

***IN MEMORIAM MARIUS SALA***

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Marius Sala (08.09.1932 – 19.08.2018) was a linguist, a specialist in Comparative Romance, full member of the Romanian Academy (2001), corresponding member of *Real Academia Española* (1978), of *Instituto Mexicano de Cultura* (1981), of *Academia Nacional de Letras - Uruguay* (1994), of *Academia Peruana de la Lengua* (2004). *Doctor Honoris Causa* of the universities of Arad, Craiova, Oradea and Timișoara. Professor at universities in București and Timișoara, visiting professor to universities in Heidelberg (1971), Mexic (1981), Köln (1984), Frankfurt (1992-93), Oviedo (1994), Málaga (1968, 1970, 1978, 1979), Madrid (1978, 1981), Udine (2002). Editor-in-Chief of the *Romanian Language Dictionary* (edited by the Romanian Academy), of the *Etymological Dictionary of Romanian, History of Romanian, Little Academic Dictionary*. Scientific advisor, initiator and coordinator of the *Etymological and Romanian Language* series of "Univers Enciclopedic" Publishing House in Bucharest. He published an impressive number of works (books and original studies) in fields such as: History of the Romanian Language, Historical Phonetics of the Romanian Language, Lexicology, General Linguistics, Hispanic Studies, General Linguistics, Dialectology, Onomastics, Terminology and also Popularization of Science.

The main objective of his work was to highlight and establish the place of the Romanian language among the other Romance languages.

He also understood the role of language research computerization and therefore he encouraged the use of modern tools and resources, either directly or indirectly, thus facilitating the collaboration between the informatic and the linguistic institutes of the Romanian Academy. Among his most important contributions in this direction are those included in the projects: eDTLR. *Romanian Language Thesaurus in Electronic Format*

(2007-2010), NALR-SN. *New Romanian Linguistic Atlas. New Series* – computer assistance for map editing, based on a model created in Iași by the specialists of the Institute of Theoretical Informatics and the "A. Philippide" Institute of Romanian Philology, DLR. *Romanian Language Dictionary* - the electronic format of the second edition of *Dictionary of the Academy*.

Academician Marius Sala will be remembered by linguists and Romanian computer scientists alike.