UNIVERSITY BABEȘ-BOLYAI CLUJ-NAPOCA FACULTY OF EUROPEAN STUDIES EUROPEAN PARADIGM DOCTORAL SCHOOL

DOCTORAL THESIS

Social movements, post-politics and re-politicization in Romania, 2012-2018

PhD candidate: Victoria Stoiciu PhD supervisor: Professor Dr. Sergiu MIŞCOIU

2019

Table of contents

Introduction. Research goals and methodology	4
Research questions	5
Theoretical framework	7
Research hypothesis	9
Methodology	10
Structure and chapters	12
Chapter I. Post-communist Romania – consensus, conflict and de-politicization	15
1.1 The end of ideologies and post-communism	15
The end of history and the death of ideologies	15
Post-marxism or a new perspective on the death of ideologies	18
Politics, political and post-politics	20
From post-politics to post-democracy	23
1.2. Post-communist Romania and the trans-partinic consensus, 1990-2010	26
Ideological volatility and consensus	26
Beginning_ of the 90s, between liberalization, privatizations and indexations	28
CDR government - maximal shock therapy and minimal social protection	34
The 2000s – old poltics of the new governments	37
Băsescu's period and the consensus suspension	41
1.3. Post-communist consensus results - neoliberalism, residual social state and de-politic	
The free market ideology versus the pragmatism of social policies	45
Ideological consensus and de-politicization	48
Chapter 2. Social movements – continuity and rupture with the post-communist con	sensus
– 2012-2018	53
2.1. Social movements theories	54
From resources mobilization theory to new social movements theory	54
From global social movements to anti-austerity movements and the need for a disciplinary approach	
Double movement and social movements	62
2.2. Economic crisis and post-political consensus - continuity and rupture	66

De-politicization and desimbedded markets	
Structural reforms and comodification during crisis – social dialog and labor reform.	-
New targets of structural reforms - social assistance and public health system	74
Continuity and rupture with the post-communist consensus	
2.3. 2012-2013 protests and the "Uniți Salvăm" community - discourse and messag	es 82
2012 protests – anti-austerity and anti-system	82
2013 protests and the "Uniți Salvăm" community	
2.4. "Uniți Salvăm", resistance to commodification and re-politicization attempts	
"Uniți Salvăm", as a response to commodification	
"Uniți Salvăm" as a re-politicization attempt	
2.5. Anti-corruption social movements - 2017-2018, "Rezist", "Corupția Ucide"	
2016 and the rise of the anti-corruption discourse	
From anti-system to anti-governmental rhetoric	
Rezist and the perpetuation of the post-communist consensus	
Chapter 3. Discursive stakes and significances of the social movements	
3.1. Trends and directions of the social movements - a theoretical approach	
3.2. System, anti-system and competing agendas in 2012	
Discursive heterogeneity in 2012 protests	
How the anti-system agenda became dominant – an explanation	
3.3. 2013 and the "battle for the soul of the protests"	
Romanian autumn – between anti-capitalism and anti-corruption	
Continuity and discontinuity in 2013 protests - discursive stakes	
Inclusion of the anti-corruption agenda in the "Uniți Salvăm" discourse	
3.4. Anti-corruption agenda on the rise: 2014-2015	
What anti-system means? Questions and answers during the protests	
"Colectiv" protests and the technocratic solution	
Chaper 4. Contestation and hegemony	150
4.1 Anti-corruption and neoliberalism	
Corruption and the fight against it – the trajectory of an idea	
Good governance, technocracy and neoliberal solutions	
4.2. Corruption, anti-corruption and hegemony	
Discourse theory – an overview	

Corruption and anti-corruption in Romania	a - an interpretation through the lenses of the
discourse theory	
4.3. Conclusions	
Bibliography	

Key words: social movements, anti-system, anti-corruption, post-politics, de-politicization, consensus, anti-austerity, re-politicization, commodification, protests, counter-movement, hegemony

Introduction

The years following the global economic crisis of 2007-2008 represented worldwide an unprecedented period of social tensions and turmoil since the fall of communist regimes in Eastern Europe. From anti-government protests in North Africa and the Middle East, known under the generic label of Arab Spring, from anti-austerity and / or anti-system protests such as Occupy and Indignados to protests in Bosnia or Bulgaria, a wave of massive collective mobilizations brought back a new political actor on the world map – social movements, which seemed to have entered a shadow corner after the wave of protests from the late 60s-early 70s of the last century. Romania was not overpassed by this phenomenon. After more than two decades since the civic unrest in 1991, during which the main forms of collective mobilization were organized by trade unions, in 2012 thousands of citizens spontaneously took to the streets in a protest that continued for more than a month, prompting the change of several ministers and later on of the entire Government. The agenda and the claims of the January 2012 protests placed them in the ideatic and discursive proximity of anti-austerity protests, similar to Occupy or Indignados¹.

A closer look at the evolution of social movements in Romania since 2012 until nowadays shows that they are far from being a static phenomenon, with a fixed agenda and a clearly defined discourse. The difference between the claims of the 2012 protests and those of the protesters during the 2017 protests is noticeable. The centrality or the marginality of the anti-corruption theme, the radical or moderate positioning with respect to the political parties, the relationship with the political class as a whole are just a few elements of strong differentiation. In other words, if the events that took place during the winter of 2012 can be characterized as having mainly an anti-austerity agenda and being directed against the political class as a whole, the 2017 protests can be observed as having as central theme the fight against corruption and choosing as target the government alone, not the entire political class.

This paper represents an analysis of the social movements that took place in Romania between 2012 and 2018. The analysis mainly focuses on understanding the agenda and the discourse of social movements, their evolution in time and their impact on Romanian political

¹ Diana Mărgarit, "The days we don't give in – the Romanian social movements between 2012 and 2015", *Eastblog*, 2016

landscape. Unlike other social movements, such as Occupy, Indignados or Arab Spring, which have been extensively analyzed, the emerging social movements in Romania had triggered little attention within the scientific community. Given the increased political importance of social movements since 2010, the study of social movements involves more than understanding the dynamics or characteristics of social movements, opening the possibility for a broader analysis of the political sphere.

Therefore, the aim of this research goes beyond the strict analysis of Romanian social movements between 2012-2018, trying to understand them in the context of the wider international and national political and economic landscape, and in a temporal perspective that goes beyond the time horizon of the protests themselves or the events that triggered the unrest.

Research questions

Starting from this objective, the research questions of the thesis can be grouped into several categories, as follows:

1. What is the global and national context preceding the emergence of social movements that started in Romania in 2012 and how does this influence the configuration and articulation of the social movements' agenda?

2. What is the agenda of social movements from 2012 to 2018 and to what extent and in what way does it vary over time?

3. What are the contextual and structural factors responsible for how the popular discontent is articulated and the protest agenda formulated?

4. What is the political impact of the social movements from 2012-2018?

Theoretical framework

Answering the above questions requires the use of a theoretical cross-disciplinary framework, which transcends social movement studies or political sociology field, the main discipline responsible for the study of social movements. Understanding the structural tendencies and macro transformations lying behind the social movements, capturing their political impact beyond the immediate effects require the use of a number of disciplines related to political sociology or political science, such as political economy, political philosophy, political anthropology or discourse theory, without which the elucidation of the studied phenomenon might not be possible.

Thus, the first major theoretical direction used in the present analysis is rooted in the area of political philosophy and social theory known as post-Marxism, represented by theorists like Jacques Rancière², Ernesto Laclau, Chantal Mouffe³ or Slavoj Žižek⁴. The use of this theoretical framework arises as a result of the attempt to explain the global and national context in which social movements emerged after 2010 on international level and 2012 on national level. The paper attempts to place the understanding of Romanian context, especially of post-communism, within the wider framework of global tendencies, known as the "end of ideologies" or even the "end of history", tendencies theorized by authors such as Ulrich Beck, Anthony Giddens⁵ or Francis Fukuyama⁶. The fall of socialist regimes in Eastern Europe seemed to validate those theories, fueling not only theoretical analyzes, but also political forces claiming to have overcome the traditional split between left and right, such as the Third Way. But the outbreak of the global economic crisis of 2007 and the wave of collective mobilization that followed have put into question the set of theories that we generically call the end of history, revealing a series of political cleavages, advancing new divides by reinvigorating the old dichotomy between left and right. In

² Jaques Rancière, Disagreement. Politics and Philosophy, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1999

³ Ernesto Laclau, Chantal. Mouffe, *Hegemony and socialist strategy: toward a radical democratic politics*, London: Verso, 1985

⁴ Slavoj Žižek, The Ticklish Subject. The Absent Centre of Political Ontology, London: Verso, 2000

⁵ Ulrich Beck, Anthony Giddens, Scott Lash, *Reflexive Modernization. Politics, Tradition and Aesthetics in the Modern Social Order.* Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1994

⁶ Francis Fukuyama, *The End of History and the Last Man*, New York: Free Press, 1992

this context, the appeal to post-Marxist theorists becomes necessary. Without actually denouncing what had been labeled the end of ideologies theory, post-Marxists propose an alternative interpretation of the phenomenon, offering a new perspective on the "end of ideologies" as the end of politics. From the perspective of post-Marxist theory, the decline of ideologies equals to the evacuation of conflict from the political sphere, which is not equivalent to eliminating conflicts per se, bringing us in front of the phenomenon called post-politics. Concepts such as depoliticization, post-politics and post-democracy, developed by authors like Slavoj Žižek, Jacques Rancière, Colin Crouch⁷ or Colin Hay⁸ become key analytical tools in understanding the broader context of the emergence of the contemporary social movements.

A second theoretical pillar upon which relies the present analysis is classical studies of social movements - from Charles Tilly⁹, Michel Wieviorka¹⁰ and Alain Touraine¹¹ to Donatella della Porta¹², Alberto Melucci¹³ or Michael Burawoy¹⁴. In addition, in order to be able to understand how the protests' agenda and narratives are articulated, the analysis resorts to various elements of framing theory, whose main exponents are Snow and Benford¹⁵. Although the paper reviews the main paradigms of the social movement studies, from the resource mobilization theory to the new social movements approach, the present analysis does not fit in any of the respective paradigms. Following the argumentation line of several authors investigating recent social movements, among which Donatella della Porta¹⁶ or Don Kalb¹⁷, the present thesis proposes an inter-sectional analysis, which transcends the above mentioned divisions of social movement

⁷ Colin Crouch, Post-democracy, Cambridge: John Wiley&Sons, 2004

⁸ Colin Hay, Why we hate politics, Cambridge: Polity Press, 2007

⁹ Charles Tilly, Lilly Tilly, Richard Tilly, *The Rebellious Century: 1830-1930*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, M.A, 1975

¹⁰ Michel Wievorka, Un autre monde; contestations, dérives et surprises dans l'anti-mondialisation, Paris: Balland, 2003

¹¹ Alain Touraine, Post-Industrial Society, London: Wildwood House, 1974

¹² Donatella della Porta, *Can democracy be saved: participation, deliberation and social movements*, Polity Press, Cambridge, 2013; Donatella della Porta, *Social Movements in Times of Austerity*, Cambridge: Polity Press, 2015

¹³ Alberto Melucci, John Kean, Paul Mier (ed), *Nomads of the Present: Social Movements and Individual Needs in Contemporary Society*, London: Hutchinson Radius, 1989

¹⁴ Michael Burowoy, "Times of Turmoil Emerging Visions from Three Years of Global Dialogue", *Journal of the Brazilian Sociological Society Revista da Sociedade Brasileira de Sociologia*, SID, Porto Alegre, v. 1, n. 1/2015, p. 49-63; Michael Burowoy, "Third-Wave Sociology and the End of Pure Science", *The American Sociologist*, Fall/Winter, 2005

¹⁵ David A. Snow, R. Burke Rochford, Jr., Steven K. Worden, Robert D. Benford "Frame Alignment Processes, Micromobilization, and Movement Participation", *American Sociological Review*, vol. 51, 1986, p. 464-481.
¹⁶ Della Porta, 2015, *op. cit*, p. 40-51

¹⁷ Don Kalb, Massimiliano Mollona, *Worldwide mobilizations. Class Struggles and Urban Commoning*, New York: Berghahn Book, 2018

studies and attempts to situate the social movements analysis in the wider context of the political economy. As shown in the paper, the social movement wave that emerged in 2010 in the aftermath of the economic crisis imposes such an approach and requires reintroduction of concepts like *class* or *capitalism* in the analysis of social movements, without which the understanding of the phenomenon would be incomplete. Following this analytical path, the social movements that emerged in Romania are studied from the perspective of the theoretical frameworks provided by authors such as Karl Polanyi¹⁸ or Wolfgang Streeck¹⁹, at the center of the analysis being the concepts of double movement and counter-movement developed by Polanyi.

Methodology

The research represents a combination of 1) theoretical analysis that aims to clarify the key concepts of the thesis (social movements, capitalism, democracy, politics, de-politicization, post-politics), and 2) empirical research, which we will be used to test the formulated hypotheses.

The empirical analysis consists of analysis of main public policies and governance programs for the period 1990-2012, secondary data analysis and content analysis (slogans, public positions and texts produced by the protesters, as well as editorials and comments regarding the protests published in the media).

Chapter I. Post-communist Romania – consensus, conflict and de-politicization

The chapter aims to situate the Romanian post-1989 political dynamics within the wider global and European context of the phenomenon defined as post-politics. Against this background, the first section of the chapter makes a theoretical foray into the literature around these concepts, from Daniel Bell, Ulrich Beck, Anthony Giddens and Francis Fukuyama to post-Marxist theorists such as Jacques Rancière, Slavoj Žižek, Chantal Mouffe and Ernesto Laclau. Following the clarification of the operational concepts, the chapter continues with an analysis of the political

¹⁸ Karl Polanyi, *The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time*, Boston: Beacon Press, 2001 (1944)

¹⁹ Wolfgang Streeck, Buying Time: the delayed crisis of democratic capitalism, Brooklyn and London: Verso, 2014

situation in Romania between 1990 and 2012 using the analytical grid of concepts such as consensus, de-politicization, and antagonism.

The central idea of this chapter sates that the post-communist Romanian political landscape was characterized by a cross-party consensus that resulted in a neoliberal economic model and a residual welfare state. In terms of public policies, this consensus was materialized, on one hand, in a mix of pro-market and pro-liberalization policies that led to the creation of a neoliberal economic model and on the other hand, in a set of minimal social measures, with the main purpose of preserving the social peace. In spite of a number of variations explainable by the economic context or external constraints, this mixed set of policies has been implemented by all Romanian governments after 1990, regardless of their political and ideological self-labeling. This mixed set of policies was refuted only in 2010, with the implementation of the austerity measures and structural reforms by Emil Boc's Government.

The chapter also states that the post-communist political consensus cannot be reduced to the set of common economic and social policies described above. These policies and the consensus around them are the expression of an ideological consensus that argues that market economy and capitalism is the only possible system. Despite several debates about the speed and the nature of the economic reforms, all the solutions indicated by the political actors were circumscribed to the "natural order" of the free market and parliamentary democracy²⁰. Romanian post-communist consensus is coagulated around the anti-communist narrative, narrative which operates a displacement of the conflicts faced by the society and their causes from the immediate present into the communist past. As an effect of this displacement, the existing social and economic differences are no longer perceived at the political level, these differences being instead translated into the terminology of culture and cultural identities.

Starting with the first part of the 2000s and the rise of Traian Băsescu, the anti-communist discourse is incorporated in the anti-corruption discourse. Thus, the social antagonisms are once again evicted from the political sphere, being replaced by a series of conflicts that end up dominating the public and political agenda and which are profoundly de-politicizing, by their nature.

 ²⁰ Emanuel Copilaş, De la ideologie la hegemonie. Explorari critice in postcomunismul românesc, București, Tritonic,
 2018

The hegemony of this trans-partisan consensus is leading to the de-politicization of Romanian political landscape. This trend is in line with the wider context of the phenomena called post-politics and post-democracy, which refers to the tendency to govern around a cross-party consensus that proclaims the inevitability of capitalism and parliamentary democracy²¹. By accepting the market economy and the liberal democracy as main political goals, Romania and other post-socialist states recognize the quasi-natural origin of the former, implying there is only one possible direction and that the 1989 revolutions had the role of reuniting the society with its original nature, alienated during communism²². Through the lenses of the West, the 1989 revolutions represent a final victory of post-political tolerance, post-historical normality and post-utopian pacification²³.

Chapter II. Social movements – continuity and discontinuity with the post-communist consensus: 2012-2018

The chapter begins with a review of the main paradigms on social movements, from resources mobilization theory and new social movements theory to the most recent theoretical attempts to explain the global and anti-austerity social movements. The purpose of this step is to fix the theoretical framework used in the further analysis of the emerging social movements in Romania starting with 2012. As shown in the chapter, the present analysis of the social movements goes beyond the framework of the above mentioned theoretical paradigms and, as suggested by many authors in the most recent literature on social movements, choses a trans-disciplinary approach that brings into discussion elements of political anthropology, political philosophy or political economy.

By introducing new analytical concepts, such as Polanyi's double movement theory²⁴, we propose an interpretation of the social movements emerging in Romania starting with 2012 as a reaction to the commodification provoked by the austerity measures and the structural reforms implemented by the Government of Emil Boc between 2010 and 2011. Social movements are

²³ Idem

²¹Wilson, Swyngedouw, op.cit., 2014

²² Boris Buden, *Zone des Übergangs: Vom Ende des Postkommunismus*, (The Zone of Transition. On the End of Post-Communism), Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp Verlag, 2009

²⁴ Polanyi, *op.cit*.

analyzed as having the potential to become an element of the polanyian counter-movement. At the same time, the chapter shows how the markets' social and political dis-embeddedness, described by Polanyi, goes hand in hand with the phenomenon of de-politicization and post-democracy. In line with several authors, the chapter argues that we are facing a political rationality in which previously autonomous social, political and moral spheres have merged into the economic sphere²⁵. This opens the way to what is called de-politicization through economization, a process through which cultural and political differences are replaced by the trans-historical formalism of a new economic interpretation grid²⁶.

The chapter describes in detail how the austerity measures and structural reforms adopted by the government in 2010-2011 marked a new advance in the process of commodification and de-politicization. It shows how the changes in the social dialogue and labor legislation led to a depoliticization of labor relations, beyond the quantifiable impact of labor relations flexibilization. As Bourdieu claimed, dissolving the collective structures that oppose the logic of the market is a main feature of neoliberalism²⁷, but it is also the quintessence of de-politicization. As Colin Hay sates, the metamorphosis of collective problems into individual problems and the problems' transfer from public to private sphere is a *modus operandi* of de-politicization²⁸. Following the same path, the reform of the social assistance system and the attempt to privatize the public health care system during 2011-2012 are an abdication from the polanyian principle of social solidarity, understood as the preservation of nature and human being in the face of the devastating action of the economic liberalism, whose ultimate purpose is a totally de-regulated market²⁹. By drastically reducing the social protection, the austerity policies and the structural reforms of 2010-2011 have suspended the cross-party post-communist consensus, which despite its sustained liberalization practices, was always characterized by a certain level of social welfare.

Against this background, the emerging social movements starting 2012 are interpreted as a form of resistance to the wave of commodification, as well as a re-politicization attempt. Describing the social movements as an attempt to re-politicize is not new. Several authors

²⁵Camil Alexandru Pârvu, "Contestatory Cosmopolitanism, Neoliberal Rationality and Global Protests", in *Globalizations*, Vol. 14, Issue 5, 2017, pp. 776-79

²⁶ Yahya M. Madra & Fikret Adaman, "Neoliberal reason and its forms: De-politicization through economization", in *Antipode*, Vol. 46, issue 3, 2014, pp. 691–716

²⁷Pierre Bourdieu, *The essence of neoliberalism*, Le Monde Diplomatique, December, 1998

²⁸ Colin Hay, Why We Hate Politics, New York: John Wiley & Sons, 2013

²⁹ Polanyi, *op.cit*.

described how the social movements' organization, vocabulary, political imaginary and political rationality attempt to re-politicize the public sphere by rejecting both the procedural formalism of institutionalized politics and the specific "economization" of neoliberalism³⁰.

Departing from this perspective, the chapter shows how the social movements gradually evolved from a radical form of contestation, with a re-politicizing potential, to an anti-corruption agenda - a form of perpetuating the post-communist consensus built, as shown before, around the binary opposition between communism and anti-communism. The anti-system rhetoric of 2012-2013 protests was replaced after 2015-2016 by an anti-government narrative, anchored in the neoliberal discourse of good governance.

Although the 2012-2018 protests cycle was opened by progressive social forces, over time, it provided the opportunity and the repertoire of actions for movements that can be described as neoliberal³¹.

Chapter III. Discursive stakes and significances of the social movements

This chapter represents an attempt to explain the causes and factors that led to a gradual slide from the anti-system agenda, with its re-politicization potential, to an anti-corruption agenda, which ultimately strengthened the post-communist cross-party consensus. As part of polanyian counter-movement phenomenon³², social movements can have an emancipative, progressive agenda, but they can turn into oppressive, authoritarian movements³³. The social movements' emancipatory character is not compulsory, as counter-movement is never homogenous.

The chapter shows how different competing agendas – mainly the anti-corruption and antisystem ones – have colluded during the analyzed protests cycle. It analyses how the anti-corruption narrative succeeded to gradually prevailed as the main frame of the protests. In this sense, the chapter performs an empirical analysis of the discourses and narratives present within the protests from 2012 to 2018 and the way in which the popular discontent was articulated.

³⁰ Pârvu, *op.cit*, 2017

³¹ Raluca Abăseacă, Geoffrey Pleyers, "The reconfiguration of social movements in post-2011 Romania", *Social Movement Studies*, Vol. 18, issue 2, p.168

³² Polanyi, *op.cit*.

³³ Michael Brie, Karl Polanyi In Dialogue, Montréal: Black Rose Books, 2017

The chapter shows that the social movement that emerged in 2012 was not characterized by unity of actors nor homogeneity of discourses from its beginning³⁴. Already in 2012, one can observe how the anti-corruption narrative manifests itself among the protesters, next to the antisystem narrative. However, the anti-system narrative prevailed as the main frame of the 2012-2013 protests due to a number of factors, such as domestic configuration of political forces and international context characterized by a wave of anti-austerity protests. The transformation of the domestic political configuration after 2014-2015, as well as the unbalanced access of the representatives of the two competing agendas to informational and other type of resources led to a gradual replacement of the anti-system agenda by the anti-corruption agenda as the main frame of the social movement. The anti-system rhetoric was not entirely expelled from the protesters' discourse – instead, it was re-signified in a way in which the opposition to the system did not imply a radical rejection of the entire political class, but only of some of its representatives. In contrast to 2012-2013, the new collective identity that emerged after 2014-2015 – the Us that opposes Them - included several political parties or political figures. The technocratic solution was accepted as the anti-system alternative to the existing political class, thus closing the possibility for a more radical interpretation of the notions of system and anti-system. Moreover, it put an end to the repoliticization attempt of 2012-2013, since the collective identities, the vocabulary of the protests, the antagonism around which the protests emerged stared reproducing once again the neoliberal, depoliticizing rhetoric of the post-communist consensus.

The chapter concludes that the process of framing of 2012-2018 social movements was the outcome of the protests' internal dynamics, as well as of the power relations between different protests' factions and other relevant stakeholders, such as media or political parties, a collective effort equally involving the protesters themselves and their allies, as well as their opponents and critics.

³⁴ Diana Mărgărit, "Ideology and Social Movements. A Comparative Analysis of the 2013 Protests in Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania" in Geoffrey Pleyers, Ionel N. Sava, *Social Movements in Central and Eastern Europe. A renewal of protests and democracy*, București: Editura Universității din București, 2015; Cătălin Augustin Stoica Vintilă Mihăilescu, *Iarna vrajbei noastre*, București, Paideea, 2012

Chapter IV. Contestation and hegemony

The chapter seeks an explanation going beyond the empirical and contextual analysis of the confrontation between different discursive systems, described in the previous chapter. The starting question is why social movements in Romania have not succeeded, as Donatella della Porta predicts, to articulate an anti-corruption vision that opposes the neoliberal anti-corruption paradigm that traditionally involves budgetary cuts, privatizations, de-regulation and liberalization³⁵. Many of the social movements that emerged worldwide after 2011 contradict the neoliberal approach to corruption, proposing an alternative perspective, emphasizing how the neoliberalism corrupts democracy and denouncing the overlap between business and political interests. According to della Porta, recent social movements advocate for a different anti-corruption approach - a bottom-up action, based on horizontality, on participation and thus radically opposed to the neoliberal paradigm that treats corruption as a purely technical matter, reducible to what is called good governance and implemented top down (by public institutions, judiciary, police).

The chapter shows Romanian anti-corruption perspective fitting into the wider neoliberal analytical matrix³⁶ that goes hand in hand with policy recommendations of budget cuts, liberalizations and privatizations. The anti-corruption rhetoric is analyzed through the lenses of the discourse theory, which is key analytical tool used in this chapter. From the discourse theory perspective, the anti-corruption emerged as a central element of the hegemonic post-communist discourse. The corruption represents what Mouffe and Laclau³⁷ call a nodal point, namely the articulation through which other nodes are being interconnected; corruption is the element through which other concepts, such as good governance, state modernization, political class reform, and underdevelopment are structured and signified. Not only the political arena, but the society as a whole becomes the scene for a confrontation between the forces of good (the People, the politicians taking the side of the People) and the forces of evil (the corrupt politicians, the oligarchs, etc),

³⁵ Donatella della Porta, "Anti-corruption from bellow. Social movements against corruption in late neoliberalism", in *The Open Journal of Sociopolitical Studies*, Issue 10(3) 2017

³⁶ Peter Bratsis, "Political Corruption in the Age of Transnational. Capitalism. From the Relative Autonomy of the State to the White Man's Burden", in *Historical Materialism*, Issue 22.1, 2014, pp. 105–128; Mushtaq Khan, 2002, "Corruption and Governance in Early Capitalism: World Bank Strategies and their Limitations", in Jonathan R. Pincus, Jeffrey A. Winters, *Reinventing the World Bank*, Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2002.

³⁷ Laclau, Mouffe, *op.cit*, 1985

which are hold responsible for all the problems, from underdevelopment and migration³⁸ and poverty (*"Corruption is poverty"*³⁹) to the death of the innocents (*"Corruption kills"*).

The chapter presents the 2012 events as an attempt to dislocate the hegemonic discourse, whose nodal point is corruption. The protests from 2012-2013 seek to re-articulate the discursive elements according to a new order, in which the corruption is not a "command center" anymore, becoming a floating signifier⁴⁰. The discourse that imposed itself as dominant in these protests tried to draw new political boundaries between *Us* and *Them*, by excluding any representatives of the political class. According to this analysis, the confrontation during the 2012-2018 protests can be classified as what Mouffe and Laclau call a hegemonic struggle, aiming to displace the actual hegemonic discourse with a new one.

Finally, the chapter shows how the hegemonic discourse succeeds to integrate the contestation, transforming the rebellion into a part of the hegemony, as presented in the discourse theory. This applies to Romanian social movements, where external events, political configuration and asymmetry of resources have facilitated the assimilation of the contestation by the hegemony. The thesis argues that what is presented or perceived as a change is, in fact, a replacement of some names and labels with others within the same discursive system and following the same articulation pattern.

The analysis concludes that the transformative potential of the protests has been diminished, if not entirely canceled, by seeking solutions within the same discursive framework which perpetuates the problems that are at the origin of the discontent. The social movements in Romania started in 2012 as a political act with a high potential to challenge the hegemony and, gradually, they became, until 2017, a simple variation of the hegemonic discourse.

³⁸Andrei Caramitru, 2000 de lei / lună / angajat – mecanismul prin care corupția naște sărăcie, emigrație şi subdezvoltare, G4Media, 20 octombrie 2018, available at <u>https://www.g4media.ro/2000-de-lei-luna-angajat-mecanismul-prin-care-coruptia-naste-saracie-emigratie-si-subdezvoltare.html</u> ³⁹Coruptia e saracie! Informeaza-ti prietenii!, video from Monica Macovei campaign from 2014, available at <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5fAP-IDFmU&feature=youtu.be</u>

⁴⁰ Laclau, Mouffe, *op.cit*, 1985

Bibliografie

Abăseacă, Raluca; Geoffrey Pleyers, (2017), "The reconfiguration of social movements in post-2011 Romania", in *Social Movement Studies*, Vol. 18, issue 2, pp. 154-170

Aligica, Dragos Paul (2013), *Roșia Montana: Nu-i aparati ca nu aveti pe cine, Contributors*, available at <u>http://www.contributors.ro/fara-categorie/rosia-montana-nu-i-aparati-</u> <u>ca-nu-aveti-pe-cine/</u>

Anastasakis, Othon (2014), "Election Consolidation in the Post-Communist Balkans: Progress and Obstacles", in *Caucasus International*, Vol.3, Issue 4

Apostol, Emanuel (2012), *Manifestul ultraşilor: "Vrem să închideți mall-uri şi să deschideți fabrici"*, available at https://www.libertatea.ro/stiri/manifestul-ultrasilor-vrem-sa-inchideti-mall-uri-si-sa-deschideti-fabrici-691955

Arrighi, Giovanni; Hopkins, Terence K.; Wallerstein, Immanuel Maurice (1990), Antisystemic Movements, London: Verso

Atkinson, Maxwell; John Heritage (1984), *Structures of Social Action: Studies in Conversation Analysis*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press;

Badiou, Alain (1991), *D'un désastre obscure : droit, état, politique*, La Tour d'Aigues : Editions d'Aube

Bazac, Ana (2013), E *aiurea să vorbim despre "altceva" decât Roșia Montană?*, CriticAtac, available at <u>http://www.criticatac.ro/23445/aiurea-vorbim-despre-altceva-decat-roia-montan/</u>

Ban, Cornel (2015), Dependență și dezvoltare. Economia politică a capitalismului românesc, Cluj Napoca: Tact

Ban, Cornel ; Gabor, Daniela (2014), *Recalibrarea înțelepciunii convenționale: o analiză aprofundată a relațiilor dintre România și FMI*, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, 2014

Bauman, Zigmund (2001), The individualized society, Cambridge: Polity Press

Banca Mondială (1997), România Poverty and Social Policy, Raport 16462-RO, Volum I

Beck, Ulrich; Giddens, Anthony; Lash, Scott (1994), *Reflexive Modernization. Politics, Tradition and Aesthetics in the Modern Social Order*, Stanford: Stanford University Press

Beck, Ulrich; Ritter, Mark (1997), *The reinvention of politics: rethinking modernity in the global social order*, Cambridge: Polity Press

Beck, Ulrich (2016), *The metamorphosis of the world: How climate change is transforming our concept of the world*, Cambridge: Polity Press

Beck, Ulrich (2015b), " Emancipatory catastrophism: What does it mean to climate change and risk society?" in *Current Sociology*, Vol. 63, Issue 1, pp. 75–88.

Bell, Daniel (1960), *The end of ideology*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press Bell, Daniel (1976), *The Coming of Post-industrial Society*, New York: Basic Books

Bell, Daniel (2000), The End of Ideology: On the Exhaustion of Political Ideas in the

Fifties, Cambridge: Harvard University Press

Block, Fred; Somers, Margaret (2014), *The Power of Market Fundamentalism: Karl Polanyi's Critique*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press

Boas, Morten, McNeill, Desmond (2003), *Global Institutions and Development: Framing the World?*, London: Routledge

Bohle, Dorothe; Grekovits, Béla (2012) *Capitalist diversity on Europe's periphery*, Ithaka: Cornell University Press

Bogdan, Sidonia (2017), *De ce a început PSD fix acum lupta pentru Roșia Montană și ce şanse are să câștige*, available at <u>https://www.vice.com/ro/article/gyy9gq/de-ce-a-inceput-psd-</u> <u>fix-acum-lupta-pentru-rosia-montana-si-ce-sanse-are-sa-castige</u>

Bogdan, Sidonia (2018), *De ce împiedică politicienii români intrarea Roșiei Montane în patrimoniul UNESCO*, available at <u>https://www.vice.com/ro/article/43pgg9/de-ce-impiedica-politicienii-romani-intrarea-rosiei-montane-in-patrimoniul-unesco</u>

Boghiceanu, Alina (2014), *Cum se pot reforma marile partide după votul anti-sistem din 16 noiembrie?*, available at <u>https://adevarul.ro/news/politica/adevarul-live-ora-1100-reforma-</u> marile-partide-votul-anti-sistem-16-noiembriei-1 5475800ea0eb96501e181ce2/index.html

Boltanski, Luc; Chiapello, Eve (2005), The *new spirit of capitalism*, London: Verso Bourdieu, Pierre (1998), Acts *of Resistance*, Cambridge: Polity Press

Bourdieu, Pierre (1998), "The essence of neoliberalism" in Le Monde Diplomatique, December, 1998

Bourdieu, Pierre (2003), Firing Back, Cambridge: Polity Press

Bran, Mirel (2012), Anger threatens to topple Romanian president as austerity measures bite, available at https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/jan/24/romania-anti-government-austerity-protests

Bratsis, Peter (2014), "Political Corruption in the Age of Transnational. Capitalism. From the Relative Autonomy of the State to the White Man's Burden", in *Historical Materialism*, Vol. 1, Issue 22, pp. 105–128

Brie, Michael (2017), Karl Polanyi in Dialogue, Montréal: Black Rose Books

Buden, Boris (2009), Zone des Übergangs (The Zone of Transition. On the End of Post-Communism), Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp

Buechler, Steven M. (2000), Social movements in advanced capitalism: the political economy and cultural construction of social activism, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Burowoy, Michael (2005), " *Third-Wave Sociology and the End of Pure Science*" in *The American Sociologist*, Fall/Winter 2005

Burowoy, Michael (2015), "Times of Turmoil Emerging Visions from Three Years of Global Dialogue", in *Journal of the Brazilian Sociological Society Revista da Sociedade Brasileira de Sociologia*, SID, Porto Alegre, vol. 1, issue 1, p. 49-63, 2015

Buti, Daniel (2011) "Ce sunt partidele politice? Spre o noua abordare in stasiologie", în *Sfera Politicii*, nr. 5 (159)

Carp, Ana (2017), "Corelarea salariilor cu indicele de creștere al prețurilor de consum -Compensarea și indexarea", în *Revista de Statistică*, Supliment nr. 11, 2017, available at <u>http://www.revistadestatistica.ro/supliment/wp-</u>

content/uploads/2017/11/A3_rrss_11_2017_RO.pdf

Castaneda, Ernesto (2012), "The Indignados of Spain: a precedent to Occupy Wall Street", in *Social Movement Studies*, Vol. 11, Issue 3-4, pp. 309-19

Castells, Manuel (1983), The City and the Grassroots, London: Edward Arnold

Castells, Manuel (1996), The Rise of the Network Society, Oxford: Blackwell

Castells, Manuel (2012), Networks of outrage and hope: social movements in the internet age, Cambridge: Polity Press

Castells, Manuel (2001), *The Internet Galaxy: Reflections on the Internet, Business, and Society*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Cernat, Lucian (2006), Europeanization, Varieties of Capitalism and Economic Performance in Central and Eastern Europe, New York: Palgrave Macmillan,

Cerny, Philip G. (2008), "Embedding Neoliberalism: The Evolution of a Hegemonic Paradigm", in *The Journal of International Trade and Diplomacy*, Vol. 2, No. 1.

Centrul de Resurse pentru participare publică (2012), *Cercetare privind participarea publică în România, 2012,* <u>http://www.ce-</u>

re.ro/upload/Cercetare_participarea_publica_in_Romania-CeRe_mail.pdf

Chomsky, Noam (2012), Occupy, Penguin: London

Cistelican, Alex (2013), Cu scepticism înainte, CriticAtac, available at

http://www.criticatac.ro/24153/cu-scepticism-inainte/

Cook, Linda; Orenstein Mitchell; Rueschemeyer, Marilyn (1999), *Left Parties and Social Policy in Postcommunist Europe. Boulder*, CO and Oxford: Westview Print

Comisia Națională de Prognoză (2007), *Evoluția sectorului privat în România*, available at http://www.cnp.ro/user/repository/13d8770e862eb522b62f.pdf

Comitetul economic și Social (2014), Coșul minim. Instrument viabil in stabilirea salariului minim national si al politicilor sociale in Romania?

Constantinoiu, Marina (2012), *O nouă mişcare civică se conturează pe Facebook: "Împreună 2012 – Sfârșitul lumii lor"*, available at <u>https://jurnalul.antena3.ro/stiri/observator/o-</u>noua-miscare-civica-se-contureaza-pe-facebook-impreuna-2012-sfarsitul-lumii-lor-601940.html

Converse, Philip (1964), "The Nature of Belief Systems in Mass Public", *Critical Review*, Vol. 1-3, Issue 18, pp. 1-74

Copilaș, Emanuel (2018), De la ideologie la hegemonie. Explorari critice in postcomunismul romanesc, București: Tritonic

Cozmei, Victor (2015), Mai multe ONG-uri ii cer lui Iohannis 10 masuri urgente: inlocuirea lui Ciorbea (Avocatul Poporului), alegeri locale in doua tururi, dizolvarea comisiilor de control SRI si SIE, available at <u>https://www.hotnews.ro/stiri-esential-20561476-mai-multeorganizatii-non-guvernamentale-trimit-scrisoare-presedintelui-iohannis-10-masuri-fezabileneutre-politic-adoptat-pana-finalul-anului.htm</u>

Crăciun, Claudiu (2017), Romania's Second Democratic Transition, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

Crouch, Colin (2004), Post-democracy, Cambridge: John Wiley&Sons

Crouch, Colin (2000), *Coping with Post-Democracy*, London: Fabian Society, available at https://www.fabians.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Post-Democracy.pdf

Cucerai, Sorin (2013), *Destramarea consensului conservator*, available at <u>http://www.romaniacurata.ro/destramarea-consensului-conservator/</u>

Dăianu, Daniel; Murgescu, Bogdan (2012), Which Way Goes Romanian Capitalism? Making a Case for Reforms, Inclusive Institutions and a Better Functioning European Union, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Romania

Dalton, Russel J. (2002), *Citizens politics: public opinion and political parties in advanced* democracies, London: Chatam House Publishers

Dalton, Russel J. (2004), Democratic challenges, democratic choices: the erosion of political support in advanced industrial societies, Oxford University Press: Oxford

Davis, Gerald; McAdam, Doug; Scott, W. Richard; Zald, Mayer N. (2005), Social Movements and Organizations, New York: Cambridge University Press

Day, Richard (2004), From hegemony to affinity: the political logic of the newest social movements. Cultural Studies, Vol. 18, Issue 5, pp. 716-48

Della Porta, Donatella; Diani, Mario (1998), *Social movements: an introduction*, Blackwell Publishing Ltd, (2nd edition, 2006)

Della Porta, Donatella; Tarrow, Sidney (2005), *Transnational Protest and Global Activism*, Lanham: Rowman and Littlefi eld.

Della Porta, Donatella (2013) Can democracy be saved: participation, deliberation and social movements, Cambridge: Polity Press

Della Porta, Donatella (2015), Social Movements in Times of Austerity, Cambridge: Polity Press

Della Porta, Donatella (2017), "Anti-corruption from bellow. Social movements against corruption in late neoliberalism", in *The Open Journal of Sociopolitical Studies*, Vol. 3, Issue 10

Demmers, Jolle; Jilberto, Alex E.Fernández, Hogenboom, Barbara (2004), "Good governance and democracy in a world of neoliberal regimes", in Jolle Demmers, Alex E.Fernández Jilberto, Barbara Hogenboom, *Good Governance in the Era of Global Neoliberalism*, London: Routledge

D'Encausse, C. Helene (1992), *The End Of The Soviet Empire: The Triumph Of The Nations*, New York: Basic Books

Dikec, Mustafa (2005), "Space, politics, and the political", in *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, Vol. 23, pp. 171–188

Dohotaru, Adi (2012), Protestatarul: O Istorie participativă, Cluj Napoca: Tracus Arte

Doshi, Sapana; Malini Ranganathan (2018), "Towards a critical geography of corruption and power in late capitalism", in *Progress in Human Geography*, Vol. 43, Issue 3, pp. 436-457

Dryzek, John S. (2000), *Deliberative democracy and beyond*, Oxford University Press: New York

Ernu, Vasile (2013), În fața noastră stă 1907. Cum procedăm? Să mergem la locul crimei, available at http://www.criticatac.ro/24021/in-faa-noastr-st-1907-cum-procedm/, 29 February 2016.

Escobar, Andre (1997), "Anthropology and Development," in *International Social Sciene Journal*, Vol.49, Issue 154, pp.497-515

Fawn, Rick (2004), *Ideology and National Identity in Post-communist Foreign Policies*, London: Frank Cass Publishers

Flescher, Fominaya, C.(2014), Social movements and globalization. How protests, occupations and uprising are changing the world, London: Palgrave Mcmillan: London

Flinders, Matthew (2012), *Defending politics: why democracy matters in the 21st century* Oxford: Oxford University Press

Foucault, Michel (1976), "La fonction politique de l'intellectuel", in Defert, Daniel; Ewald, François (2011), Michel Foucault. Dits et écrits, Vol. II, Paris: Gallimard

Michel Foucault, *The History of Sexuality: The Will to Knowledge*, London: Penguin, 1998 Fraser, Nancy (2011), *"Marketization, Social Protection, Emancipation: Toward a Neo-Polanyian Conception of Capitalist Crisis*" in Craig Calboun and Georgi Derluguian, *Business as Usual: The Roots of the Global Financial Meltdown*, New York: University Press

Fraser, Nancy; Géraldine Chantegrel, (2016) "Un triple mouvement?", in Agone, no. 60,

pp. 119-136

Gherghina, Sergiu; Mișcoiu, Sergiu (2010), Partide și personalități populiste în România post-comunistă, Iași: Institutul European

Ghinea, Cristian (2013), Adevărul suprem și ultim despre manifestațiile din Piață, in Dilema Veche, no. 501, <u>http://dilemaveche.ro/sectiune/editoriale-opinii/articol/adevarul-suprem-</u> <u>ultim-manifestatiile-piata</u>

Goffman, Erving (1975), Frame analysis: an essay on the organization of experience, Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press

Gorz, André (1967), Strategy for Labour: A Radical Proposal, Boston: Beacon Press

Gorz, André (1982), Farewell to the Working Class: an Essay on Post-Industrial Socialism, London: Pluto Press

Graber, David (2012), *The democracy project: a history, a crisis, a movement*, London: Allen Lane

Gramsci, Antonio, Buttigieg, Joseph A, (ed.), (1992), *Prison Notebooks*, New York City: Columbia University Press

Guga, Stefan (2016), *Munca atipică in România de la izbucnirea crizei*, București: Next Publishing, 2016

Guga, Ștefan, Camelia Constantin (2015), *Analiza impactului noii legislații a dialogului social adoptate în 2011*, Asociația Conect

Guvernul României (2001), Carte Albă a preluării guvernării

Hetland, Gabriel; Goodwin Jeff, (2013), "The Strange Disappearance of Capitalism from Social Movement Studies", in Barker C, Cox L, Krinsky J, Nilsen AG, *Marxism and Social Movements*, Leiden: Bril, pp. 83-102

Haller, Stephen; James Gerrie (2007), "The Role of Science in Public Policy: Higher Reason or Reason for Hire", in *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics*, Issue. 20.

Harvey, David (1989), The condition of postmodernity, Oxford: Blackwell

Hay, Colin (2007), Why we hate politics, Cambridge: Polity Press

Himmelstrand, Ulf (1962), "A Theoretical and Empirical Approach to Depoliticization and Political Involvement", in *Acta Sociologica*, Vol. 6, Issue 1/2, Approaches to the Study of Political Participation, pp. 83-110

Howarth, David (2000), Discourse, Buckingham & Philadelphia: Open University Press.

```
Hutter, Swen (2012), Protesting culture and economics in Western Europe: new cleavages
```

in left and right politics, University of Minnesota Press: Minneapolis

Iancu, Alexandra; Marton, Silvia (2019), Corruption et politique en Europe. Enjeux, réformes et controverses, Paris, L'Harmattan

Inglehart, Ronald (1990), *Culture shift in advanced industrial society*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press

Iliesscu, Ion (2011), *Fragmente de viață și de istorie trăită*, București, Litera International Ionita, Sorin (2013), *Protestele nu-s contra RMGC, ci contra statului; răspuns lui Dragoș Aligică*, available at http://www.contributors.ro/administratie/protestele/. Johnston, Michael (2005), *Syndromes of Corruption: Wealth, Power, and Democracy*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Jørgensen, Marianne; Phillips, Louise (2002), *Discourse Analysis as Theory and Method*, Oxford: Sage Publications

Juris, Jeffrey S. (2004), "Networked social movements: the network society", in Castells, Manuel, *The network society*, London: Edward Elgar

Kalb, Don; Mollona, Massimiliano (2018), Worldwide mobilizations. Class Struggles and Urban Commoning, New York: Berghahn Books

Kaldor, Mary; Selchow, Sabine (2015): Subterranean politics in Europe, Palgrave Macmillan

Kasmir, Sharryn; Carbonella, August (2014), Blood and fire. Toward a global anthropology of labor, New York: Berghahn Books

Kaufmann, Daniel; Vicente, Pedro C. (2005) *Legal Corruption*, available at SSRN: <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.829844</u>

Keane, John (2009), The life and death of democracy, London and New York: Simo&Schuster

Khan, Mushtaq (2002), "Corruption and Governance in Early Capitalism: World Bank Strategies and their Limitations" in Pincus, Jonathan, Winters, Jeffrey (eds), *Reinventing the World Bank*, Ithaca: Cornell University Press

Kirchheimer, Otto (1966), "The Transformation of the Western European Party System", in Joseph LaPalombara, Myron Weiner (ed), *Political Parties and Political Development*, Princeton: Princeton University Press

Kreps, David (2015), *Gramsci and Foucault: A Reassessment*, Farnham and Burlington: Ashgate Publishing.

Laclau, Ernessto; Mouffe, Chantal (1985), Hegemony and socialist strategy: toward a radical democratic politics, London: Verso

Laclau, Ernesto (1990), *New Reflections on the Revolution of our Time*, London: Verso Laclau, Ernesto (1996), *Emancipation(s)*, London: Verso

Laclau, Ernesto (2005), "Populism: What's in a Name?", in Francisco Panizza, *Populism* and the Mirror of Democracy, New York and London: Verso

Laclau, Ernesto (2008), La raison populiste, Paris: Seuil

Lefort, Claude (1978), *Les Formes de l'histoire: Essais d'anthropologie politique*, Paris : Gallimard

Lipset, Seymour M. (1966), "Some Further Comments on "The End of Ideology", in *American Political Science Review*, Issue. 60, pp. 17-18.

Lipset, Seymour M. (1964), "The Changing Class Structure and Contemporary European Politics", in *Daedalus*, Issue 93, pp. 271-303

Madra, Yahya M.; Adaman Fikret (2014), "Neoliberal reason andits forms: Depoliticisation through economisation", in *Antipode*, Vol. 46, Issue 3, pp. 691–716

Manifestul Mâna de Lucru: Roșia Montană e mai mult decît Roșia Montană (2013), available at <u>http://www.criticatac.ro/23416/manifestul-mana-de-lucru-roia-montan-mai-mult-decit-roia-montan/</u>

Mathers, Andy (2007), *Struggling for a Social Europe. Neoliberal Globalization and the Birth of a European Social Movement*, Farnham:Ashgate Publishing Limited

Mattoni, A. (2012), Media practices and protest politics. How precarious workers mobilize, Farnham: Ashgate

Marchart, Oliver (2000) "Division and democracy. On Claude Lefort's Post-foundational Political Philosophy", in *Filozofski vestnik*, Letnik/VolumeXXI, pp. 51-82

Marchart, Olivier (2011), *Gândirea politică postfundaționistă: diferența politică la Nancy,* Lefort, Badiou, Cluj Napoca: Ideea

Mărginean, Ioan (2000), "Oportunitatea politicilor demografice în România", în *Calitatea Vieții*, XII, nr. 1-4

Mărgărit, Diana (2015), "Ideology and Social Movements. A Comparative Analysis of the 2013 Protests in Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania" in Geoffrey Pleyers; Ionel N. Sava, *Social Movements in Central and Eastern Europe. A renewal of protests and democracy*, București: Editura Universității din București

Mărgarit, Diana (2016), *The days we don't give in – the Romanian social movements between 2012 and 2015*, available at https://eastblog.univie.ac.at/2016/01/13/the-days-we-dont-give-in-the-romanian-social-movements-between-2012-and-2015/

Mărgărit, Diana, (2016), "Civic disenchantment and political distress: the case of the Romanian Autumn" in *East European Politics*, Vol. 32, Issue 1, 2016, pp.46-62

Mărgarit, Diana (2018), "Two discourses on legitimacy. Romanian winter in turmoil", pp. 45-62 in Gherasim-Proca, Ovidiu, *Borders, Barriers and Protest Culture*, Iasi: Alexandru Ioan Cuza University Press

McAdam, Dough; McCarthney John; Mayer, Zald (1995), *Comparative Perspective and Social Movments, Poltical Oportunity, Mobilizing Structure and Cultural Freaming*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

McAdam, Dough (1982), Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency 1930-1970, Chicago: University of Chicago Press

Mihăilescu, Adina (2010), "Coșul de consum al populației corespunzător minimului de trai decent și de subzistență", în *Revista Inovația Socială* vol. 2, nr. 1/2010 (ianuarie-iunie)

Ministerul Muncii și Protecției Socile (2007), Sărăcia în România: profil, tendințe, politici de combatere și prevenire în anul 2007

Mixich, Vlad (2013), *Cat de anti-capitalisti, daci, traci sau dreptaci sunt protestatarii Rosia Montana*, available at , <u>http://www.hotnews.ro/stiri-esential-15586566-cat-anti-capitalisti-</u> <u>daci-traci-sau-dreptaci-sunt-protestatarii-rosia-montana.htm</u>

Mungiu Pippidi, Alina (2016), "The Quest for Good Governance. Learning from virtuous circles" in *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 27, Issue 1

Mouffe, Chantal (2000), The Democratic Paradox, Lodon: Verso

Mouffe, Chantal (2005), The return of the political, London: Routledge

Mouffe, Chantal (2017), For a Left Populism, London: Verso

Mouffe, Chantal (2016), "Democratic Politics and Conflict: An Agonistic Approach", *Política común*, Volume 9

Melucci, Alberto (1980), " The new social movements: A theoretical approach", in *International Social Science Council*, Vol, 19, Issue 2, pp: 199-226

Melucci, Alberto (1989), Nomads of the Present: Social Movements and Individual Needs in Contemporary Society, Hutchinson Radius

Mișcoiu, Sergiu (2010), "Introducere", in Gherghina, Sergiu; Mișcoiu, Sergiu, Partide și personalități populiste în România post-comunistă, Iași: Institutul European

Mișcoiu, Sergiu (2011), Au pouvoir par le people, Paris: L'Harmattan, Paris

Mişcoiu, Sergiu (2015), "What Grounds for Representing the People? An Analysis of Post-Communist Romania through the Lens of Discourse Theory", in *Südosteuropa*, Vol. 63, Issue 1, pp. 7-24

Moromitic, În care Costi Rogozanu sfârșește un militant ridicol și confuz, available at http://lacoltulstrazii.ro/2013/09/06/in-care-costi-rogozanu-sfarseste-un-militant-ridicol-si-confuz/

Munshi, Surendra; Biju Paul Abraham; Soma Chaudhuri (2009), *The Intelligent Person's Guide to Good Governance*, Sage Publications India Pvt Ltd.

Offe, Clauss (1985), "New Social Movements: Challenging the Boundaries of Institutional Politics", in *Social Research*, Vol. 52, issue 4, pp. 817–869

Orășanu, Razvan (2013), *Combustia spontana a guvernarii pe motiv de Rosia Montana. Bonus: "Foaie verde premolar/ Ponta este bipolar*", available at<u>http://www.contributors.ro/economie/combustia-spontana-a-guvernarii-pe-motiv-de-rosia-</u> montana-bonus-%E2%80%9Cfoaie-verde-premolar-ponta-este-bipolar%E2%80%9D/

Pârvu, Camil-Alexandru (2015), "Syndrome or Symptom: Populism and Democratic Malaise in Post-Communist Romania", in Michal Kopeček and Piotr Wciślik, *Thinking through Transition Liberal Democracy, Authoritarian Pasts, and Intellectual History in East Central Europe After 1989*, Budapest: Central European University Press

Pârvu, Camil-Alexandru (2016), Mouvements sociaux et élections. Questionner l'absence d'un « double mouvement » polanyien", in *Romanian Political Science Review*, Vol. XVI, Issue 4.

Pârvu, Camil Alexandru (2017), "Contestatory Cosmopolitanism, NeoliberalRationality and Global Protests", in *Journal Globalizations*, Vol. 15, Issue 5, pp. 776-791

Pasti, Vladimir (1995), Romania in tranzitie - căderea în viitor, București: Nemira

Pasti, Vladimir (2018), "Probleme și politici sociale ale guvernelor românești", în Mihail Caradaică; Stoiciu, Victoria, *Stânga și agenda socială*, București: Tritonic

Pissarides, Cristopher (2001), "Employment protection", in *Labour Economics*, Vol.8, pp. 131-159.

Piven, Frances F.; Cloward, Richard (1998), Poor people's movements: why they succeed, how they fail, New York, Randon House

Poenaru, Florin (2013), *Anti-capitalism ca ecologie*, available at http://www.criticatac.ro/23634/anti-capitalism-ca-ecologie/

Poenaru, Florin (2013), Cateva mistificari ideologice, available at

http://www.criticatac.ro/23592/cateva-mistificri-ideologice/

Poenaru, Florin (2013), *De ce nu mai merg la marşul de duminică*, available at http://www.criticatac.ro/24095/de-ce-nu-mai-merg-la-marul-de-duminic/

Karl Polanyi, (1944). The Great Transformation : The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time, Boston: Beacon Press (ed. 2001)

Polgár, Alexandru; Sîrbu, Adrian (2009), *Genealogii ale postcomunismului*, Cluj Napoca: Editura Ideea

Pop, Marius Augustin (2009), "Determinarea evoluției sărăciei cu ajutorul pragurilor relative ancorate în timp", în *Calitatea Vieții*, XX, Issue. 3–4, 2009

Presadă, Florina (2012), *Case study on the Romanian protests*, 2012, The Resource Center for Public Participation

Radu, Marieta (2009), *România Analiza situației cu privire la sistemele de venituri minime din România Studiu privind politicile naționale*, Comisia Europeană

Rammelt, Henry (2018), Activistes protestataires en Hongrie et en Roumanie, Paris: L'Harmattan,

Rancière, Jaques (1999), *Disagreement. Politics and Philosophy*, Minneapolis, London: University of Minnesota Press

Rancière, Jacques (2000), *Le Partage du sensible: Esthétique et politique*, Paris : La Fabrique-Éditions

Rancière, Jacques "Ten Theses on Politics", in Theory and Event, Vol. 5, Issue 3, 2001

Ranciere, Jaques (2012), Ura împotriva democrației, Cluj Napoa: Ideea, Cluj

Rogozanu, Costi (2013), *Cum a fost aseară. 2000 de protestatari fast forward pe străzile din București,* available at <u>http://voxpublica.realitatea.net/politica-societate/cum-a-fost-aseara-</u>2000-de-protestatari-fast-forward-pe-strazile-din-bucuresti-99219.html

Rogozanu, Costi (2015), *Gândul meu. Nu poți schimba realitățile folosind aceeași retorică* available at <u>http://www.gandul.info/gandul-meu/gandul-meu-costi-rogozanu-nu-poti-schimba-</u> <u>realitatile-folosind-aceeasi-retorica-14876337</u>

Rose-Ackerman, Susan (1996), "Democracy and 'grand' corruption", in *International Social Science Journal*, Vol. 48, Issue 149, pp. 365–380

Rosanvallon, Pierre (2002), Le peuple introuvable: histoir de la representation democratique en France, Paris: Gallimard

Rosanvallon, Pierre (2008), *Counter-democracy: politics in an age of distrust*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Sampson, Steven (2009), "Corruption and anti-corruption in Southeast Europe. Landscapes and sites', in De Sousa, Luis; Larmour, Peter; Hindess, Barry, *Governments, NGOs and Anticorruption: The new integrity warriors*, Abingdon: Routledge, pp. 168-185

Sampson, Steven. (2015), "The anticorruption package" in *Ephemera: Theory and Politics in Organization*, Vol. 15, Issue 2, pp. 115-123

Searle, John R. (2010), *Making the Social World. The Structure of Human Civilization*, New York: Oxford University Press

Severin, Adrian (1995), Lacrimile diminetii, Bucuresti: Ed. Scripta

Schedler, Andreas (1996), *The End of Politics? Explorations into Modern Antipolitics*, London and New York: Macmillan and St Martin's

Sinclair, John; Coulthard, Malcolm (1975), *Toward an Analysis of Discourse*, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Shils, Edward (1955), "'The End of Ideology?", in Encounter, Vol. 5, pp. 52-58

Shils, Edward (1958), "Ideology and Civility: on the Politics of the Intellectual", in *Sewanee Review*, Vol. 66, pp. 450-480.

Snow, David A.; Rochford, Burke; Worden, Steven K.; Benford, Robert D (1986), "Frame Alignment Processes, Micromobilization, and Movement Participation" in *American Sociological Review*, Vol. 51, 464-481.

Snow, David A; Benford Robert D. (1988), "Ideology, Frame Resonance, and Participant Mobilization", in Bert Klandermans, Hanspeter Kriesi, and Sidney Tarrow (eds.), *From Structure to Action: Social Movement Participation Across Cultures*, Greenwich, Conn.: JAI Press

De Sousa, Luis; Larmour, Peter; Hindess, Barry (2009), Governments, NGOs and Anticorruption: The new integrity warriors, Abingdon: Routledge.

Societatea Academică din România (2011), *Dincolo de percepții. A devenit guvernarea României mai integră după 2004?*

Stephen, Benjamin; Rothe, Delf; Methmann, Chrus (2014), "Third Side of the Coin: Hegemony and Governmentality in Global Climate Politics " in Stripple, Johanes; Bulkeley, Harriet, *Governing the Climate. New Approaches to Rationality, Power and Politics*, New York: Cambridge University Press

Socol, Cristian; Marinaș, Marius (2017), Salariul minim ca instrument de politici publice – pro sau contra?, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

Stanomir, Ioan (2013), *Spiritul critic și baricadele. O scrisoare către Vasile Ernu,* available at http://www.lapunkt.ro/2013/09/16/spiritul-critic-si-baricadele-o-scrisoare-catre-vasile-ernu/

Stoica, Cătălin Augustin; Mihăilescu, Vintilă (2012), *Iarna vrajbei noastre:protestele din România, ianuarie – februarie 2012*, București: Paideea

Stoiciu, Victoria (2012), Austerity and Structural Reforms in Romania Severe Measures, Questionable Economic Results and Negative Social Consequences, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Romania

Stoiciu, Victoria (2016), "The battle for the Romanian autumn – good governance versus anti-capitalist discourses in the Romanian 2013 protests", in *Studia Europaea*, Vol. 1

Stoiciu, Victoria (2017), "Romanian Social movements: between repoliticization and reinforcement of thestatus-quo (2012-2017)", in *Studia Europaea*, Vol 3

Stoiciu, Victoria (2016), Romania's Trade Unions at the Crossroads. Challenged by Legislative Reforms, Economic Crises and a Power-loss of 60 per cent, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Romania

Stoiciu, Victoria (2018), Annual Review of Labour Relations and Social Dialogue Romania, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

Storey, John (2006), *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture: An Introduction*, London: Prentice Hall.

Streeck, Wolfgang (2014), *Buying Time: the delayed crisis of democratic capitalism*, Brooklyn and London: Verso

Streeck, Wolfgang (2011), "The crisis of democratic capitalism", in *New Left Review*, Vol. 71

Streeck, Wolfgang (2012), "Markets and people. Democratic Capitalism and European Integration", in *New Left Review*, Vol. 73

Streeck, Wolfgang (2012), "Citizens as customers. Considerations on the New Politics of Consumption", in *New Left Review*, Vol. 76.

Streek, Wolfgang, "The Rise of the European Consolidation State", in *MPIfG Discussion* Paper 15/1

Şiulea, Ciprian (2013), *Demisia lui Ponta, o mare greşeală*, available at http://voxpublica.realitatea.net/politica-societate/demisia-lui-ponta-o-mare-greseala-98374.html

Tapalaga, Dan (2013), *Ce am vazut la protestul anti-Rosia Montana*, available at <u>http://www.hotnews.ro/stiri-opinii-15502279-vazut-protestul-anti-rosia-montana.htm</u>

Tarrow, Sydney (1994), *Power in Movement. Social Movements and Contentious Politics*, New York: Cambridge University Press, (ed. 2012)

Tilly, Charles; Tilly, Louise A; Tilly, Richard H. (1975), *The Rebellious Century: 1830-1930*, Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press

Tormey, Simon (2015), *The end of representative politics*, Polity Press, Cambridge Touraine, Alain (1974), *Post-Industrial Society*, London: Wildwood House

Touraine, Alain (1981), *The Voice and the Eye. An Analysis of Social Movements* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Touraine, Alain (2001), Beyond Neoliberalism, Cambridge: Polity Press

Touraine, Alain; Wieviorka, Michel, Dubet, Francois (1984), Le Mouvement Ouvrier, Paris, Seuil.

Uszkai, Radu (2013), Unde cred că greșește Dan Tăpălagă: despre Roșia Montană, capitalism, partide politice și pantofi, available at http://www.academiacatavencu.info/politic/unde-cred-ca-greseste-dan-tapalaga-despre-rosiamontana-capitalism-partide-politice-si-pantofi-27495

Vanhuysse, Pieter (2006), *Divide and Pacify: Strategic Social Policies and Political Protests in Post-Communist Democracies*, Budapest: Central European University Press

Vanhuysse, Pieter (2009), "Power, Order and the Politics of Social Policy in Central and Eastern Europe", in Cerami, Alfio; Vanhuysse, Pieter (eds.), *Post-Communist Welfare Pathways: Theorizing Social Policy Transformations in Central and Eastern Europe*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan

Velicu, Irina; Kaika Maria (2017), "Undoing environmental justice: Re-imagining equality in the Rosia Montana anti-mining movement", in *Geoforum*, Volume 84, pp. 305-315

Wallerstein, Immanuel (2010), "Structural crises", in New Left Review, Vol. 62

Waxman, Chaim Isaac (1968), The end of ideology debate, New York: Funk & Wagnalls,

Wedel, Janine R. (2012), "Rethinking corruption in an age of ambiguity", in *Annual Review of Law and Social Science*, Volume 8, Issue 1, pp. 453–498.

Wievorka, Michel (2003b) Un autre monde; contestations, de 'rives et surprises dans l'anti-mondialisation, Paris: Balland

Wilson, Japhy, Swyngedouw, Erik (2014), *The Post-Political and Its Discontents Spaces* of Depoliticisation, Spectres of Radical Politics, Edinburgh University Press Ltd, Edinburgh

Zamfir, Cătălin (1995), Dimensiuni ale sărăciei, București: Expert

Zamfir, Catalin (2001), "Situația sărăciei în România, dimensiuni, surse, grupuri de risc iunie 2001", in *România socială – Revistă de cultură și analiză socială*, Vol. 2

Žižek, Slavoj (1999), The Ticklish Subject. The Absent Centre of Political Ontology, London: Verso

Zizek, Slavoj (2012), The year of dreaming dangerously, London: Verso