

Romanian Academic Faced with Contemporary Research in Humanities: Truth or Hoax?

Ligia Tomoiaga's keynote address is a sequence of questions, a sequence of uncertainties, a reference to the academic world that presents itself rather incomprehensible for a Romanian humanist, who lived the experience of Communist lack of academic freedom, hoped in the newly-found apparently limitless research possibilities of the 'free world', only to discover that such possibilities are drastically less than limitless, and that academic freedom is newly restricted in the name of various ideologies, which, for Eastern Europeans in general do not make any sense whatsoever. Reference will be made to Karl Popper, to highlight how meaningless these postmodern novelties seem to be to the mind of a lover of literature, who defines herself as a traditionalist feminist, a literary critic who does not speak, about the 'social framework' of the literature she teaches more than about its esthetic propositions, who still thinks 'old' philosophy and culture are relevant for today's academic formation of young minds.