

ROBERT LAZU

E-mail: cybercritica@gmail.com

- Personal Informations** Date of birth: January 23, 1971
Nationality: Romanian
Religion: Roman-Catholic
Status: Married to Laura, five children
- Education** 1991 – 1996: BA in Philosophy (5 years), Western University in Timisoara (Romania), Thesis: "The Cosmology of Plato in Timaeus" (10 out of 10)
1985 – 1989: High School Diploma, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza High School", Galati (Romania)
- Research Interests** Classical Greek Philosophy: Plato, Aristotle and the Neoplatonists - their theology, cosmology, anthropology, and methods of philosophy
Patristic and Scholastic Philosophy: the anthropology, cosmology and biblical exegesis of Dionysius the Areopagite, Origen, St. Gregory of Nyssa, St. Maximus the Confessor, St. Hildegard, St. Albert the Great and St. Thomas of Aquinas
Comparative Literature; the relationship between Religion, Theology and Literature (John Henri Newman, Gilbert Keith Chesterton, John Ronald Reuel Tolkien, Clive Staples Lewis, Dorothy Sayers)
The influence of the digital creations (like pc games, 3d movies, cartoons) upon the human mind & the human imagination
- Academic Memberships** Member of "Romanian Association for Religious Studies" (Bucuresti, Romania)
Member of the "International Society Thoma d' Aquino" (Romanian Section)
A scientific researcher in "The Third Europe" Foundation –Timisoara (Romania), the Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature Group
Member of "The Canadian Association of Eastern Christian Studies" (Laval, Canada)
Secretary of the "Theological Study Group," Western University in Timisoara (Timisoara, Romania)
Member of the "History of Philosophy Study Group" in the Philosophy Department, Western University in Timisoara (Romania)
- Editorial Boards** 15.04.2001 – 30.07.2001: Editor of the CD-Rom *Mica enciclopedie a culturii Central Europene* (A Short Encyclopaedia of Central Europe) realized by Concept Foundation (Bucuresti, Romania) - the program "Electronic Publishing"
01.01.1997 – 01.06.2001: Editor-in-Chief of the theological publication *Altarul Banatului* (Timisoara, Romania)
01.07.2000 – 01.01.2001: Editor of *Mica enciclopedie a culturii Central Europene* (A Short Encyclopaedia of Central Europe), Theology and Philosophy Section, realized by "The Third Europe" Foundation (Timisoara, Romania)
20.08.1997 – 01.06.1998: Editorial-Director of "Grauntele de mustar" (a Collection of theological texts), Timisoara (Romania): Amarcord Publishing House
- Books Authored** *Cybercritica*, Targu-Lapus: Gutenberg Publishing House, 2008, 144 pp.
Lumea lui Tolkien [Tolkien's World], Arad: "Hartmann" Publishing House,

2004, 152 pp.

Lecturi catolice [Catholic Readings], Cluj-Napoca: "Gutenberg" Publishing House, 2004, 180 pp.

Exercitii hermeneutice [Hermeneutical Exercises], Cluj-Napoca: "Viata Crestina" Publishing House, 2002, 264 pp.

Farmecul discret al teologiei [The Discrete Charm of Theology], Cluj-Napoca: Dacia Publishing House, 2001, 160 pp.

Books Edited

Robert LAZU (Ed.), Mihaela CERNAUTI-GORODETCHI & Gyorgy GYORFI-DEAK, *Enciclopedia lumii lui J.R.R. Tolkien* [J.R.R. Tolkien's World Encyclopedia], "Galaxia Gutenberg" Publishing House, 2007, 337 pp.

Virgil NEMOIANU & Robert LAZU (Ed.), *J.R.R. Tolkien. Credinta si imaginatie* [J.R.R. Tolkien. Faith and Imagination], Arad: "Hartmann" Publishing House, 2005, 288 pp.

Alin TAT & Robert LAZU (Eds.), *Perspective asupra Conciliului Vatican II* [Perspectives about the Second Vatican Council], Cluj-Napoca: "Gutenberg" Publishing House, 2004, 164 pp.

Corneliu MIRCEA & Robert LAZU (Eds.), *Orizontul sacru* [The Sacred Horizon], Iasi: Polirom Publishing House, 1998, 240 pp.

Studies, Essays & Reviews

Over 100 studies, essays, articles and reviews published in the following magazines and periodicals:

Second Spring (Oxford, UK)

Adevarul literar si artistic (Bucuresti, Romania)

Altarul Banatului (Timisoara, Romania)

Vatra (Targu-Mures, Romania)

Orizont (Timisoara, Romania)

A Treia Europa (Iasi, Romania)

Dilema (Bucuresti, Romania)

Dialog Teologic (Iasi, Romania)

Timisoara – Fabric Vest (Timisoara, Romania)

Cronica (Iasi, Romania)

De West (Timisoara, Romania)

Caietele Institutului de Studii liberale (Bucuresti, Romania)

Clouds Magazine (USA, www.cloudsmagazine.com)

Catholica (Romania, www.catholica.ro)

Profamilia (Romania, www.profamilia.ro)

Antimis (Romania, www.antimis.ro)

Ecumenism (Romania, www.ecumenism.ro)

Translations

"The Common Declaration of Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras from 1965," in Ernst Christoph Suttner, *Bisericile răsăritului și apusul de-a lungul istoriei bisericești* [The Relationship between Eastern and Western Churches in the History], Translation by Mihai Sasaujan, Iasi: Ars Longa Publishing House, 1999, pp. 145-150

Notes and Bibliography for Alain de Libera's, *Mistica renana* (Translation by Cristian Badilita), Timisoara: Amarcord Publishing House, 1997

"Templu și cosmos" in Jean Hani, *Le symbolisme du temple chrétien*, in *Caiete Botosanene* (Botosani), no. 3-4/1995, pp. 53-54

Volumes in Preparation

Principium Scientiae. The Metamorphosis of "Science" from Thales to Karl Popper

Further Academic Participation

21-25.08.2006: Participant in the "The Oxford Tolkien Conference. The Lord of the Rings: Sources of inspiration", organized by Exeter College (Oxford). Paper-work: "Inside the Belly of the Dragon: Levels of Initiation in Tolkien's Works"

- 24-25.05.2001: Participant in the "The Academic Days of Timisoara" (7th edition), organized by the Romanian Academy, at the Symposium "The Phenomenology of Subjectivity." Paper-work: "Lumea lui Platon. Introducere in cosmogonia dialogului Timaios" ["Plato's World. Introduction in the Cosmogony of Timaios"]
- 27.04.2001: Participant in international Colloquium "The Culture of Memory in Central Europe" organized by the French Culture Center and "The Third Europe" Foundation from Timisoara. Paper-work: "Remember: Moses Gaster and Lazar Saineanu. Some contributions in the study of Romanian fairy-tales"
- 21-22.10.1999: Participant in international Symposium "Thinking and Revelation" organized by the French Culture Center and the West University from Timisoara, Timisoara. Paper-work: "Regandirea teologiei ("Rethinking Theology")
- 23-26.09.1999: Participant in the philosophical Symposium "Omul si sensul istoriei" ("Man and the Meaning of History"), organized by Cultural Society Agora, Sighisoara (Romania). Paper-work: "Revelatia si revelatiile" ("The Christian Revelation and the non-Christian Revelations")
- 02-04.06.1999: Participant in the Symposium organized by "The Canadian Association of Eastern Christian Studies" and "Canadian Society of Patristic Studies," Bishop's University – Lennoxville, Quebec (Canada). Paper-works: "Le concept de physis dans la theologie du Pere Dumitru Staniloae" and "A la recherche de l' unite"
- 27-28.04.1999: Participant in the "The Academic Days of Timisoara" (4th edition), organized by the Romanian Academy, at the Symposium "The Faith: Tradition and Modernity"
- 05 - 07.03.1999: Expert for the project "Social cohesion and cultural diversity" organized by the Council of Europe and the Intercultural Institute from Timisoara (cf. Robert Lazu, "Evaluare" ["Evaluation"], in Coeziune sociala si diversitate culturala. Raport final [Social cohesion and cultural diversity. Final report], Timisoara, 1999, pp. 37-39)
- 17.04.1998: Co-organizer of the Launching of Wilhelm Danca, Mircea Eliade. Definitio Sacri (Iasi: Ars Longa, 1998), Timisoara (Romania)
- 17.04.1998: Co-organizer of the International Colloquium "The Sacred," organized by the Soros Foundation, the Intercultural Institute and the Western university in timisoara, Timisoara (Romania)
- 01.06.1996: Co-organizer of the Colloquium "Mircea Eliade: the Writer, the Philosopher and the Anthropologist," Timisoara (Romania)

Church Related Activities

Catechesis

- 2003 - : Coordinator of a catechetical program ("The Catholic Faith, The Church and the World after the Second Vatican Council") for adults in The Catholic Parish of the "Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ" (Timisoara, Romania)
- 2003-2004: Gravissimum Educationis: The Catholic Faith
- 2004-2005: Catecheses Mystagogicae: The Liturgical and Sacrament Life of the Catholic Church
- 2005-2006: Catholic Lectures: The Evangelization of Modern Culture and the Social Teachings of Catholic Church)
- 01.10.2003 - 29.11.2005: Coordinator of a catechetical program ("Catechesis About Second Vatican Teachings") for adults in The Catholic Parish "Holy Mary, Queen of Peace" (Timisoara, Romania)

Groups

- 29.04.2004 - 24.11.2004: Coordinator of "Aquinas Group for Theological and Philosophical Research" organized by West University and The Catholic Parish of the "Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ" (Timisoara,

Romania)

Conferences

- 26.05.2006: "The World's De-Sacralization and the Da Vinci Code," Lecture at "The Diocesan Youth Meeting" (Timisoara, Romania)
- 18.09.2004: "St. Thomas Aquinas and the Magisterium of the Catholic Church. Reflections on the Encyclical Aeterni Patris by Pope Leon XIII," Lecture at the Fourth Conference organized by "International Society St.Thomas Aquinas" (Iasi, Romania)
- 14.05.2004: "The Magisterium of the Catholic Church in the Defense of Life and Family," Lecture at International Conference "The Christian Mission in the Defense of Human Life" organized by Human Life International (USA) and the Association "The Gift of Life" (Timisoara, Romania)
- 07.05.2004: "Cardinal John Henri Newman and the Idea of a University. An Argument for the Culture of XXI Century," Lecture at the Conference "The Christianity in XXI Century" organized by Theological Catholic Institute (Oradea, Romania)
- 17.08.2003: "Holy Mary. Theological and Political Significations," Lecture at "Theology and Politics" Conference organized by Konrad-Adenauer Foundation (Cheia, Romania)
- 08.08.2003: "Sacred, Magic and Definitions of Man in Contemporary Culture" (A Discussion about The Lord of the Rings & Harry Potter Movies), Lecture at "The National Youth Meeting" (Oradea, Romania)
- 19.04.2001: "The Mistake of I.P. Culianu. The beginning of Modernity from a Perspective based on the Anthropology of St. Thomas Aquinas," Lecture at the First Conference organized by "International Society St. Thomas Aquinas" (Sinaia, Romania)