

# *Teologie canonică și Drept bisericesc: împliniri și aspirații*

**Teză de abilitare**

Domeniul: Teologie

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## English Abstract

The habilitation thesis titled „*Canonical Theology and Ecclesiastical Law: Achievements and Aspirations*” is a synthesis of my entire didactic and research activity, conducted after obtaining the scientific title of Doctor in Theology on June 21, 2010.

From 2010, I was a substitute lecturer in the discipline of Ecclesiastical Law at the „Justinian Patriarch” Faculty of Orthodox Theology of the *University of Bucharest*, and in 2012 I graduated as a university assistant, then promoted a lecturer (2013) and later a university lecturer (2017).

Throughout my teaching and research, I have always started from the notion of *canon*, understood as the fundamental pastoral rule of the Church, to analyze from a canonical point of view topical issues of Ecclesiastical Law. A first analysis focused on the very notion of *canon*, the ecclesiological meaning of this term, and its concrete application in the life of the Church, examining it both in relation to *dogma* and the *law* in force in the State where the Church is organized and operates. The natural result of this analysis is the awareness of the distinction between *canonical theology* and *ecclesiastical law*, which is reflected in my empirical thesis in which I follow this classification. The *canonical theology* deals with the study of the *Holy canons*, their preservation and transmission, as well as their application in the life of the Church through the fundamental principles of organization and functioning of the Church, which are contained in their text. *Ecclesiastical law* addresses the state’s legislation on religious freedom and the legal status of religious communities in that State.

The first part of the thesis analyzes some achievements in *canonical theology*, especially the way the *Holy canons* are applied from the practical point of view in the Church, and indicates either the situations currently in conflict or status quo. It is obvious that all theologians must know the canonical provisions regarding the organization of the Church, especially when there are problematic or even conflict situations created by the failure to apply or vitiate the fundamental canonical principles of organization and functioning. Also, in contemporary society, the administration of the Church’s assets is a great challenge, which is why there is a need for increased attention from theologians on this subject in order to know and promote the canonical doctrine on this.

The second part of the thesis is devoted to *ecclesiastical law*, analyzing the regime of religious freedom in the European Union and Romania as a member state, and identifying the historical fact that in our country since 1918 the relation between the State and the Church is governed by a Western system, namely the recognized cult system of Napoleonic origin, which was developed with some Byzantine and communist inspiration. This system provides for a step-by-step recognition of the legal regime of a religious community and implies the drafting of their own Statutes, as is the case with the Romanian Orthodox Church. In addition, we also analyzed the difficult situation of Orthodoxy in the Republic of Moldova, now divided for predominantly political reasons.

In the professional, scientific and academic career development plan, I have presented the achievements so far and have formulated the desiderata for the future, indicating the major research directions I assume. In this respect, I identified several priorities in my university career development, which I grouped into three categories: short-term, medium-term and long-term. I am convinced that together with my colleagues at the *Doctoral School of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology „Justinian Patriarch”* I will be able to bring to fruition all the aspirations formulated in this text.

At the end of this empowerment thesis, according to the methodology in force, I attached my bibliographic references.

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