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Review of the Volume "Teoria generală a obligațiilor. Curs universitar" [General Theory of Obligations. University Course], Author: Vasile Luha, Lumen Publishing House, 2020

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Abstract: The volume "Teoria generală a obligațiilor. Curs universitar" [General theory of obligations. University course] is not your average civil law course that one might expect. It is a course written by a university professor who wants not only to teach law, but to teach the student about justice. As such, it is a course about assuming obligations with seriousness and correctness, about the trustworthiness of the word given and the trust we place in the members of our society.

Keywords: *civil obligations; general theory of obligations; university course; Vasile Luha.*

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The author, Vasile Luha, is a graduate of the Faculty of Law at Babes-Bolyai University from Cluj-Napoca, has a PhD in law awarded by the same university, he is a professor at the Faculty of Law and Social Sciences at the University December 1st, 1918 from Alba Iulia, where he teaches the course dedicated to civil obligations, and he is also a legal practitioner who has 40 years of practical experience, being a prosecutor.

From this perspective, the author offers a volume that combines practice with theory in a unique way, and theory correlated with practice always brings added value not only for the academia, for science, but especially for those who are direct beneficiaries of such books, namely students, and for a university course this is essential. In some places, the presentation of the matter of civil obligations is atypical in this volume, since the writer of the volume is a prosecutor and treats the subject from the perspective of extreme responsibility, with that strictness specific to the practitioner in criminal law.

Personally, as a legal specialist, as I have been a practitioner in law for over 12 years, every time a new law course appears on the Romanian book market in one of the main fields of law, I wonder what is the added value which such a course can bring to the Romanian academic environment. Of course, it is desirable and it should be encouraged that each professor teaches their students according to their own course and, of course, the process of writing their own course makes it easier for students to approach the subject taught by their own teacher. Beyond that, however, Vasile Luha's course contains an element that personally attracted my attention in an extremely positive way.

More precisely, opening the book I noticed between the covers a consistent course, not only a schematic course support, but a material that makes you think of a law treatise rather than a simple course, written on several levels of knowledge. It is true that a university course must have a certain structure, contain certain chapters, deal with all the topics that the university curricula imposes, which the author does. But what I particularly liked about this volume was that it is written on several levels of understanding. The first is that of addressing the student, with a very clear and very well-structured explanation of the notions that a student must acquire, but beyond that comes the level of the personal touch of the scientist, when referring to specialized doctrine on various topics, as well as his motivated critical opinions.

Therefore, this second level of writing is especially important not only because it makes the transition from the didactic element of the book to an element of science at the highest level, but it is also important for the

student, who has the opportunity, through the eyes of his teacher, to see what it means to look critically at judicial doctrine and practice. A third level of writing emerges from the practitioner's imprint. Whenever a practitioner writes for those who learn they will tend to instill in them the pragmatism of the legal professions. But in this book, even the mature professional will also see answers to the practitioners' dilemmas and encounter many extremely useful references for a lawyer who picks up a book and seeks concrete answers to situations in which he might be placed by the casuistry he has.

Another element that deserves to be pointed out as an accomplishment of this volume is the way in which the author opens the perspective wide enough to impose civil law as a mother-branch of law for other areas of law. For the student who is only at the stage of studying civil obligations, some subjects of law, which he will study in the future, will be more accessible by acquiring the information in this volume, which are structured in such a way that it already foreshadows topics in the university curricula that are dedicated to more advanced years of study, such as the topic of contracts from other branches of law - administrative or commercial (Pascariu, 2017) - or some elements of international law that have at their center the natural person as a subject of rights and obligations (Ciucă, 2017).

All these aspects created assured me that the volume written by Vasile Luha is a very good working tool not only for the student, although the author chose to add the subtitle "university course", but also for any practitioner interested in remembering notions, in seeking explainations once again, years after he graduadet from the stage of theoretical formation, but from another perspective, that of the experienced practitioner.

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