



CIVIS & CIVICA International Conference

"Reflexivity in higher education: liberation or entrapment?"

Date: 14-15 October 2024

Location: University of Bucharest, Bucharest, Romania

Format: Hybrid

The **University of Bucharest**, in collaboration with the **CIVIS – Europe's Civic University Alliance**, **CIVICA – The European University of Social Sciences**, and **King's College London**, is pleased to announce the conference on "**Reflexivity in Higher Education: Liberation or Entrapment?**" to be held on **14-15 October 2024**, in **Bucharest, Romania**.

This conference is organised as part of the celebrations marking University of Bucharest's 160 years anniversary and 330 years of higher education in Romania. More information on the anniversary events can be found [here](#).

This conference will serve as a platform for scholars, academics, researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and students to explore and debate the role of reflexivity in higher education. Reflexivity in the academe, the practice of self-examination and self-centred critical reflection regarding the organisation, governance, and activities of the university (Including teaching and learning), is a crucial, albeit difficult to grasp, component of the higher education intellectual and policy milieu. This conference aims to investigate whether reflexivity acts as a vehicle for liberation, fostering innovation and individual and institutional advancements, or as a potential trap that complicates decision-making processes, policy implementation, or action altogether.

Special Dedication and Call for Presentations

A significant highlight of the conference will be a special session dedicated to honouring the memory of the late Professor Lazăr Vlăsceanu. Educated in the UK, Lazăr Vlăsceanu was a distinguished sociologist of education, a transformative leader at the University of Bucharest, and a higher education trailblazer in Europe. His contributions to the field of higher education studies, including the topic of reflexivity, were remarkable. His work continues to inspire scholars and educators worldwide.

We are pleased to announce that authors of the collective volume "**Reflexivity in Higher Education: Liberation or Entrapment? Scholarship, Policy, and Practice. A Festschrift in Memory of Lazăr Vlăsceanu**", are invited to present their papers during the conference. This will be an excellent opportunity to share insights and engage in meaningful discussions with fellow scholars, academics, researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and students.

Key Themes and Topics

- Theoretical frameworks and approaches to reflexivity in higher education
- Reflexivity in teaching and learning practices
- The impact of reflexivity on educational policy and governance
- Case studies and practical applications of reflexive practices in universities
- Reflexivity in higher education contexts: challenges and opportunities

Conference Conveners

- **Prof. Liviu MATEI, Ph.D.**
King's College London
- **Prof. Mihai PĂUNESCU, Ph.D.**
National University of Political Studies and Public Administration Bucharest
- **Prof. Romiță IUCU, Ph.D.**
University of Bucharest

Conference Format

The conference will include a series of keynote speeches, presentations, roundtables, and panel discussions on the mentioned topics. These sessions are designed to foster dynamic interactions and in-depth discussions among participants, providing a comprehensive exploration of the complexities of reflexivity in higher education. Certificates of participation will be issued to all participants.

Hybrid Participation

Participation in the conference will also be possible in hybrid format, aiming to accommodate participants who may be unable to attend in person, ensuring broader accessibility and engagement. However, face-to-face participation is encouraged to facilitate more direct interaction and networking opportunities.

Registration Details

Interested participants can register through the following online form: <https://forms.gle/ksCnvkiF8Dn6nZGc6>. The registration deadline is **15 September 2024**.

Join us in Bucharest for this thought-provoking event as we delve into the complexities of reflexivity in higher education and honour the legacy of Professor Lazăr Vlăsceanu.

Contact Information

For any enquiries, please contact the conference organising committee at: alexandru-mihai.cartis@unibuc.ro.

We look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be an enlightening and inspiring conference.