
The International Value of the Scientific Excellency

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The controversial and wealthy socio-political facet of the economy is generated by the economic implications, in all dimensions of reference of the society.

The search for relevant answers not only the economic future, coerce to new interpretations and appraisals on the evolutionary process of the economic theory. “The Golden Age” of the economic ideas development is, currently, outdated because the foundations of the economic theory have been established once and for all and what happens at present are just confirmations or updated interpretations of what is known for a long time.

However, the scientific legacy preserved loses from the validity of its content if it won't be adjusted according to the new guidelines, being supplemented through the scientific contribution of the present ones. The human-economist of theory and researcher indicates the need to modify the scientific paradigm in relation to the changes that occur in the economic life. The practitioner-economist contributes to the development of the business environment, therefore of the market, bearing material advantages for the society. Economic policymakers operate (or should operate?!) within their decisional plan. Their actions are about appropriate measures for the key priorities of the moment.

Starting from these criteria, the economic modernization process constitutes the reformative objective of the mission the economist must bring to an end. The economic modernization process is not limited only to “polishing” the economic frame. He seeks to promote those actions through which the economist serves as a reformative. The economist manages, by virtue of the knowledge base available, the course of ideas paired to the slower

or faster evolution of the society. But is the economist autonomous?

Choosing the option according to which the economist chooses the freedom to relate independently to the reality implies itself an opportunity cost. If the economist will choose the servitude criterion after the material criterion of profit, then, without any doubt, the autonomy substrate will be lost. Dividing his skills on educational activities, research, politics, and business environment may estrange him, at some point from the reality criterion¹.

In our opinion, the role and place of the economist within the society starts from satisfying their own interests, which must correspond (in a profitable and happy manner) with the advantages the society is prepared to accumulate.

Therefore, the motivation within the training process of the modern economist undergoes a fundamental change. No doubt, it requires taking into question, not as much the essence and content of the process, as it is, but above all the effects-consequences for the society. To resign before the modest evolution of the economic theory in the last 20 years means to accept that what should have been written down and interpreted has already been made.

We consider that, however, all economic scientific research confirmed and crowned with the Nobel Prize represent recognition of the fact that identifying the economic novelty remains the merit of those passionate about novelty and change. The economic Excellency must be acknowledged and valued.

In the following we propose some considerations regarding the role of the economic scientific research and the manner in which it was materialized after the acknowledgement of the Nobel Prize for economics.

The economic event- a challenge for the economic scientific research.

For starters, we would like to emphasize that the economic event has represented, since forever, an exciting challenge for the economic scientific research. Defined and a set of events with a strong impact and fundamental consequences at the society level, the economic event marks uncertainty, even if its effects are sometimes positive (e.g. the industrial revolution that marked

¹ According to Petru Creția ("Moral essays", pg 15) the rationality is not that superficial characteristic thought by enlightenment, but the knowledge and recognition of all the resorts of irrationality within us.

the industrial cyclicality). In all cases, confirmed by history, the economic crises, characterized by economic events, were accompanied by social problems (social crises), the society's perception, in terms of employment, being of rejection.

The impact of the economic event on the level and quality of the economic scientific research materializes on two levels: 1st represents the eco-socio-politic transformations and their effects on the economic research activity; the 2nd operates backwards through the role, content, implications and results of this activity on stimulating the dynamic processes within the economy. These two levels are interdependent, are interrelated but, above all, they are exerting influence on each other.

Viewed as economic events at a global and European level, the transition, globalization and eco-financial crisis have opened and challenged new areas of economic scientific research; these, in turn demanded the preparation of a generation of new strategies, able to exceed the individual limits and above all to think globally.

Unfortunately, the academic and scientific world, still strives to overcome the tendency, deeply rooted, to think in strict terms of the specialized field. The recognition of the qualitative valences and interdisciplinary imperatives is needed.

Regarding the current concerns on the necessity for opening toward global and global thinking T. Friedman emphasizes that: "nobody can ever understand the overall picture without sharing with others the small individual pictures".

The emergence and development of some border or intersection economic disciplines, reflects the content of the law on science development at present; they seek to determine those relationships between the fundamental "slices" of the different sciences and signifies the progress towards searching for new links and support points for understanding the complex reality.

History teaches us that the men who mark a certain stage interlace their own destiny with the destiny of the contemporary society; they borrow something from the evolution mode of the society, but in turn, through their behavior and attitude mark its progress. Virtue of this consideration we are not wrong in asserting that the economist's destiny is closely linked to the society's destiny. The events which have marked fundamentally and irreversibly the end of the XXth century have expressed a strong confrontation between the

interest and human values. The control over how these two elements have associated or on the contrary, have been debated upon is without any doubt held and political exercised.

Has the economist-scientist a particular status currently? Does he become the bearer of a privilege in this reality where the crucial phenomenon demands from his part a dissection of the newly emerged situations and their interpretation through the economic theory? Will the results of these investigations have a purpose recognized at the society level? Qui prodes? How many of the economic policies will consider the conclusions drawn from these researches? Will they be reflected in the economic practice or will they remain contained in a volume elegantly presented in the academic libraries?

We avoid entering into the substrate of these rhetorical phrases. In our opinion, the purpose of the economist-scientist is, ultimately, collecting the studies, researches and innovative guidelines, in the universal bank of ideas and also practically ascertains their validity.

We appreciate however that the great challenges of the moment constitute a generous offer for the economist called upon, to answer promptly and reasonably.

The bridge of the scientific communication

The economist-scientist assimilates information through rational knowledge; he contributes to the development and enrichment of the economic culture, being able to act in within the meaning of his time, which is effectively. The scholar disappears, being replaced by the researcher who is dominated by research. „ The essence of what we call today science is research” used to say Martin Heidegger, and further „ specialization is not the result, but the foundation of all research progress.”²

The economist- scientist is a kind of „intellectual nomad”³ as the author

2 In Martin Heidegger’s conception (in order to familiarize with the author’s reflections regarding the emergence of the modern science, see *The Age of the World Picture*, the collection of prominent books-Paideia, Bucharest 1998, pg 33-43) as a result of the systematization of the modern era science, the scholar disappears being replaced by the researcher. He is connected through works to publishers who, in Heidegger’s opinion are those who “determine now what kind of books should be written”. Although it remains closely dependent on the meaning of his period, the researcher must act efficiently, in accordance not with a command assumed to be necessary, but determined by the scientific rationality. See in addition the fundamentals of the scientific beliefs of Thomas S.Kuhn in his innovative book “The structure of scientific revolutions”

3 Thomas Friedman’s terminology regarding the quality of “intellectual nomad” expresses the anxiety that characterizes the scientist always looking for novelty, curious to explore other horizons

Thomas Friedman calls it artistically; he travels among theories and opinions, selecting and separating the positive, trying to adapt time and economic space to the physical time and space. The diversification of the research instruments and scientific analysis proves the elasticity of which the researcher must give proof.

And example is the Nobel Prize for economy (2005) which fully illustrates this desideratum. It was given to Robert J. Aumann and Thomas C. Schelling for the extension and implementation of game theory in areas more distant from the boundaries imposed by economy, with relevance in the theory of conflict and cooperation.

Nevertheless, although we annually assist to the awarding ceremony of the emeritus distinctions which confirm the substantial steps toward economic research, they are rarely found in the economic theory taught to the future generations of economists. We consider as regrettable the commodity and lack of economic effort in respect to amending, completing and even demolition of those theories which no longer correspond to reality and their replacement with new considerations and opinions of the Nobel consecrated authors.

Or when we talk about the business's profit as a result of the economist's work it should be noted their performance, how actual are the received knowledge, how much last hour information they comprise and how they can be used for community service. The course of ideas set the evolution of the society. What if we would try to explain the economic and social conflicts including the pattern for cooperation in the economic and social field through the game theory as it is proposed by the two Nobel awarded authors? And the examples can go on.

Of course adapting the content of the academic courses will take time and effort from the teacher but, with the researcher's help this labor will pay off.

Over time, from 1969 to present, the economy Nobel Prizes award ceremony experienced an interesting development in terms of recognizing the value of the research. Often, the subject evaluated with Nobel in economics receded and exceeded the economic area. Without the intention of criticizing, we will allow ourselves some appreciations and personal opinions regarding the two aspects related to the scientific assessment process.

of knowledge, always ready to move his attention " on those attempts to put sort" and to prove their ability " to synthesize them in a manner that will produce profit".

The first refers to the fact that the honorary will of Alfred Nobel never mentioned economy among the most important scientific contributions, useful to mankind. The specified destinations were exact sciences and the struggle for peace. We will not comment the considered motivations, equally, objective and subjective on the non-inclusion of economics. However the Royal Swedish Academy established, since 1969 also an award for economics, as a correction and recognition of the fundamental role of this science to deciphering the major problems with which the humanity is facing.

The second issue relates to the appreciation that rewarded the specific contributions in the economy theory field. In this case, two situations have emerged. On the one hand, the emergence of new economic events, that marked the appeal for researching some interest areas of the economic field. These challenges have turned the research concerns toward some niche within the economic theory, less known, but with new potential.

On the other hand, the tendency to cooperate in the economics of scientific research determined interdisciplinarity; this process led to mutations regarding the deviation of research (by sliding from the strictly economic theme) towards impact and confluence areas neighboring with the economy. From this point of view it is known the fact that the quantitative methods have gained ground.

The generous offer of mathematics, regarding the testing and estimation techniques, not only for their use in economy, captured the attention. Gradually, the econometric studies, modeling and the sophisticated analytics captured large areas of economic theory on the grounds that any economic phenomenon can be placed into an equation. Debatable grounds, of course in our opinion.

The intensification of economic research, felt after the '70, has materialized in studies concerning the economic processes, their dynamics and the review of the classical theorems of the economic science. As the recessions of the '70 had impact on people, the research has turned toward cyclical fluctuations, recipes for general balance, stability under uncertainty conditions, the analysis of the interdependencies between economic social and institutional phenomena. New problems have arisen, demanding possible solutions. The debt crisis, the underdevelopment issue, the global expansion of the financial failures, focusing on the human capital role in the development process, consumer and the psychological aspects of choice, asymmetric

information as a result to market development, are some of the areas that have captured the interest of the economist-researchers.

Considering all these contributions, obviously, proven as useful to the individual and to the society, confirming the maintenance of the economic science in a central area of sciences, the title for the Nobel Prizes suffered a fundamental correction. This correction imposed by the statement that Alfred Nobel has not included in his will economy, changed their names into the Swedish Academy awards.

Whatever the appreciative name of the economics of scientific research contributions remains, indisputably, the role of these accomplishments to the improvement of the economic culture of those that influence through their decisions the politics and the economy. We speak here of the governmental-economist and the academic-economist and their professional motivations.

The motivation of the economic culture with international value

The size of the economic culture, with international value activates new levers which occurred in the motivation mechanism. The motivation's structure represents the basis for those who opted for economic training and formation constituting elements of current scientific interest.

In a modified economic reality, imposed and led by the competition rules and the imperatives of competitiveness the struggle for manifesting the power is severe and influenced by a variety of economic factors and not only. Among these factors we consider that economic time⁴ is a pace maker in terms of integration of the individual in the always on the move activity.

If this economic time would not generate constraints, the man would not question the choice between actions with different degrees of profitability for him and the society. The market, rather than the individual, imposes its competitive constraints.

The motivation of gain, of profit in general, of meeting the individual interest, often prevailing of all the possible levers even at the expense of the society interest, constitutes the impulse of any attitude and economic behavior. Market efficiency as a social institution capable of exploiting human energies and of meeting human needs attracts, however as a consequence, the state of

⁴ The economic space sediment of the economic time (see Z.Bauman and his argument reserved to the concept: space as sediment of time).

uncertainty. The purpose of training the future businessman is its scientific preparation in the decision making field, in a world where risk and uncertainty are the watchwords of existence. The economists don't make themselves the salves of a certain economic interest; they are formed in time, due to a certain circumstance. In this case, the economic science expresses its contribution through its instrumental function. Just as JK Galbraith⁵ envisions, it serves not to understanding or ameliorating the economic system, but to the purposes of those who hold a position or have a certain economic power within the system.

The pedagogical studies demonstrate that between professional authority (obtained from a complex professional training, doubled by gaining experience) and the quality of education there is a proportional correlation. On the other hand, the decisional power the correct capacity derives from gained authority.

However, not always between terms like training-leadership-decision making power-selection capacity a perfect relationship is manifested. The poor quality of an incomplete training will reverberate into lack of professional authority, which will prove right when the decision is erroneous or insufficiently substantiated.

In an increasingly global society, where profession, technology and culture manifest intersections and strong interactions, becomes practically impossible to decide without having the ability to apply practically the theoretical knowledge and the innovative spirit.

We consider being of real interest discerning the relationship between the motivational structure of the economist and his attitude toward the impact and the scientific value of economic knowledge. Modifying the scientific paradigm in economy generates a change in the motivation's intrinsic and extrinsic factors. In turn they lead to a change in the economist's attitude.

This is why, we consider appropriate to recall the point of view of the economist Mark Blaug (Economic theory in retrospective) who states the need to maintain constant the concern regarding the systematic confrontation of the theory with facts.

The involvement attitude should prove to be more stable and strong

⁵ J.K.Galbraith –“Economics and the public interest”. According to Basil Pilate who wrote and signed the presentation of the book opening, “The core element of the galbraithian program is represented by the demand for a robust development of education”. And yet, after so many years after this assessment, the reality of the European Union confirms and manifests the requirement for the development of the research-development- professional training without which the success of integration cannot be confirmed.

to all those for which the motivation for economic training lays precisely in the essence and meaning of this training.

The motivational structure will therefore determine a certain attitude. The governmental-economist should be and authority in the economic domain because only a true authority gives decision power; he has a saying in designing and formulating solutions for different long term provisions, objectified in perspective. The pedagogical motivation of the academic-economist is the transfer of knowledge and the formation of economic culture. The latter is done based on the principle "knowing to discern what it is asked from you immediately from what will be asked of you at any time". The academic-economist has also the delicate task of damasking the speculation in order to avoid the governmental-economist to slide in the politics' temptations. Not infrequently, the manner for using and handling the economic science by a politic power leads to the distortion of the scientific essence. The academic-economist doesn't seek to obtain a particular kind of product but of some variants increasingly diverse and more grounded in the economic reality. The qualitative level of the future specialist becomes thus for the academic a preoccupation and an ongoing challenge. The governmental-economist and the academic-economist represent the result of the formative function of economics. The theorist interested particularly in the legislative shouldn't remain to the description stage subject only to intuition. More than that, the motivational structure of the economist demonstrates its reporting to the big changes in the relations between the economic science and other interdisciplinary scientific domains. The theoretical training for the sake of theory, without an objective analysis of the phenomenon in practice signifies ideas broken apart from the content and the consistency of the reality. The theory can't desert the facts; it protects us from the big surprises given to us by the reality and represents our effective capital, the safest property of the economic training.

The economic theory is only one and indivisible; it represents the absolute common denominator of the specialized culture and general economic culture, as far as specialized and general knowledge are part of the same culture. That is why, the economic works awarded with the Nobel Prize constitute constant adaptability to the spirit and problematic of the time, a condition for the economic science to remain permanently attractive and dynamic.