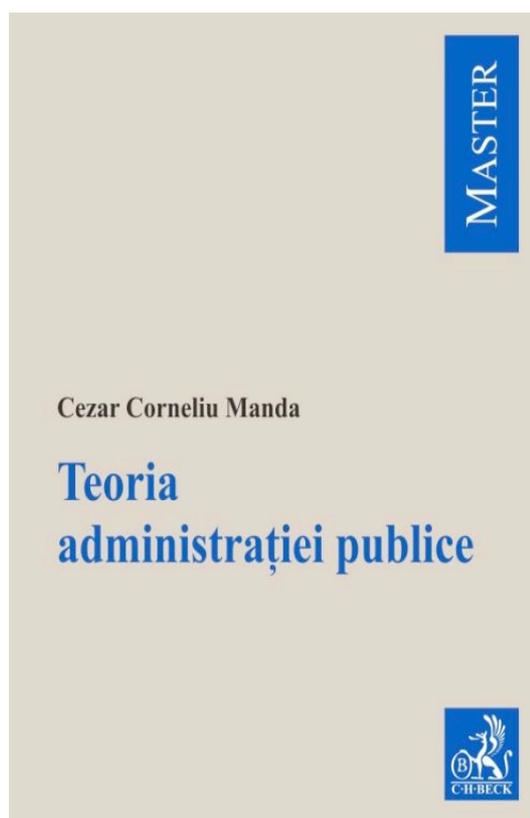


Cezar Corneliu Manda, *Teoria administrației publice*, C.H.Beck Publishing House, Bucharest, 2013, 232 pages.

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The author, univ. lect. Cezar Corneliu Manda, PhD, teaching staff within the Faculty of Public Administration of the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration, PhD in legal sciences, raises the interest of the specialists in the legal and administrative field, practitioners and theoreticians, offering the volume called *Teoria administrației publice (Theory of Public Administration)*, work that represents a real support in the curricular development of any *administrative sciences* program.

The scientific, methodological and instrumental content of the book reflects the vast experience that univ. lect. Cezar Corneliu Manda, PhD has, both as specialist in administrative and legal sciences, and as practitioner within the Romanian public administration authorities, conferring real pedagogical support for students and teachers.

The book supplies a general reference framework of the history of Public Administration, marking its important spatial-temporal stages, its classical, but still current, theories, as well as the new paradigms in the field. The author proposes the study of the role played by public administration in society, its analysis instruments,

the administration's interactions with its environment, the problematic of the administrative models etc., aiming to identify the variables that allow the functional articulation of the structures and mechanisms pertaining to the public administration system, necessary for ensuring the sustainability of its interventions in society.

The book is structured on 9 chapters, each chapter representing the main thematic parts the study of public administration requires.

Within the first chapter, called *Fundamental concepts and notions*, the author demonstrates the relevance of public administration by presenting its different concepts, having as starting point the introspection regarding the notion of *state*.

In the second chapter, called *The Concept of Public Administration*, the author presents the meanings of the notion of administration, focusing on the structuralist approach in order to emphasize the mixed, hierarchic-functional structure of the public administration system. The chapter underlines the evolutionary aspects of the notion of public administration in different European states, assigning a special place to the evolution in the context determined by the Romanian political-legal system.

Chapter III details in particular the **role, functions and characteristics of public administration** deriving from its position as intermediary between the political and societal levels.

The fourth chapter is dedicated to the **relationship between public administration and the political-legal environment**. It allows the understanding of the constant and primary relationship between the administration and the political system and, at the same time, confers an analysis of public administration from the perspective of the legal environment, as another constitutive element of the administrative phenomenon.

Chapter V allows the understanding of the **administrative phenomenon**, the author identifying its types of analysis, from the perspective of two disciplines, *law* (in particular, administrative law) and the *science of administration*, underlining the importance of their collaboration and inter-relation to the expression of the administrative reality with maximum scientific accuracy.

The book grants in chapter VI a special place to **public administration organization**, analyzing key-concepts such as *ministerial administration*, *autonomous administration*, *territorial structure*, *centralization*, *administrative decentralization* etc. and underlining the *advantages* and *disadvantages* presented by the organization and functioning of its structures, both in a centralized system, and in the decentralized administrative system. The chapter casts a special look on the manner of organizing the public administration system in the Romanian space.

The management of the **public administration human resources** constitutes a distinct chapter, chapter VII. Here are preponderantly analyzed, from the perspective of two approaches, the *legal*, respectively, *psycho-sociological*, the problems related to the management of public servants in Romania and their activity within supplying public services.

The activity and role of the **control of public administration** are debated in chapter VIII. The chapter underlines the need for and the missions of the control of public administration, identifies the forms and characteristics of this control, as well as the modalities, effects and results of the control.

The chapter gives a special place to the section dedicated to the control of public administration by means of institutions of the type of ombudsman, the author expressing his point of view on the consolidation of the institutions with a role in human rights' protection both in several European states and, especially, in Romania.

The last chapter of the book analyzes in depth the manner of explaining administrative phenomenology, using the comparative research method, the units used for the comparison being the **administrative models**: the *liberal model*, the *weberian model*, the *neoliberal model*, the *European model*. The reader is also informed with respect to the new European vision on the organizing and functioning manner of the national administration systems, whose central axis is the *right to a good administration*.

In conclusion, the book is able not only to present with analytical rigorousness the main theoretical aspects and elements presupposed by the study of public administration, but it also offers viable alternatives for public administration modernization, for the purpose of ensuring its sustainability and its actions in society.

The book written by Professor Cezar Corneliu Manda constitutes one of the most significant contributions brought in the last years for understanding the current issues pertaining to the public administration research, fact which recommends it as compulsory lecture both for students and for researchers, in their activity of research, education and training.