

SUMMARY

The habilitation thesis titled “Economic Interdependences at the Turn of the 21st Century” provides an image of the candidate’s academic career, and it highlights the latter’s main scientific results during his research activity after he was awarded the title of “doctor” in *Economics*; it also points out future research plans, as well as the candidate’s ability to coordinate young researchers and to collaborate with other specialists in research teams.

The first part of the habilitation thesis outlines the candidate’s teaching and research activity as an academic staff member of the “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași, both from the point of view of his fields of interest and results, and from the point of view of their impact, visibility and recognition within the academic community. At the same time, focus is laid on the candidate’s involvement, as a project manager or as an implementation team member, in national or international scientific research, mobility or institutional development projects, as well as his results as a mentor of BA, MA or PhD students and of young researchers in the field of International Economic Relations.

The second part of the habilitation thesis covers the main results of the candidate’s scientific research in the field of *Economics and International Business* after he received the title of doctor in *Economics*. A landmark among these results is his post-doctoral research scholarship within the framework of the project titled “Post-doctoral Studies in Economics: Ongoing Training Programme for Elite Researchers (SPODE)”, contract no. POSDRU/89/1.5/S/61755, run by the Romanian Academy in partnership with some of the most important universities in Romania from 2010 to 2012. The results of his scientific research, which can also be assessed by the number and nature of quotations in the specialised literature, have been disseminated via papers given in conferences and other prestigious scientific events in Romania and abroad, and via articles published in ISI-indexed specialised journals or in other well-known international databases in the field of Economics. According to

the candidate's fields of interest, these research results can be grouped together in the following categories:

- *international migration of the workforce*. The main topics covered are connected to the connection between remittance and economic growth, between migration and economic development in countries of origin, the comparative analysis of migrant access to education in the USA and in the European Union, the reasons behind and the effects of Romanian workforce migration in other EU countries, the impact of remittance on consumption and investment in Romanian economy, the Hispanic migration in the USA etc.;

- *international trade*. This topic has been approached from the perspective of the mutations concerning international specialisation and the dynamics of international trade flows, the impact of business localization on international trade, the evolution of inside-company trade, the commercial profile of emergent economies etc.; a special attention has been granted to the strategic trade policy in the context of economic globalization, from the point of view of theoretical controversies concerning strategic trade policy, of obstacles to the implementation of the strategic trade policy, of trade disputes in the aeronautic industry from the perspective of the strategic trade policy etc.; as far as international service trade is concerned, the candidate has been interested in topics of international tourism, such as young tourists' information sources concerning trip planning, touristic consumption behaviour in protected natural areas etc.;

- *the Romanian economy in the context of the challenges induced by the single market and the European economy*. The main aspects that the candidate has considered are related to the specific features of the European business environment, the particular features of the Western European economic system, regional economic integration, energy in the context of the current challenges to the common security and defence policy of the European Union etc.; under the circumstances of the recent economic crisis, the candidate has also approached topics related to the causes, mechanisms and the impact of the economic crisis on the European economy, the effects of the economic crisis on the labour market in Romania, the behavioural perspective on the controversy concerning the opportunity of liberalisation or of regulation during crisis periods etc.

The third part of the habilitation thesis gives an outline of the candidate's future research plans and of the actual steps that he believes he will take so as to attract, motivate and train young researchers in the field of *Economics and International Business*. The same broad interest areas are considered, and they are correlated with the profile of the candidate's teaching activities in BA and MA study programmes in the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași; however, the proposed research topics will target aspects that would constitute valuable contributions to the specialized literature, both from a theoretical point of view and from a practical perspective, whenever possible. An increase in the interest granted to interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary research is envisaged, together with the ongoing improvement of training from the point of view of research methodology and, finally, an ultimate goal is to integrate the candidate's activity as a staff member of the centre of research in Economics and International Business and in European Studies. The last part of the habilitation thesis comprises the main works used as bibliographical references for the results of the scientific research activity included in the current habilitation thesis.