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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Degree in Communication Studies, *summa cum laude*, Doctoral School in Communication Studies, University of Bucharest, Bucharest (2013). Dissertation title: *Forms of Control in the Romanian Press during 1965-1989*;
- MA in Sociology, Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, University of Bucharest, Bucharest (2010);
- BA in Journalism, Faculty of Communication Studies and Journalism, "Lucian Blaga" University, Sibiu (2003).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Senior lecturer, Faculty of Journalism and Communication Studies, University of Bucharest, Bucharest - <http://www.fjsc.unibuc.ro> (February 2015 – Present). Courses: Investigative Journalism, Gathering Information Techniques, Explanatory Journalism, Advanced Gathering Information Techniques and Ethics and Academic Integrity. Seminars: Investigative Journalism, Gathering Information Techniques, Reporting and Writing Techniques.
- Contributor for the online news outlet <https://pressone.ro/autor/emiliasercan/> (November 2015 – present). Writing and editing journalistic investigations.
- Graduate Assistant, Faculty of Journalism and Communication Studies, University of Bucharest, Bucharest - <http://www.fjsc.unibuc.ro> (October 2012 - February 2015). Courses: Journalistic Investigations Techniques. Seminars: Journalistic Investigations Techniques, Gathering Information Techniques, Reporting and Writing Techniques.
- Permanent Invited Professor, Faculty of Journalism and Communication Studies, University of Bucharest, Bucharest - <http://www.fjsc.unibuc.ro> (October 2005 – June 2012).
- Senior editor for the online news outlet www.cursdeguvernare.ro (October 2010 - November 2015). Writing and editing journalistic investigations, analyses and opinions.
- Freelance journalist (July 2009 – October 2010). Writing and editing journalistic investigations.

- Editorial manager of the Investigations/ Department of the Realitatea - Cațavencu Media Group (February 2008 - July 2009). Coordinating a team of over 35 people, consisting of reporters, producers, camera operators, text and image editors, documentary reporters, photojournalists, online editors, team that provided investigation and news for the Realitatea TV, as well as investigations or reports for the *Cotidianul* daily newspaper.
- Investigative reporter (April 2003 - December 2004) and Head of Investigations Department (January 2005 - January 2008) for the *Evenimentul Zilei* newspaper (April 2003 - January 2008). Writing and editing journalistic investigations; coordinating a team of six investigative reporters.
- Reporter at the *Curierul Național* newspaper, Investigations Department (August 2000 - April 2003). Writing and conducting journalistic investigations.
- Reporter at the Suceava County daily newspaper *Actualitatea Suceveană* and Editor-in-Chief at the weekly newspaper *Actualitatea Dorneană* (April 1997 - July 2000). Editing and production of news and articles; coordinator of a journalistic team.
- Editor/ anchor/ producer at the local television in Vatra-Dornei (September 1996 - July 2000). Editing and production of news and articles; coordinator of a journalistic team of over 4 people.

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- Press Freedom Program, organized by the Dutch Foreign Office (March, 2023, Hague);
- Participant at the “Quality Journalism - Role and Responsibility of Media” Program, organized by the German Federal Foreign Office (01 – 07 May, 2022, Berlin);
- Invited professor for the 11th International Week at the Faculty of Business and Law, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences in Frankfurt, Germany (2018);
- Erasmus scholar, professor mobility week in the Department of Communication, Media and Culture, Panteion University, Athens, Greece (May, 2017);
- Scholar of the State Department of the United States of America, Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars (SUSI) at Ohio University (June - August, 2016);
- Erasmus scholar, professor mobility week in the Department of Journalism, Faculty of Information Sciences at the Complutense University of Madrid (May 2014);
- Scholar of the French State with a doctoral scholarship at the University Stendhal Grenoble 3 (October 1st – April 1st, 2013).
- Freedom House Fellow in the United States of America (September - December 2004). Professional Training at *The Hartford Courant* Newspaper in Hartford, Connecticut, and at The Poynter Institute, St. Petersburg, Florida.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Member of the International Press Institute
- Member of the European Network for Academic Integrity
- Member of the Journalists Association in Romania
- Member of the Society for Romanian Studies

RESEARCH INTEREST

- Investigative journalism; academic integrity; higher education; propaganda; censorship; forms of control in media

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Member of Reuters Institute Digital News Report Project, Romanian team, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024.
- Member in the NEWSREEL Project 2 (New Skills for the next generation of journalists), financed by Erasmus+, conducted by the University of Pécs, Hungary, in partnership with Instituto Universitaria De Lisboa, Portugal, Erich-Brost Institut Fur Journalismus In Europa Gemeinnutzige Gesellschaft Mit Beschränkter Haftung Ebi GmbH, Germany, and University of Bucharest, Romania (2020 – 2023).
- Member in the “For a formative educational pathway” project, University of Bucharest, funded by the Institutional Development Fund made available to universities by the Ministry of National Education (2020).
- Manager for the Social Science Field of the Ethics and Academic Deontology Promoting at the University of Bucharest Project, financed through the Institutional Development Fund provided to the universities by the Ministry of National Education (2019).
- Manager for the Social Science Field of the Ethics and Academic Deontology Promoting at the University of Bucharest Project, financed through the Institutional Development Fund provided to the universities by the Ministry of National Education (2018).
- Manager for the Social Science Field of the Ethics and Academic Deontology Promoting at the University of Bucharest Project, financed through the Institutional Development Fund provided to the universities by the Ministry of National Education (2017).
- Member in the NEWSREEL Project 1 (New Skills for the next generation of journalists), financed by Erasmus+, conducted by the University of Pécs, Hungary, in partnership with Instituto Universitaria De Lisboa, Portugal, Erich-Brost Institut Für Journalismus In Europa Gemeinnutzige Gesellschaft Mit Beschränkter Haftung Ebi GmbH, Germany, and University of Bucharest, Romania (2017 – 2020).

- Member in ORBITS Project: The Role of Social Transnational Fields in the Emergence, Maintenance and Decay of Ethnic and Demographic Enclaves, funded by the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness – Government of Spain. MINECO-FEDER (CSO2015-68687-P, 2016-2020), conducted by the Autonommous University of Barcelona, Spain, in partnership with University of Bucharest, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, Universidad de Konstanz, Germany, University of Seville, Spain.
- Member of the UNIVISOC Project (University for Future in a Communication Society) - POSDRU/86/1.2/S/64075, Conducted by University of Bucharest (2012 – 2014).

PUBLICATIONS

- “What are data journalism and data visualization” in *Data in powerful images. A manual for visual narratives*, Raluca Nicoleta Radu (coord.) Editura Polirom, Iași, 2023, ISBN: 978-973-46-9396-2.
- „Patterns of Academic Integrity Definitions among BA Romanian Students'. The Impact of Rising Enrolments”, *Revista de Cercetare și Intervenție Socială*, vol. 78, September, 2022.
- *Ponta Case. Reconstructing the Most Infamous Plagiarism in Romanian History*, Humanitas Publishing House, Bucharest, 2022, ISBN: 978-973-50-7412-8.
- “Data Journalism” in *New Skills for Journalists. Comparative Perspectives from Europe*, (pp. 17 - 30), Erdélyi Múzeum-Egyesület (Transylvanian Museum Society), 2022, ISBN 978-606-739-216-6.
- “Debunking Disinformation”, in *New Skills for Journalists: Comparative Perspectives from Europe*, (pp. 197 - 210), Erdélyi Múzeum-Egyesület (Transylvanian Museum Society), 2022, ISBN 978-606-739-216-6.
- “Democratic control of Romanian intelligence after three decades: quis custodiet ipsos custodes?”, in *Defense & Security Analysis*, vol 34 (4), 2018.
- *Academic Deontology. Practical Guide*, Universitatea din București Publishing House, Bucharest, 2017, ISBN 978-606-16-0943-7.
- *Doctorates Factory: or How the Foundations of a Nation Are Undermined*, Humanitas Publishing House, Bucharest, 2017, ISBN: 978-973-50-5776-3.
- *The Cult of Secrecy. The Censorship Mechanisms in the Communist Press*, Polirom Publishing House, Iași, 2015;
- Contributor for the elaboration of some specialized terms for *The Communication and Related Terms Encyclopedic Dictionary*, coordinated by Marian Petcu, C.H. Beck, 2014;

- “The political and ideological subordination of the press during the Ceașescu régime”, *The Romanian Journal of Journalism and Communication*, Year VII, no. 4, 2014, the new series;
- “The Influence of the State-Party on the Role of the Press in Socialist Romania”, chapter in the book *Media's role in the Socialist Era*, coordinated by Savas Coban, Amani International Publishers, Kiel, Germany, in 2013.
- “The Beginnings of the Communist Press in Romania. The Newspaper Model: from l'Humanité to Pravda” paper in the book *Media between document and interpretation. Studies and researches of the press history*, coordinated by Silvia Grosu, Chisinau, Centrul Editorial Poligrafic Publishing House, USM, 2012, p. 246-255, ISBN 978-9975-71-237-8.
- “Provisions Notebook - <The Bible> of the Communist Censorship (1949 - 1977)”, chapter in the book *Censorship in Romania*, coordinated by Ilie Rad, Cluj-Napoca, Tribuna Publishing House, 2012, pp. 331-348, ISBN 979-973-1878-27-0.
- “Censorship Institution under Communism: Tools and Work Procedures in 1965”, paper in *The Romanian Magazine of Press History*, Year V, no. 2 (10) / 2011.
- “Economic Perspectives on Communist Romanian Press. Case Study: 1965”, paper in *The Romanian Journal of Journalism and Communication*, Year IV, no. 2, 2011, new series.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

- XX ISA World Congress of Sociology, 25th June – 1st July 2023, Melbourne, Australia, participation with the paper “Why four Romanian PMs have plagiarized PhD theses (in one decade only)”, co-author Raluca Radu, Ph.D., University of Bucharest.
- European Conference on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism 2021, 9th – 11th June 2021, online participation with the study “Patterns of defining Academic Integrity among BA students and the relation with dynamics of the faculty, university, and field of study”, co-author Bogdan Voicu, Ph.D., Romanian Academy.
- ECREA “Journalism and Communication Education” 2021, 13th of May 2021, Barcelona, Spain, online participation in the panel “New Skills and how they are taught” with the presentation “Teaching approaches in Data Journalism and Data Visualization”.
- International Conference Academic Ethics and Prevention of Plagiarism, 13th – 14th October 2020, Prague, Czech Republic, participation as keynote speaker with the study “Plagiarism phenomenon in doctoral dissertations in Europe and Romania”.
- National Conference of the Romanian Sociologists Society, HOMO SOCIOLOGICUS 2.0, June 28th – 29th, Păltiniș, Romania, participation with the study "Student perceptions regarding academic integrity".

- International Conference European Media Management Association, Emma, 5th – 7th June 2019, Limassol, Cyprus, Participation with the presentation “Decision making under uncertainty and degree of innovativeness in media management and media education”, signed by Raluca Nicoleta Radu, Emilia Sercan, Ana Pinto Martinho, Miguel Crespo.
- ISMS Military Science and Future Security Challenges, 18th – 19th October 2018, Warsaw, Poland. Participation with the study: “Institutional Responses to Plagiarism in Doctoral Dissertation. A Case Study of the Romanian Military University”.
- International Conference #Romania100: Looking Forward through the Past, 26th – 29th June 2018, Bucharest. Organized by the Society for Romanian Studies. Participation with the study: “Fighting academic plagiarism in Romania: causes and effects”.
- International NEC Conference Institutional Autonomy, Academic Freedom and Imposture in the Academia – Do Academic Core Values Safeguard Against Corruption?, 24th – 25th May 2018, Bucharest, Romania. Participation with the study: “Plagiarism in Romanian Military Universities. An overview”.
- The 4th international conference Plagiarism across Europe and Beyond, 9th – 11th May 2018, Turkey, Efes. Participation with the study: “Time as a predictor for academic integrity in Romanian Higher Education”.
- The 2017 Biennial International Conference of the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society, 3th – 5th November 2017, Reston, Virginia, United States of America, Participation with the study: “The Democratic Control of the Romanian Security Sector: From Theory to Practice”, co-author Marian Zulean, Ph.D., University of Bucharest.
- Interdisciplinary Doctoral Conference, 29th – 30th October 2017, Bucharest, Romania. Organized by: Romanian Association of Young Scholars. Participation with the study „Culture of plagiarism in Romanian Academia”;
- International Conference „Plagiarism in Europe and Beyond”, 24th – 26th May 2017, Brno, Czech Republic. Organized by: Mendel University from Brno, European Network for Academic Integrity and European Council. Participation with the study „Plagiarism in Ph.D. Theses. A case study of Military Universities in Romania”;
- International Conference "Linking Past, Present and Future: 25th Anniversary of the Change Regime in Romania and Moldova (1989/1991)", 17th – 19th June 2015, Bucharest. Organized by The Society for Romanian Studies. Participation with the study: “Party-State Influence on the Tools of Media in Communist Romania”;
- Conference “The Mechanisms of Censorship in the Communist Period”, April 29th, 2015, Bucharest. Organized by Hanns Seidel Foundation and the Institute for Popular Studies. Participation with the study: “Censorship in the Romanian Communist News Media”;
- National History Press Congress, 6th edition, “Cultural Elite and the Media”, Bucharest, 18th – 20th April 2013. Organized by The Romanian History Press Association. Participation with the study: “The Censorship Reform at the end of Gheorghiu-Dej’s Era and the beginning of the Ceausescu’s Era”;

- Conference “Le lien entre le social, le politique et les médias dans les études sur les régimes politiques et économiques”, GRESEC, University Stendhal - Grenoble 3, March 2013. Participation with the study: “Censorship in communist Romanian media”;
- International Conference “Europeanization and Globalization: Romanians in Their Region and the World”, 2nd - 4th July 2012, Sibiu. Organized by The Society for Romanian Studies. Participation with the study: “Censorship Practices in the Romanian Communist Press (1965 - 1989)”;
- National History Press Congress, Vth edition, “Media between document and interpretation”, Chisinau, Moldova Republic, 26th – 28th April 2012. Organized by Romanian History Press Association. Participation with the study: “The Beginnings of the Communist Press in Romania. The Newspaper Model: from l'Humanité to Pravda”;
- The International Conference “Culture and Media in the European Area”, 4th edition, 25th – 26th November 2011. Organizer: “Dunărea de Jos” University of Galati, Faculty of Letters. Participation with the study: “Theoretical Perspective on the Communist Press”;
- National Journalism Symposium, 10th edition, “Censorship in Romania, yesterday and today”, 28th – 29th October 2011, with international participation. Organizer: “Babes – Bolyai” University of Cluj-Napoca, Faculty of Political Science, Administrative and Communication, Department of Journalism. Participation with the study: “Provisions Notebook - «The Bible» of the Communist Censorship (1949 - 1977)”;
- National Conference of Communication Sciences, 1st edition, “Rules – values - practices in journalism and communication”, Bucharest, May 20 - 21, 2011. Organized by The Faculty of Journalism and Communication, University of Bucharest. Participation with the study: “Perspectives on the Communist Press. Case Study: 1965”;
- National History Press Congress, 4th edition, "Interwar Media, between mythologizing and critical recovery", Constanta, 14th – 16th February 2011, with international participation. Organized by The Romanian History Press Association. Participation with the study: “Censorship Institution under Communist Regime: Tools and Work Procedures in 1965”.

WORKSHOPS & TRAININGS & LECTURES

- Media-Democracy Nexus in the European Space: Exchanging Experiences between Italy and South East Europe Conference, speaker in the panel „Ensuring the safety of journalists: the role of law enforcement authorities”, organized by Media Freedom Rapid Response (MFRR) and OBC Transeuropa October 17th, 2023
- Rațiu Dialogues on Democracy Symposium, The Rațiu Forum in partnership with London School of Economics, IDEAS, discussant of Media and Democracy panel, June 15th, 2023

- Mentorship Program for Journalist, Rațiu Democracy Center, 2019 – 2023
- Media Conference “Fake news and disinformation”, organizer German Embassy, November 2nd, 2022 – moderator
- Iași Civic Leader. A critical analysis on the quality of Romanian scientific research and higher education, September 13th, 2022 – speaker
- The Center for Investigative Journalism, Summer Investigative Journalism Conference 2022, Goldsmiths, University of London, June 29 -30, 2022
- Rațiu Dialogues on Democracy Symposium, The Rațiu Forum in partnership with London School of Economics, IDEAS, June 4th – 5th, 2022, speaker
- Academic Integrity Policies Course – honorary guest with the “Fraud and Corruption”, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Turkey, December 21st, 2021, lecturer
- Media seminar “Data journalism & visualization”, in partnership with German Embassy, November 24th – 26th, 2021 – organizer
- Web-Seminar „Quality Journalism – Role and Responsibility of the Media” – Autumn Session, Federal Foreign Office, October 13th, 2021, participant
- European Network of Academic Integrity Summer School 2021, June 14th-18th 2021, lecturer
- Web-Seminar „Quality Journalism – Role and Responsibility of the Media” – Summer Session, Federal Foreign Office, June 17th, 2021, participant
- Mentorship Program for Journalist, Rațiu Democracy Center, Training program, February 22nd – 24th 2021, lecturer
- Academic Integrity Policies Course – honorary guest with the “Fraud and Corruption” lecture, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Turkey, December 9th, 2020
- Covering Corruption, Rațiu Centre for Democracy and London School of Economics and Political Science, November 8th, 2020 – trainer
- The Nature of Romanian Journalism, Rațiu Centre for Democracy and London School of Economics and Political Science, November 7th, 2020 – speaker
- Web-Seminar Quality Journalism – Role and Responsibility of Media – Autumn Session, Federal Foreign Office, October 28th, 2020 – speaker
- Media seminar “Making the EU stronger from inside – How to avoid the fake news trap”, in partnership with German Embassy, October 26th, 2020 – organizer
- Iași Civic Leader. A critical analysis on the quality of Romanian scientific research and higher education, October 8th, 2020 – speaker
- Authenticity and originality in scientific papers, National Alliance of Student Organizations in Romania, May 12th, 2020, Bucharest – speaker
- Conference Online Journalism, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, December 4th, 2019, Bucharest – speaker
- Risking everything to uphold EU values and democracy: protecting journalists in the EU, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, October 17th, 2019 – speaker

- Defending Media Freedom, Freedom House and Embassy of the United States of America, October 15th - 16th 2019, Bucharest – speaker
- The culture of plagiarism in academia, 14th edition of the Forum of Student Organizations in Romania (FOSR), August 9th, 2019 – speaker
- Workshop for journalists, Freedom House and Embassy of the United States of America, June 12th – 13th 2019, Bucharest – speaker
- To catch a thief. Plagiarism in PhD theses exposed with investigative journalistic instruments, ISCTE-IUL, Lisbon, May 9th, 2019 – lecturer
- Article 31 Workshop, SuperScrieri Days: Empowering the public, October 17th - 18th, 2018 – trainer
- Training for Investigative journalists, Rațiu Centre for Democracy, October 13th - 14th, Turda, 2018 – trainer

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Timișoara Society Award, 2023
- Initiative for European Democratic Culture Association Award, 2020
- International Anti-Corruption Day reward from U.S. Embassy in Romania, 2020
- Social Dialogue Group Award, 2019
- Services to Academic Integrity Award, 2019, of the European Network for Academic Integrity (ENAI)
- “Nicolae Iorga” Prize, 2018, of the Romanian Society of Historical Sciences for the book *Doctorates Factory: or How the Foundations of a Nation Are Undermined* (Humanitas, 2017)
- Bologna Professor Award, 2017, of the National Alliance of Students Organizations in Romania (ANOSR)
- “Ion Rațiu” Journalism Award, 2016, of the Rațiu Center for Democracy
- “Hero on the rising public interest” Freedom of Expression Award, 2016, of the Active Watch Organization
- Journalist / Personality of the Year Award, SuperWritings Gala, 2016, of the Friends for Friends Foundation

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Invited to live broadcasted TV and radio talk shows: TVR1, Digi24, EuroNews România, B1 TV, Realitatea TV, N 24, Antena 3, Național TV, Digi FM, Rock FM, Europa FM, Radio Total, Radio MIX FM, Realitatea FM
- Invited as journalist or invited professor to academic or non-academic sessions (University of Wisconsin - Green Bay, USA; University Institute of Lisbon, Portugal; University of Bucharest; Aspire Academy; Forumul Organizațiilor Studențești,)
- Member of the jury (2015-present) for SuperScrieri (Super Writings), Romania's most prestigious journalism award
- President of the jury (2018-2019) for SuperScrieri (Super Writings), Romania's most prestigious journalism award
- Member of the jury (2021, 2023, 2024) for Civil Society Gala, the 19th edition
- Member of the jury (2023) for "Ion Rațiu" Investigative Journalism Prize
- Chair for the Digital News Report - 2020, 2022 and 2023