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Programul Operațional Sectorial pentru Dezvoltarea Resurselor Umane 2007 – 2013

Axa prioritară nr.1 „Educația și formarea profesională în sprijinul creșterii economice și dezvoltării societății bazate pe cunoaștere”

Domeniul major de intervenție 1.5 “Programe doctorale și post-doctorale în sprijinul cercetării”

Titlul proiectului: **“Cultura română și modele culturale europene: cercetare, sincronizare, durabilitate”**

Beneficiar: **Academia Română**

Numărul de identificare al contractului: POSDRU/159/1.5/S/136077

Scientific Report for Doctoral Research

**Academic Tutor Coordinator:
Professor Nicolae MECU**

**Ph.D. Student:
George MOTROC**

Bucharest, 2015



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Postwar political novel from "Mitrea Cocor" to "The Most Beloved of Earthlings". A (new) reading from yesterday and today

Academic Tutor Coordinator:

Professor Nicolae MECU

**Ph.D. Student:
George MOTROC**

This paper is supported by the Sectorial Operational Programme Human Resources Development (SOP HRD), financed from the European Social Fund and by the Romanian Government under the contract number SOP HRD/159/1.5/S/136077

Bucharest, 2015

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ABSTRACT

For my doctoral research I used as the starting point this essential question: What resist yet, what can be read today from a long list of great Romanian novels from 50-60-70-80 years? At such a crucial question not only for the destiny of a literature, but in a bigger context, even for a nation, we can give at least some clear answers as well we can make even a short and a minimal list: „Moromeții” - Marin Preda, „Vânătoarea regală” de D. R. Popescu, „Fețele tăcerii”- Augustin Buzura, and „Cel mai iubit dintre pământeni”- Marin Preda.

The correlative question is unavoidable: What can not resist, all or in part, in all literature written and published during the communist regime? And in this case there are some answers which can form what we can call "a list of shame", which is open with „Mitreă Cocor” and then comes a whole and long list of socialist novels.

Besides those two mentioned categories, there are also other novels, much harder to label because, in those cases, we can find different levels for density of literature value even there is an ideological substrate, clear to the publication date, more blurred today. In accordance to this point of view, we have to examine and determine the literature values as a sum, not only in terms of value pure literature, even a particular context of the era, from an analysis of the relationship novel - ideology, and finally to be able to define and understand what the means that were the benefits and limitations of this controversial literary concept called political novel.

All this path of Romanian novel with political significance and expressing the core values of the human condition which officially started in 1949 by appearance "Mitreă Cocor" (Mitreă Crane) will end unofficially in 1980 by Marin's last novel - „Cel mai iubit dintre pământeni”(The Most Beloved of Earthlings) and officially in 1989, when left the place for another type of writing and reporting to the immediate history and the truth, when everything can be said. It's also true that this latest type of economic censorship is or at least seems today, paradoxically, infinitely more difficult even than political censorship during the communist regime because of the increasing cost involved publication for a book, but as a growing disinterest of the general public for literature.

Looking back, no anger, no literally moralist type or proving exaggerated pessimism, one main conclusion regarding the fate of the Romanian novel is: it can be said without fear of error, that no matter how big or smaller today seems compromises made by the writers from the

communist regime, forced to do in life or even in their books, these authors have an undeniable merit that what can never be taken away and deserve respect from next generations, because: they resist and made great Romanian novel not to disappear.

Looking forward, in this way, without exaggeration or excessive pessimism, we can see that there are so certainties and expectations regarding Romanian novel especially and Romanian literature in generally, such idea literary synthesized by Pofessor Florin Mihailescu: „ We can not to predict image of tomorrow Romanian literature, but dare to be sure of one thing, namely that it will not contradict the meaning of his whole historical developments and our entire spiritual creations will confirm. How and in what form, is hard to say, even impossible. But our creative continuity wire will not break. Otherwise, it would mean to be born again, which is not our case. We were born long time ago, and today, after such long and painful historical parenthesis of this last century, we strive indeed reborn. Literature has a specific role in this process, and even if he would not take it, all will be absolutely convincing witness. There's nothing left to do, just to continue this way. "

Keywords: Postwar Romanian novel, Mihail Sadoveanu, Marin Preda, D. R. Popescu, Augsutin Buzura, relation writer-ideology.