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**FROM COMMUNICATIVE ACTION TO
SOCIAL PRACTICES. BOOK REVIEW.
ACȚIUNE COMUNICATIVĂ, JUSTIȚIE
DELIBERATIVĂ ȘI RESTAURATIVĂ –
AUTHORS ANTONIO SANDU AND ELENA
UNGURU, TRITONIC PUBLISHING HOUSE,
2014**

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**From Communicative Action to Social Practices.
Book review. Acțiune comunicativă, justiție deliberativă și
restaurativă – authors Antonio Sandu and Elena Unguru,
Tritonic Publishing House, 2014**

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Abstract

The book „Acțiune comunicativă, justiție deliberativă și restaurativă. Perspective socio-juridice asupra medierii și probațiunii” (Communicative Action, Deliberative and Restorative Justice. Socio-legal Perspectives on Mediation and Probation) published by Antonio Sandu and Elena Unguru under the aegis of Tritonic Publishing House calls for philosophical, sociological and legal reflections, being a transdisciplinary lesson about justice (Ciucă, A., 2014). The aim of this paper is to analyse the changes within the social reality; understanding the societal avatars is the result of an interpretative agreement achieved through communicative action (Sandu, A., Unguru, E. 2014). The paper has two parts, which provide an exhaustive analysis of mediation and probation.

Keywords: *Communicative action, justice, mediation, legislation, probation.*

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Introduction

The volume „Acțiune comunicativă, justiție deliberativă și restaurativă Perspective socio-juridice asupra medierii și probațiunii” (Communicative Action, Deliberative and Restorative Justice. Socio-legal Perspectives on Mediation and Probation) provides a different approach to the legal issues, as they are analysed in terms of the communicative action. The volume has two parts, in which the authors provide us with a different view on mediation and justice, through an original socio-juridical and philosophical approach. This structure helps us better understand the content of the volume, each legal issue being analysed and interpreted in the philosopher’s specific manner; it also outlines the contributions of Elena Unguru as co-author and other researchers quoted in the paper.

The authors focus on justice and communication as fundamental concepts, thus outlining a philosophical and socio-legal framework of understanding.

The mediation and probation process - a postmodern interpretation

Antonio Sandu provides a different view on the mediation process, a critical analysis of the components, and also of the legislative framework in Romania and other European countries. Mediation is seen as a complex, interdisciplinary action, which brings together in one process skills from the fields of psychology, sociology, organizational psychology, communication, philosophical counselling and last but not least from the field of philosophy, through the communicative action theory (Sandu, Unguru, 2014; Habermas, 1987; Clipa, 2014; Sandu, 2014).

This volume (Sandu, Unguru, 2014) identifies the communication strategies which help achieve the construction of a new communication paradigm for solving conflicts. Mediation, as an alternative to the civil or criminal justice system (Popa, 2006), seeks to amiably solve disputes through hermeneutic and semiotic practices. It describes the recommendations of the European Commission regarding the resolution of disputes, and also the scope, the organization, the process of development, the responsibility and the styles used in mediation.

The second part of the volume, authored by Antonio Sandu and Elena Unguru (2014), provides an analysis of probation, focusing on social deviance, conflict and control. Within this chapter, the authors analyzed the national and international legislative framework and set the limits of coordinating the punishment process, and the process of applying certain social work practices for the reintegration of offenders into the community after carrying out the punishment (Balahur, 2001). The authors make a review of the European Commission's recommendations regarding probation, and the organization of the probation system in accordance with the laws in our country (Ciucă, 2014).

Conclusions

The originality of the paper consists in the way the authors bring together the field of philosophy and that of law and social work, thus providing a postmodern view on probation, from punishment deconstruction to the restorative alternative.

The volume „Acțiune comunicativă, justiție deliberativă și restaurativă. Perspective socio-juridice asupra medierii și probațiunii” (Communicative Action, Deliberative and Restorative Justice, Socio-legal Perspectives on Mediation and Probation) also provides a different view regarding the field of law as a relationship with the Other in the context of postmodernism, the individual’s assertion and the deconstruction of any structures.

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Biodata



Loredana Terec-Vlad has graduated from the Faculty of Political and Administrative Sciences within Petre Andrei University of Iași, and is an expert in Organizational Ethics and Ethical Auditing. She has published various scientific papers in field such as bioethics, business ethics, economy and organizational sociology. The author has built a model of understanding the Superman from Nietzsche and Hitler to transhumanism, seeing soft slavery as an alternative to classical slavery.

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