# The Awarding of "Fellow" Title of the World Organisation of General Systems and Cybernetics to Academician Professor MANEA MĂNESCU



In the presence of the academic staff and researchers within the Department and the Laboratories of Economic Cybernetics took place on December 8, 1978 at the Academy of Economic Studies the festivity of awarding the "FELLOW" title of the World Organisation of General Systems and Cybernetics to Academician Professor Manea Mănescu.

Also present were Prof. Ion Ursu, Prof. Ştefan Bîrlea, Prof. Mircea Maliţa, as well as didactic staffs and researchers within the Academy of Economic Studies.

On behalf of the World Organisation of General Systems and Cybernetics have participated Dr. John Rose — General director of the World Organisation of General Systems and Cybernetics, Rector of the Technology College at Blackburn — Great Britain, Alexander Miller Andrew — Professor at the Cybernetics Faculty of Reading University — Great Britain, Professor Dr. Tibor Charles Helvey — Director of the World Organisation of General

Systems and Cybernetics, President of the Institute for International Systems and Control of U.S.A., Professor Dr. Radmila Stojanović from Belgrade University, member of the Executive Committee of the Communists's League of Yugoslavia, Prof. Dr. Robert Vallée — professor at the Paris-North University — France.

The opening of the ceremony was done by Eng. Constantin Bilciu.

## The speech of Eng. CONSTANTIN BILCIU, Director of the Laboratories of the Economic Cybernetics Department:

*Much esteemed Academician Professor Manea Mănescu,*

*Much esteemed representatives of the leadership of the World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics,*

*Dear comrades,*

*I have the great honour to open the festivity of the awarding of the title of "Fellow" of the World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics to Academician Professor Manea Mănescu for his important contribution to substantiating and developing the science of cybernetics, in general and of economic cybernetics, in particular.*

*As we know, the delegation of the World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics had the honour of attending yesterday the ceremony at the State Council palace of the awarding of the first "Norbert Wiener" gold medal to the President of Romania, Nicolae Ceauşescu, in token of high valuation of his special merits in promoting science, in general and cybernetics, in particular and in firmly directing them towards the goals of peace, cooperation and the progress of mankind, for the building of a better and more righteous world on our planet.*

*It is an opportunity for pride and joy to all of us that added to the feelings of great devotion and consideration nourished by the entire Romanian people towards the personality of President Nicolae Ceauşescu, towards his work of historical importance are the thoughts of the entire world scientific community, outlining the scope and international importance of the indefatigable activity of our beloved leader.*

*Today, we are experiencing a feeling of great pride for the Romanian school of economic cybernetics, through the fact that Academician Professor Manea Mănescu was among the first scientists of the world who, nearly thirty years ago, had foreseen the large possibilities of the science of cybernetics in the investigation of the socio-economic phenomena, in the scientific management of productive processes, in the facilitation of man's work and in the general progress of human society.*

*Academician Professor Manea Mănescu has made a major contribution both to the theoretical substantiation of the investigating methods and techniques of economic cybernetics, of the optimizing systems and models of the economic phenomena and to their direct application in the practical activity of production.*

*The awarding of the title of "Fellow" of the World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics, comes to confirm once more the international scientific prestige enjoyed by the contribution made by Academician Professor Manea Mănescu to the substantiation and development of the new science of economic cybernetics.*

*With these feelings of great pride and appreciation for the awarding of the title of "Fellow" of the World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics, allow me to give the floor to Professor, dr. John Rose, General Director of World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics.*

## Speech by Professor dr. JOHN ROSE, General Director of the World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics

*Much esteemed Academician Professor Mănescu,*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*Cybernetics is a developing science. It is inter-and-transdisciplinary. It takes its roots in the period of the Renaissance and it is a synthesis of all sciences.*

*In the last thirty years, this science has made an amazing progress. This is due, in the first place, to a small number of people who made their vital, essential contribution to the progress of cybernetics and systems. One of these people to have made such a contribution is the gentleman standing near me today, Academician Professor Manea Mănescu.*

*I had the great pleasure to meet him seven years ago, on the inauguration of this building and to realize that I have to do with a man with much imagination and initiative. In the following years, I learnt more and more about his achievements. I learnt that Professor Manea Mănescu had set up an important branch in cybernetics, known as "Economic Cybernetics". I believe, nearly 22 years ago, he was the first to promote the idea of economic cybernetics.*

*As you know, cybernetics consists of several trends: biocybernetics, social cybernetics, then the new trend, namely the Fuzzy system, a.s.o.*

*Some trends are much more important than others and I firmly believe that economic cybernetics is one of the most important trends, because by its very nature it meant a very important contribution to the welfare of your nation.*

*As a recognition of the role Academician Professor Manea Mănescu has played in cybernetics, I think it is necessary to underline our appreciation and respect for his very important work, for his contribution to cybernetics, in the last 25 years. The ideas invested here and in other domains are a moment underscoring his achievements and possibilities.*

*I remember a passage from Horace "Non omnis moriar, usque ego postera crescam laude recens, dum Capitolium scandet cum tacita virgine pontife". It is thus a moment of his achievements which will last for a long time and which cannot be destroyed by the lapse of time. On the other hand, it is our duty — I may say it is our pleasure — to show our appreciation of the efforts made by Academician Professor Manea Mănescu.*

*This title of "Fellow" has been established, to be awarded to a number of 25 scientists. After these titles are conferred, no other titles will be awarded, unless any of those belonging to this organization dies. I should like to inform you that this title has already been awarded to 13 scientists and will be awarded to another 12. This will be a world academy of cybernetics and systems and will include not only cyberneticians, but also other world famous scientists who, in the respective domains, have made their contribution to cybernetics and systems.*

*Three of the 13 who have already accepted the title of "Fellow" are "Nobel" prize winners. One of them has received two "Nobel" prizes — one for chemistry and another for peace. The thirteen are famous scientists and one of them is your Professor, Academician Manea Mănescu.*

*Here is the diploma of "Fellow", a piece of paper, nothing special, but, which is a historical document, an important corner-stone in the history of cybernetics. It is written here: "The World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics. In memory of dr. Norbert Wiener, Academician Professor Manea Mănescu was elected to be conferred the title of "Fellow" of the World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics. Dated: November 15, 1978. Signed: John Rose, General Director of the World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics".*

Further on, Eng. Constantin Bilciu said: I think you all agree to ask Academician Professor Manea Mănescu to take the floor.

## Speech by Academician Profesor MANEA MĂNESCU

*Mister General Director of the World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics,*

*Esteemed Lady, esteemed members of the delegation,*

*Esteemed colleagues and contributors,*

*In 1975, in Bucharest, at the Third International Congress of Cybernetics and Systems, I had the honour to present to the Congress the message of the President of Romania, Nicolae Ceauşescu, which through its content will remain written with golden letters in the annals of cybernetics.*

*The message of large international scientific response reads:*

*"In our days, cybernetics is playing an ever more important part in the scientific management of productive processes, of economic life, in facilitating man's work and increasing his social productivity, in the general progress of human society".*

*This genius outlook of great prospects on cybernetics, the brilliant qualities of an eminent politician and statesman, of a learned scientist place for ever in the pantheon of our science, President Nicolae Ceauşescu who has been awarded by the Fourth World Congress of Cybernetics the first "Norbert Wiener" memorial gold medal for his remarkable activity as a consistent militant, devoted to the setting up of a new world political and economic order, to the accomplishment of the aspiration of all peoples regardless of their social system to build a better and more righteous world of cooperation and peace, in the interest of human progress and civilization.*

*Mister Professor Rose noted again, yesterday, the revolutionary role of cybernetics in the contemporary society. In this context, it is fully significant that the first prize for cybernetics is awarded to the eminent revolutionary in the social field, to the prominent personality of international life, President Nicolae Ceauşescu.*

*We wish to underline on this occasion too, that we those who are involved in cybernetics in this country, are profoundly grateful to our President — an indefatigable militant for promoting the new in socio-economic life, who gave us his valuable support and guidance in the teaching, scientific and practical activity in the field of cybernetics, just as he has stimulated and supported the entire scientific creative activity in our country, placed in the service of the flourishing of Romania, the raising of the material and spiritual welfare of the entire people.*

*I should also like to underline the fact that we have benefitted in our country from the valuable contribution of professor Ion Ursu, a world famous scientist — chairman of the National Council of Science and Technology. We have also benefitted from the contribution of eminent professors, such as Mircea Malița, Ștefan Bîrlea, Edmond Nicolau; we have benefitted from the contribution of the rector of this institution — professor G. Dolgu and, of course, from the endeavour and special work in the Department's laboratories and in the entire activity of economic cybernetics of engineer Constantin Bilciu — Director of the Laboratories of Economic Cybernetics Department.*

*Esteemed delegation,*

*I express my satisfaction that the Fourth Congress of Cybernetics has conferred to me alongside other colleagues in various countries the high scientific title of "Fellow" for which I most warmly thank the Congress and the delegation of world famous scientists visiting Romania. This high distinction does honour to the Romanian school of cybernetics.*

*Mister Professor Rose, you were kind enough as to make a few appreciations of my person and of the part I have played in promoting particularly economic cybernetics in our country. However, I consider, your appreciation should not be directed towards my person, but towards the Romanian school of cybernetics, in general and the economic cybernetics, in particular.*

*I am very glad to get this title at the Academy of Economic Studies, an institution which is very dear to me, where I made my studies between 1936 and 1940, a prestigious economic school to which I am linked by my life as a student and a professor, in fact, by my entire life.*

*The Academy of Economic Studies where a valuable teaching staff with a high scientific training is carrying on its activity has given the country many specialists who have made and are making a valuable contribution to the implementation of our programmes of economic growth, to the multilateral progress of our society.*

*I wanted very much to be today amidst my colleagues in the filed of economy and cybernetics.*

*I am very pleased to most warmly valuate the remarkable activity, the passion, devotion and the courage of scientific pioneering of the contributors of the Economic Cybernetics Department and laboratories.*

*Therefore, allow me, respectfully to beg of you to agree that this prestigious scientific title should belong to all my contributors as the crowning of a work jointly carried out, in the over twenty years, in the field of economic cybernetics.*

*We shall place on the frontispiece of our Department, the scientific title of honour "Fellow", as the merit of all those who are working in the Economic Cybernetics Department and laboratories.*

*I can inform you, esteemed delegation, that cybernetics has greatly penetrated into a number of socio-economic activities, in our country, at present. We have set up a national industry of electronic computers. We have trained thousands of specialists who are working in the computing and cybernetics centres of ministries, industrial groups, plants, in research and education.*

*A new, positive opinion, formerly contested — on cybernetics has been created. As our President underlined yesterday: "... cybernetics asserted itself internationally, not without any difficulties — as a matter of fact, it is not the only science to have asserted itself by struggle — nevertheless it has shown its validity and importance in the development of makind. As a matter of fact, all that is new in any domain is affirmed by struggle and in the end, only that is the outcome of the struggle is viable too and plays a prominent part in the development of human civilization". * Science is always a truth and the truth triumphs despite all the difficulties and obstacles placed in its way. I think you had the opportunity of convincing yourselves by what you have seen in the laboratories of the Economic Cybernetics Department.*

*Esteemed delegation,*

*Dear colleagues,*

*A new scientific branch — cybernetics has appeared on the vast site of human intellect and creation, under the conditions specific of the stage of development of the contemporary society. This young and vigorous science is considered as one of the greatest achievements of human genius and it has imposed itself on our century, through its gnosiological power.*

*Through the scientific investigation means supplied by cybernetics, the knowledge of the mechanism of the evolution of processes and phenomena in nature and society has been extended, thus covering new, important blanks on the map of human knowledge.*

*As it succeds in efficiently using its values, the place and role of cybernetics in the context of the contemporary technical and scientific revolution is still*

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* Speech of President Nicolae Ceauşescu at handing over the "Norbert Wiener" Gold Medal of the World Organisation of General Systems and Cybernetics.

*more significant. In this framework, one can speak of the beginning of a scientific revolution of cybernetics in the development of human knowledge.*

*The appearance of cybernetics has enriched the arsenal of the methods and techniques of investigating the phenomena and processes in nature and society. The applications of cybernetics have made an important contribution to the contemporary technical and scientific revolution, to the automation and optimizing of production processes, to the increase of social labour productivity, to the management and organization with maximum efficiency of economic activity and to the multilateral, general development of society.*

*In our country, the studies in the science of economic cybernetics start from the objective necessity of a deeper knowledge of the economic realities, of the creation of scientific methods allowing for a good substantiation in establishing the directions for an optimal economic growth and for a permanent control of the implementation of the socio-economic development targets.*

*Through the applicative values of its modern methodes and techniques, economic cybernetics has considerably stimulated scientific research, it has become a real instrument in the ever deeper investigation of the complex phenomena which are taking place in the national and world economy, being an active factor in the management and planning of the socio-economic development, in the process of optimal economic growth, in the general progress of society.*

*Mister Professor Rose,*

*Esteemed delegation,*

*The title you have conferred, the appreciations you have made — I confess — do a great honour to us and they represent to this collective and to myself an encouragement firmly to continue our struggle in a field not easy at all and, in which, as I have already said, we had the sustained support of our President; nevertheless, this has not absolved us of waging a fierce battle for gaining ever more ground for the new science of cybernetics. You, Mister Professor Rose, mentioned that cybernetics dated back to the Middle Ages. One can talk very much about the origin of our science and it is good to write even more. Though I agree with you, I think origin of our science starts from ancient times, from the dialectical and materialistic philosophers, from the concept the "art of governing." But, now, it is not the problem of history that is of importance to us; the most important thing is how to struggle for applying it in life, in production, in the socio-economic activity, for our cybernetic science alongside other sciences should really play a propulsive role in helping people in the economic and social development, in raising living standards, for peace and prosperity all over the world.*

*Esteemed delegation,*

*Thanking you once again for the awarding of the title of honourary member of the World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics, please be sure*

*that this collective will continue to act with the same enthusiasm and devotion to use economic cybernetics in the drawing up and implementation of our programmes of socio-economic development, of increasing the national wealth which will secure to the Romanian people a happy future, a free dignified and prosperous life.*

*We are convinced that the further development of cybernetics, the ever wider use of this scientific discipline in all spheres of human activity, cooperation among scientists everywhere are meant to contribute to the use of the gains of human science for the benefit of man, of his welfare and happiness, for detente, cooperation and understanding amoung all the peoples of the world.*

*In conclusion, allow me, esteemed members of the delegation to wish you new successes in the fulfilment of the lofty goals animating the World Organization of General Systems and Cybernetics, in the service of cooperation, progress and peace.*

At the closure of the festivity director Constantin Bilciu said:

Much esteemed Academician Professor Manea Mănescu,

Please, allow me that, on behalf of those which had the pleasure to participate in this festivity, on behalf of the researchers and didactic staffs of the Department of Economic Cybernetics to warmly convey you the warmest congratulations for the prestigious title which had been awarded you, expression of the high esteem and appreciation you enjoy in the international scientific world.

For all of us, which have the happiness to work under your quidance it is a duty to do our best to perform all the tasks we have for training the new generation in the field of economic cybernetics, in the direction of a scientific research in this field and in applying the results got by the science of economic cybernetics in practical activity.

We wish you, much esteemed professor much health and labour power.