

DOCTORALIA OVIDIANA

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO. 31 – FEBRUARY 2026



Doctoral students, registration is still open for Games of Science 2026 – local round!

19 – 20 MARCH 2026
On Campus – Ovidius University in Constanța

Games of Science returns to Ovidius University in Constanța!
Get informed ([here](#)) , register ([here](#)) and take part in the Games of Science 2026 competition!

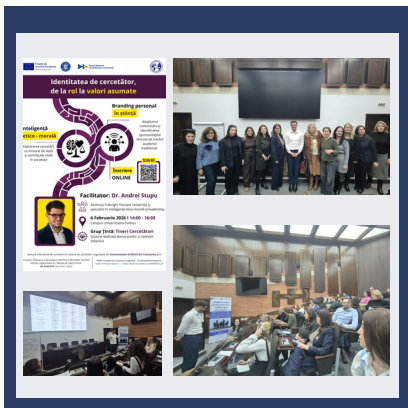
From 19 to 20 March, join us for an intensive science communication training session followed by a presentation competition. You will practise your *public speaking* skills in a friendly interdisciplinary setting and learn from communication specialists how to present your research in a way that is clear, engaging, and accessible to a general audience.

Participation is free, and the winners of the local round will qualify for the national final in May, in Bucharest.

The registration form is available on www.gamesofscience.ro sau la www.tinyurl.com/GoS2026.

AD. AUGUSTA EVENTS

During the month of February, doctoral candidates had the opportunity to attend two events organised under the AD.AUGUSTA banner, as part of the project "Înființarea și dezvoltarea Centrului Regional Sud-Est pentru orientarea în cariera de cercetător – AD. AUGUSTA" (code 2/16.11.2022), funded through Romania's National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), under Investment 10 – the creation and support of a national network of regional career guidance centres, part of the ERA TALENT PLATFORM, under the coordination of the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalisation.



On 6 February 2026 the workshop *Identitatea de cercetător – de la rol la valori asumate* took place on the campus of Ovidius University of Constanța.

The event offered participating faculty members and doctoral candidates the opportunity to engage with the topic of building an academic identity, centred around key reference points such as research as a vocation, the embrace of core values in the scientific process, and the broadening of professional horizons beyond the traditional academic environment.

In conversation with special guest, [dr. Andrei Stupu](#) – an expert in research career guidance and Fulbright Alumnus at Harvard University – participants were invited to reflect on their personal values (drawing on the *Theory of Basic Human Values*) and to translate them into anchors for authentic leadership, in order to build a professional path that responds to genuine societal needs.

How do we organize our ideas in an oversaturated academic world?

This was the central question of the interactive research career guidance session held online on February 12, 2026, dedicated to developing academic research competencies. The session's guest, [dr. arh. Adrian Vidrașcu](#), proposed a hands-on and systemic approach to the ways in which information overload can be transformed into structured knowledge.

The discussion explored concepts such as *Personal Knowledge Management Systems (PKMS)*, *Visual Thinking*, *Personal Knowledge Graphs*. Participants were encouraged to move beyond the passive accumulation of information toward an active cognitive architecture based on structuring ideas at the "atomic" level, connecting them through conceptual graphs, and integrating digital platforms into a coherent and sustainable workflow.



For those of you who wish to disseminate information about an event, a topic, or research related to doctoral schools, please send your messages to doctoralia.ovidiana@gmail.com, and we can include your text in the next Newsletter.




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ARTEMIS
AMBASSADORS
UOC



The Ambassador Team of Ovidius University within the European university alliance ARTEMIS (Alliance for Regional Transition, Equality, Mobility, Inclusion and Sustainability) includes three doctoral students: **Ana-Maria Săcuiu** and **Andreea-Raluca Moise-Toma** from the **Doctoral School of Management**; **Roxana Zaharia** from the **Doctoral School of Business Administration**.

Together, they will represent the core values of ARTEMIS – sustainability, international mobility, and inclusion – and serve as the voice of *Ovidius* University on the European stage!

Doctoral Students of the Doctoral School of Medicine, training for excellence in Rome



**Robotic
Rehabilitation
Medicine**

Doctoral students from the **Doctoral School of Medicine**, **Andreea-Bianca Uzun**, specialist physician in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine, and **Andreea-Dalila Nedelcu**, fifth-year resident in the same specialty, both faculty members of the UOC Faculty of Medicine, participated in *European Robotic Rehabilitation School – V Edition*, held from February 9 to 13, 2026, at **IRCCS San Raffaele, Roma**.

The intensive programme included lectures and hands-on sessions dedicated to the use of cutting-edge robotic technologies in the rehabilitation of patients with neurological and musculoskeletal conditions. Interaction with international experts and colleagues from several European countries facilitated the exchange of best practices, an understanding of different healthcare system models, and the development of intercultural competencies.

Professor Dr. Mădălina Iliescu, scientific coordinator at the UOC Doctoral School of Medicine, stated that participation "in the 5th edition of the European Robotic Rehabilitation School training programme confirms the high level of professional and academic preparation at Ovidius University of Constanța and contributes to strengthening Romania's presence in European networks of excellence in the field of physical and rehabilitation medicine."

Deadline Extension – Erasmus+ Study Mobilities (2025 Call)

The application period for Erasmus+ study mobilities (EU and partner countries associated with the programme – undergraduate, master's, and doctoral level) has been extended to **6 March 2026, 3:00 PM**.

70 places are available for long-term mobilities (first semester or the full academic year 2026–2027). Applications must be submitted exclusively online via the dedicated form, between February 23 and March 6, 2026.

https://dri.univ-ovidius.ro/images/2025-2026/calendar-competitii/studenti/ANUNT_SMS_KA_131-2025.pdf

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FIELD
HISTORYFIELD
BIOLOGY

The Cultural History of Minorities in Dobrogea, 1878–1914: A Comparative Approach

PhD candidate Lucian Mereuță

under the supervision of Associate Professor Costel Coraban PhD

The thesis *Istoria culturală a minorităților din Dobrogea, 1878–1914. O abordare comparativă* examines the social and identity transformations of ethnic communities in a region marked by rapid modernisation. The methodology combines comparative analysis with archival research, drawing in particular on school reports and registers held in the collections of the National Archives, which offer direct insight into state policies and local dynamics. Period publications contribute a community-level perspective, while studies on minority groups illuminate these phenomena from their own point of view.

The study incorporates major events such as the construction of the Cernavodă Bridge in 1895 and the completion of the Port of Constanța in 1909, infrastructure projects that stimulated mobility and cultural interaction. A central focus is the Law of 1909, through which the inhabitants of Dobrogea were granted full political rights. In the realm of culture and education, the reforms introduced by Spiru Haret (1897–1910), which redefined the role of schools, are also examined. External influences represented another significant factor shaping the Dobrogean population, giving rise to complex responses.

The thesis thus serves as a starting point for a deeper investigation of the phenomena of the Dobrogean space, through the integration of economic, legal, and social dimensions across a broader temporal framework.

A Discreet Community Quietly Working to Save Ecosystems

PhD candidate Raluca-Gabriela Georgescu

under the supervision of Professor Florina Stănescu PhD

Have you ever wondered what happens to the "end results" of a large animal's hearty meal? The answer lies not with bears or wolves, but with a discreet community hidden in the soil. This seemingly simple curiosity forms the foundation of my doctoral thesis, dedicated to the ecology and conservation of coprophagous beetles, insects whose ecological importance far exceeds their size.

Dung beetles may be small, but their role is enormous. They break down manure, reduce parasites, and return nutrients to the soil. In a sense, they are the "engineers of ecosystems." When large mammals such as the European bison are present, these processes become even more efficient, as their dung sustains beetle activity.

However, the disappearance of large species and habitat fragmentation disrupt these connections. As a result, natural processes slow down and ecosystems become vulnerable.

My study examines the ecological factors that influence the presence of coprophagous beetles. Conserving them means, in effect, maintaining healthy soil and the natural balance on which we all depend.

DOCTORAL STUDENTS' PUBLICATIONS



Doctoral students of the **Doctoral School of Management** participated, from 11 to 12 December 2025, in the *International Conference Global Economy Under Crisis (Economia Globală în Criză)*. As a result of their participation, the following scientific articles have been elaborated and published in the journal *Analele Universității Ovidius din Constanța*, Series: *Economic Sciences*:

1. **Dragoș GRUIA**, Ștefan Daniel FLOREA, Analysis of Staff Perception Regarding Managerial Competencies in the Public Healthcare System, "Ovidius" University Annals, Economic Sciences Series, Volume XXV, Issue 2 / 2025, pp. 448–457
2. **Bianca-Elena MIRON**, Angela-Eliza MICU, Ana-Maria SĂCUIU, Trends in Training Participation, Overqualification, and Employment – A Comparative Analysis of Romania and the EU–27 (2015–2023), "Ovidius" University Annals, Economic Sciences Series, Volume XXV, Issue 2 / 2025, pp. 481–49
3. **Andreea-Raluca MOISE-TOMA**, Elena CONDREA, The Structure and Dynamics of Agricultural Production in the European Union (2015–2024): A Factorial Correspondence Analysis, "Ovidius" University Annals, Economic Sciences Series, Volume XXV, Issue 2 / 2025, pp. 491–500

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[HTTPS://UNIV-OVIDIUS.RO/SCOLI-DOCTORALE](https://univ-ovidius.ro/scoli-doctorale)



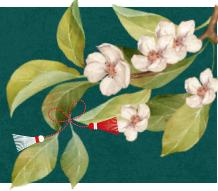
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May spring bring you inspiration,
energy, and ideas in full bloom!

Wishing you all the very best for the
second semester!



THESIS DEFENSES:



PhD candidate Ionescu Alexandru-Cristian
Field: Civil Engineering and Installations

Thesis title: *Modelarea prin metode avansate de calcul a interacțiunii construcțiilor de acostare cu prismul descărcător în funcție de soluția constructivă adoptată*
Supervisor: Professor Romeo Ciortan PhD
Date of defense: 04.02.2026

PhD candidate Marin Leonard Aurelian
Field: Theology

Thesis title: *Aspecte ale slujirii și misiunii bisericii ortodoxe în contextul social actual*
Supervisor: Professor Gheorghe Istodor PhD
Date of defense: 10.02.2026

PhD candidate Chifor Emilian
Field: Medicine

Thesis title: *Folosirea implanturilor de tip multicorp în tratamentul edentațiilor*
Supervisor: Professor Ion Bordeianu PhD
Date of defense: 12.02.2026

PhD candidate Derviș Nejlă
Field: Medicine

Thesis title: *Rolul protector al vitaminei D împotriva neovascularizației retiniene din retinopatia diabetică în regiunea Dobrogea*
Supervisor: Professor Sanda Jurja PhD
Date of defense: 12.02.2026

PhD candidate Mureșan (now Chivu) Luminița
Field: Medicine

Thesis title: *Valoarea derivaților sangvini autologi în patologia degenerativă a articulației temporo-mandibulare*
Supervisor: Professor Ion Bordeianu PhD
Date of defense: 12.02.2026

PhD candidate Zamfir Andrei
Field: Philology

Thesis title: *Mixing memory and denial: coping with trauma in Don Delillo, Karan Mahajan, and Arundhati Roy*
Supervisor: Professor Eduard Vlad PhD
Date of defense: 14.02.2026

PhD candidate Bitaracu (now Micăuță) Simona
Field: Philology

Thesis title: *Problematika interculturalității la Junimea*
Supervisor: Professor Marina Cap-Bun PhD
Date of defense: 17.02.2026

PhD candidate Cățoiu Vasile Alin
Field: Theology

Thesis title: *Pravila de la Govora și prevederile ei privind statutul canonic-juridic al clericilor de instituire divină și de instituire umană (bisericească)*
Supervisor: Professor Nicolae Dură PhD
Date of defense: 18.02.2026

PhD candidate Tudorescu Gheorghe Florin
Field: Theology

Thesis title: *Activitatea pastorală a Sfântului Calinic, episcop de Râmnic (1850-1868) și bazele ei canonice*
Supervisor: Professor Nicolae Dură PhD
Date of defense: 18.02.2026

PhD candidate Bardu Rareș
Field: Theology

Thesis title: *Colecția canonică Dionisyana și impactul ei asupra dezvoltării dreptului canonic apusean și răsăritean*
Supervisor: Professor Nicolae Dură PhD
Date of defense: 19.02.2026

PhD candidate Gavrilă Nicolae
Field: Theology

Thesis title: *Patristica clasică – izvor al vieții monahale din muntele Athos*
Supervisor: Professor Gheorghe Angheliescu PhD
Date of defense: 20.02.2026

PhD candidate Bușu Dimitrie
Field: Medicine

Thesis title: *Ocluziile intestinale ischemiante: evaluarea strategiilor chirurgicale și a markerilor de prognostic*
Supervisor: Professor Vasile Sârbu PhD
Date of defense: 25.02.2026

PhD candidate Ali (now Abduraim) Imran
Field: Philology

Thesis title: *Dinamismul prenumelor dobrogene în perioada actuală*
Supervisor: Professor Emilia Domnița Tomescu PhD
Date of defense: 26.02.2026

PhD candidate Brezeanu Dragoș- Marian
Field: Medicine

Thesis title: *Utilizarea Gelurilor cu Acid Lactic în refacerea plăgilor de epiziotomie*
Supervisor: Professor Vlad Tica PhD
Date of defense: 27.02.2026

