

In Memoriam Professor Petre T. Frangopol, Ph.D. Honor Member of the Romanian Academy 1933-2020

It is my great pleasure to see this special issue dedicated to the memory of Professor Ph.D., Petre Frangopol!

Petre Frangopol was a top Romanian scientist, a member of the Romanian Academy, who, during his rich and productive scientific career, was also associated to our university.

I met him in 2005, when I was the personal adviser for research of the minister for education and research, as a partner/consultant in the research/ education reform we started then. He was among the (few) scientists who supported the excellence, as the main framework of the 2005 reform. Then, we together initiated "the Presidential Commission" – around the cabinet of the President of Romania –, which assessed the Romanian education-research system and then proposed a new strategy in education/research, on which the new law of education was built in 2011. After that, we together initiated and created in 2013 the G3A (Analysis/Attitude/Action), a Think Tank continuing the analysis and the monitoring of 2005/2011 reforms and beyond them; the G3A Think Tank produced several influential reports during the years.

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In the process, we started to also collaborate scientifically and we even published some works together, relating policy of science and/or scientometrics (e.g., David & Frangopol, 2015, in "Scientometrics": The lost paradise, the original sin, and the Dodo bird: A scientometrics Sapere Aude manifesto as a reply to the Leiden manifesto on scientometrics; DOI:10.1007/s11192-015-1634-2).

In the end, despite the age difference, we became close friends, so his death was not only a professional lost for me and the Romanian academic community, but also a personal one for me!

Thank you, dear colleague and friend, for everything! Your life was inspirational for many of us and you created things, which remains and positively impact many!

Daniel DAVID, Rector of the Babes-Bolyai University