Proposals for the revision of Class 1 of the UDC

[October 2009]

1. The clear distinction of philosophy from psychology as a discipline in Class 1, i.e. moving the later towards the end of Class 1. Placing it between the Philosophical systems and Logic creates an artificial hiatus inside the problematic of philosophy as a discipline.

2. The exclusion of a number of un-philosophical domains such as: Occultism, Astrology, Chiromancy from this class or their separate treatment.

3. The problematic of philosophy should be treated as a whole in which all the domains of Systematic philosophy should be found, deriving one from the other: Metaphysics, Logic, Ethics, Aesthetics, and Political Philosophy. Within these domains the major philosophical concepts like Being, Truth, Good, Beauty and Right are treated.

4. A distinct section from the Systematic philosophy in Class 1 should be dedicated to Philosophical methodology (methods of philosophy). This should include the specific terminology of each method: the phenomenological method, the transcendental method, the axiomatic method, the dialectic method, the semiotic method, the reductive method, all being essential to the philosophical constructions.

5. The History of philosophy should be treated as a sine-qua-non concept and a concept in its right. This cannot be treated as a combination between Philosophy and a historical point of view or a historical presentation.

6. The updated philosophical systems and currents, should be placed separately from the domains of Systematic philosophy, and not randomly included between Metaphysics and Logic etc. The rationale for this proposal is that each philosophical system has its own Metaphysics, Ethics and Aesthetics (see Kant, Hegel).

7. A number of concepts such as: Philosophy of mind, Philosophy of religion, Social philosophy, Philosophy of sciences, Philosophy of language, Philosophy of history etc. should be included in the class under a broader term like Applied philosophy, for instance.

Dr. Titus Lateş
„Carol I” Central University Library of Bucureşti
Faculty of Philosophy Library

Addendum

Feminism is a concept that should better be placed in Class 3 – Sociology instead of Class 1 – Philosophy, to be more precise close to 305 – Gender studies. This concept has closer relations with the problematic of sociology: women and society, emancipation of women, education of women, family status of women, gender specific issues regarding women besides the philosophical discourse related to this movement.

Dr. Victoria Frâncu
Carol I” Central University Library of Bucureşti