

# Part I

## Summary

The habilitation thesis entitled *Interaction patterns in present-day Romanian* is structured in three sections which outline the early stages of my university career before obtaining the PhD title, the various concerns for research and teaching activities as well as scientific, professional and academic achievements, but also a detailed proposal about the main goals for the development of my future academic career.

In Chapter 1, I presented my academic work before obtaining the PhD title, which justifies the various concerns for research. My participation in national and international projects meant obtaining extra knowledge and development of research skills to analyse language in use. What is more, my concern for the interactional perspective on language started 15 years ago, during the preparation of my graduation paper. The postgraduate programme at the University of Bucharest defined my research route, and getting a Fulbright fellowship (2005-2006) from the State University of New York at Albany (USA) was the moment I could give a new dimension to my research. Formulating, maintaining and developing a coherent research route were the key points in making my researcher profile in the Humanistic field.

In Chapter 2, I presented the topic of my PhD thesis, emphasizing that my proposal was to analyse phatic discourse from a conversational perspective and to discuss the interactional dynamics in various social contexts. In order to analyze phatic interactions, I used the corpora of spoken Romanian existing at the time of writing (CORV 2002, IVLRA 2002, IV II 2007). By means of the analytical approach, I wanted to put forward the idea that phatic discourse is not a “parasite” of communication, but a strategic type of discourse as well as a means of structuring verbal interaction. The main idea that emerges is that phatic discourse is a mini-ritual, which varies depending on the contexts in which it occurs.

Subchapters 2.2. and 2.3. include summaries of the main articles written on the basis of the PhD thesis that were included in Romanian and foreign databases, as well

as ways in which the academic and scientific community can have access to these studies.

In Chapter 3, I described my subsequent research concerns, after the publication of the PhD thesis, which meant widening my research interests in linguistic analysis and I described the main areas of investigation (interactional dimension of political discourse and language in the workplace).

Within the project *Present-day professional Romanian. Linguistic patterns and discursive structures* (2007-2010), I proposed a survey of actual communication in the workplace, starting from the assumption that modern employment structure has changed in the sense that office activities prevail and there are more jobs where interpersonal communication constitutes a large part of the actual workplace interaction. One of the aims of the project was to publish two corpora of workplace communication – one for written texts in the current Romanian professional environment, another dedicated to verbal interactions. By electronically disseminating the corpora, we have provided a basis for further research that can be developed interdisciplinary.

Another line of research is devoted to present-day Romanian political language, considered in the light of specialized terminology and pragma-stylistics of public discourse. The research on Romanian political language focused on three specific situations – professional political language, journalistic political language and mass political language, and aimed at setting present-day Romanian political language as a separate category in the specialized languages and at analysing political discourse from a rhetorical and stylistic point of view in order to grasp the aspects of political language in present-day Romanian.

In Chapter 4, I highlighted the main original aspects of the studies dedicated to various discursive types. Thus, phatic discourse was defined in terms of three distinct theories – conversational continuum, identities and frame, and I further put forward the theory of conversational resources.

Whether I promoted the participatory model for data collection, analysed the dynamics of vocabulary or the changes at discursive patterns, the conclusion I can draw is that, in the context of professional communication, there is a growing trend to establish a new linguistic code, an idiolect rather than a specialized vocabulary with its own linguistic and pragmatic features.

Subsections 4.4. , 4.5 . and 4.6. give a wide perspective on the visibility of the studies and articles published, by mentioning the awards and citations in other papers published in Romania and abroad.

Chapter 5 is devoted to the major scientific events where I participated, in order to emphasize my active involvement in the dissemination of individual and group research, and in the next chapter I present the teaching activities I was involved in or where I was recruited.

The habilitation thesis continues with Part II, *Plans for further development of the professional, scientific and academic career*, in which I pointed out the main lines of research and how I intend to take part in the teaching process. Finally, Section III contains the references to the issues raised in the chapters included in this habilitation thesis.