

## **Habilitation Thesis**

Candidate: Associate Prof. Florin PINTESCU, PhD

### **Frontiers, Interferences and Synthesis in the Oriental Romania (15<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> Centuries)**

#### **Abstract**

Our habilitation thesis, conceived in order to obtain the title of doctoral coordinator/supervisor, underlines the scientific, didactic and managerial achievements of the period after the candidate was conferred the title of PhD in History (2004).

At the same time, the future directions of the author's didactic, scientific and professional developments are highlighted and a *summa* of his entire scientific activities so far has been made (list of books, university courses, studies and articles, reviews, prefaces, grants and research contracts, participations in symposiums), accompanied by references related to author's scientific production (reviews and citation in specialty literature).

Our habilitation thesis is structured in three sections: I. Scientific and Professional Achievements; II. Main directions concerning the development of academic, scientific and professional career; III. Bibliographical references.

The first section of the paper is divided in two chapters (1. The synthesis of the post-doctoral scientific results; 2. The synthesis of the post-doctoral professional results) and presents in a succinct way – with references that are palpable and can be validate – the main results of author's scientific, didactic and professional achievements. Achievements in the field of scientific activity are presented in the context of the current state of scientific research on specialty domain, and are underlining, in a reasoned and documented way, the relevance and originality of the personal contributions.

The first chapter initially presents the main research directions during the period covered by the analysis (2004 - present), with the related fundamental objectives.

I. Within the research direction *European Medieval Frontiers*,

***interferences and synthesis***, two main scientific objectives had been pursued and achieved:

1. Comparative analysis of the similarities and differences between feudalism in Western and Eastern Europe;
2. Presentation and analysis of ethnic and professional “frontiers” in the Transylvanian towns in the 16th-18th centuries.

II. Within the research direction ***The history of medieval Moldavia***, the following scientific objectives were pursued and achieved:

1. Analysis of the iconographic symbolism in the painted frescoes of the monasteries of Stephen the Great. Critique of some interpretations.
2. Presentation and analysis of Moldavian-Polish military interferences and syntheses of the medieval period;
3. Underlining the Moldavian-Cossack military interference from the 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> centuries;
4. Studying and typologically framing the military art of Moldavia within the 15<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> centuries in the European military art

III. The following scientific objectives have been achieved within the research direction ***The History of Bukovina***:

1. Analysis of the political, ethnic and confessional interferences and syntheses generated by the Austrian “frontier” within this historical province;
2. The study of representative elements in the history of ethnic minorities of Bukovina (Polish, Germans, Jews and Romany /Gypsies);
3. Presentation of some historiographical elements.

IV. Within the research direction ***History and Geopolitics. Romania’s situation in Southeast Europe*** the following scientific objectives had been attained:

1. Analysis of the geo-economic and geo-cultural situation of Suceava County within the “Upper Pruth” Euroregion;
2. The study the geo-historical, geo-economic and geo-strategic Romanian traditions in the Black Sea’s basin;
3. The highlighting of the geo-historical, geo-economic, geostrategic and geocultural elements present in the relations between Romania and the Republic of Moldavia;
4. The study of the geopolitical strengths of Russia and the influence of the Russian Federation’s “frontier” on Romania;
5. The emphasis of the USA’s “frontier” influence on Romania;
6. The study of Germany’s “frontier” influence on our country;
7. The analysis of China’s geopolitical strengths in the third

millennium, as a counterbalance against Russia and the West.

Further on, within the “Academic Recognition” subsection it is shown, among other things, that since 2008 the author has been appointed as a member of guidance and support committee for papers presented by PhD students from the History field within the ‘Stephen the Great’ University in Suceava and a member of the exam commissions for lecturers, associate professors and scientific researchers from the University of Suceava, “Vasile Alecsandri” University of Bacău and the “Bukovina” Institute in Rădăuți (Suceava County). At the same time, it is also indicated that the author is a member of the editorial or scientific colleges, a member of reviewers colleges of some scientific publications from Romania and abroad, member of ARACIS, organizer of some national and international scientific events, his scientific papers being quoted by various authors from Romania and abroad.

The second chapter initially presents the author’s didactic activity from 1993 to present and his contribution to the development of study programmes at the University of Suceava, then his managerial experience (Head of Department, Vice-dean and member of the Academic Council of History and Geography Faculty, member of ‘Stephen the Great’ University of Suceava’s Senate) and his experience as a participant or coordinator of research teams within some national and international grants or projects.

The second part of the paper summarizes the main directions proposed by the author for the development of the academic, scientific and professional career after obtaining the right to coordinate doctoral theses in the History domain.

In the didactic domain, the methodological and scientific directions of present and future courses and seminars from the bachelor and master study cycles are pointed out and the new courses that are to be published are mentioned. Simultaneously, suggested activities as a coordinator of the *History* study program are mentioned.

At the scientific level, the intentions of the author for the publication of scientific materials on the above-mentioned research directions are briefly mentioned: a book of military history of medieval Moldavia (15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> centuries) and one concerning the history of Moldavian mercenaries in Poland (16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> centuries), accompanied by studies and articles published on the same topic; publication of studies regarding the analysis of the economic and cultural situation of the Bukovina duchy in comparison with the other provinces of the Austrian state; publication of a book on the subject of the influence of the US, German and Russian

“frontiers” on Romania in the period of 1990 to present. Concomitantly, there are mentioned the author’s intentions to get involved – depending on circumstances - on the realization of research projects and grants on these directions and his intentions to support the research activities of students and young researchers.

The third section of the paper is basically presenting the documentary justification of the information and assertions contained in the first two sections, consisting of the author’s scientific production and references regarding this (reviews and citations in scientific publications).