

# CATALIN AUGUSTIN STOICA

National University of Political Studies and Public Administration  
Department of Sociology  
Faculty of Political Sciences  
Blvd. Expozitiei 30A, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 703  
Sector 1, Bucharest, Romania  
astoica@politice.ro

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Sociology, Stanford University, 2005;  
M.A. in Sociology, Stanford University, 1998;  
M.A. in Sociology, Central European University, Sociology Department, 1997;  
B.A. in Sociology, University of Bucharest, Romania, 1996;

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Public opinion polling, research methods, social stratification, communist and post-communist transition, economic sociology, social movements, and political sociology;

## EMPLOYMENT

Since 2013 – Associate Professor of Sociology, Faculty of Political Sciences, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA, Bucharest, Romania);  
2006 -2013 Assistant Professor of Sociology, Faculty of Political Sciences, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA, Bucharest, Romania);  
2005-2006 Teaching Fellow, Faculty of Faculty of Political Sciences, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA, Bucharest, Romania);  
2007-2015 -- General Manager, Center for Urban and Regional Sociology (CURS), Bucharest, Romania;  
2005-2007 – Senior Researcher, Center for Urban and Regional Sociology (CURS), Bucharest, Romania;  
1995-1999 – Junior Researcher and (subsequently) Researcher, Center for Urban and Regional Sociology (CURS), Bucharest, Romania;

## EXPERIENCE

2019. Expert Witness on behalf of Romania in the arbitration case “Gabriel Resources v. Romania” (International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes – ICSID); I was a member of the team representing Romania; the team included the law firms LALIVE (Switzerland) and Leaua, Damcali, Deaconu, Paunescu (LDDP – Romania); my duties as an expert on public opinion polling and social movements included writing an expert opinion submitted to ICSID and testifying before the ICSID Tribunal (December 2019, Washington DC);

**Research Projects conducted at the National University for Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA):**

2016-2018. Expert within the Project “The State of the Nation – The construction of an innovative instrument for public policies (SIPOCA 11); -- a project conducted by SNSPA in partnership with the Romanian Government General Secretariat, the Romanian National Institute for Statistics, and The Institute for Quality of Life of the Romanian Academy; partial funding provided by the European Social Fund through the Operational Program on Administrative Capacity (OPAC);

2010-2011. Joint National Coordinator (for Romania, with Bogdan State) for the project *Trust and Transitions in Modes of Exchange*. This project was funded by a US National Science Foundation grant to Principal Investigators Karen S. Cook (Department of Sociology, Stanford University) and Coye V. Cheshire (School of Information, University of California, Berkeley); specifically, this project consisted of a series of cross-national experiments which investigated the extent to which transitioning from one form of exchange to another (i.e., through gifts or negotiations) influences the amount of trust developed between two parties;

2007-2010. Project Manager/Director and National Coordinator (for Romania) of *The European Social Survey – Round 4*; Round 4 of the ESS was funded in Romania by the Romanian National Council for Scientific Research in Higher Education through its IDEI Program;

2005-2006 Joint National Coordinator (for Romania) of *The European Social Survey – Round 3*; Round 3 of the ESS was funded in Romania by the National Council for Scientific Research in Higher Education (CNCSIS);

2009-2012. Joint Coordinator “*The Social Map of Bucharest*” – a project funded by the National School of Political and Administrative Studies;

2005-2006 Expert within the project “*Institutional Reconstruction in Romania: Challenges and Trends in the Context of EU Enlargement*” a project funded by the National Council for Scientific Research in Higher Education (CNCSIS);

2006. Expert within the project “*Needs and Priorities for Changes in Romania’s Education System: Pre-requisites for the Development and Modernization of the Pre-university System of Education*”; this project was funded by the Romanian National Authority for Scientific Research (ANCS);

**Research Projects conducted and/or coordinated at the Center for Urban and Regional Sociology – CURS (selection):**

*Romanian Youth: Concerns, Aspirations, and Life-Style* (2014); coordinator on behalf of CURS; this study was carried out for Friedrich Ebert Foundation – Romania and it consisted of a survey on a national sample of 1,302 respondents aged 15 to 29 years and a series of 9 focus-groups with a total number of 117 participants, aged 15 to 29 years;

**Research Projects conducted/coordinated at the Center for Urban and Regional Sociology – CURS (selection; continued):**

*Nationwide Survey on Civic Participation* (2012) this study was conducted on a nationally representative sample of 1,100 adult respondents for the NGO CeRe – The Center for Resources for Public Participation (Bucharest, Romania) and the Faculty of Political Sciences, Babes-Bolyai University (Cluj, Romania);

*Class Structure and Social Stratification in Contemporary Romania* (2011) Within this project, I coordinated on behalf of CURS a nationwide survey on a sample of 4,508 respondents aged 25 years and over. The survey was a part of a large collaborative project among CURS, the University of Bucharest, the Babes-Bolyai University (Cluj, Romania), and the University of Oradea (Romania);

*The Impact of External Migration on Older Parents Left Behind in Romania (IPIA)* – 2011; a nationwide social survey on a sample of 1,509 respondents aged 60 years and over; the survey was conducted for the Department of Sociology, University of Utah;

*Teacher Absenteeism and Students' Performance in Roma and non-Roma Schools in Romania* (2011-2012); this study was conducted in 220 primary schools nationwide and it was commissioned by the Roma Education Fund (REF) in partnership with Romani CRISS (an NGO that focuses on Roma's rights and issues);

*The Barometer of Social Inclusion* (2010). This was a part of a large collaborative project among the National Trade Union Bloc, the University of Bucharest, the Group for Applied Economics, and the Babes Bolyai University (Cluj, Romania). Within this project, I coordinated a large nationwide survey conducted on: 1) a sample of 1,150 respondents aged 16 years and over; 2) a sample of 600 respondents of Roma ethnic background; 3) a sample of 300 respondents with ages between 45 and 60 years; 4) a sample of 1,000 employees of 500 business firms nationwide; 4) a sample of managers of human resources departments from 500 business firms;

*The Cultural Consumption Barometer* (2005, 2007, 2009, 2010) – a series of nationwide surveys commissioned by the Center for Research and Consultancy in the Field of Culture (of The Romanian Ministry of Culture); each survey was conducted face-to-face on nationwide samples of 1,500 respondents aged 15 years and over;

*The Qualitative Eurobarometer* – a qualitative study conducted for TNS-Opinion Belgium (2009–2010);

*Nationwide Survey Among Likely Voters in Romania* (2009) -- a public opinion poll conducted on a national sample of 1,500 likely voters; this study was commissioned by The Mellman Group (USA) 2009;

**Research Projects conducted/coordinated at the Center for Urban and Regional Sociology – CURS (selection; continued):**

*Presidential Elections in Romania (2009)* - a series of 2 nationwide public opinion polls (2,200 adult respondents in total) conducted for Benenson Strategy Group - BSGO (USA);

*National Democratic Institute's Roma Assessment Study: Barriers to Political Participation of Roma in Romania (2009)*: this study consisted of a nationwide survey and a series of eight focus-groups regarding the political representation of Roma population in Romania. The study was commissioned by the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI), Washington, D.C.;

*Romanian Corporate Response to Crisis Survey* – a marketing and economic analysis study conducted for the World Bank on nationally representative samples of Romanian business firms (2009);

*The Business Environment and Enterprise Performance Survey ("BEEPS IV") and Management Organization and Innovation Survey – MOI (2008)* – Nationwide surveys among business firms conducted for TNS-Opinion Belgium at the request of the World Bank; national coordinator for Romania on behalf of CURS (Center for Urban and Regional Sociology);

*Social Capital, Community Solidarity, and Anomie in Romanian Society (2008)* - this study was conducted on a nationwide sample of 3,500 respondents aged 18 years and over; the study was commissioned by the Romanian Agency for Governmental Strategies;

*Qualitative Research on Romanian Politics (2008)* – a series of 12 focus-groups conducted for The Mellman Group (USA);

*Nationwide Survey on Perceptions Regarding Romanian-Italian Relations (2008)* – a study conducted for Fondazione Università ILUM (Milano) and Unimpresa Romania 2008;

*EUREQUAL 2007: Social Inequality and Why it Matters for the Economic and Democratic Development of Europe and its Citizens: Post-Communist Central and Eastern Europe in Comparative Perspective (2007)* – this was a large-scale comparative study coordinated by and based in the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Oxford. Within this project, at the request of Median Research Center (Romania), I coordinated on behalf of CURS a nationwide survey on a sample of 1,500 respondents aged 15 years and over;

*Romania Public Opinion Polling Project (2007-2008)*; within this project I coordinated 6 nationwide public opinion polls on samples of 1,100 adult respondents; these surveys were conducted for the International Republican Institute (IRI, USA) and were funded by the National Endowment for Democracy (USA);

### **Other Research Projects:**

2004/05 Osher Research Internship at the Hoover Institution Archives; my responsibilities included processing, researching, and increasing public awareness of and accessibility to the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Collection in the Hoover Institution Archives;

2001/02. Research Assistant for the project “The Collectivization of Agriculture in Socialist Romania.” This was a collaborative project among Romanian and U.S.-based scholars and organized by Katherine Verdery, formerly at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and Gail Kligman, University of California Los Angeles. It was supported by funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research, and the National Science Foundation. For this project, I conducted interviews in rural Romania, and I have written a research report and two book chapters;

2002. Consultant for John F. Ely, Associate Producer of the *Public Broadcasting Service’s Frontline/World* documentary “Romania: My Old Haunts” (featuring the American poet, essayist, and *National Public Radio* commentator, Andrei Codrescu);

1999/2000. Dissertation fieldwork research: I independently designed and conducted in-depth interviews with 35 current and former Romanian entrepreneurs, and I collected various statistical data about Romania’s new private sector;

1998. Research work done at the Open Society Archives (Budapest, Hungary) thanks to a Research Support Grant for MA Thesis offered by the Department of Sociology, Central European University; I independently conducted archival research in the Radio Free Europe Archives on the topics of the Romanian uprisings and Revolution from 1989, and the Ceausescu’s trial;

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Journal Articles:**

“Suspicious Minds in Times of Crisis: Determinants of Romanians’ Beliefs in Covid-19 Conspiracy Theories” (co-author Radu Umbres), *European Societies*, September 2020, pp. 1-16; <https://doi.org/10.1080/14616696.2020.1823450>

“Midwifing Cultural Anthropology in Romania” *ANUAC – Rivista della societa italiana di antropologia sociale*, Vol. 9, no. 1/2020, pp. 32-36; <https://ojs.unica.it/index.php/anuac/article/view/4213/3814>

“The New Economic Order in Romania: An Exceptional Case or Déjà vu?” (in Romanian) in *Trivium: Journal of Symbolic Thinking* (in Romanian) Iasi, No.2 (31)/2017 pp. 325-352;

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Articles (continued):

(Co-author with Zachary Zimmer and Codrina Rada) „Migration, Location and Provision of Support to Older Parents: The Case of Romania” *Journal of Population Aging* (Springer), Vol. 7, No. 3/2014, Pag. 161-184

“Our Martyrs of 1989 Did Not Die for This!': Political Capitalism in Post-Communist Romania” *Historical Social Research/Historische Sozialforschung*; Vol. 37/2012, No. 2, pp. 26-52;

“Old Habits Die Hard? An Exploratory Analysis of Communist-era Social Ties in Post-Communist Romania” *European Journal of Science and Theology*, June 2012, Vol. 8, Suppl. 1, pp. 171-194;

“Capitalism from Below: An Exploratory Analysis of Small Entrepreneurship in Hungary, Poland, and Romania” *The Romanian Journal of Society and Politics* Vol. VII/No.1/Issue 13, pp. 71-102;

“The Multiple Facets of Popular Discontent: A Sociological Outline of the Romanian Mass Protests of January 2012” (in Romanian) *Sociologie Romaneasca (Romanian Sociology)* Vol. X/Nr. 1/2012

“Once Upon a Time There Was a Big Party: The Social Origins of the Romanian Communist Party” published in two issues in *East European Politics and Societies*. (The first part was published in issue no. 19 [November 2005] of *East European Politics and Societies*, pp. 686-716; the second part was published in issue no. 20 [August] 2006 of *East European Politics and Societies*, pp. 447-482);

“From Good Communists to Even Better Capitalists? Entrepreneurial Pathways in Post-Socialist Romania” *East European Politics and Societies* (18) 2: 2004, pp. 236-277;

“Romania: Ten Years After the [Fill in the Blank]”, (in Hungarian; with John F. Ely); *Regio: Kisebbség, Politika, Társadalom. (Regio: A review of studies on minorities, politics and society)* Budapest, 2001/1, pp. 45-67;

“Romania’s Failed Attempt at a Revolutionary Myth: Performances and Rituals of Degradation in Ceausescus’ Trial” *Polish Sociological Review* No. 4/1999, pp. 461-483;

“An Incomplete Story: Some Critical Comments on the Issue of Entrepreneurship in Post-Socialist Romania” (in Romanian) *Sociologie Romaneasca (Romanian Sociology)* No. 2/1999, pp. 165-171;

“Using the Constant Comparative Method in the Foreign Classroom: Shopping as a Social Problem in Romania” (with Patrick Jobes et al.) *Teaching Sociology* No.4/1997, pp. 292-302;

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Articles (continued):

“Shopping as a Social Problem: A Grounded Theoretical Analysis of Experiences Among Romanian Shoppers” (with Patrick Jobes et al.) *Journal of Applied Sociology*, No. 2/1996-1997, pp. 124-146;

“Methodological Exercises: Guarded Disclosures in Social Interactions” (in Romanian; with S. Lazaroiu) *Revista de Cercetari Sociale (The Review for Social Research)* No. 4/1997;

“Romanian Sociology: The Next Generation” (with S. Lazariou and A. Aldea; in Romanian) *Revista de cercetari sociale (The Review for Social Research)* no.3/1994, pp. 155-161;

### Chapters in books:

“Patterns of Associationism and Trust in Europe: Consequences for Development” (with Bogdan Voicu) in *Patterns of Contemporary Development: Assessing Challenges and Opportunities* (O. Stefanita, L. Radu, and F. Durach, eds.) Bucharest: Comunicare.ro. 2018, pp. 13-32;

“Postcommunist Capitalism Romanian-Style?” (in Romanian) in *Why is Romania the Way It Is? The Tribulations of Romanian Exceptionalism* (V. Mihailescu, ed.), Iasi: Polirom, 2017, pp. 250-276;

“Elements for a Sketch of Postcommunist Political Capitalism” (in Romanian) in *The End of History Will Be Postponed: A Radiography of Romanian Postcommunism* (in Romanian, Emanuel Copilas, ed.) Tîrgoviște: Ed. Cetatea de Scaun, 2017, pp. 16-26;

“One Step Back, Two Steps Forward: Institutionalizing the Party-State and Collective Property in Romania” *Transforming Peasants, Property and Power: The Collectivization of Agriculture in Romania 1949-1962* (C. Iordachi and D. Dobrinicu, eds.) Budapest, New York: CEU Press;

“Re-Membering Romania: Contested Memories and Empty Pedestals” (with John F. Ely) In Henry F. Carey ed., *Romania since 1989: Politics, Economics, and Society*. Lexington Books, 2004, pp. 97-114;

“The Institutionalization of the Party-State and Collective Property in Two Romanian Villages” (in Romanian) in *The Peasantry and the Power: The Collectivization of the Romanian agriculture, 1949-1962* (D. Dobrinicu and C. Iordachi, eds.). Iasi: Polirom, 2005, pp. 445-472;

**Authored, co-authored, and co-edited books:**

*Continuous Romania: Change and Adaptation in Communism and Postcommunism* (in Romanian) Bucharest: Humanitas, 2018;

*The Winter of Our Discontent: The Romanian Protests of January 2012* (in Romanian; co-editor with Vintilă Mihăilescu). Bucharest: Paideia Publishing House, 2012;

*Sociology: A Textbook for High Schools* (in Romanian; co-author with A.Bulai, D.O. Ștefănescu et al.), Bucharest: Humanitas, 2012;

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Since 2013, Associate Professor of Sociology, Faculty of Political Sciences, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, (Bucharest, Romania). Courses taught: “Methods and Techniques for Research in Sociology, Psychology, and Political Sciences,” “Social Stratification and Inequality,” “Social Survey,” “Economic Anthropology”;

2006-2013, *Assistant Professor of Sociology*, Faculty of Political Sciences, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, (Bucharest, Romania). Courses taught: “Economic Anthropology,” “Social Research Methods,” “Social Mobility and Migration,” “Social Survey Methods,” “Advanced Quantitative Methods,” “Social Stratification and Inequality”;

2005/2006. *Teaching Fellow*, Department of Political Sciences, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (Bucharest, Romania), courses taught: “Social Stratification and Inequality,” “Quantitative Methods and Public Policy Analysis,” “Social Survey Methods”;

2005, 2004. *Instructor*, Department of Sociology, Stanford University, course on “The Sociology of State Socialist and Post-Socialist Societies”;

2002, 2001 *Instructor*, Department of Sociology, Stanford University, course on “Introduction to Sociology”;

2000 *Instructor*, Department of Sociology, Stanford University, course on “Introduction to Social Stratification”;

2000-2002 *Lecturer in Sociology*, Linguistics Department, Stanford University, “American Language and Culture” Program;

1999 *Teaching Assistant*, Department of Sociology, Stanford University, course on “The Sociology of the Family”;

1999 *Teaching Assistant*, Department of Sociology, Stanford University, course on “Introduction to Sociology”;

1998. *Teaching Assistant*, Department of Sociology, Stanford University, course on “Social Stratification”;



## **HONORS AND AWARDS:**

2010/2013. *Post-Doctoral Fellow in Sociology*, University of Bucharest, within the project “Applied social, human, and political sciences. Postdoctoral training and postdoctoral fellowships in social, human and political sciences,” co-financed by the European Social Fund within the Sectorial Operational Program Human Resources Development 2007-2013 (POSDRU/89/1.5/S/62259);

2005/2006. *Returning Scholar Fellowship* offered by Open Society Institute’s Academic Fellowship Program;

2004/05 *O’Bie-Shultz Dissertation Completion Fellowship Grant*, Institute for International Studies, Stanford University;

2001/03 *Littlefield Fellowship in International Studies*, Institute for International Studies, Stanford University;

2002/03 *MacArthur Affiliate Fellow*, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Institute for International Studies, Stanford University (2002-2003);

2001/02 *MacArthur Consortium Fellowship*, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Institute for International Studies, Stanford University. (I declined the financial award but I kept my MacArthur Affiliate status; 2001-2002.);

2000 *The LaPierre Award for Best Third Year Paper* (i.e, Qualifying Exam Paper), Department of Sociology Department, Stanford University;

2000 *Pre-dissertation Research Grant*, Center for Russian and East European Studies, Stanford University;

1997/2001 *New Democracy Fellowship*, Institute for International Studies, Stanford University;

1997 *Research Support Grant for M.A. Thesis*, Central European University, Warsaw and Budapest;

1995, 1996 “Best Undergraduate Paper” Prizes University of Bucharest;

## **CONFERENCES (SELECTION, LAST 8 YEARS):**

Presentation “Romania’s Youth: Concerns, Aspirations, Values”; the interdisciplinary conference „Great Romania 2.0: From a Latin Island to the Global Archipelago” organized by the Museum of Bucharest, November, 2018;

Public lecture “Was it Better Before 1989? The Socio-Demographic Bases of Perceptions about Communism” at the colloquium “Ideas in Agora: Meetings of Analysis of the Public Spirit” organized by the Museum of Bucharest (March, 2018);

## **CONFERENCES (SELECTION, LAST 8 YEARS, continued):**

Panel organizer “Cherchez la Classe: Social Class in Post-Socialist Romania” the International Conference of the Society of Sociologists from Romania (October, 2016) Sibiu, Romania;

“Exceptions without exceptionalism: Isomorphism, institutional decoupling and post-communist capitalism” (co-author with Liviu Chelcea); paper presented at the colloquium “Romanian Exceptionalism: Discourse and Reality” organized by Vintila Mihailescu, Cotroceni National Art Museum, Bucharest (February 2016);

Invited speaker to the conference series „Burning Issues – Dialogues by the Fireplace”, with the topic „Crisis, Unrest, and Change in 2015 Romania” organized by Export Club Romania, Bucharest, (December 2015);

“Cultural Capital and Digital Inequality in Romania: A Look Forward” (co-author, with Mihaela Popescu [main author] and Predrag Cvetičanin); paper presented by the main author at the International Association for Media and Communication Research Convention, Montreal, Canada (July 2015);

“New Media, New Inequalities? A Cultural Capital Approach to Digital Inequality in Romania” (co-author, with Mihaela Popescu [main author] and Predrag Cvetičanin) paper presented by the main author at the International Communication Association Convention Puerto Rico (May 2015);

Presentations as a guest scholar of the Department of Political Sciences (Central European University), within the workshop organized by Political Research Group (POLBERG); my two presentations were „Communist-Era Social Ties in Post-Communist Romania” and “There’s No Business Like Public Opinion Business: Conducting Public Opinion Polls in Post-Communist Romania” (September 2012);

Panel organizer “This is the time of our discontent!” Protests and social movements during the current global crisis”, the Second International Conference of the Society of Sociologists from Romania (SSR) “Beyond Globalization” Bucharest (May, 31- June, 3 2012);

“Old Habits Die Hard? Communist-Era Social Ties in Post-Communist Romania” Paper presented at the international conference “Academos: Welfare State and Social Capital” SNSPA, Bucharest, (June, 7-9 2012);

Co-organizer of the panel “Anthropological Approaches to Elections and Representative Democracy” within the Annual Conference of the Romanian Society for Cultural Anthropology, “Transformations of the State,” Bucharest (September, 2012);

**AFFILIATIONS**

Member of the American Sociological Association (ASA);  
Member and former Vice-President of the Romanian Sociologists Society (SSR);  
Co-founder and former Vice-President of Romanian Students' Association at  
Stanford University (RSA).