniste) în securizarea și stabilizarea Europei de Sud-Est și a Orientului Mijlociu Extins*”, 2, http://www.google.ro/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCwQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.unibuc.ro%2Fstudies%2FDoctorate2008Noiembrie%2FCioculescu%2520Serban%2520-%2520Implicarea%2520Romaniei%2520%28postcomunicte%29%2520in%2520Securizarea%2520si%2520Stabilizarea%2520Europei%2520de%2520Sud-Est%2520si%2520a%2520Orientului%2520Mijlociu%2520Extins%2Frezumat%2520teza%2520doctorat%2520cioco.doc&ei=yjIUbimD4fiO-kgOAH&usg=AFQjCNGbH1VGow3-11ZZi_zwUfE5EpqkBg&sig2=m4QixMVltuFApMiui11IXA&bvm=bv.48293060.d.Yms

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