

## Editor's Note

A decade ago one of the most famous Romanian writers, Mircea Cărtărescu, wrote to me: „The Romanian feminism has more and more brain but still a very skinny body”. I think he was right. My generation of feminists was very committed to learn, do research and produce knowledge on gender issues, having in mind the international know-how and its adjustment to the Romanian context. In the same time, because very few people were involved in these activities, they were playing the role of *Jane of All Trades*. We had to create everything: from knowledge to education and activism.

More than twenty years have already passed. What happened in fact in all these years? Which are the results and impact of feminist intellectual, civic and political activism? What are the main evolutions of the last decade and what are their specifics? The same kind of questions we have raised about the ecological ideas, organizations and movement.

In order to find answers to these questions, we have been implementing the research project **“Civil Society and the State. Analyzing Public Debates on Gender and Environmental Issues in Post-Communist Romania”**, CNCIS - Idei, PN-II-ID-PCE-2011-3-0895.

The papers hosted by the *Romanian Journal of Society and Politics* were presented at the Political Science International Graduate Conference “Democratization through Social Activism: Gender and Environmental Issues in Post-Communist Societies”. The conference took place between 16th and 17th of May 2013 and was organized by National School of Political Science and Public Administration, Bucharest.

Laura GRÜNBERG's article: “Strong Feminism, Weak Impact. Ingredients for Decoding the Paradoxes” is opening the topic under review. The author is herself a well-known pioneer of Romanian feminism after 1989. In this capacity, she is questioning both the evolution of the feminist movement in her own generation as well as the recent one, the „daughters” generation, having in mind a very important question, in fact the most important one: *Why feminism is not yet a public authority able to really change the political agenda?*

Diana Elena NEAGA and Valentin Quintus NICOLESCU, belonging themselves to an ambiguous in-between generation are writing on „Shaping the Agenda. Feminist Strategies of Civic and Political Action.” They are offering to the readers an investigation of the strategies of political and civic actions of the feminist movement of five Romanian feminist NGOs. Their theoretical aim is to create a methodological framework for the exploration and assessment of the civil and political models of action.

Ioana VLAD's article, „Dealing with Change. Reflections on the Development of a Feminist Organization” is focusing on a case-study which, in her view, is reflecting the difficulties to build a non-hierarchical, egalitarian and inclusive type of feminist organization, coherent with leftist feminist ideas and with the members' political commitments, in their efforts to detach themselves from the burdens of the existing mainstream.

Coming from the area of art criticism, the article of Olivia NIȚIȘ, „Gender and the Environment in Romanian Art Before and after 1990”, is analyzing the way in which the relations with environmental issues as well as with women's experiences as women are reflected by some, in fact very few, Romanian leading figures in the field of visual arts. The author is questioning also the scarcity of artists interested in the past decades, mainly in the environmental issues.

Cristian BRANEA's paper concerning „Models of Contention and Participation of Civil Society in Roșia Montană Environmental Conflict” is dealing with a very hot political topic in nowadays Romania. The author is analyzing the most important environmental conflict and mobilization, in the entire Romanian history.

The authors and the editor are grateful to CNCSIS support for the whole research program as well as to Liliana Popescu, Editor-in-Chief, Aliona Negoită, Co-Editor and Vîlviana Anghel, Deputy Editor for their support on behalf of *Romanian Journal of Society and Politics*.

**Mihaela Miroiu**, Editor of the Special Issue